A 1973 graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan, Ellis received a Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology, Emory University, and a Doctor of Ministry from Drew University. Previous to retiring from Forrest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church, Hurricane, WV, in June, 2019, he served congregations in St. Albans, Wayne, Beckley, Buckhannon, Elkins, and as MonValley District Superintendent. He served as chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, a board member of the United Methodist Foundation, and currently serves on the West Virginia Wesleyan Board of Trustees. Ellis was elected several times to represent the West Virginia United Methodist Annual Conference at General and the Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference. An Eagle Scout, he is a Paul Harris Fellow in the Putnam Rotary Club, a member of the Appalachian Model Railroad Society, treasurer of his homeowner’s association, and the Coaching Coordinator for the West Virginia Annual Conference. Ellis is an Associate Certified Coach with the International Coaching Federation. He and his wife, Julie, who is a retired high school art teacher, volunteer weekly at the local food pantry. They have two married sons and 3 grandsons. He enjoys Lionel trains, golf, travel, history and mystery novels, movies, and spending time with family and friends.