



## **Rev. Jonathan Tompkins, Senior Pastor**

Rev. Tompkins grew up in a small town in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York but quickly adapted to southern living when he moved to Columbia, SC after graduating college in 1998. He taught seventh grade English at Crayton Middle School for three years, then felt called into youth ministry, serving Shandon UMC as Youth Director from 2001-2006. It was during his time at Shandon that he joined the United Methodist Church, met Rebecca Neal, who grew up at Shandon

and who would later become his wife, and where Jonathan ultimately felt God's call into ordained United Methodist ministry.

Two weeks after their wedding, Rebecca and Jonathan moved to Atlanta, GA, where Jonathan attended Candler School of Theology, Emory University from 2006-2009. He was ordained an Elder in Full Connection with the SC Annual Conference in June 2011. Jonathan served as Associate Pastor of First United Methodist Church in Myrtle Beach from 2009-2013 and then went from the coast to the mountains, serving Travelers Rest UMC since June 2013, and after ten years, is excited to be back on the coast.

Jonathan has a passion for worship, preaching, teaching, and equipping others for ministry, and enjoys running, biking, fitness, reading, music, strong coffee, and doing all of these things along with Rebecca and their family: Edward, Mary Elizabeth, and Penny, a 1-year-old mutt.