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Reports that did not require approval from the Annual Conference may not appear in the Journal. A permanent file is kept on record in the Conference Office.



CLERGY SUPPORT TEAM REPORT TO 2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CLERGY COMPENSATION

In 2017, the Missouri Conference Clergy Support Team asks that the annual conference recommend that each pastoral charge give their clergyperson(s) at least a cost-of- living increase plus the consideration of a “merit” increase. For more on clergy compensation, go to Section F, pages 15-18.

POLICY ON PARSONAGE & CASH HOUSING ALLOWANCES

The policy on parsonage and cash housing allowances can be found in Section F, pages 23-26.

RETIRED MINISTER’S DAY

The Conference Board of Pensions (in compliance with the 2012 Book of Discipline ¶1506.10d) recommends that each local church observe Retired Minister's Day in honor of the retired ministers, their spouses and surviving spouses of ministers in recognition of the church's responsibility for their support. We recommend this observance be held in February.

MOVING EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

Moving expense reimbursement information for clergy upon retirement, being granted medical leave or participating in the Voluntary Transition program or surviving spouse of a clergy not yet retired is found in Section F, page 22.

DEATH BENEFIT PAYMENTS

Death benefit payments for those clergy in the former Missouri West Conference granted retirement status prior to becoming the Missouri Conference are found in Section F, page 22.

HEALTH INSURANCE

The Missouri Conference Health insurance plan for active participants in 2017 will be HealthFlex Exchange. Information with regard to participation for active and retired clergy is found in the Conference Standing Rules and Section F, pages 18-21.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2017

Estimated Income

From Apportionment for Clergy Support	\$1,564,974
From Apportionment for Equitable Compensation	\$180,000
From Moving Expense Fund	\$50,000
From Investment Account Reserve Transfer	\$140,000
Total Estimated Income	\$1,934,974

Estimated Disbursements

Clergy Support	\$1,606,974
Retiree/Disability Insurance & Pension	
Administration	\$70,000
Retiree/Disability Moving Grants	\$24,000
Education	\$4,000
Sub-total	\$1,704,974
Equitable Compensation	
Salary Support/Special Grants	\$180,000
Moving Expense Reimbursement	\$50,000
Total Estimated Disbursements	\$1,934,974

MISSOURI ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2017 COMPREHENSIVE BENEFIT FUNDING PLAN SUMMARY

The Comprehensive Benefit Funding Plan Summary can be found in Section F, pages 27-30.



Missouri Annual Conference

This funding plan incorporates, to the best of our understanding, the conference's obligations and funding of the benefits provided to clergy and laity, as noted below.

It is understood by the signees that defined benefit plan liabilities (Pre-82, MPP and CRSP-DB) continue until the last benefit is paid to participants and their surviving spouses irrespective of the funding level of the plan. That is, even if the assets in the plan are larger than the liabilities in the plan, the conference still has a liability (obligation) and potential future contribution due to the plan.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CRSP DB and DC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OTHER DC: Voluntary Trans	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other DB Obligation - A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MPP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OTHER DC: Moving grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other DB Obligation - B
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pre-1982	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other DC Obligation - C	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other DB Obligation - C
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PRM	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other DC Obligation - D	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other DB Obligation - D
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Active Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other DC Obligation - E	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other DB Obligation - E
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CPP				
<input type="checkbox"/>	UMPIP Clergy				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UMPIP Lay				

/s Nate Berneking

 Signature
 Nate Berneking, Conference Treasurer/CBO, 4/4/2016

Insert Signature Here

 Signature
 Print Name, Conference Title, Date

/s Steve Pinnell

 Signature
 Steve Pinnell, Board of Pensions Chair, 4/4/2016

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 Signature
 Print Name, Conference Title, Date

Signatures are required from the Conference Benefit Officer (or equivalent), Conference Board of Pension Chair and Conference Treasurer. Signatures are recommended from Council on Finance and Administration Chair and/or other conference leaders as deemed appropriate.

Signatures on file at GBOPHB

General Board
Pension and Health Benefits
Caring For Those Who Serve

Opinion on Missouri 2017 Comprehensive Benefit Funding Plan

This Funding Plan meets the standards for a Pre-82 funding plan as established by the General Board, and the requirements for a favorable opinion of a Funding Plan.

Note: The statement above and any written opinion provided by the General Board do not imply any representation as to the ability or probability of the applicable Conference to fulfill the obligations included in the Funding Plan.

General Board of Pension and Health Benefits

Glenview, Illinois
 April 29, 2016



EPISCOPACY COMMITTEE REPORT

On behalf of the Episcopacy Committee, I'm pleased to report that Bishop Schnase has continued to provide strong, focused, exemplary leadership for our Conference. As we've known for several years now, Bishop Schnase is one of the most highly respected leaders in our jurisdiction and our entire denomination in his focused, reasoned way. Through teaching and leadership practiced here in Missouri, he's helping revitalize the entire Methodist movement and helping the church navigate some rough waters. What a blessing and thrill it is for us to have been recipients of his leadership for 12 transformative years!

This past year has been our final one with Bishop Schnase as our episcopal leader, due to the seemingly arbitrary *Discipline* limit of 12 years in any one assignment. It's been an important year of completing the transformation of the Missouri conference and preparing for a transition. We've spent a year celebrating, saying "Thanks" and "Goodbye", now culminating with this annual conference time with him.

During his tenure, Bishop Schnase has helped to strengthen our focus on our mission. To solidify our Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations and Fruitful Living. To Practice the Balancing Act with Extravagant Generosity, Cultivating Fruitfulness, and applying the Seven Levers Missional Strategies. To Remember the Future, Praying for the Church and Change. To Just Say Yes and unleash people for ministry, exemplifying Radical Hospitality – being rooted in Christ. I'm referring again to titles of some of the bishop's books, simply to recall what an impact he's having upon our conference and beyond. We look forward to seeing how the next chapter of Bishop Schnase's leadership will revitalize another conference and the entire church!

We also acknowledge the importance of the bishop's family -- wife Esther along with sons Karl and Paul. Esther and Karl have been here with us throughout the conference, and Paul is in graduate school in Texas. We will continue to keep them in our prayers.

Finally, we are pleased to report that the Episcopacy and Episcopal Residence Committees have complied with all the *Disciplinary* requirements regarding support for the bishop and his family. During the past year we met twice as a full committee, reviewing the bishop's activities, accomplishments, and plans. We visited the Episcopal residence and a visual inspection was performed. Later this summer, prior to a new bishop's arrival, the residence will receive new carpet and fresh paint, and perhaps other updates.

All of us on the Episcopacy Committee appreciate the opportunity to serve our conference and our bishop, and we encourage everyone to continue praying for Bishop Schnase – for wisdom and a steady hand -- as he receives a new assignment to GO and lead the United Methodist church in the Mission of Jesus Christ.

**Respectfully submitted,
Brian Hammons, Chair, Episcopacy Committee**



BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Dear Colleagues in the Missouri Conference:

Greetings in the Spirit of Jesus Christ! The Boston University School of Theology (STH) walks with you on the journey of discipleship, seeking to love God and to love our neighbors with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. Thank you for your prayers that inspire and support the STH mission to love God, build knowledge, and equip leaders for the church and society.

NEWS

- **New faculty:** This year, Boston University welcomed new faculty in ethics, psychology, theologies of spirituality, comparative theology, church renewal, Black church leadership, and mission studies. We welcomed: Nimi Wariboko (Walter G. Muelder Professor of Social Ethics); David Decosimo (Theology); Theodore Hickman-Maynard (Evangelism and Church Renewal); Andrea Hollingsworth (Theology); Barbod Salimi (Psychology and Peace Studies); and Daryl Ireland (Associate Director of the Center for Global Christianity and Mission).
- **Spiritual life:** STH continued to expand and deepen its spiritual life program, led by Charlene Zuill, Spiritual Life Coordinator and United Methodist elder. Bishop Susan Hassinger, Claire Wolfeich, and many others also offer a rich selection of courses in spirituality and leadership.
- **Chaplaincy track:** STH added a chaplaincy track to the MDiv degree, preparing students for hospitals, prisons, and military settings.

ENGAGING IN DIALOGUE: STH spent much energy this year in hard conversations on violence, racism, and injustice, seeking to be honest and vigorously open to change, while honoring the dignity of all persons.

- **Power, Privilege and Prophetic Witness** is the STH theme for 2015-2017. We engaged the theme in classes, lectures, retreats, and workshops, seeking to stretch our capacities to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God.
- **Examining the intersection of theology and race.** The opportunities this year included: a brilliant new documentary on North Korea; a dialogical viewing of *Selma*; dialogues on racism with Thandeka and Andrew Sung Park; a retreat on building race relations; circle worship; a student-led event *Missing Voices, Daunting Choices: The Erasure of Black Women in Black American Movements*; and events on interfaith understanding.

CARING FOR THE CHURCH through leadership and service.

- **Serving the United Methodist Church.** Students served local churches and church bodies as interns, staff, and volunteers. Faculty served with such bodies as: United Methodist Women, World Methodist Council, Ministry Study Commission, Women of Color Scholars and Mentors program, Pan Methodist Commission on Children in Poverty, and boards and agencies of the general church and annual conferences.
- **Empowering young Latino/a leaders.** Young leaders gathered with seasoned mentors to enhance their gifts and service as Christian leaders: Hispanic Youth Leadership Initiative (HYLA) and Raíces Latinas Leadership Institute
- **Facilitating dialogues on church renewal.** We launched a new initiative on Evangelism and Church Renewal.
- **Reflecting on worship.** We contributed to a special issue of *Worship Arts Magazine*, edited and written by STH faculty, alumni/ae, and students, and published by the Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts.

CARING FOR THE WORLD

- **Offering opportunities for engaged learning.** Opportunities included the Doctor of Ministry program in Transformational Leadership; an urban ministry course; travel seminars to India, the Arizona-Mexico border, Israel-Palestine, Mexico, and Turkey (Ephesus); work with leaders in Ferguson, MO; and a travel seminar for UMC clergywomen to Cuba, co-sponsored by GBHEM and STH.



- **Collaborating with the global church.** Collaborations included sponsorship of the *Dictionary of African Christian Biography*; events and art exhibits on local and global ecology; and dialogues with global church leaders.

As we at STH seek to be faithful and to partner with you in ministry, we give thanks for *your* witness. Thank you too for your continuing inspiration and contributions to our shared journey.

Blessings and gratitude,

Mary Elizabeth Moore

Dean of Boston University School of Theology



CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY 2016 UMC ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

For more than 100 years, **Candler School of Theology** at Emory University has prepared *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world. Since our founding in 1914, over 10,000 students have graduated from Candler, where they have been shaped as Christian leaders who put faith and love into action, transforming the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

One of 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church, Candler is also one of seven graduate professional schools of Emory University, a top-tier research institution offering extensive resources and a rich context for study. Our location in Atlanta provides a learning environment that reflects the highly diverse communities of the 21st century. Simply put, there is no better place for ministry preparation that addresses our major denominational priorities: developing leaders, starting and growing churches, ministry with the poor, and improving global health.

In order to keep pace with the needs of the church and the world, Candler now offers 17 degrees: seven single degrees and ten dual degrees pairing theology with bioethics, business, development practice, law, public health, or social work. One of our newest degrees is a retooled Doctor of Ministry that is 90 percent online, so students can remain in their places of ministry as they study—and apply what they learn in real time. We’ve also partnered with the University of Georgia’s School of Social Work to create an MDiv/MSW where students learn to maximize their effectiveness by combining pastoral skills such as spiritual counseling with social work practices such as family therapy and community assessment.

Our student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful. 466 students are enrolled, with 48 percent women, 34 percent people of color (U.S.), and a median age of 29. Students represent 44 denominations, with 51 percent coming from the Methodist family. 82 percent of students are seeking a degree to prepare them as ministry professionals.

Candler has a deep commitment to alleviating student debt and employs a multi-pronged approach to tackle this issue. In 2015-2016, we awarded nearly \$5.5 million in Candler scholarships, with 92 percent of MDiv students and 84 percent of all students receiving support. And our comprehensive financial literacy program teaches money management skills that serve our students now and will continue to serve them—and the churches they serve—well into the future.

At the end of the 2015-2016 academic year, Candler says goodbye and Godspeed to a handful of noted faculty as they retire: Barbara Day Miller, Luke Timothy Johnson, Steve Tipton, and Bishop Woodie White. Yet even as these legends take their leave after distinguished careers of scholarship and service, we look forward to welcoming a new crop of scholar-leaders who will join us in the coming months and grow with us in the coming years. We are especially pleased to welcome Bishop Larry Goodpaster, who will join the faculty as bishop-in-residence in the fall of 2016.

Candler draws considerable strength and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of educating faithful and creative leaders for the church’s ministries in the world depends upon your support, gifts, and prayers. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. Visit us in person in Atlanta or online at candler.emory.edu to see firsthand how Candler prepares *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world.

Jan Love
Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics
Candler School of Theology



ILIFF SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Rev. Dr. Thomas V. Wolfe, President and Chief Executive Officer

Greetings from the Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado. We wish you blessings as together we continue the work of strengthening the Church and offering a compassionate presence to the World.

The Iliff School of Theology's commitment to the Wesleyan ethos of providing hopeful, intellectually alive, and spiritually grounded theological education for each and every student over the course of their lifetime continues. Iliff's identity is focused on educating leaders for three primary publics: the world, the church, and the academy. At Iliff, we refuse to choose between being a training home only for ministerial candidates, a center only for activists and scholar-activists, or a school only for academics. We believe all three are inseparable and enhance one another as we deliberately situate ourselves in the world and critically operate out of the world's complexities.

As such, we recognize that the world's religious landscape is changing and there is much at stake. Iliff recently completed its strategic plan, revised its curriculum, transformed its library, and initiated new relationships with other institutions. In collaboration with the people of Africa, we've started a discussion with Africa University (AU) to foster an educational alliance that will benefit Iliff and AU students. We've also begun work with Wiley College to strengthen the presence of minority students in seminaries.

Iliff's enrollment continues to be strong with 365 students joining us this academic year, 60% female and 40% male, 35% Methodist – all actively engaged in a host of ministry contexts. Their interest continues to be strong in Iliff's online and hybrid classes. A concerted move by Iliff to reduce student debt and grow the ability of students to lead financially sound, engaged communities continues with many MDIV students participating in the Spiritually-Integrated Financial Resiliency Program, funded by a \$250,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment.

Iliff's numerous events for area clergy and supporters remains part of our foundation. Via forums on social justice, food justice, the role of faith in politics, world events, and more, campus speakers included Rev. Gerald Durley, nationally-known civil rights leader and this year's Jameson Jones Preacher, Heather Jarvis, student debt reduction advocate, and more. Our efforts were duly noted by McCormick Theological Seminary's Center for Faith and Service when we were named as one of the nation's "Seminaries That Change the World" and our Masters of Theology Program was ranked seventh in the nation by OnlineColleges.net.

We continue to look forward with a courageous theological imagination. We are sincerely grateful for your support.

www.iliff.edu

1-877-887-7822



MOUNT SEQUOYAH CENTER

The future is bright: Mount Sequoyah has written commitments to provide facilities and pursue a partnership with UA Wesley ministries through December 31, 2019. The goal is to solidify a relationship with college age people and expand that relationship across the jurisdiction, making Mount Sequoyah's facilities a destination for religious training and spiritual formation.

Mount Sequoyah completed an intensive review of its mission and future potential conducted by United Methodist Elders, Pamela J. Harris and Garrie F. Stevens of Run River Enterprises, a consulting firm. The review process included three two-day work sessions that were well attended by staff and Trustees. As a result, Mount Sequoyah has undertaken the task of refocusing its purpose and mission in an effort to identify unique areas in which it can develop training programs to equip clergy and laity with the tools, technology and skills that will be necessary to reach the mission fields twenty or thirty years in the future and required to resolve conflicts likely to be faced by our clergy and within our churches.

The future is secure: *Mount Sequoyah is financially secure.* In exchange for negotiated price increases, Mount Sequoyah orally committed to provide our largest corporate client training facilities, food service and housing through the year 2017 with full expectation to continue into 2018. The rents are fixed through 2017.

- A \$550,000.00 payment is due from American Tower for a 30-year cell tower site lease.
- Fayetteville Cottage is leased from 1 August through 31 December 2019 and 1011 Skyline (former District Superintendent's House) is leased through January 2017 with a verbal commitment to extend through January 2018.
- Three Host Family houses are leased through May 31, 2017.
- A \$100,000.00 increase in events and programming revenue and an increase of \$75,000.00 in contributions are projected for 2016. A Development Officer has been hired.
- Long-term debt is \$275,000.00 and the Line of Credit is currently \$105,000. Cash equivalent assets of \$300,000.00 are invested with the United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas.

Mission accomplished: *Witnessing through our actions, our words, and our presence, that is what Radical Christian Hospitality is all about.* Mount Sequoyah extended Radical Christian Hospitality to Christian motorcycle groups attending Fayetteville's Annual Bikes, Blues, and Barbecue Festival. The Faith Riders shared the gospel with 1063 persons and prayed with 90 persons who asked for forgiveness and to receive Christ as their Lord and Savior.

By extending Radical Christian Hospitality to youth, Mount Sequoyah touched the lives of over 700 youth who participated in swimming lessons, swim teams, tennis lessons and tennis teams, Kanakuk KampOut, youth mission camps, and group events. Radical Christian Hospitality cemented a partnership between Mount Sequoyah and UA Wesley Ministries resulting in making our campus a second home to college students from across the South Central Jurisdiction. Our unprecedented family environment attracted over 415 parents, including several University of Missouri Tiger fans, as overnight guests while visiting Fayetteville.

Radical Christian Hospitality celebrated the marriage of thirty-two couples as they pledged their lives and hearts to each other on our beautiful campus under the Lord's ever-watchful eye.

Radical Christian Hospitality welcomed 30,052 guests for overnight stays and provided 18,378 delicious meals prepared by our own chef. Included in the numbers were 61 different Church groups, 13 family reunions, and 29 groups from regional colleges and universities. Radical Christian Hospitality coupled with our Christian Education and Spiritual Formation Coordinator, a United Methodist Diaconal Minister, and produced religious education programs and workshops that attracted jurisdiction wide participation and a Lay Servant Academy praised because of its structure and skilled presenters.

Radical Christian Hospitality was the catalyst to reestablish our in-house food service. Chef Curt Harcourt received rave reviews from all guests. Some refer to our Dining Hall as "Curt's on the Hill" a takeoff on a well-known local restaurant, the "Inn at the Mill". Radical Christian Hospitality resulted in year-end positive cash flow for the past three years and the receipt of over \$710,000.00 in contributions during said period to remodel and upgrade facilities. Radical Christian Hospitality resulted in groups seeking Mount Sequoyah as a destination of choice resulting in events and programs already booked throughout the years 2017, 2018 and even one event in 2019.

Closing: The future looks bright as Mount Sequoyah plants seeds that, with God's blessings, will in the near future transform the world for Jesus Christ. *Lamar Pettus, Executive Director*



PERKINS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY
DEAN'S REPORT 2016

Perkins celebrates our vital connections with the Missouri Annual Conference:

- Five students affiliated with the Missouri Conference are enrolled at Perkins, three Master of Divinity students and two Master of Theological Studies students.
- Eligible 2015–2016 students from the Missouri Conference each received a Perkins Annual Conference Endowment (PACE) grant in the amount of \$1,200, with qualifying students receiving an additional \$6,000 each in need-based aid.

Enrollment at Perkins for the 2015-16 academic year totals 365 students, of which more than two-thirds are United Methodist and more than 40 percent are ethnic minority students. Master's degree programs comprise approximately 53 percent male and 47 percent female students. The D.Min. program includes students from southern Asia taking classes in Singapore and Dallas. Our Ph.D. program has 32 students.

Please note the following faculty additions:

- Dr. O. Wesley Allen Jr. (Ph.D., Emory) joined the Perkins faculty as the Lois Craddock Perkins Chair in Homiletics in August 2015.
- Dr. Evelyn L. Parker (Ph.D., Northwestern), Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Perkins, was appointed to the Susanna Wesley Centennial Chair in Practical Theology at Perkins.
- Dr. Priscilla Pope-Levison (Ph.D., University of St. Andrew's) joined Perkins as the school's Associate Dean for External Programs.
- Dr. Tom Spann was named director of the Perkins Intern Program, succeeding Dr. Bill Bryan, who was named to the newly created position of Associate Dean of Student Affairs.
- Dr. Paul Barton (Ph.D., Southern Methodist University) was named director of the Mexican American and Hispanic-Latino/a Church Ministries Program.

Highland Park United Methodist Church provided a \$1.5 million gift to Southern Methodist University that endowed the Umphrey Lee Professorship in Methodist History at Perkins as well as support the HPUMC Future Church Leaders Program.

The Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions at Perkins was awarded a \$500,000 grant by The Henry Luce Foundation's Theology program. The three-year grant will significantly expand the Center's work in promoting an understanding of the different religious expressions within the Latino/a communities in the United States and in Latin America.

Perkins unveiled a new degree option, the **Master of Theology (Th.M.)**, which began enrolling students in the Fall 2015 semester. The Th.M. degree is a second master's and requires 24 term hours within one of four divisions of study: The Biblical Witness, The Heritage and Context of Christianity, The Interpretation of the Christian Witness and The Theology and Practice of Ministry.

Additionally, Perkins revealed that it will begin offering a Spanish-language Master of Theology (Th.M.) degree beginning in fall 2017. The degree, the first of its kind among the 13 United Methodist-related schools of theology, will be a nonresidential program designed for experienced full-time pastors or church/academic leaders.

Perkins also announced the creation of a first-of-its-kind degree, the Doctor of Pastoral Music, which will begin enrolling students in 2016. Areas of focused study will include liturgy, congregational song, worship leadership, performance skills and the theological basis of church music.

Perkins thanks our many colleagues, friends, and alumni/ae across the connection for generous support in many ways, including referrals of prospective students, as we continue our vital mission of preparing women and men for faithful leadership in Christian ministry.

I will retire as Dean of Perkins School of Theology on May 31, 2016. It has been my privilege to serve in this capacity since 2002. In our mission to prepare women and men for faithful leadership in Christian ministry, the students who have passed through the halls of this school and into the world of ministry are the focus of our work. I am honored to have been a part of their journey.

Grace and peace,
William B. Lawrence
Dean and Professor of American Church History



SAINT PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
www.spst.edu

Oklahoma City Area Campus
Saint Paul: Oklahoma City University
2501 North Blackwelder
Oklahoma City, OK 73106

Kansas City Area Campus
Saint Paul: Church of the Resurrection
4370 W 109th St, Suite 300
Overland Park, KS 66211

Saint Paul School of Theology is a seminary of the United Methodist Church that educates leaders to make disciples for Jesus Christ, renew the Church, and transform the world. We are one institution with two campuses, in Oklahoma and Kansas.

This past academic year, Saint Paul enrolled 199 students from 14 annual conferences and 6 countries on both campuses. The Course of Study School at Saint Paul served 222 students in four Midwest locations.

The Saint Paul Board of Trustees named Dr. Nancy Howell, Saint Paul Professor of Theology and Philosophy, as the Acting President this spring. Her term began March 2 as Rev. H. Sharon Howell retired. Dr. Nancy Howell brings multiple years of experience serving in administration.

Saint Paul and Kansas Wesleyan University signed a Memorandum of Understanding for a 3+3 theological studies undergraduate-graduate program. The agreement is thought to be the first of its kind to be established between a United Methodist-based university and a United Methodist seminary. Under this arrangement, Kansas Wesleyan students condense the four-year course of study for the Christian Ministry major into three years, followed by the completion of the three-year Master of Divinity degree at Saint Paul. The 3 +3 program with Kansas Wesleyan will begin Fall 2016. 3+3 collaborations with other undergraduate institutions are currently in discussion.

Dr. Young-Ho Chun is serving as the Director of Asian Studies for Saint Paul. He is currently recruiting the 4th Korean Doctor of Ministry track of students. The model of theological education designed for this highly successful and unique program is currently being considered by other global communities.

Saint Paul will offer two fully online courses starting fall 2016 and two in the spring semester of 2017. We will continue to offer popular hybrid courses as well as video link every course between our two locations.

Two new components in the MDiv program are practicums taught by ministry practitioners and off-campus spiritual formation retreats. Practicum offerings include such real-life skill areas as budgets and finance, funerals and ministry with children. Spiritual formation retreats deepen students' spirituality for a lifetime of ministry.

The Fellows program equips candidates called to full-time ministry with academic formation and real-life pastoral experience. The award covers tuition, books and fees for three years. Each Fellow will receive a pastoral mentor and a student appointment with a stipend to cover living expenses.

The Oklahoma Campus had its second recognition dinner celebrating eight years of seminary excellence in Oklahoma. The Celebrate Saint Paul dinner has become an annual event including the Bishop Robert E. Hayes, Jr. Leadership Award

The trustees, faculty, staff, and students of Saint Paul thank you for your interest, prayers and support.



**SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY
PRESIDENT'S REPORT
TO THE MISSOURI ANNUAL CONFERENCE
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2016**

Over the past five years, Southern Methodist University has celebrated the centennial of its founding in 1911 by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and its opening in 1915. Highlights of recent developments follow:

- In fall 2015 SMU's total enrollment of 11,643 included 6,411 undergraduates and 5,232 graduate students. Ethnic minority students made up 26 percent of total enrollment. An international enrollment of 1,652 (14 percent of total enrollment) represented 92 foreign countries, with the largest numbers from China, India and Saudi Arabia.
- SMU ranks among the nation's top universities. In the 2016 *U.S. News & World Report* listings, SMU ranks 61st among 270 of the "best national universities." Several individual schools and academic programs also earned national rankings.
- SMU received \$26 million in external funding during 2014-15 for research in the U.S. and worldwide. Current research subjects include water quality, natural hazards, cyber security and treatments for cancer and other diseases.
- SMU Unbridled: The Second Century Campaign reached its \$1 billion goal ahead of schedule in Sept. 2015. It provided funds for 607 student scholarships; 62 endowed faculty positions, making a total of 114; 66 academic programs, including major endowment support for two schools; and 18 capital projects, including new and renovated facilities.
- The Meadows Museum at SMU celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2015 with exhibitions never before seen in the U.S. The museum houses one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of Spanish art outside of Spain.

SMU treasures its Methodist heritage, and we ask for your continued prayers and support.

R. Gerald Turner
President
Southern Methodist University



WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Called. Answered. Sent.

Wesley Theological Seminary has been equipping and sending forth prophetic preachers, teachers, and leaders into diverse ministries throughout the church and around the world. Near and far, our alumni point to God's love even as they join the Spirit in making disciples and shaping healthy communities.

- With more than 410 master's-level students preparing for leadership in the church and the world, Wesley remains one of the largest and most diverse theological schools in North America.
- The Lewis Center for Church Leadership informs more than 17,000 pastors and lay leaders on trends and ideas through its e-newsletter. The center has influenced more than 5,600 church leaders through leadership assessments, sexual ethics trainings, and fundraising trainings.
- The new Institute for Community Engagement is forwarding Wesley's mission of raising prophetic leaders in the public square through classes, partnerships, conferences, and resources.

Wesley Students Are Answering God's Call

Wesley provides **more than \$2 million dollars annually in scholarships** to our students thanks to the consistent support of alumni, congregations and friends of the seminary. The Ministerial Education Fund and conference partners help us equip a broad range of students to serve the church as pastors and leaders. These include:

- Two Master of Divinity students who are exploring ordination in the UMC that have created outreach opportunities for people who ordinarily would not consider going into a church. **Zach Spoerl and Matt Wilke**, working with three United Methodist Churches and Wesley, have started Pub Theology in downtown D.C., drawing spiritual-but-not-religious young adults into Christian community.
- Master of Theological Studies student **Jane Adams** is working with denominations and congregations on issues of poverty and hunger in the U.S. As an intern at the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, she provides tools for building on charitable activities such as food pantries and backpack ministries. As a member of a local United Methodist congregation, she's putting her knowledge to work in her local church and neighborhood, too.

Christian leadership must innovate for greater faithfulness and be able to engage the full diversity of people within our society even while holding true to the foundations of our faith and tradition. The people named above – as well as so many more of our students – exemplify these aims. Read more about our students at wesleyseminary.edu/stories.

Mourning the Loss of a Christian Leader

The Rev. Clementa Pinckney was a Doctor of Ministry student at Wesley in the Leadership Excellence track. He was working on a research project on the combined role of pastor and statesman, when his life was taken along with eight others at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, S.C. **Rev. Pinckney exemplified the spiritually powerful and prophetic leadership that is at the core of our mission.** To ensure Pinckney's legacy continues, Wesley has established scholarships in his name for Doctor of Ministry candidates seeking to empower their congregations, engage their communities, and influence public discourse. Additionally, **Wesley has developed a Doctor of Ministry track exploring the intersection between public life and church leadership.** This degree focus amplifies Wesley's mission and location and, we hope, will raise up leaders to continue Pinckney's legacy. <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry/>

Seeking Connection

We are on this journey of faith together. As you follow Jesus Christ, we pray and trust the Spirit will equip you to mentor future leaders and to help others identify God's call to ministry on their lives. Let us know about someone you feel has the potential for Christian leadership by emailing us admissions@wesleyseminary.edu. **And may God's transformative, creative Spirit lead all of us, as the body of Christ, to new and faithful ways of sharing God's grace and love with all God's people, for the redemption of the world.** Learn more at wesleyseminary.edu. *Sent by Rev. Dr. Wm. D. Aldridge, Jr., Associate Dean of Admissions, on behalf of Wesley Theological Seminary*