

Inside =

2015 clergy appointments
– Pages 9-11

Register for Mission u
– Pages 5-8

New districts' office info =

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918-742-7496
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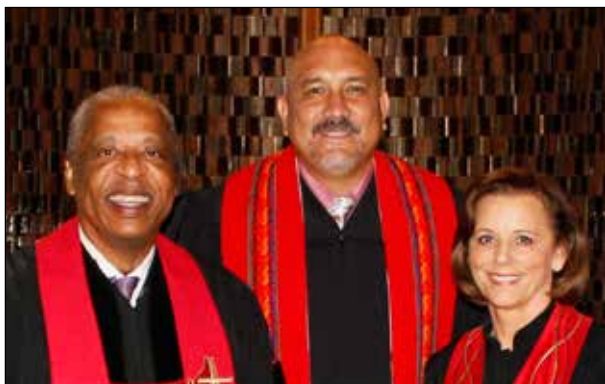
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Office in Lawton



Photos by Holly McCray

Welcome to our conference family

On May 27, the Oklahoma Conference thanked God for the blessing of clergy growing in leadership. Above from left, gathered at OKC-St. Luke's, newly ordained elders are: (front) Felecia Hensley, (Linda Harker, who chairs the Board of Ordained Ministry), Nancy McCullough, Anna Marie George, (Bishop Robert Hayes), Tari Carbaugh, Brandon Blacksten, Kathy Morris, Devon Krause; and (back row) Kris Tate, Rudy Freese, Timothy Trujillo Sr., Robert Duran, and Kathy Brown.



Elder Obed Alba, center, was received on Recognition of Orders.



With Rev. Harker and Bishop Hayes are, at center, newly commissioned deacons Andrew Haynes and Thomas Carruthers, left and right.



From left, newly commissioned elders: (front) Judy Conner, Patricia Johnson, Lory Fahle, Shannon Rodenberg, (Bishop Hayes), Stephen Davis, Andrew Haire, Mark Polson; and (back row) Sarah Mitchell-Thornhill, Jennifer Ahrens-Sims, Jon Odom, Robert Harrison (and Rev. Harker).

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD —

By the glow of cellphone flashlights, Kaily Elizabeth Robison is baptized May 10 by Charla Gwartney at Tulsa-Faith UMC. Electrical power failed in the 9:40 a.m. worship, but the service continued on that stormy weekend. Children sang, and third-graders received Bibles, all witnessed by the 294 worshippers in attendance. Robison is the granddaughter of Susie and Larry Dyer.

Photo by Courtney Fray



OIMC annual meeting dates back 173 years

On June 4-7, delegates and guests of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference are meeting west of Anadarko, at the OIMC's Southwest Region Center.

This is their 173rd Annual Conference session.

Theme is "For Such a Time as This," referencing Esther 4:14. On June 6, table talks will focus on "Where are we going?" and "How are we going to get there?," the OIMC *Advocate* reported.

Preacher will be Bishop Robert Hayes Jr., episcopal leader for both the OIMC and the Oklahoma Conference. His sermons are "Sin of Silence," Esther 4:14 and Luke 19:37-40; "Unfaded Memories," I Peter 1:3-9; and "Don't Keep God Waiting," Luke 15:11-24.

Worship leaders include Marcus Briggs Cloud and Sam Samuel III, who filled roles in worship at the 2012 General Conference.

On June 5, a 2-mile run/walk

will raise funds for youth and young adult teams that carry out mission projects at the Sager Brown Depot, in Baldwin, La., for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). Registration is \$10 per entry.

The Annual Conference Offerings will support (1) youths and their adult coordinators who will attend Youth 2015, a national United Methodist event, in late June in Orlando, Fla.; and (2) Danilo Diaz Rivas of the Methodist Church in Colombia. He ministers to the indigenous Zenú tribe in Colombia. Rev. Diaz said the Colombian Methodist Church dates only to 1996, and the denomination has about 5,000 members.

Archivist Christina Wolf will attend, displaying historic photos that need identification, and offering to digitize photos or documents for the OIMC Archives.

(from *The Advocate*, May-June 2015)



Legacy Planning Using a Farm or Ranch – Part 1

Do you own a farm or ranch and are thinking about retirement and the next season of your life? Do you find it difficult to continue running an ongoing farm or ranch operation? Are you interested in exploring the various options available to your family? Do you need cash and retirement income from the sale of your farm or ranch? Would you like to gift your farm or ranch and continue farming or ranching? Would you like to receive retirement income and leave a bequest to your children and grandchildren?

There are significant financial, tax, and estate planning advantages for families who make legacy gifts using farmland or ranchland. Given that the value of

land has increased significantly over the past several years, many families have significant net worth. As these families move toward retirement, they often find it necessary to sell part or the entire farm or ranch to generate retirement income.

Legacy planning can be a great component of any family's plan to sell the farm or ranch. They can offset the potential capital gains tax liability that selling would produce. In addition, they can achieve their personal, financial, estate, and charitable planning goals.

Farms or ranches often include highly appreciated assets with a low cost basis that would produce a large

capital gain if sold. Because of the increased income and capital gains tax rates resulting from the American Taxpayer Relief Act, many taxpayers who would have otherwise paid taxes at lower rates in the past will now be subject to the top federal capital gains rate of 23.8% and income tax rate of 39.6%. Also, there will be state income and capital gains taxes.

Therefore, a family contemplating retirement may benefit from a plan with charitable components. Adding

charitable components to a family's retirement and estate plan may avoid the negative effects of taxes normally associated with an outright sale of the farm.

During the next three issues, we will discuss three different planning opportunities that will enable families to achieve their goals. If you are interested in exploring the various opportunities, please contact David Battles, CPA, at 800-259-6863 or dbattles@okumf.org. There is no obligation, and all inquiries are confidential.

THE OKLAHOMA UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION
4201 N. CLASSEN BOULEVARD, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73118-2400
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The Oklahoma United Methodist
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Oklahoma City, OK 73106

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Tempting tummies

Camps' kitchen crews collaborate with chef

By HOLLY McCRAY

Suddenly I was so hungry. Something chocolate was flowing into a baking pan. I smelled roasting pork and saw a chef mixing barbecue sauce. Cooks stirred scalloped potatoes. Bright-green broccoli simmered. Baskets awaited croissant sandwich buns.

Five cooks from Oklahoma Conference's three camps recently spent two days in hands-on training with Executive Chef Scott Schauer amid the happy hubbub in OKC-St. Luke's extensive kitchen. Egan's manager Josh Pulver and Ed Parker, Conference Camps director, also participated.

For both this church and the camps, guests can't sit at just one table.

They feed hundreds of people at once. To succeed, they don't merely multiply ingredients for a recipe that serves five. And so their time together at St. Luke's involved commercial-size pots and pans, multiple ovens, walk-in refrigerators, and enough food to satisfy hundreds.

Chef Schauer welcomed



Chicken salad for 440 guests is prepared by (from left) Scott Schauer, Donnie Craig, Louise Mullen, and Ruby Brown.

Parker's request to lead the training. The chef holds a hotel/restaurant management degree from the University of Houston. This is his fifth year of service at St. Luke's Church.

"I want to share my knowledge; it does me no good to keep it to myself," he said. The event also was a valuable opportunity for the camps' kitchen staffs to exchange information, he said.

Parker spoke of changes in the camps' food services and his desire to offer more healthy choices. Physical and spiritual strength go hand-in-hand, he said. Parker enjoys cooking; he and his wife hosted the staff who attended training.

"We are trying to elevate

quality for our campers," Parker said. "It's important that we serve food that is healthy, looks good, and saves money."

One food distribution company now will supply all three camps. Parker said that bulk purchasing will reduce expenses.

"You want to be able to provide good food and be able to pay for it," Schauer agreed. "I want to make sure the money I'm given is used wisely."

For example, he makes a pulled pork recipe by using pork butt, which costs about \$1.75 per pound, instead of brisket, considerably more expensive. That's one of the dishes he shared with the camps' kitchen teams.

"When somebody says



Photos by Holly McCray

Peggy East, left, and Donna Baird fill big serving bowls with fresh mixed fruit in OKC-St. Luke's kitchen.

something about saving money, you're going to try it," said Peggy East from Canyon Camp.

Chicken enchiladas and "chicken salad with Lawry's Seasoned Salt" were among her favorite dishes at the training.

Donnie Craig from Camp Egan said, "We got some really good new recipe ideas."

She relished the individual meat loaves they made with barbecue sauce (instead of ketchup or tomato sauce).

"It was a great idea," Craig said.

During the two days, the camps crews served alongside the

church's food service staff.

When I visited, they all were preparing for 440 luncheon guests at St. Luke's. Parker described the remarkable scene as 40 pounds of chicken and 4 gallons of mayonnaise, plus other ingredients, became chicken salad.

But that chocolate mixture had my attention. The cooks were making "chocolate cobbler." It was delicious, according to both East and Craig, and they will serve it at camp.

So now I'm packing my walking shoes, flashlight, and Bible.

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good." (Psalm 34:8)

Know a student coming to OU in the fall?

They should be a part of The Wesley!
OKWesley.org/recommend-a-student

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78% of Oklahoma churches contribute to Advance missions

Among the 511 churches in the Oklahoma Conference, 443 of them gave financial support to the denomination's Advance mission projects and missionaries in 2014.

That 78 percent participation in The Advance is the highest among all annual conferences in the South Central Jurisdiction.

The Great Plains and the Rio Texas Conferences each reported 55 percent participation.

Oklahoma's churches gave:

- \$446,749 to projects, and
- \$147,003 to missionaries.

Total financial support to The Advance was \$593,752 from Oklahoma's churches.

"The Advance is one of our best methods for ensuring that our gifts are processed and received by the projects and missionaries that they're gifted to in a timely manner and a secure manner as well," said Becky Harrell. She is the jurisdiction's mission advocate.

"These projects go through an intense audit every three years. They have to continue to qualify."

The Advance is a channel for second-mile giving to designated United Methodist mission projects or ministries. The General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) processes these contributions, and 100 percent of each gift goes to the chosen mission.

GBGM matched online donations to Advance projects on Dec. 3, the date for *Giving Tuesday*, a national initiative for charities.

OU Chinese Fellowship gains official status

The OU Chinese Fellowship in Norman was approved as a new Advance project in May. Number is 3022084.

Missionary Fuxia Wang leads this growing fellowship.

Due to its success, it also is a model for outreach to international college students and their families. Rev. Wang and Daniel Dennison, OU Wesley Foundation director, are training other UM groups.

The announcement was made by Karen Distefano, Conference secretary of Global Ministries. Email her at kirie@aol.com.

GBGM projects and people familiar to many Oklahoma United Methodists were among the beneficiaries.

A few of those: Cookson Hills Center received \$18,290, and its director, Meri Whitaker, \$13,525; Manos Juntas Mexico (Hands Together Mexico), \$22,764; and Lydia Patterson Institute, El Paso, Texas, \$6,125.

The South Central Jurisdiction consists of 12 annual conferences in eight states. A total of 2,699 churches in the jurisdiction gave \$5,898,029 to Advance projects and missionaries in 2014.

Births

JONES – Jordyn Brynn Jones was born May 17, 2015. She is the daughter of Jennifer and Rev. Jeremy Jones, pastor at Warner UMC.

BLACKSTEN — Elizabeth "Elsie" Lila Blacksten was born May 9, 2015. She is the daughter of Courtney and Rev. Brandon Blacksten, pastor at Hydro UMC.

Passages

FORSMAN — Rev. Dr. Donald Lee Forsman, 89, of Tulsa, died April 30, 2015.

Don served 50 years as a pastor and district superintendent. In Oklahoma he pastored Tulsa-Lake Station, Caddo, Atoka, Wetumka, and Cherokee (1948-1962); he then transferred to New Mexico. In retirement, he served Tulsa-Trinity.

Among survivors are his wife, Ruby, and sons Mike and Ron.

Service was May 4 at Tulsa-Boston Avenue UMC. Memorial gifts to: Boston Avenue UMC Mission Fund.

Employment

Accounting: United Methodist Ministry Center, Oklahoma City. Full-time. Accounting degree required. Email resume by June 9 to Brian Bakeman at bbakeman@okumc.org

Contemporary Worship Singers: OKC-St. Andrew's UMC. Part-time. Need male and female singers with strong vocal skills. Call Ginny Pass at 692-4242 ext. 102, or email gpass@saokc.org

Children's Ministry Director: Piedmont-First UMC. Part-time. Contact Randy Wade at rwade@piedmontumc.org

Custodian: OKC-Chapel Hill UMC. Part-time, evenings and weekends. Email resume to Brock Peters at brock@mychapelhill.org

Summer Spectrum Coordinator: Norman-McFarlin UMC. Oversee summer

elementary childcare program. Send resume to Taylor Concialdi at tconcialdi@mcfarlinumc.org

Youth Director: Guymon-Victory Memorial UMC. Part-time. Call 580-338-6501; ask for Pastor Gary or Connie.

Minister of Pastoral Care: Sunny Lane UMC in Del City. 15 hours per week. Call 405-677-3347 or send resume to church@sunnylaneumc.com

Children's Ministry Director: Part-time. **Bookkeeper/Treasurer:** Part-time. OKC-Nichols Hills UMC. For more information contact Trevor Smith at 405-842-1486 or visit www.nicholshillsumc.org.

(Churches: Submit job openings to Chris Schutz, CSchutz@okumc.org, in the Conference Dept. of Communications. There is no cost.)

Is this random
or a reminder to always
be on the lookout for
God?

A spiritual journal
you can carry
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for details check
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Mission u

What is the connection between what we eat and what we believe? A few years ago, participants in *Mission u* as well as other United Methodist Women (UMW) programs focused on this very connection.

Today in Broken Arrow, 550 students identified as chronically hungry in 25 different schools receive backpacks full of nutritious food each weekend. It started small; four women from St. Stephen's UMC, Broken Arrow, committing to donate \$130 per year so children would not go hungry.

What prompted this outpouring of love and mission? A lesson about how people could offer love and help to others in the name of Christ that ended with a question about who might be hungry in their community.

"When we explored this question, we discovered a population of chronically hungry children in our public school system that we never knew existed," said Dr. Doris Smith, one of the program's initial organizers and donors.

"As our women thought and prayed about what response we could make, individual women committed to

support a child for a school year."

Smith is a longtime educator from Tulsa and previously worked for Circle of Care.

LONG HISTORY OF INVOLVEMENT

This kind of action is not uncommon for Methodist women. In a 2011 *Circuit Rider* article, UMW executive Andris Salter wrote about the six women who joined together in Boston over 145 years ago with just a few pennies to organize for mission.

"When the women saw the dire need of women in other countries, they saved their money to send female missionaries to work with these women. These women understood that they could not do the work alone, so they organized to meet the need, becoming the first UMW."

Today, that work continues all around the world, and is often inspired by learning opportunities called *Mission u* that take place in every United Methodist conference.

TRANSFORMING THE WORLD

Three years ago, the School of Christian Mission was rebranded with the tagline, "Learning together for the transformation of the world."

In a recent interview, former UMW Conference President Kathy Caldron reflected on the importance of her own learning experiences at the yearly mission education event.

"Mission education helps to expand my concepts of mission and broadens my understanding of response to social issues. Over the years I have learned more about life and issues in other countries,

SPIRITUAL GROWTH STUDY—Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God

GEOGRAPHIC STUDY—Latin America: People and Faith

SPECIAL INTEREST STUDY—The Church and People with Disabilities

Oklahoma Conference, United Methodist Women, www.okumc.org/UMW

A NOTE FROM THE DEAN

By now, you are probably familiar with the mission statement of The United Methodist Church. Our church is to be about disciple-making for world transformation. How do we do that? There are many avenues through which this happens. One of those avenues is to be educated about the ever-changing nature of the world in which we live.

The task of *Mission u* is "learning together for the transformation of the world." You are especially invited to participate in this unique learning experience at our Oklahoma City University, where you can go away equipped to change the world. Each year, an untold number of people are impacted by this historic educational opportunity.

This year we will focus on our relationship with global ministries as well as deaconesses and home missionaries. Many special guests will be a part of our program, meaning you will not want to miss out on any of the excitement. If you have been saying for years that you were going to participate in *Mission u*, this is your year! Now is the time to get registered. **See you in OKC very soon.**



Rev. Derrek Belase

global economics, people with disabilities, other religions, and books of the Bible."

Each year, three studies are offered to participants. The spiritual growth study focuses on the interaction of one's interior spiritual life and the world in which they live.

The geographic study highlights a particular country, exploring the faith, culture, and mission connections in the featured location.

The special interest study focuses on areas of interest to those in the church. While this year's focus is on disability awareness, past studies have broached such topics as globalization, poverty, Native American relations, and public education.

All studies are offered in the spirit of Nelson Mandela's mantra, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

LEARNING TOGETHER

This insert contains all information needed to get registered for this year's

session of *Mission u*. Women and men, children and youth, pastor and lay persons are all eligible and encouraged to participate. Scholarships are available, with preference given to first time participants.

CEUs are available for pastors and advanced course credit is available for Certified Lay Servants who fully participate in the weekend session.

The most important part of learning together happens when participants can make real changes in the world.

When asked how learning together has transformed Caldron's life, she was quick to answer: "I promote recycling and conservation of resources. It motivated me to establish a local retreat away from our church. I have begun to notice areas of improvement for accessibility."

Together, the world can be changed and it begins with each of us. Join us this summer as we learn together to transform the world.



When study leads to action, lives are changed.

Learning Together for the Transformation of the World

LOCATION

Oklahoma City University
2501 N. Blackwelder, Oklahoma City

DATES

Weekend:
Friday, July 17 through Sunday, July 19
Registration.....3 p.m. (begins)
Supper 5 p.m. (school begins)

One Day Plus:

Sunday, July 19 and Monday, July 20
Registration.....3 p.m. (begins)
School 6:30 p.m. (begins)

LEADERSHIP

Rev. Derrek Belase, dean
derrekbelase@yahoo.com | 405-714-1554
Jo Ellen Reed, assistant dean
reed@sunnylaneumc.com | 405-455-1913
Flo Conklin, registrar
flojconk@sbcglobal.net | 918-967-2407

SPONSORS

Oklahoma Conference
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CONTINUING EDUCATION

LAY SPEAKERS

Participation counts for an advanced course

PASTOR

1 CEU credit is awarded for participation in the weekend school; 0.8 hours awarded for participation in the One Day Plus school

SCHOLARSHIPS

We are happy to announce that scholarships will be available for youth, children, and adults, with preference to first-time attendees.

- 4 – Full scholarships for youth
- 4 – ½ Scholarships for adults
- 4 – Full scholarships for children
- 2 – ½ Scholarships for commuters

For scholarship information contact: Flo Conklin, flojconk@sbcglobal.net | 918-967-2407

Mission u

MISSION PREACHER



Our weekend preacher is **Rev. H. Sharon Howell**, president of Saint Paul School of Theology. As a member of the Kansas East (now Great Plains) Conference, she retired in December 2012 after serving seven years as president of Scarritt-Bennett Center

in Nashville, Tennessee. She also served as a staff member at Saint Paul, seven years as district superintendent, as well as senior pastor of First UMC in Lawrence. She was a member of and served a term as president of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women in The United Methodist Church. Upon her return

to Kansas, First UMC in Lawrence celebrated her retirement with a Pastor Emerita honor.

Sharon is passionate about Saint Paul School of Theology and names her time at Saint Paul as a life-shaping experience. Upon accepting the position, Howell said, "My 18 months of retirement have given me time for reflection, reading, and renewal. Only Saint Paul School of Theology could call me out of retirement. I am humbled to be asked to provide transitional leadership as the interim president while the work of the Presidential Search Committee continues. I am grateful for the invitation from the Board of Trustees and share their commitment to a vital and vibrant future for Saint Paul."

As a longtime supporter of Schools of Mission, we are pleased to welcome her to Oklahoma as she proclaims the word of God for us.

MISSION PROJECT

This year's mission project is putting together school supply packets. The packets will be donated to Skyline Urban Ministry in Oklahoma City and Restore Hope in Tulsa. The packaging of packets will take place on Saturday afternoon. Items do not have to meet UMCOR standards as they will be distributed locally. Please bring any of the following items with you to *Mission u*.

You will find collection boxes near the registration area.

- Blunt scissors
- Packaged pencils
- Paper, spiral notebooks, 8½" x 11"
- 2½-inch eraser
- 24-count crayon boxes
- 30-centimeter ruler, hard or flexible



School Supplies

FUTURE STUDIES

- 2016:** The Bible and Human Sexuality * Latin America * Climate Justice
2017: A Covenantal Community * The Missionary Conferences of the UMC * Climate Justice
2018: Seeking Health and Wholeness * The Missionary Conferences of the UMC * What about our money?

Studies

CREATED FOR HAPPINESS: UNDERSTANDING YOUR LIFE IN GOD

This year's spiritual growth study is for anyone interested in deepening their understanding of joy and happiness. We live in a time when the search for happiness has become a dominant topic in our culture. For many years now, it has been common for Christians to think of happiness as an unimportant goal, reserving the word "joy" for the true satisfaction of Christian life. This distinction between happiness and joy is a fairly recent development. For centuries, Christians did not see happiness as less than joy. This study will examine the understanding of happiness and how to live the life that God calls us to live.

GREG TOLLE



As the son of a minister, **Rev. Dr. Greg Tolle** experienced his call to ministry while in college at Oklahoma City University. Greg answered the call first by serving on church staffs as a youth minister for nine years. Following ordination, he served as senior minister at the

United Methodist churches in Snyder, Mountain Park, Heavener, Durant, and Caddo before being appointed to Duncan in 2011. Greg served on the Board of Ordained Ministry for eight years and currently chairs for the Commission on Equitable Compensation.

Greg earned his Bachelor of Arts in Religion from OCU, his Master of Divinity from Texas Christian University, and his Doctor of Ministry from Drew Theological School.

Greg is the author of four books, three of a series: "Lectionary Tales for the Pulpit" (Series IV, Cycle A; Series V, Cycle C; and Series IV, Cycle B) and "Experiencing Easter," all published by CSS Publishing.

Greg is married to Hadley, who is a librarian for Duncan Public Schools, and they are the proud parents of Spencer, who attends East Central University, and Bridget, who attends Duncan High School.

JULIE TAYLOR



As the executive for Spiritual Growth, **Julie Taylor's** responsibilities include relating to spiritual growth work at all levels of the organization, fostering spiritual and theological foundations for the work of United Methodist Women (UMW), assisting

with leadership training, and helping to produce the spiritual growth studies each year. Julie first came to the organization of UMW in 2000 as the Executive for Child and Family Advocacy.

She received her master's degree in Christian Spiritual Formation and Leadership from Spring Arbor University, Michigan, and has a bachelor's degree in Christian Education from Asbury University, Kentucky. She is professionally certified in Christian Education through The United Methodist Church and affiliated with the New York Annual Conference.

From 1991 to 2000, Julie was director of Harvest of Hope, a Christian hunger education retreat program of the Society of St. Andrew. Originally from Eclectic, Alabama, Julie currently lives in New York City and works at the Interchurch Center on the Upper West Side of Manhattan.

LATIN AMERICA: PEOPLE & FAITH

We are in the Americas. In a certain sense this mission study is about us. We share the same corner of the world, we are neighbors, we are interconnected, but really the study is about another America – Latin America, a concept created in the economic and political realm. The definition and list of countries that form the region change depending on the intended goal. Most of this study will be focused on the Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking countries and the Caribbean Islands, like Cuba, but when relevant to the theme, the English- and French-speaking Caribbean Islands (like Haiti) are included.

JOHN "RUSTY" WILLIAMS



Rev. John D. "Rusty" Williams is a native of Oklahoma. He grew up between Greenleaf and Tenkiller Lakes. He attended Northeastern Oklahoma State University, Tulsa University, and Phillips Graduate Seminary. He married Shirley Goss, and they have two children. His hobbies are cooking and gardening.

Rusty taught Spanish at Broken Arrow High School before entering ordained ministry. When he was a child he traveled in Mexico and developed a fascination for Latin America.

He has made multiple mission trips to Mexico and Bolivia. He has also made trips to El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Uruguay.

PAT HOERTH



Pat Hoerth is a United Methodist deaconess, serving at Turtle Rock Farm: A Center for Spirituality, Sustainability and Healing. There, in north central Oklahoma on a centennial farm on the Great Plains, she leads retreats that help guests connect with creation and learn ways to live more sustainably with the great web of life. She also leads workshops and retreats to help people experience the city in nature, and supports the

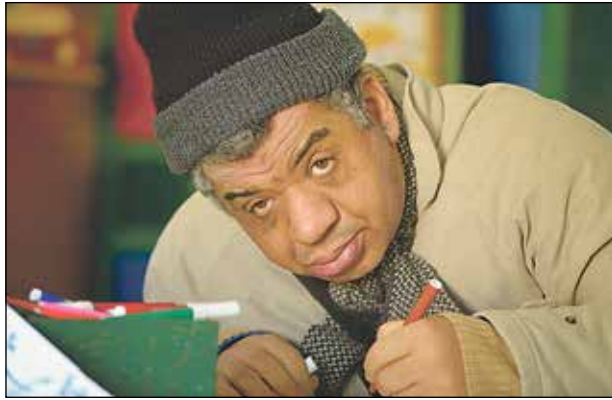
work of an urban farm in Oklahoma City.

Mission u

MISSION OFFERING

With an emphasis on two of this year's mission studies – Latin America and Disabilities – this year's mission offering will benefit ADVANCE project #3021601, which focuses on restoring dignity and training handicapped teenagers and young people from low-income households in Uruguay.

The Methodist Church has worked for 85 years giving attention to youth and adults with disabilities in the periphery of Montevideo Hill. It has been adapting to changes and needs in society. Currently the Institute of Good Will serves 100 young people with biological and social disabilities. Education is provided by recognizing their particular characteristics and valuing the potential of each student. Students are trained in occupations such as carpentry, tailoring, cooking, crafts, and cosmetics so they can compete in the job market.



The Methodist Church is trying to extend this project to Malvin Norte, especially in the community Arroyito, a very poor community, with a goal to give attention similar to the one at the Hill.

Your mission giving will assist this worthwhile project.

Studies

A trained spiritual director, Pat received her training at Red Plains Monastery in Piedmont, Oklahoma. She received her M.T.S. and M.Div. from Phillips Theological Seminary; her B.S., in journalism, is from Oklahoma State University.

She co-authored, with Becky Louter, the study guide *The Call: Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly* and authored the 2016 *Mission u* study for children on climate justice.

Pat writes daily on the Turtle Rock Farm blog: www.turtlerockfarm.wordpress.com.

BECKY WILLIAMS HARRELL



Becky Harrell is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church serving as mission advocate for the South Central Jurisdiction of the denomination.

She is the eldest of seven siblings and was raised in the Church of Christ in Austin, Texas, where her father served as an elder in the church until his death. In 2000, she joined the Ingleside UMC in the Corpus Christi District of the Southwest Texas Annual Conference and became a certified lay leader.

Shortly after her pilgrim Walk to Emmaus, she began serving as a table leader and giving talks on discipleship. Although the call to mission came as a teenager, she did not begin mission service until she entered the UM Volunteers In Mission program, which led her to an opportunity in Iquique, Chile in 2002. Becky was commissioned as a Global Ministries missionary in October 2006, and served in Chile for seven-and-a-half years with the Colegio Inglés and EMANA projects. From 2009 to 2013, she was assigned to the Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana in Costa Rica.

As a breast cancer survivor, Becky is a former Reach-to-Recovery volunteer for the American Cancer Society, and has served as a Rotarian (awarded the Paul Harris Fellow by her local club). Becky has one adult son who lives in Texas. She especially enjoys reading, music, hosting friends, fishing, and the outdoors.

THE CHURCH AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

This study is designed to increase awareness of issues around disability awareness by discussing attitudinal and architectural barriers encountered by individuals with disabilities. The study covers ways to enhance full participation of people with vision and hearing loss, as well as people with mobility loss as well as helping participants engage in advocacy to help the church become more welcoming and accessible to those with disabilities. The church is incomplete unless the gifts of all are nurtured and put to use.

SUE BURGESS



Sue Burgess is a lay missionary at Little Washita UMC in Fletcher, a part of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference (OIMC). She and her husband and family live near Lawton, Oklahoma. Sue is a retired microbiologist with 30 years of experience working in a hospital

laboratory. She has a B.S. degree in Biology and a B.S. degree in Medical Technology from Cameron University in Lawton.

Sue is the former OIMC Conference Lay Leader and the former Southwest Region Lay Leader. She is the former communications coordinator for the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference UMW. Sue was a 2012 General Conference lay delegate in Tampa, Florida. She currently serves on the South Central Jurisdiction Episcopacy Committee and SCJ Mission Council, where she is the vice-chairperson, and she serves on the SCJ UMW Leadership Team as the chairperson of the Committee on Nominations. She has been a study leader for many Mission Education events, and now *Mission u*.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S STUDIES

Weekend school only
Topic – Latin America

Children's Leader TAMARA FERREBEE



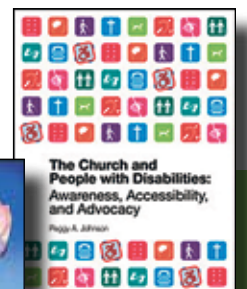
Tamara moved to Newalla in 2010. She and her husband, Don, have three active boys, Tony, Travis, and Nathan, and stay very active in the boys' activities. Tamara became the church secretary at Harrah UMC in September 2012 and now also serves as the youth director.

Youth Leader HANNAH PHILLIPS



Hannah is a full-time youth director and part-time nerd. She's passionate about a lot of things (1990s Marvel and DC comics, pasta, Star Wars) but she's overwhelmingly overjoyed about doing ministry in different ways. She grew up without a church family, but all that changed when her dad bribed her into going to a local United Methodist

youth group. She was intrigued enough to keep going back to hear more about Jesus, loving all people, and something called ministry and all that it encompasses. Those messages impacted her life in ways she never imagined (like going to Bolivia for missions, deciding to actively live her life more like Christ's, and hearing and accepting the call to youth ministry). Now all she wants to do is impact lives with those same messages that so radically changed hers.



study resources

Order online at

www.umwmissionresources.org

or call (800) 305-9857

BOOKS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE
AT MISSION U; HOWEVER YOU ARE
STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO READ THE
STUDY TEXT BEFORE CLASS TO GET
MORE OUT OF THE CLASS.

Mail registrations to: Flo Conklin

PO Box 609, Stigler, OK 74462 | 918-967-2407 | flojconk@sbcglobal.net

- Scholarships available with preference to first-time attendees
- Deadline for registration: July 12. No refunds after July 12, 2015
- Dependant care allowance with presentation of receipt (\$25 per day max.)
- **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MISSION u.**

Full payment is due with registration.

STUDY BOOKS (Also bring your Bible)

- Study books included with registrations received by June 1. Pick up your books in the bookroom at Mission u. Others may purchase books at Mission u as available. Study books should be purchased in advance.

Oklahoma Conference MISSION u

Adult Registration Form

Weekend School Friday - Sunday, July 17-19, 2015

One Day Plus School Sunday night - Monday, July 19-20, 2015

Studies - Mark your 1st and 2nd choice:

The Pursuit of Happiness _____ Latin America _____

The Church and People with Disabilities _____

Female Male Couple

Name _____ Preferred Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

Church _____ District _____

Laity Clergy 1st Time Attendee

Number of years attended _____

Emergency Contact _____ Relationship _____

Contact Phone (____) _____

Please indicate status: CEU (must attend all classes for credit)

Special needs _____

Price includes a book for registrations received by June 1, 2015.

Weekend School

Adult full package includes tuition, housing and meals..... \$135.00

Commuter package with meals (not staying on campus) 105.00

Commuter package without meals..... 65.00

Meal tickets available for purchase at registration desk

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

One Day Plus School

Adult full package includes tuition, housing and meals \$80.00

Commuter package with lunch (not staying on campus) 55.00

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Housing will be in 2- and 4- bedroom suites with full-size beds.

Child Registration Form

Study—Latin America

July 17-19, 2015—Weekend only

Children's School—first through sixth grades

Male Female

Name _____ Relation to child _____

Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____ Grade in Fall 2015 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Child / full package per child \$85.00

Commuter package with meals \$45.00

Commuter package without meals \$25.00

Oklahoma Conference MISSION u

Youth Registration Form

July 17-19, 2015—Weekend only

(registration deadline July 12)

Study—Latin America

Male Female

Name _____ Preferred Name _____

Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____ Grade in Fall 2015 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone (____) _____

Church _____ District _____

Emergency Contact _____

Relationship _____

Contact Phone (____) _____

Insurance YES NO

Insurance Company _____ Policy # _____

Allergies _____

Parent Consent Form (print)

Parents must read and sign the permission slip below!

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Parent's cell (____) _____ Parent's work phone (____) _____

To whom it may concern:

The undersigned does hereby give permission for my child _____ to attend and participate in activities sponsored by the MISSION u on July 17-19, 2015.

We (I) authorize an adult, in whose care the minor has been entrusted, to consent to any x-ray examination, anesthetic, medical, surgical or dental diagnosis or treatment and hospital care, to be rendered to the minor under general or special supervision and on the advice of any physician or dentist licensed under the provision of the Medical Practice Act on the medical staff of a licensed hospital, whether such diagnosis or treatment is rendered at the office of said physician or at said hospital.

The undersigned shall be liable and agree (s) to pay all costs and expenses incurred in connection with such medical and dental services rendered to the aforementioned child pursuant to the authorization. Should it be necessary for our (my) child to return home due to medical reasons, or otherwise, the undersigned shall assume all transportation costs.

The undersigned does also hereby give permission for our (my) child to ride in any vehicle designated by the adult in whose care the minor has been entrusted while attending and participating in activities sponsored by the MISSION u. I consent to the use of my child's image or voice in photographs, audio and/or video recordings taken during the course of the event for the purpose of promoting MISSION u.

Youth Participant's Signature _____

Father's signature _____

Mother's signature _____

- Youth will stay with the Youth Group, with appropriate chaperones.
- Youth School is available during Weekend School only.
- Youth full package includes tuition, housing and meals\$85.00
- Scholarships available with preference to first-time attendees.

WHAT TO BRING:

Bring Bible, notebook, pen & pencils, flashlight, casual clothing, jacket or sweater, swimsuit, comfortable walking shoes, rain apparel, twin-size bed linens, pillows, blankets, towels & wash cloths, and personal hygiene items. Leave your cellphones at home – bring an alarm clock!

Oklahoma Conference

2015 clergy appointments

(Boldface words signify clergy and parish changes implemented in May.)



CIMARRON DISTRICT
Superintendent Charlie Graves

- Aline/Cleo Springs Rachel Parrott
- Alva Terry N. Martindale
- Arapaho Dean Brookshier
- Arnett Rusty Husted
- Beaver L. Don Griffin
- Boise City/Kenton Cynthia Robertson Riedel
- Buffalo/Fort Supply Phillip Davis
- Canute Timothy P. Israel
- Capron Clark Struebing
- Carmen/Dacoma John Bizzell
- Chapel Hill (Custer County) Wendie Jencks-Wilson
- Cherokee Robert Duran
- Cheyenne Alex B.J. Costea
- Clinton Roland A. Youngberg
- Custer City/Independence Gregory A. Keith
- Elk City Terry D. Koehn
 Associate Devon B. Krause
- Erick Jack Atkinson
- Fairview (at Slapout)/Catesby Mike Mahaffey
- Fargo/Gage Jeff Ralston
- Fay Larry B. Harlan
- Felt Charles Wiggins
- Forgan/Gate **Jeff Mildren**
- Freedom/Quinlan Scott Ware
- Goodwell, Centenary/OPSU Campus
 Anna Marie George
- Guymon, Victory Memorial Gary Holdeman
 Associate Tino Espinoza
- Hardesty Lee George
- Hooker/Tyrone **Craig Denslow**
- Hydro Brandon Blacksten
- Keyes/Marella Dwight Odell
- Laverne/Rosston Roger E. Parker
- Leedey/Hammon Robert "Chuck" Gilbert
- Mooreland Larry Masoner
- Morning Star Jacki Banks
- Sayre Marvin Stuckey
- Seiling Norm Wasson
- Sharon/Mutual Debbie Kerr
- Shattuck Rick Trobaugh
- Texhoma Mike Enright
- Thomas Warren "Kip" Heatley, Jr
- Turpin/Baker Todd Bergman
- Union Center Herb Bridgewater
- Vici/Lenora Don Whitman
- Vida en Abundancia David Guajardo
- Waynoka/Cheyenne Valley Barbara Fyffe
- Weatherford Lynn E. Brack
- Woodward, Faith Charles Baumann
- Woodward, First Shannon Davis
- Woodward, New Horizon Becky Pierson

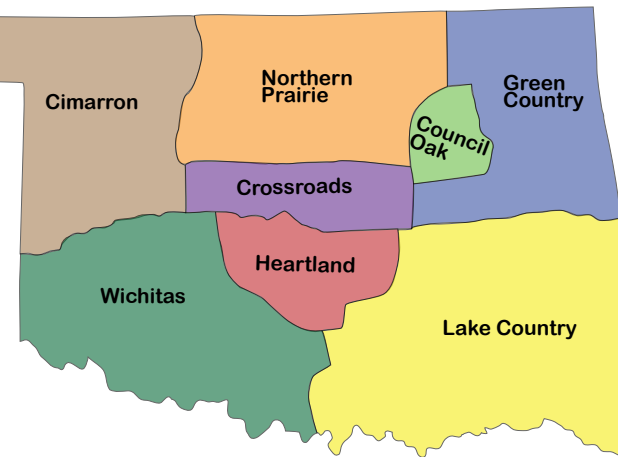
EXTENSION MINISTRIES

- Wesley Foundation, NWOSU Deb Corr
- Wesley Foundation, SWOSU ... Elizabeth Horton-Ware



COUNCIL OAK DISTRICT
Superintendent Dan Peil

- Avant **Linda Grounds**
- Bixby Daniel W. Pulver
 Associate Matt Thompson
- Bristow First Kathrine Hill
- Broken Arrow, Abiding Harvest Chris Buskirk
- Broken Arrow, First Larry G. Varvel
 Associate Desiree Sharp
- Broken Arrow, Heritage Scott M. Rodgers
- Broken Arrow, St. Stephen's Kirtley E. Moelling
- Catoosa, Disciple Kurt G. Glassco
- Collinsville, Meadowcreek Brian K. Mangan
- Coweta Sara Pugh-Montgomery
- Depew Cheryl Peters
- Glenpool Living Water Heather W. Nygard Scherer
- Haskell/Porter Paul S. Vickery
- Jenks **Rudy Freese**
- Kellyville Dick Woodford
- Leonard Kenneth A. Smith
- Mannford David Rowley
- Oologah **Jennifer Long**
- Owasso Charles W. Horton
 Associate James Cinocca
 Associate D. T. "Taud" Boatman
- Sand Springs Donald A. Tabberer
- Sapulpa G. Allen Schneider
- Skiatook Susan Whitley
- Turley Lisa Hines
- Verdigris Mark T. Whitley
- Tulsa-Aldersgate/Rose Hill **Patricia Johnson**
- Tulsa-Asbury Tom Harrison Jr.
 Associate Richard D. Read
 Associate Guy Ames III
 Associate Gloria McGee-Denton
 Associate Todd Miller Craig
 Associate Charles Ryser Jr.
 Associate James Lenderman
 Associate Jon Odom
- Tulsa-Boston Avenue David Wiggs
 Associate William Tankersley III
 Associate William Crowell
 Associate EvaMarie Campbell
 Associate Paul Staat
 Associate Lisa Hines
Associate Sarah Mitchell-Thornhill
- Tulsa-Centenary Keith McArtor
- Tulsa-Christ Bob Feist
 Associate James Stilwell Jr.
 Associate Mark Polson
- Tulsa-Epworth Richard Bland
- Tulsa-Faith Charla Gwartney
 Associate Erma Pregler
 Associate James Lambert
- Tulsa-First R. Wade Paschal
 Associate Connie J. Cole Jeske
 Associate Peter White
 Associate Harold Hamilton
 Associate Aaron Tiger
- Grace/West Tulsa William Welch II
- Tulsa-Korean Tae Won Son
- Tulsa-Lake Roy L. Betz



- Tulsa-Memorial Drive Temple Diehl
- Tulsa-New Haven Cynthia Havlik
 Associate Suzanne Davis
- Tulsa-Nueva Esperanza Daniel Llanos-Jimenez
- Tulsa-St. James Gary Harber
 Associate Josue Araujo
- Tulsa-St. Luke's Redemption II **Gregory Boyd**
- Tulsa-St. Mark's Barry Hayes
- Tulsa-St. Matthew's/Missional Communities
 Thomas Hoffmann
 Associate Jose Estrada
- Tulsa-St. Paul's Twila Gibbens
 Associate Michelle Daigle
- Tulsa-Sheridan Avenue Mark Mann
- Tulsa-Southern Hills Tom McElroy
- Tulsa-University M. Nathan Mattox
- Tulsa-Wesley David Fields
- Tulsa-Will Rogers Robert Johns

EXTENSION MINISTRIES

- Cancer Treatment Centers of America, Chaplain
 Tracy Schumpert
- Jenks Community Education, Deaconess
 Shelly Owen
- Oklahoma Methodist Manor, Executive Director
 Steve Dickie
- Oklahoma Methodist Manor, Chaplain Dub Ambrose
- Restore Hope Ministries, Executive Director
 Jeffrey Jaynes
- Wesley Foundation, Tulsa University, Campus Minister
 Charles Spears Jr.
- Upper Room, GBOD Thomas Albin



CROSSROADS DISTRICT
Superintendent Rockford Johnson

- Calumet/Red Rock Tiffany Nagel
- Cashion David Petty
- Chandler C. Allen Carson
- Choctaw Andy James
- Crescent Richard Cato
- Crescent, Mount Vernon TBS
- Dale Russell Currie
- Edmond, Acts 2 J. Mark Foster
 Associate Andy Nelms
- Edmond Chinese International Puong Ong Lau
- Edmond, Connect Adam Ricks
- Edmond, First Samuel T. Powers
 Associate Don Vaught
- Edmond, New Covenant Adrian E. Cole
 Associate Jay Smith
- El Reno, Ellison Ave. **Tony Caro**
- El Reno, Wesley Barry Bennett
- Geary Timothy Ashcraft
- Guthrie, First **Robert Rose**
- Guthrie, West John Punni
- Harrah Randy Little
- Jones Robert Foos
- Kingfisher Patrick McPherson
- Luther/Wellston Paul Calkin**

Mount Zion	Lamarla Cook
Piedmont	Randy Wade
Prague/Arlington	Derrek Belase
Associate	Sharon Capron
Spencer/Nicoma Park	Nancy McCullough
Stroud	Gerard Nsabimana
Yukon, First	Robert Younts
Associate	Kristi Swink
Yukon, Good Shepherd	Michael Burkett
Associate	Charlotte Teel
OKC-Chapel Hill	Mark Jardine
Associate	Jennifer Ahrens-Sims
Associate	Stephen Hale
Diaconal	Suzann S. Wade
Church Planter, Summit	Allen Buck
OKC-Church of the Servant	Robert Gorrell
Associate	Tim Travers
Associate	Randy Shrauner
Associate	David Wheeler
Associate	Robyn Goggs
OKC-Crown Heights	Dianne Peters
OKC-Douglas Boulevard	Crystal Hughes
OKC-Grace	Ed Coy Light
OKC-Lakeside	Randall McGuire
OKC-Mayfair Heights	Wendi Neal
OKC-Mosaic	Scott Spencer
OKC-New Hope	J.D. Ward
Associate	Cali Eck
OKC-Nichols Hills	Trevor Smith
SPST Fellow	Matt Patrick
OKC-Quail Springs	David Clewell
Associate	Andre Contino
OKC-Quayle	Victor McCullough
Associate	Erica Thomas
OKC-Putnam City	Larry Holder
Associate	Karen Styers
OKC-St. Mark's	Keith Cressman
OKC-St. Matthew	Ron Perceful
Associate	Wendelyn Perceful
OKC-Village	Perry Williams
OKC-Wesley	Jeremy Basset
Associate	Marla Lobo
OKC-Wickline	Eric Snyder
Associate	Nancy Johnson

EXTENSION MINISTRIES

Center for Therapy and Wellness	Curtis Nigh
Church World Service	Rebekah Wallace Belase
Communications Director/Assistant to the Bishop	Joseph L. Harris
Connectional Ministries, Director	B. Craig Stinson
Emotional & Spiritual Care, Oklahoma Conference of Churches, Director	Mary Gaudreau
Epworth Villa, Chaplain	Lisa Crone
Mercy Health Center, Pastoral Care Dept., Edmond-First UMC	Beverly Powell
Office of Missions, Director	Jeremy Basset
OCU, Vice President for Church Relations/Dean of Chapel	Charles Neff
Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation, Director of Conference & Church Relations	Darrell Cates
Skyline Urban Ministry, Associate	Rebecca Morton
VIM Disaster Response & Domestic Missions, Coordinator	Richard Norman
Wesley Foundation, Langston University, Campus Minister	Cecelia R. Brooks



GREEN COUNTRY DISTRICT
Superintendent Emery Mason

Adair	Dylan Ward
Bartlesville, East Cross	Jeffrey Burress
Associate	Chad Perceful
Bartlesville, First	Kevin Tully
Associate	Tari Carbaugh

Bartlesville, Oak Park	Donald Jones
Beggs/Mounds	Richard Brasher
Bethel	Richard Ryan
Big Cabin	Scott Worley
Braggs/Woodall	Cher Devore
Checotah	Wayne Loftin
Associate	John Hart
Chelsea, Epworth	Darrel D. Cox
Chelsea, Memorial	David Sanders
Chouteau	Connie Taylor
Claremore, First	Ray Crawford
Associate	Janelle Brammer
Claremore, St. Andrew's/Foyil	Steve Posey
Cookson	Kyle Clark
Copan	Warren Peck
Dewey	Dale Durnell
Fairland	Shannon Rodenberg
Fort Gibson	Barry Collins
Gore	Bill Buttram
Grace Point UMC (Cleora & Ketchum)	Stephen Nation
Associate	Tracy Hoskins
Grove	Randall Hamill
Henryetta	Kyle Kiner
Hulbert	John Crogan
Inola	Michael Shepherd
Jay/Quapaw	Furan Jackson
Locust Grove	Matthew Franks
Miami	Mark Rickman
Morris	Judy Conner
Muldrow Roland Trinity	Craig Clark
Muskogee, First	Jack Kemper
Muskogee, Spencer/Trinity	Thomas Corrigan
Muskogee, St. Paul	David Burris
Associate	Adam Brinson
Associate	Jinx Barber
Nowata/Delaware	Jeffrey Rickman
Ochelata	Theodore Hoffman
Okay	Stephanie Crogan
Okemah, St. Paul	Valerie Jones-Steele
Okmulgee	Brian Matthews
Oktaha	Terry Fox
Otterbein	Ben Pascoe
Pryor	Richard Robert II
Sallisaw	Alton Potts
Schulter	Kris Mayberry
South Coffeyville/Lenapah	Jerry Coldren
Spavinaw/Salina	Lora Stiles
Stilwell	Rose LeRoy
Sycamore Chapel/Wyndotte	Johnathan Bates
Tahlequah	James Graham III
Associate/NSU Wesley	Shana Dry
Vian	Marcia Martin
Vinita	Sonja Tobey
Wagoner	Jim Hollifield
Associate	Yvonne Buchanan
Warner	Jeremy Jones
Welch	Robert Van House
Westville	Dan Eischen

EXTENSION MINISTRIES

Hometown Hospice, Muskogee	Cynthia Culver
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HEARTLAND DISTRICT
Superintendent Greg Tener

Alex/Ninnekah	Sue Lykins
Blanchard	Travis Hopper
Chickasha, Epworth	Scott Keneda
Associate	Ashley Green-Young
Elmore City	Caroline Lovett
Franklin	Trish Harris
Lexington	Ted Uhlig
Lindsay	Ron King
Maysville	Mike Deviney

Minco/Friendship	Mike DeMoss
Moore, CrossTimbers	James Hunt
Moore, First	Robert Harris
Associate	Adam Shahan
Moore, New Life	Kathy Brown
Mustang	Donna Dodson
Newcastle	David Cressman
Noble	Bill Stovall
Norman, Bridgeview	Sheri Lashley
Norman, Goodrich	Jim Shepherd
Norman, McFarlin	Linda Harker
Associate	Shyloe O'Neal
Associate	Tino Herrea
Associate	Harriette Leigh Kemp
Norman, St. Stephen's	Jeannie Himes
Associate	Jeni Markham Clewell
Paoli	Michael G. Laird
Pauls Valley	Mark Watson
Pocasset	TBS
Purcell, Bowman Chapel	Cleo Bryan
Purcell, Trinity	James Kim
Seminole	Gary Wilburn
Shawnee, Bethel	Daniel Fletcher
Shawnee, St. Marks/Meeker	Arron Grantz
Shawnee, St. Paul	Kris Tate
Shawnee, Wesley	Ben Williams
Tecumseh	Josh Langille-Hoppe
Tuttle	Steve Brant
Union City/Cogar	George Rowe
Washington	Ernest Jackson
Wayne	Bo Ireland
Wheatland	Tara Foos
Whitebead	Dennis Yates
Wynnewood/Stratford	Jack Terrell-Wilkes
OKC-Capitol Hill	Diana Northcutt
Associate	Bob Brooke
Associate	Obed Alba
Associate	Claudia Lovelace
OKC-The Christ Experience	Semaj Vanzant
Associate	Linda Truitt
OKC-Clark	Estell Ray
OKC-Cornerstone	Brad Humphrey
Associate	Chris Symes
OKC-First	Mark McA Dow
OKC-Korean First	Joon No Um
OKC-Lambuth	Larry Jacobson
OKC-Linwood	Dean Taylor
OKC-Penn Avenue/Redemption	Brad Rogers
OKC-St. Andrew's	D.A. Bennett
Associate	David B. Johnson
OKC-St. Luke's	Robert E. Long
Associate	Wendy M. Lambert
Associate	Phil Greenwald
Associate	Keith King
Associate	Andrew Haynes
Associate	David Poteet
Associate	Jeremy Sanders
Associate	Josh Attaway
OKC-The Salt	TBS
The Salt, Deaconess	Elaine Parrent
OKC-Selecman	Pam Cottrill
OKC-Southern Hills	Connie Gibson
OKC-Sunny Lane	Margo Vestal

EXTENSION MINISTRIES

Candler School of Theology, Asst. Professor of Wesleyan and Methodist Studies	Kevin Watson
Clergy & Congregational Development, Director	Charles Nordean
Conference Treasurer	Brian Bakeman
Criminal Justice & Mercy Ministries, Director	Adam Leathers
Discipleship Ministries and Conference Youth Coordinator, Director	Diana Northcutt
GENERAL BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES:	
Philippines	Marsha G. Alexander
Office of Mission, Missionary/ Coordinator for Hispanic/Latino Ministry	Carlos Ramirez

Mission Interpreter in Residence, Western Juris..... Glenn Rowley
 University of Oklahoma, Chinese Fellowship..... Fuxia Wang
 Good Shepherd Hospice John T. Gober
OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY:
 Wimberly School of Religion, Director..... Sharon Betsworth
 College of Arts, Dean Mark Davies
 Assistant Professor of Religious Educ Leslie Long
 Director of Religious Life..... Rodney Newman
 Saint Paul School of Theology, Dean ..Elaine Robinson
 Skyline Urban Ministry..... **Deb Ingraham**
 University of Oklahoma, Norman, Campus Minister Daniel Dennison
 USAF Chaplain, San Angelo, TX..... Martin Barnes
 Wesley Theological Seminary Carol Cook Moore



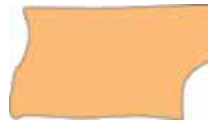
LAKE COUNTRY DISTRICT
Superintendent Larry Bauman

Ada, Asbury **Travis Muse**
 Ada, First David Daniel
 Associate..... **Nicholas Lee**
 Alderson Brandon Parker
 Allen..... Bob Langston
 Antlers Sheila Combs-Francis
 Ardmore, Asbury..... Randal Richards
 Ardmore, First..... Jessica M. Seay
 Associate..... Gregg Dery
 Ardmore, Warren Memorial Cyvil Burks
 Atoka/New Zion Daniel Ramey
 Bokoshe Tony Huffman
 Boswell/Soper TBS
 Broken Bow/Eagletown David Gordon
 Calera UMC..... Jennifer Kellogg
 Calvin..... TBS
 Cameron/Spiro **Daniel Reid**
 Clarita/Coalgate..... Lyle Shipley
 Colbert UMC..... Paula Tucker
 Davis, First Steven Harshaw
 Dow/Edgewood Jim Hewett
 Durant, First..... John Breon
 Associate..... Jeffrey Hiller
 Eufaula Michael Brannon
 Fitzhugh..... Wanda Littrell
 Gene Autry..... Frank Young
 Gerty..... Aaron Finney
 Heavener/Hodgen Tim Boyer
Heavener-Hispanic Fellowship Raul Rojas
 Holdenville..... **Marvin Hudson**
Howe..... Keith Thomas
Hugo, Heritage..... Francis Bartley
 Hugo, Pauls Chapel/Fort Towson David Monk
 Idabel..... David Mercer
 Keota..... **Mike M. Morgan**
 Kingston Paul McDowell
 Kiowa/Pittsburg Jim Ray
 Konawa Steve Littrell
 Krebs, Grace Mimi Kelley
 Lighthouse..... Terry Thomas
 Lone Grove..... Pamela Anderson
 Madill First..... Brett Thomasson
 Mannsville Frank Simpson
 Marietta/Thackerville David Shahan
 McAlester, First..... Matthew Judkins
 Mill Creek Betty Stone
 Pocola Nikki Carter
 Pontotoc Duane Baker
 Poteau **Jim Perkin**
 Quinton/Canadian **Charles Rettig**
 Redland/Pleasant Hill Timothy Trujillo
 Rocky Point Joseph Cochran
 Springer Pearl Broome

Stigler Larry Gaston
 Stuart..... TBS
 Sulphur P.J. Stewart
 Talihina/Tuskahoma Don Baker
 Tishomingo Michael Dye
 Valliant/Wright City..... Lois Bartley
 Wanette Lisa Miller
 Wetumka Tom Logan
 Wewoka First/Bowlegs Susan Rice
 Wilburton/EOSC U.C.M. **Jeff Hinton**
 Wilson..... Waylon Dancer
 Wister..... Lance Ashmore

EXTENSION MINISTRIES

CASA, Deaconess..... Jerrie Lindsey



NORTHERN PRAIRIE DISTRICT
Superintendent Tish Malloy

Billings Ruth Tipps
 Blackburn/Maramec Jeffrey Kuhn
 Blackwell Richard "Cap" McInay
 Braman..... C.M. Wilson
 Canton/Loyal Kristen Melton
 Cleveland First/Hominy First David Mingus
 Cushing First Kathy Leithner
 Drumright First..... **Stephanie Stephens**
 Eden Chapel..... John Curtis
 Enid, Bethany Kimberly Giles
 Enid, Christ..... Kim Dominick
 Enid, First Randy Mitchell
 Associate..... Susan Southall
 Enid, Peace **Kwan Young Kim**
 Enid, Hope..... Diana Pruitt
 Enid, Willow View Lesley Broadbent
 Associate..... **Tom Carruthers**
 Fairfax First Ronal Weathers
 Fairview, First Richert Redinger
 Garber/Hunter..... Linda Pope
 Glencoe, First Ralph Wangler
 Helena **Rick Forthman**
 Hennessey James Hill
 Hitchcock James Farmer
 Jefferson/Kremlin Michelle McCarty
 Jet/Prairie Valley Mary Irby
 Kaw City Lindee DeRoin
 Lamont Alan Nagel
 Lost Creek Max Rudd
 Lucien/Covington..... **Dawn Richards**
 Marland (Disciples of Christ)
Morrison/Yale..... Richard Ayers
 Mulhall/Orlando Adrian Pollard
 Nardin/Medford..... David Jenkins
 Newkirk..... Bryan Tener
 Okeene..... Robert Harrison
 Pawhuska Kathy Morris
 Pawnee/Skedee **Vera Walton**
Perkins/Ripley..... Laura G. Glover
 Perry, First Michael Strange
 Ponca City, Albright **April Coates**
 Ponca City, Asbury James Riggs
 Ponca City, St. Paul's William Doyle Sharp
Associate James Riggs
 Ponca City, First Michael Smith
 Pond Creek George Lupton
 Prairie Chapel..... Sharon Cochran
 Shidler/Foraker/Grainola Velma Carriaga
 Stillwater, First Michael Chaffin
 Associate Kyle Anderson
 Stillwater, Highland Park James Jones
 Tonkawa..... Janice Sharp
 Wakita/Manchester..... Lisa Anderson
 Waukomis/Drummond Garry Vincent

EXTENSION MINISTRIES

Choices for Life, Ponca City, Lic. Prof. Counselor..
 **Dane Lemmons**
 GBGM Missionary, Liaison to Palestine and Israel.....
 Kristen Brown
 The Commons, Chaplain Gail Edmison
 Turtle Rock Farm Pat Hoerth
 U.S. Air Force, Chaplain Sam Tucker
 Wesley Foundation, OSU, Campus Minister
 Michael Bartley



WICHITAS DISTRICT
Superintendent Chris Tiger

Altus, First..... David Player
Associate..... Johnny Morrow
 Altus, Grace/Blair..... Bruce Davis
 Altus, Highland Heights/Duke..... Micah Welcher
 Anadarko, First/Verden..... David Gardner
Associate/OIMC Linda Lusnia
 Anadarko, St. Paul..... Horace Martin
 Apache Chris Stinnett
 Cache Will Pasieczny
 Carnegie/Mountain View Kristiane Smith
 Cement..... Laurie Stinnett
 Cordell Amanda B.P. Lockwood
 Courtney Carolyn Higdon
 Duncan, First..... Greg Tolle
Associate..... Kathy Gibson
 Duncan, St. Paul's Andrew Haire
Duncan, Stephens/Ryan Sandra Shepherd
 Duncan, Wesley/Comanche Kevin McKinley
 Eakly/Alfalfa..... Virgil Payne
 Eldorado Glenn Hardin
 Elgin Coy Remer
 Elmer/Tipton Lynn Rudd
 Fletcher/Cyril Tom Trautman
 Fort Cobb/Highland Nathan Mills
 Frederick Chris Dodson
 Gracemont..... Adonna V. Bridges
 Grandfield/Randlett..... **Jim Bradford**
 Granite..... Terry Jordan
Healdton/Velma..... Susan Marks
 Hinton Gary Haynes
 Hobart..... **Joel Thompson**
 Hollis/Gould Donald Altom
Lawton, Aldersgate Redemption/Marlow Associate
 **Lory Fahle**
 Lawton, Bethel..... Michael Wood
 Lawton, Centenary Norma Gravely-Quinn
 Associate..... Cyndi Tillery
 Lawton, Community..... Phil Hodson
 Lawton, First..... Randy Scraper
 Lawton Heights..... Darrel Maddox
 Lawton, New Light..... Kiyoung Jeong
 Lawton, St. Paul's..... Lisa Beavers
 Lawton, Wesley Chapel..... Ken Baden
 Lone Wolf Sue Merritt
 Lookeba/Bridgeport John Gable Jr.
 Mangum Marsha Purtell
 Manitou..... David Jones
 Marlow Matthew Scraper
Ringling John Marks
 Sentinel Felicia Hensley
 Snyder/Indiahoma **Les Bussell**
 Sterling/Rush Springs..... Matthew Hester
 Temple Christy Clark
 Walters/Hulen Brantley Tillery
 Waurika Karen Slater
 Willow Scott Northrip

EXTENSION MINISTRIES

Cameron Campus Ministry/Wesley Foundation, Director
 **Brandon Dollarhite**
 Mission Border Hope, Director Becky Baxter-Ballou
 U.S. Navy Chaplain - Paris Island, SC Tiffany Eddy

A marathon effort

Relay team runs to promote Wellness Plan

By **HOLLY McCRAV**

Intent to finish strong, Adam Leathers pounded past his teammates without seeing them as he ran the anchor leg April 26 in the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon Relay. They had sprinted from the crowd to join him, so that all five members of the Oklahoma Conference Wellness team crossed the finish line together.

“Waist Management” ran the 42 kilometers in 4 hours 29 minutes. They placed No. 348 in the ranking of 769 relay teams.

Rev. Leathers covered the 10K anchor leg in just over 50 minutes, only seconds short of his personal goal.

Running and walking a 5K portion, Lesa Rhoads averaged 11 minutes 17 seconds per kilometer. “Respectable,” she commented. “Our goal was just to finish.”

They did more than that. Their efforts call all members of the Oklahoma Conference to take steps



Photo by Les Basset

toward better physical health.

The five agreed in January to enter the relay. They already participated in the Amazing Pace walking program, part of the Conference’s ongoing Wellness Plan. They all worked at the United Methodist Ministry Center, making it easy to encourage each other while training.

“I usually don’t run unless a ball’s involved,” Rhoads said. But “I love to be outside,” and her son is a personal trainer. With a friend, she ran the annual event’s half-marathon about five years ago.

“There’s such an energy down there; it makes you want to be part of it,” Rhoads said. “It’s heartwarming to see the crowd react when they see (runners) in the military or firefighters. The whole way, people applaud for you.”

Leathers said, “I really like competing.” Born and raised in Colorado, he was a sprinter in high school.

An enthusiastic rock-climber for about 10 years, he competed in a challenge last fall on Arkansas cliffs. He raised funds for Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries (CJAMM),

the Conference ministry that he directs.

“I like the idea of pushing myself symbolically,” Leathers said.

Running the marathon, he was excited to recognize other United Methodists, including clergyman Michael Dye.

Jeremy Basset declared, “I am not a runner.” But he did begin swimming more than three years ago, highly motivated after major heart surgery and a diabetes diagnosis.

“I’m determined nobody’s going to cut me open again,” said

Blue shirts identify the Conference-sponsored relay team at the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon on April 26. From left are Carlos Ramirez, Jeremy Basset, Lesa Rhoads, and Adam Leathers. (Not shown: Andrea Reid.)

the Conference director of the Office of Mission.

Last fall, he added running and entered a fundraiser for Volunteers In Mission.

To prepare for his 5K leg of the Memorial Marathon, Basset trained using the Couch to 5K® running plan.

He laughed when recalling the costumes on some runners. One man wore a suit and tie! But each time Basset passed a firefighter, “you just have to greet them, have to acknowledge that,” he said. He lightly touched each firefighter’s shoulder and said, “Thank you for what you do; God bless you.”

In relay order, these five represented the Conference in the marathon: 10K, Andrea Reid, who is a member of OKC-New Hope UMC and a former Camps assistant; 5K, Rhoads, CJAMM assistant director; 12K, Carlos Ramirez, Office of Mission associate director; Basset, 5K; and Leathers, 10K.

11 graduate from OCU School of Religion



OCU’s Wimberly School of Religion celebrates the May graduation of 11 students who majored in Religion. We rejoice for the accomplishments of these fine young people and commend them on their continued journeys.

• **FRYE** — Hannah Frye will enter the Counseling Psychology graduate program at the University of Central Oklahoma this fall. She will continue working as director of Youth Ministries at St. Stephen’s United Methodist Church in Norman. “Preaching at the Chapel service as a senior was one of the most meaningful experiences I’ve had at OCU,” Hannah wrote. “All of my professors and mentors were there to support and encourage me. I would not be the person I am today without the education and guidance the Wimberly School of Religion has given me.”

• **LAIRSON** — During her sophomore year, Hope Lairson started working at Western Oaks Christian Church as a youth intern. She will continue there as director of Youth Ministries. Hope said she is blessed to have been a part of the OCU community. “These



From left, the Class of 2015: Will Lugar, Katie Hirsch, Leigh Smith, Matt Patrick, Grace Karber, Thad Ernst, Hope Lairson, Samantha Erickson, Hannah Frye, and Caitie Gassner. Not shown: Matthew Hewes.

individuals are not only my professors but (also) my mentors,” she said. “They truly care about their students. They inspire me to take care of others as they have taken care of me.” Studying in Amsterdam one summer also taught her a lot about herself and the world, she added.

• **LUGAR** — Will Lugar plans to spend a year reading and writing, and then he will explore graduate programs in ethical philosophy. He voiced special appreciation for the many hours that Dr. John Starkey spent talking with him and sharing viewpoints.

• **HEWES** — Matthew Hewes will continue his studies at Saint Paul School of Theology at OCU, pursuing a Master of Divinity degree as well as ordination as a United Methodist Elder. Among his college experiences, the one with the most profound impact on Matthew was the New Testament Greek class with Dr. Sharon Betsworth.

• **ERNST** — Thad Ernst is moving to Cordova, Tenn., just east of Memphis, to be the youth minister at Covenant United Methodist Church. He spoke highly of Dr. Leslie Long for her constant support.

• **GASSNER** — Caitie Gassner plans to attend Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C., then return to serve in the Oklahoma Conference. Caitie enjoyed the “Methods of Biblical Analysis” class, where she learned the similarities and differences among the Gospels.

• **ERICKSON** — Samantha Erickson will take a year off from school, with plans to enter a physical therapy degree program in 2016.

• **SMITH** — After participating in the World University Games this summer, Leigh Smith will continue her studies at OCU, working on two minor degrees while competing on the OCU women’s rowing team.

• **KARBER** — Grace Karber will fill a leadership position at a summer camp, then seek employment as a director of Youth Ministries at a local church.

• **HIRSCH** — Katie Hirsch is taking a year off before beginning graduate school.

• **PATRICK** — Matthew Patrick will attend Saint Paul School of Theology at OCU. He was named one of the seminary’s inaugural Saint Paul Fellows. As part of the Fellows Program, Matthew has been appointed as a local pastor to OKC-Nichols Hills UMC.