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2019 NTC CONFERENCE REPORTS

NEW FACES NEW SPACES

Launched at Annual Conference 2018 by the Center Directors with full support from the Bishop and Extended Cabinet, New Faces New Spaces (NFNS) is the chief missional strategy of the North Texas Conference. This strategy is a catalyst for creativity, inspiring and equipping both clergy and laity from across the North Texas Conference to reach new people and gather them in new forms of disciple-making community. **The vision of NFNS is summed up in three words: every church planting.** In other words, this is something that every local church – no matter how large or how small – is capable of doing.

What is a New Space? A New Space meets four simple criteria:

- 1) **Gathers new faces:** A New Space does not merely bring together already “churched” people in a new way. By design, it aims to give unchurched and dechurched people a fresh experience of Christian community. Without new faces, it’s not a New Space.
- 2) **Meets regularly:** Regularly could be weekly. It could be monthly. It could be something in between. A New Space could “meet” regularly online. A one-time outreach event, however, is not a New Space. Without regular meetings, it’s not a New Space.
- 3) **Relates to a UMC entity:** Most New Spaces will break the mold of typical forms of church. But, a New Space is still a part of the Body of Christ. So, every New Space will have a supportive connection to a local church, a campus ministry, or some other United Methodist entity. The point of the connection is not to funnel new members to the local church and feed the institution; it’s for the institution to support the New Space.
- 4) **Forms disciples:** There are lots of ways to define a disciple. For NFNS, a disciple is a person who follows in the Way of Jesus. So, a New Space should help people follow in the Way of Jesus. Some New Spaces will do so by focusing on acts of service; some won’t. Some will utilize hymns and traditional liturgy; some won’t. The way disciples are formed will vary based on the context. But, without discipleship, it’s not a New Space.

In the Fall, 2018, and Spring, 2019, in an effort to continue to cast the vision of New Faces New Spaces and to equip local church leaders to begin dreaming and scheming about New Space for their contexts, the Center Directors led four Vision Days – one in each district. In addition, the Center Directors preached and taught about NFNS in various local churches and at January District Training events. To further equip local church teams for the launch of their New Spaces, the first Pioneer Retreat took place in February, 2019, at First UMC Plano.

A part of the New Faces New Spaces missional strategy is financial support from the North Texas Conference. A total of \$200,000 has been set aside for microgrants in 2018, 2019, and 2020 to seed 200 New Spaces. To date, 10 local churches representing all four districts have applied for and been granted a microgrant. They are as follows: First UMC Jacksboro, Christ’s Foundry UM Mission, First UMC Mabank, Union, First UMC Allen, Archer City UMC, Lakewood UMC, Arapaho UMC, Grace UMC Sherman and Kirkwood UMC. **There is a lot of grant money on the table, waiting to be a catalyst for your local church’s missional creativity!**

At the end of 2018, just six months after the Annual Conference launch, local churches were given the opportunity to share about their NFNS work through new questions added to the end-of-year statistical report. These early results were incredibly encouraging and indicate that the NFNS missional strategy is getting traction. **Eighty-eight different local churches reported launching a grand total of 155 New Spaces!** Since receiving this data, Liliana Peña Rangel has embraced the task of following up with these local churches and learning more about these New Spaces. With her help, the Center Directors hope to uncover and celebrate the best examples of New Spaces in North Texas, look for opportunities for further investment and support, create a feedback loop of learnings about NFNS for the benefit of the entire North Texas Conference, connect NFNS pioneers who are serving in similar contexts or are creating New Spaces for similar affinity groups with one another for mutual learning and support,

and identify people – clergy and laity – with clear gifts for this NFNS work and begin deploying them as resource people and coaches. This represents the next phase of the North Texas Conference’s support and leadership for the NFNS strategy.

For more information about New Faces New Spaces grants, equipping events, or other means of conference support, go to ntcumc.org/new-faces or contact Rev. Andy Lewis (lewis@ntcumc.org) or Liliana Peña Rangel (liliana@ntcumc.org).

CENTER FOR CHURCH DEVELOPMENT CREATE

In 2018, The Center for New Church Development and Congregational Transformation officially changed its name to the Center for Church Development. The name “Church Development” was chosen to embrace the biblical definition of church as a gathering of persons for Christian discipleship. The name points to a new season of church development and congregational transformation that is adaptive to dynamic contexts in North Texas. Our vision is every church planting, and our mission is to gather new faces (persons) in new spaces.

Creating new spaces may be created on or off existing church campuses. New spaces may be spaces of time during a week or month that are dedicated to reaching a new mission field. New spaces call those gathered in traditional spaces to encourage, support, and provide nontraditional spaces that adapt to our ever-changing mission field in North Texas. The CCD has embraced the mission, in collaboration with the other centers and district offices of the North Texas Conference, of assisting churches to gather persons and create spaces that make disciples of Jesus Christ among those who call North Texas home.

Dr. Owen Ross was appointed as the director and Rev. S. Dianna Masters, as the associate director for the black church initiative, effective July 1, 2017. Matt Temple was hired as the associate director for church planting, and existing staff member Liliana Rangel was promoted to Ministry Coordinator as of January 1, 2018. This team is leading the North Texas Conference Center for Church Development into a new era in which churches gathering new faces in new spaces (church planting) will be the norm rather than the exception among churches in the North Texas Conference.

CREATING IN EXISTING CONGREGATIONS

The Healthy Church Initiative (HCI) continues to make an impact within the North Texas Conference. The HCI is led by Liliana Rangel and is based on training our own clergy and laity to mutually coach and mentor congregations. This approach involves laity in all levels of leadership and participation with components designed specifically for churches of all sizes. Data and personal testimonies attest to the fruitfulness of the HCI.

The HCI is entering into a new era of working with churches that have already gone through the HCI process and with churches who have a clear idea of areas of improvement that they desire to see in their church. This newly developed process both re-evaluates churches who have completed the original HCI process and assists other churches with expertise in various ministry areas. The CCD has created a team of North Texas Conference pastors and laity that will assist congregations in evaluating the impact of their own implementation of the original prescriptions, as well as with churches who develop new prescriptions. The process will assist churches in discerning what they need to continue to build on to be able to enhance their ministries, to develop new prescriptions, and to gather new faces in new places, as well as transformed or transforming spaces. This new phase will be launched, August, 2019.

CREATING NEW CHURCHES

In the first half of 2018, the Center for Church Development focused energy on listening and discernment. We formed a team of church planters to help us identify strengths and weaknesses of our planting process and together worked to design a more holistic support system intended to make sure planters were getting the relational support and training necessary for the work of starting a new faith community. The result of this was the development of a 12-month cohort called “Genesis.”

On July 1, 2018, we launched the Genesis cohort with 27 participants. The goal of the Genesis cohort was to connect planters relationally, to help the CCD assess potential planters to see where they needed the most development, to give potential planters a place to discern whether or not planting was for them, and finally, to expose our planters to tools and resources to help them develop a vision and start a new faith community.

Because this was the pilot year for the cohort we cast a wide net, looking for participants. Of the 27 participants, some were exploring a potential call to planting, others were in ministry context that required them to bring vitalization through the implementation of planting methodologies, and some were just entering the launch stage of a new church start. For the past 12 months participants have developed a mission centered understanding of the church; they have explored ways to live more incarnationally in their context; they have worked with their team to develop vision, values, and strategy for their ministry context, and they have built teams, developed leadership skills, and a discipleship ecosystem for their new faith community. Participants in the Genesis Cohort have read books, participated in online discussions, attended webinars as well as weekend trainings, received one-on-one coaching, developed a plan, and begun to execute their plan in their mission field.

As we have sought to develop further the tools and resources for our planters and leaders, the CCD has connected with the Human-Centered Design graduate program at SMU to create resources for churches and church planters that help leaders implement design thinking into their ministry work. We have also connected with local design firms in the Dallas area to expose our planters to cutting-edge marketing workshops to help our churches develop their unique calling as faith communities, as well as think through how to get that message out to the people God has called them to serve.

Another priority for the CCD this past year was re-evaluating our church plant funding strategy. We have adjusted our budgeting philosophy to more contextually support church plants. It is our goal that no church plant would be overfunded or underfunded. Setting strategic funding models has lead the CCD to move away from standard block grants and instead look at each church plant vision and context to devise a funding plan that will position the church to be successful and sustainable for the long term in their particular context. Funding is set to a matching funding based on mission-field giving.

For the current church plants that have launched or will be launching in the NTC, we have implemented our support star which surrounds planters with a project coach, pastoral coach, developer, supervisor, and intercessor. Each of the partners in support star, along with the planter talk quarterly about goals, celebrations and challenges. The purpose is to make sure that, as the planters live into their vision, they have people around them to give them the coaching and encouragement necessary to be successful. The CCD is thankful for all of the participants in the support star, especially the retired clergy who are participating as intercessors.

Our goal for this past year and moving into the next has been three-fold. First, we want to make sure planters in the North Texas Conference are given all the support necessary as they seek to launch a new faith community. Secondly, we are seeking to strengthen our existing plants that were started prior to launching these new support initiatives. Finally, as a conference we are getting out of the church planting “business” and focusing our attention and resources on supporting churches that plant churches. We are doing all of this to align our work to our primary vision of “Every Church Planting.”

NTC Church Plants:

* In 2019, 26 leaders will have successfully completed the Genesis cohort. Of those 26:

- 7 have launched or will be launching a new worshipping community. Each of these will continue in a “Launch cohort” together. They will also join the next Genesis cohort as coaches and workshop presenters.
- 5 have started a new space for new faces.
- 4 have decided that planting is not currently the direction of their ministry calling.
- 5 are still discerning their call and developing a plan to plant in the future.
- 5 have implemented planting strategies into their current ministry context to help revitalize their church.

* In 2019, we will have between 6 and 10 new participants in the Genesis cohort.

* In 2019, we will develop a “Launch cohort” for planters currently in year 1 or 2 of launching a public gathering.

* In 2019, we will look for ways to offer some of the planter resources to the larger connection of NTC.

CREATING IN THE BLACK CHURCH/ Black Church Initiative

The North Texas Conference initiative on Strengthening the Black Church changed its name to the Black Church Initiative (BCI). BCI has been involved in continuing to strengthen our black churches and pastors as they work with the laity of their congregations to grow their churches.

The Pastors

The first component of BCI in strengthening our pastors is our Perkins Preaching Excellence Cohort. BCI partnered with the Reverend Dr. Alyce McKenzie, Director of the Perkins Center for Preaching Excellence at Perkins School of Theology, and the Reverend Dr. Kevin Murriell, the lead pastor of Cascade UMC in Atlanta, to sharpen and further develop the preaching of the pastors in our larger churches. Our focus was the four pillars of Preaching Excellence - *Passion *Purpose *Preparation *Plot.

The Churches

Our second component of our BCI work was to develop a process where the pastor, leadership team, and coach work to first identify areas of strength and weakness of the congregations. We used the work of the Reverend Dr. Cederick Bridgeforth called “2020 Leadership Lessons”. Each congregation worked with an electronic document to assess where the congregation was in five key areas – Welcoming, Nurturing, Empowering, Serving and Discipling. Upon identifying unique components of the church that are most likely to strengthen it, congregations will engage with a coach to implement strengtheners in a 12 - 18 month process to achieve the desired results.

We also partnered with the Mystery Guest Program for our churches to learn where they are in being a welcoming congregation.

This work is ongoing and will include our smaller churches as they are led by the clergy and laity from our larger BCI churches.

All of our churches will have the opportunity to interact with national and local leaders – successful clergy and laity of both UMC and non-UMC churches – to focus on stewardship, worship, prayer, social media, and reaching millennials to strengthen and grow our churches.

The Young Black Clergy

The third component of the plan is strengthening our young African American Clergy. Each fall the CCD will continue to expose them to seasoned pastors, both United Methodist and other denominations, for ideas on preaching and what a successful ministry looks like. This year they visited and learned from the Reverend Dr. Dwight Radcliff because of his leadership in reaching millennials and his focus on stewardship. They also interacted with the Reverend Dr. Kevin Murriell from Cascade UMC on strong biblical preaching and what it looks like every Sunday morning.

Conference staff and our leading black churches are committed to this work because the CCD believes this will strengthen not only our black churches but also our entire North Texas Annual Conference.

Our Black Church Initiative Churches are:

The Village UMC, Rev. Derek Jacobs – Coach, Rev. Dr. Sherry Daniels
 St Paul UMC, Rev. Richie Butler – Coach, Rev. Dr. Clarence Brown
 Hamilton Park UMC, Rev. Dr. Sheron Patterson – Coach, Rev. Chris Campbell
 St. Luke “Community” UMC, Rev. Dr. Michael Bowie – Coach, Rev. Dr. B. Kevin Smalls

Our Partners:

Rev. Dr. Alyce McKenzie, Director, Perkins Center for Preaching Excellence
 Rev. Dr. Kevin Murriell, Lead Pastor, Cascade UMC, Atlanta, GA
 Rev. Dr. Dwight Radcliff, The Message Center, Los Angeles CA
 Rev. Dr. Cederick Bridgefort, 2020 Leadership Lessons
 Black Methodist for Church Renewal, Phiebie Hutchins
 African American Pastors Coalition, Rev. Edlen Cowley

CREATING IN THE LATINO CHURCH

The CCD has gathered the pastors of smaller Latino churches in a group called, “100 Latinos Worship.” The goal of this group is to grow the average attendance of Latino churches. While the participating churches have yet to exceed 100 in worship, the churches experienced growth far above average. Through creating new ministries and learning from one another, Latino churches have experienced numerical and spiritual growth. Churches that have participated in 100 Latinos Worship:

- Agape Memorial
- First Denton
- First Grand Prairie
- First Rowlett
- Kirkwood
- Oak Haven

The Latino pastors planting in First Sherman, Chapel Hill, and Casa Linda at Pleasant Mound participated in our planters cohort. Five Latinx interns also participated in the planters cohort as Path1 interns and were implanted in Hispanic contexts: Christ’s Foundry UM Mission, Casa Linda/Buckingham, Elmwood-El Buen Samaritano, and Wesley Rankin.

In March, 2019, the CCD gathered all of the pastors engaged in Latinx ministries in the North Texas Conference. While not all of the pastors were able to attend, 24 were in attendance. Dr. Owen Ross noted at the meeting, “Seventeen years ago when I began planting Christ’s Foundry, one could count on one hand the number of pastors in the North Texas Conference engaged in Hispanic ministries. Look around the room, today; one cannot count the number of us engaged in Hispanic ministries on four hands!”

There is much more work to do! Dallas County alone is 42% Hispanic/Latinx, yet only 1.7% of clergy in the North Texas Conference are Hispanic/Latinx. While these numbers show the gap, these numbers also show the opportunity for the North Texas Conference to engage a new mission field, and the CCD gives glory to God for the increase of laborers in the vineyard.

CREATING IN THE KOREAN CHURCH

The CCD is investing in the Korean church. Grants were given to Korean pastors for training. In 2019, a strategic plan is being developed for Korean churches to create new spaces. The Cabinet of the North Texas Conference met

with all of the Korean pastors in March, 2019. Hopes, dreams, and challenges were shared; and the director of the CCD is meeting regularly with NTC Korean pastors to collaborate.

CONCLUSION

The 2019 theme of the North Texas Annual Conference of CREATE is at the heart of the work of the CCD. As the demographic and religious landscape in the North Texas Conference continues to change, the CCD works to equip churches to engage in the ever-changing mission field. The CCD exists to equip and strengthen the churches of the North Texas Conference to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The Center's work in 2018-2019 has been fruitful; but the best is yet to come, as God continues God's creating work in the North Texas Conference.

CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The mission of the Center for Leadership Development (CLD) is to develop principled Christian leaders for the transformation of the world. We support the conference vision “**to reach** New Faces and **to create** New Spaces” through workshops, coaching, and grants. Our 2018-2020 priority is to implement an ‘ecosystem’ **to cultivate** young (age 35 and under) and culturally-diverse leaders who can reach the mission field. We continue **to engage and develop** lay and clergy leaders through the lens of **Wesleyan Formation**. We seek to **ground ourselves in the vitality of Christ** and **make vital connections** across the full life of our conference and global church.

For more information about the Center for Leadership Development visit ntcumc.org/leadership-development; join our Facebook page, NTC Center for Leadership Development, and follow us on social media, @ntcleadership.

WESLEYAN FORMATION

Our ecosystem begins with our youngest – we reach young current and future leaders through our Wesleyan Formation initiatives for Children, Youth, and Young Adults and through Camping and Retreat Ministries.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE CAMPING AND RETREAT MINISTRIES

Camping has long been a cornerstone of discipleship in The United Methodist Church. Over the past year, we have done extensive work to assess how we are creating principled disciples through the Camping and Retreat Ministries of the North Texas Conference.

Bridgeport Camp & Conference Center – 2018 was a year of continued vision and planning at Bridgeport Camp and Conference Center (BCCC). We are excited about the new possibilities of addressing concerns with facility upgrades and updates, as well as continuing to provide great camps and places for people and churches to meet for retreats and activities to continue growing in their ministries. Whether it is at our camps or through the retreats that use our space, our camp continues to be a place where faith formation happens.

2018 was an equally eventful year for reservations at our facility. We continued our busy non-summer schedule with 70 events held from January to June before camps start, then starting again in August until the end of the year. Conference groups made up the majority of events, but we had great turnout from groups outside our conference as well. Some of these groups include university retreats, family reunions, local school events, weddings, and sports banquets.

The Conference Summer Camps were almost at capacity, with four camps being completely full. We also had two full weeks of SEEK (Summer Events for Exceptional Kampers) Camps, and a full week of Project Transformation

Camp in August. This gave us another great summer attendance of over 1,00 campers and over 500 volunteer leaders that helped make this another incredible year of camping ministries.

As we look to the future and the improvements that need to be made at BCCC, there are several things on the horizon. With our camps being so close to full almost every week and crowded facilities at multiple non-summer events, we need to be diligent about creating more spaces for our children, youth, and adults to stay, eat, convene, and worship. We covet your prayers and continued support as we continue to move forward to better serve all our guests.

Prothro Center at Lake Texoma – Throughout the years, the Prothro Center has experienced a steady increase in usage. Weddings, church retreats, family reunions, beach parties, pool outings, staff retreats, birthday celebrations, anniversaries, and school outings were a few of the many events that we had the pleasure of hosting. 2018 was a year of updating and continuing to keep our facilities looking like they were when we opened 15 years ago. This underscores the importance that we place on making sure that the Prothro Center remains a sacred space where people and groups can come to experience God in nature. Our facilities are well equipped to be a place of refuge and reflection for many who visit.

The biggest project was the complete replacement of the Lakeview and Dining Room glass walls. Without interruption to any Prothro Guests, we were able to tear down, reconstruct, and even re-design the walls which allow the beautiful lake views. In addition to the new walls, we extended an awning over the dining hall deck, which will allow guests to enjoy meals under the shade while watching and listening to the waves hit the shoreline. The Prothro Lodge and Pavilion each got new siding and complete paint jobs. Also, new canopies were installed at our main beach to give shelter from the summer sun...along with the installation of two more beach volleyball courts at both lakeside beach areas. Inside our walls, we replaced every room that didn't have a queen bed option, with a queen bed and 18-inch high bed frames which allow guests a great option to store their luggage during their stay.

We continued to serve many repeat events such as NTC Licensing School, the Bishop's Cabinet, NTCUMW, Board of Ordained Ministry, Clergy Spouse Retreat, summer internship, three SEEK Camps, and numerous individual church/youth retreats. We are also delighted to be the host site of the Texoma Emmaus Community. The Prothro Center is proud to be a great reflection of the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church.

GO Camp – 2018 was the second year of GO Camp's five-day summer day-camp program. We held eight weeks of summer day camps throughout the North Texas Conference to provide quality camping opportunities for kids living in underserved communities. Our host-site partners included Paul Quinn College, FUMC Denton, Clean South Dallas, Valley View UMC, FUMC Plano, Cedar Glen Apartments, Jan Kay Ranch, and FUMC Richardson. We are grateful for our hosts and partners for helping us make summer 2018 a great experience for the communities we served.

In January 2019, GO Camp brought on a new director, Katie Pryor, who earned her Master of Divinity degree from Southern Methodist University Perkins School of Theology in 2019. She has a background in serving in camp ministry, serving with youth and children, as well being a former missionary in the UMC. Katie is looking forward to developing and growing relationships with the communities of the North Texas Conference that will benefit from GO Camp. Katie's background and theological education make her well equipped to ensure that our camps are places where young people are formed in the Wesleyan faith traditions of our denomination.

Our camps open and close with worship and devotionals that share the gospel and Wesleyan theology presented through the NTC's unified camping curriculum. Our camp structure is mission minded and focused, which includes field trips that provide hands-on activities that challenge the campers while exposing them to nature. Campers gain new experiences from sailing on a pirate ship to zip-lining, hiking, swimming, fishing, kayaking, working on a farm, exotic animal tours, and exploring the Perot Museum.

For Summer 2019, GO Camp is looking forward to partnering with our host sites to give the campers a safe space to experience God in nature and provide resources to assist in their growing faith and discernment as they are forming into young leaders. God’s faithfulness and love are evident in this program, and we are looking forward to a bright future of camping for many years to come because of the prayers and support of the North Texas Conference.

FAITH FORMATION

Camp Bible – One of the best ways for children to be formed in faith is to learn how to explore the Word of God. Children’s ministers from across the Conference once again planned and led Camp Bible for 3rd-5th graders. During an overnight stay at Bridgeport, camp participants explore their Bibles and the traditions of our faith and participate in immersive, innovative learning and leading. Camp Bible will be held the weekend of September 21-22, 2019.

Bishop’s Rally – Bishop’s Rally creates a unique opportunity to usher children into youth ministry and introduce them to Bishop Michael McKee of the North Texas Annual Conference. Christ UMC Plano and the CLD partnered together for the second year to host the Bishop’s Rally for 5th-7th graders and confirmands. Over 450 youth and adults came to play, worship, and learn together while being introduced to our connectional church and its leader.

Youth – The CLD partners with youth ministry staff from across the conference to host several events throughout the year. These events are designed to assist in faith formation and to inspire youth to live a Christian life. Our sponsored events are Youth Midwinter at Camp Bridgeport, Bishop’s Rally, and the “ONE” event. The ONE event took place at FUMC Rockwall with Pastor Payton Parker of St. Luke “Community” UMC as our keynote preacher. Rev. Parker led the group in thinking about what it means to sit, worship, and commune together at one table. Small groups discussed how youth can be leaders in their churches and communities by making space for new people to get to know Jesus. “ONE” will be hosted by FUMC Coppell in 2020.

2019-2020 Children, Youth, Young Adult Dates and Events

- National Youth 2019 event.....Kansas City July 10-14, 2019
- Camp Bible (3rd-5th grade students).....Bridgeport Camp September 21-22, 2019
- A Time for Children/Youth Fall Cohort Training..... September, 2019
- Academy of Preachers National Festival January 2-5, 2019
- Confirmation CampBridgeport Camp January 10-12, 2020
- Midwinter Retreats 2020 (middle & high school):Bridgeport Camp Jan. 24-26 & Feb. 7-9
- Bishop’s Rally (5th-7th grade students)..... early 2020
- ONE Worship Event (middle & high school youth)FUMC Coppell April, 2020

To find more information on all these events and programs, to host an event at your church or get involved, please visit ntcumc.org > Leadership Development or email Emma Williams at emma@ntcumc.org.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

From these environments of Wesleyan Formation along with vital connections with churches, we begin to identify leaders. As leaders emerge they also nurture and develop future leaders. We develop these leaders through youth academies, national conferences, internship opportunities, leadership programs, and collegiate ministry.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE CAMPING AND RETREAT MINISTRIES

Conference Camp Youth Leadership Program – In 2018 we piloted our Conference Camp Youth Leadership Program at our Junior High 1 camp. The program seeks to provide leadership training and opportunities to youth attending Bridgeport Summer Camp who are selected to be Junior Counselors and Youth Counselors.

Junior Counselors are tasked with assisting in small groups and participating in a daily reflection time to discuss what they are learning about leadership, where they are experiencing God at camp, and to prepare for the following day's lessons.

Youth Counselors are older youth that are tasked with leading the Junior Counselor reflection time, along with being given the opportunity to shadow our camp directors throughout the week. This experience provides these juniors and seniors in high school an opportunity to experience first-hand what it takes to direct a camp. They are also given the opportunity during this time to get to know these directors on a personal level, many of whom are ministry staff at churches in our conference.

In 2019 we will roll out the program to three of our summer camps, and we hope to expand the program to all seven of our summer camps by 2020. We are also planning to include our non-summer camps – such as Midwinter, Camp Bible, and Confirmation Camp – in the program in order to provide even more opportunities for our young people to learn and serve. We believe that leadership training is at the heart of creating disciples and faith formation for our youth. This program seeks to raise up the next generation of church leaders by training them to lead and forming their faith in the uniquely Wesleyan environment that is summer camp.

Surge Leadership Camp – In summer, 2019, we will launch a one-week summer camp that is designed around leadership training for youth from start to finish. The idea for this camp was born out of a GO Camp overnight camp hosted at Jan Kay Ranch in the East District in 2018. Surge Leadership Camp is a mixed-age camp, meaning that it serves junior and senior high youth as it focuses on giving hands-on leadership experience to the youth who attend. Our campers are responsible for planning and facilitating a three-day children's day camp that is also held at Jan Kay Ranch.

Youth leadership responsibilities for this camp vary from leading small groups or large group activities to leading special-interest group activities like theater, worship, and more. Once the children's campers leave in the afternoon, our youth participate in reflection on the day and prepare for the next day, as well as experiencing more traditional camp activities, such as swimming, hiking, scavenger hunts, etc.

We hope that at the end of the week our campers will take what they have learned and experienced back to their local congregations. Through this experience and formation, we expect our campers to gain confidence in knowing that they are gifted leaders and an important part of the present and future of our church.

Conference Council on Youth Ministry (CCYM) – CCYM is honored to represent the youth of the North Texas Conference throughout the year. CCYM is a diverse compilation of youth from 6th to 12th grades from all four districts. This past year the youth of our conference engaged in several successful events that we would like to highlight. Our biggest project for youth throughout the conference – the annual Midwinter retreats that are held at Bridgeport Camp and Conference Center – brought together 383 youth, youth workers, and volunteers from across the North Texas Conference over two weekends. This year our Midwinter theme, "hALLidays" explored the different holidays of the liturgical calendar, such as Lent and Advent, and why they are important. Youth from CCYM facilitated small groups, gave testimonies, led prayer, led music for worship, and organized fun activities. Midwinter is a place where students and adults can grow in their faith and in their connection to each other. It is also an opportunity to raise money for our Youth Service Fund, also known as YSF. This year we raised money during our Midwinters through the Snack Shack, along with a competition among four holidays led by four of our CCYMs who volunteered to compete for the fundraiser. Our 2018-19 YSF funds will be donated to Paper for Water, a nonprofit organization in Dallas, as well as the national YSF fund. Over two weekends, the youth of our conference raised \$1500.

COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

Across our six collegiate ministries in North Texas, we are in ministry with hundreds of college students through worship, missions, Bible study, internship, vocational discernment, hospitality, and more. In addition to spiritual guidance and leadership development with students, these ministries continue to be fertile ground for young people who want to enter ordained and professional lay roles in the church.

Denton Wesley (UNT/TWU/NCTC) – This year at the Denton Wesley Foundation, we have seen significant growth in numbers but, most importantly, also in spiritual maturity and passion, connectedness as a community, and discernment of our missional and ministerial direction. Perhaps catalyzed by the Special Session of the General Conference, the culture of The Wesley has shifted to become much more saliently “faith-centric,” and our students have developed a depth of compassion and care for one another and for the impact and intricacies of their beliefs and practices on the lives around them. We have adopted as our mission statement that the Denton Wesley Foundation strives to be “an intersectional, affirming, compassionate community stumbling toward Christ together.” To this end, a cohort of students guided The Wesley through an extensive period of prayerful discernment, with substantial theological and practical training and guidance, to determine whether or not to become a Reconciling Community. In February, the students voted unanimously to become a registered member of the Reconciling Ministries Network.

Our Bible study and social justice ministry – Intersect – has grown substantially, and students are hungry for biblical and theological study. This group traveled to the Texas/Mexico border to work with the ACLU, Catholic Charities, and other groups for immigrant and refugee rights and will be putting on the 2nd Annual #ChurchToo Conference. We have launched a program called Wednesday-Night Workshops in which we rotate Self-Care Nights, theological education seminars, guest speakers, and arts workshops each week. Additionally, we have weekly small groups, serve free lunch on Thursdays, host weekly creative and interactive worship services, provide free professional counseling, and offer free groceries twice a month to several hundred students through our Shiloh Food Pantry. We also engage in one-on-one discipleship relationships and have a dynamic team of student leaders invested in DWF’s growth as an inclusive, loving home for students... but one that also challenges our students to fall deeper in love with Christ and to embrace a Christianity that is a verb, actively transforming the world around them.

This year we have also focused on forming partnerships with several local churches and participating in Denton community events, and we are grateful for the DWF supporters we’ve gained that have adopted us as a mission worthy of their time, prayers, and gifts. As we look toward next year, our students will be researching and discerning the needs of our surrounding community and the passions and gifts of our students to see how we can best grow in mission and ministry in the Denton area, extending the impact of our students in this city in a meaningful, sustained, and mutually empowering way. We are excited to see where God leads us!

For more information visit thedentonwesley.org or contact Haley Feuerbacher at director@dentonwesley.org.

Synergy Wesley Foundation (UTD/Richland/Collin) – The Synergy Wesley Foundation is a diverse and inclusive campus ministry providing supportive space for college students to build authentic relationships and community, grow in faith through study and conversation, discover their gifts, discern their vocational call, develop as Christian leaders, and serve alongside their neighbors to transform the world. Our storefront space off Synergy Park Boulevard adjacent to the UT-Dallas campus serves as mission central for ministry that is incarnational, meeting students where they live and attend class. Our ministry programming includes weekly worship, Bible study, retreats and leadership conferences, mission trips and local volunteering, fellowship events at the center of campus, free weekly lunch and dinner, and an internship program for students exploring a call to ministry. Our ministry at UTD is growing and thriving, with more than 70 students engaged in our Wesley discipleship ministries during the past year and hundreds of students reached and served through our on-campus programs.

We have expanded to do incarnational ministry on the Richland College campus through our “Wesley at Richland” student organization, and we are working with church partners to grow in our United Methodist presence on the campuses of each of the North Dallas community colleges.

We are empowering students for ordained and lay ministry leadership in The United Methodist Church, with six Synergy Wesley recent alumni and current students attending or preparing to attend seminary. Our partnerships with multiple congregations help students build relationships with the local church that will continue beyond graduation and support our ministry financially. We invite you to join with us in our mission to synergize students, churches, and organizations for ministry with our North Dallas-area college campuses to reach and grow a rising generation of young Christian leaders for the transformation of the world.

For more information, visit SynergyWesley.org or contact our campus minister, Brittany Burrows, at Brittany@SynergyWesley.org.

Wesley House (SMU) - Over the 2018 year, Wesley House has grown in incredible ways in a time of transition. In 2017 the SMU Wesley Foundation found a home with Highland Park United Methodist Church and began a renovation process of both the physical building and the ministry. We temporarily closed down the facility at 3220 Daniel Avenue around Spring Break for renovation and started a season of wandering. We moved some of our gatherings to HPUMC, some to private homes, and some to the campus of SMU.

Even in the midst of no physical building we averaged 60 people each week at Bible study. We started hosting Nights of Worship about every 6-8 weeks that average about 60 people. Our weekly worship service hosts an average of 45 people and is led by an entirely student-led worship team, most of whom are first-year students. We continued our small accountability groups, called United Groups, with about 40 people. We took about 40 people on our spring retreat and about 50 people on our fall retreat. Our first-year small group that we lovingly call Freshley has 40 members, with an average of 25 in attendance each week. We have 78 college students in host families where more than 170 volunteers are leading the charge to support and pray for these students while they are away from home.

In our time of transition we also launched a Sunday morning meetup called Wesley Mobile House so that students have a place to go on Sunday morning and people to sit with at worship. We average 35 at Wesley Mobile House and many more participating in worship at HPUMC through the variety of worship services and styles. These students are finding a church home at HPUMC where they are worshipping in multigenerational services and volunteering in youth, confirmation, music, disAbility ministries, and children's ministries each week.

We finished the renovation of our facility over Christmas break and launched the new building in January, 2019. Since the renovation and reopening, every day the Wesley House is filled with 40-plus college students finding a safe place to study, to connect with others, and to grow in their faith. We see over the course of a week 120 unique students engaging in the life of this ministry through a variety of ways: Bible studies, worship services, community events, mission and outreach projects, and more. We believe students need a place that looks and feels like home as they journey in faith in this transitional time. Wesley House has become that place. We are helping college students to become deeply devoted followers of Jesus Christ, while providing a place where community is developed, questions are discussed, faith is deepened, and purpose is discovered. These students are connecting to the life of the local church as well, which we believe will help them to become life-long followers of Jesus Christ and continue to be a part of the transformation of the world.

For more information on Wesley House, visit hpumc.org/college-ministry, follow us @thewesleyhouse or email Rev. Andrew Beard at bearda@hpumc.org.

The Wesley Center at Paris Junior College – The Wesley Center at PJC has gone through intensive renovations this past year and is excited to once again be open and serving the students of Paris Junior College! A new, part-time director was brought on in the summer of 2018 to lead the Wesley Center in its mission of journeying alongside college students, boldly questioning and deepening beliefs, and living into God's dream. As excited as we are about our freshly painted space and Pinterest-inspired patio, we are also invigorated by opportunities to be active outside our walls and where the students already gather. At the beginning of the school year, students came together in their dorm buildings and voiced their desires for the year. The Wesley Center worked with them to make those desires a reality. Through kickball, free lunches, movie nights, bubble soccer, #adulting groups, and adventuring through the Enneagram, students have gained opportunities to develop deeper relationships with those around them, as well as

with the God who created them. We're looking forward to being a part of God's transformative work in the lives of these powerful and passionate young adults!

For more information, visit pjcwesleycenter.org or contact Michelle Wood at michellemwood15@gmail.com.

The Wesleyan Campus Ministry (TAMU Commerce) – The Wesleyan is an inclusive and diverse campus ministry, where ALL God's children can Belong, Believe, and Become! We are a faith home to many who have been turned off from church; yet by the power of the Holy Spirit, former 'outcasts' have found in us a welcoming community where all can discern their faith and grow in discipleship.

Current ministries include The Light Worship, Bible studies, Coffee and Contemplation, free lunch, Love Group, Mobius Coffee House, New Beginnings Gospel Choir, missions, fellowship/outreach events, and retreats.

The campus ministry is bearing much fruit and has grown significantly. As of July 1, 2019 the WCM Director will be a full-time appointment.

Join our group page on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tamucwesleyan/> and/or contact pastor Brian Dierolf, Brian@fumccommerce.org.

The Wichita Falls Wesley Foundation (Midwestern State/Vernon College) – The Wesley seeks to help college students navigate their college experience through healthy spiritual engagement and fellowship. We are an inclusive and affirming ministry that welcomes all persons, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, nationality, or sexual orientation. It is our mission to serve MSU's students, faculty, and staff through service, worship, and fellowship.

Specific to our mission this year was building relationships with the University community to strengthen the productivity and retention of underserved students at MSU. In addition to our weekly Bible study and community lunch, the Wesley created a new program in collaboration with the Center for Multicultural Activity and Community of MSU to reach first-generation students of color. This program, entitled "Barbershop Talk," engages 20-plus men biweekly in the areas fellowship, discipleship, and leadership.

We've enhanced our commitment to global service and witness with a spring break immersion trip to Cahuita, Costa Rica; and this summer the Wesley will send over 10 students to serve in various United Methodist affiliates, such as the Board of Church and Society in Washington, D.C., and Project Transformation in the North Texas Conference.

For more information on The Wesley at MSU, the number of ways to collaborate and support the work of the Wesley, visit thewfwesley.org, or email Rev. Marcus at mjones@wfwesley.org.

VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT

Through all of our work, we encounter people discerning their purpose. For some, this will be about how to embody Christian values in their professional and personal life, and for some it means a call to professional ministry and possibly even ordination.

Discernment Initiatives - We sponsored two young adults to the Academy of Young Preachers National Festival, four to the Young Preachers Festival in Kansas and have held dozens of individual and small-group conversations for vocational discernment. In 2019 we are disseminating the *5 Cups of Coffee* resource to inspire and equip everyone for conversations on discipleship and calling through five conversations: God, Gift, Passion, Spiritual Growth, and Opportunities.

Candidacy Summit – This introduction to the candidacy process event is held at least twice each year, typically in August and January. Approximately 20 candidates for ministry began their journeys this past year through Candidacy

Summit. Candidacy Summit includes worship, sharing call stories, exploring ministry tracks, the candidacy process, and the first group-mentoring session.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In collaboration with many partners, the CLD seeks to recruit gifted, diverse clergy; develop and sustain clergy and laity through life-long learning; and equip Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committees to collaborate with their clergy for ongoing formative work toward greater effectiveness.

A Time for Children (ATFC) is expanding into new congregations and continues to bear spiritual transformation through North Texas congregations. We have entered into a new iteration of this program, as we equip children's workers who have completed three years of training to mentor incoming ATFC participants, while still under the guidance of the Reverend Dr. Leanne Hadley. This model has produced a self-sustaining and community-focused program that enriches children's ministries across the North Texas Conference.

A Time for Youth (ATFY) – A partner program of “A Time for Children,” ATFY was piloted in the 2018-2019 school year. ATFY equips youth workers to facilitate a space where youth can connect with God and build strong Christian community. We look forward to the 2019-2020 school year, when the first full cohort of ATFY participants will begin.

Advanced Leadership Coaching – The CLD began building a leadership coaching network for pastors and lay staff in the North Texas Conference in 2017. Twenty Advanced Leadership coaches have received 60 hours of ICF (International Coaching Federation) approved executive coach training and were deployed to increase the adaptive leadership skills of over 70 clergy and lay staff during 2018. Through The Academy of Artful Leadership, we developed three cohorts of leaders (one lay and two clergy) who grew through group coaching around key themes in ministry, peer learning, and individual coaching. Given the complex and fast-changing world in which we live, it is essential for leaders to be agile learners and adaptive leaders, able to wrestle meaning from their experiences so they can integrate and use their learning going forward. The ‘coach-approach’ process helps leaders discern the God-sized things that need to happen, develop a plan to get there, and celebrate their successes. If you are interested in receiving an individual coach or participating in a group coaching cohort, please contact Kelly Carpenter at kelly@ntcumc.org.

Clergy Retreat – Held October 8-10, Tanglewood Retreat and Conference Center, Pottsboro, TX., this year's retreat focused on fostering sacred conversations in ministry as we answered the question: How can intentional communication bring us closer into communion with one another? We addressed difficult topics such as culture and race dynamics. Our keynote speaker was the Reverend Jennifer Bailey of the Faith Matters Network. Our preachers were Bishop Michael McKee & the Reverend Kevin Murriel from Cascade UMC in Atlanta. Music leadership came from Monya Logan of St. Luke “Community” UMC and the Tyler Street Live Band, led by Mariel Vela.

Clergy Covenant Day – Held January 22, 2019, at First United Methodist, Richardson, the clergy gathered for the sacred opportunity to “remember their baptism, grow in grace, and share in communion with one another.” Bishop Ken Carter's book, *Embracing the Wideness*, was utilized for our discussion time as a tool for continual spiritual growth and in preparation for the upcoming 2019 General Conference Special Session.

Sexual Ethics Training – Offered on August 13, 14, 15, 2018, and on March 28, 2019, these sessions utilized curriculum from the Committee on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW), as well as other resources, to teach appropriate boundaries and ethical practices for maintaining a healthy church. All clergy were required to attend one of the trainings or make other arrangements for completion of the course through the Center for Leadership Development.

Note: The North Texas Annual Conference policies and procedures concerning sexual harassment and sexual misconduct are found on the North Texas Annual Conference website, ntcumc.org/NTC_Policies_2019.pdf.

Cultural Intelligence (CQ) – The North Texas Conference has launched a new CQ (Cultural Intelligence) Team comprised of a diverse group of strong leaders (lay and clergy) who have both passion for and experience with

cross-cultural settings and relationships. We met quarterly and attended to the following goals:

- 1) understand Cultural Intelligence and its importance in ministry;
- 2) identify biases and philosophy of cultural intervention;
- 3) identify where political ideology, race, gender, age, geographical culture issues are at play and create a cultural map of the North Texas Annual Conference (on-going project);
- 4) prepare BOM residents for cross-cultural ministry;
- 5) create a theological and faithful framework for our work as a team and for work in the Conference;
- 6) create a tool kit to help clergy and congregants negotiate cultural conflict in specific contexts, as well as lead congregational training in CQ.

In addition to this broad work we added deeper work in *Dismantling Racism*. This work is being done in conjunction with the Commission on Religion and Race. We identified areas of influence in the North Texas Annual Conference where we can make a greater impact, offer resources, and address our goals as we began our implementation process.

CONNECTIONAL LIFE

Congregational Assessment, Response, and Transformation (CART) Teams - CART Teams are equipped to assist District Superintendents, clergy, and congregations move through the difficult work of grief, anger, mistrust, loss, and change. There are two separate CART teams: The Crisis Response Team and the Conflict Resolution Team.

Throughout the year, the Crisis Response Team served several churches. Four churches received crisis intervention services; and many clergy, laity, and staff from various ministry settings in the conference received consulting and resourcing services. This year the team provided numerous educational trainings for churches, SPRC teams, and the Cabinet.

This year the Center for Leadership Development appointed a Coordinator of the **Crisis Response Team**, the Reverend Liz Greenwell, to work directly from the NTC Ministry Center. Twelve new volunteers (laity and clergy) were recruited and trained for Crisis Response Team work. Eight lay persons on the team were trained and developed as Resource Persons for a total of eleven Resource Persons to serve the North Texas Conference (laity on the Crisis Response Team specially trained to work one-on-one with someone affected by misconduct or a crisis in the church). Response Persons can hold confidential conversations, assist with finding appropriate resources for personal healing, and assist both the aggrieved and the accused with the formal complaint process. One Crisis Response Team member attended the “Do No Harm” conference hosted by COSROW in San Antonio, TX. The DNH conference is a sexual ethics summit addressing the most recent developments and challenges in prevention of and response to abuse, misconduct, and harassment of a sexual nature, particularly by persons in ministerial roles (both lay and clergy).

This year the **Conflict Resolution Team**, led by Lisa Hancock, served several churches, providing two conflict resolution interventions and weekly or biweekly consultations with clergy, staff, and laity in various ministry settings in the conference. They also provided resources for the conference through the creation of materials and provided thirteen trainings for clergy and laity throughout the year. Lisa would like to provide more workshops, specifically around the topics of leading in the midst of anxiety, dealing with difficult people, and Enneagram training.

Please contact your District Superintendent or Liz Greenwell directly at greenwell@ntcumc.org or (972) 562-5040 for more information on how to receive the help of CART Teams.

Committee on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) – The NTC COSROW meets to focus on major priorities of issues related to women: a) to gather, interpret, and transmit information on the status and role of all women at the conference, district, and local church level; b) to work in tandem with the United Methodist Women to champion full inclusion of women in decision-making structures; c) to develop processes to inform and sensitize leadership within the conference at all levels on issues that affect women, and d) to review sexual harassment

policies and procedures, by working in consultation with the NTC Congregational Assessment, Response, and Transformation (CART) Team(s). This year, the committee partnered with the North Texas Clergy Women's group to support their Wisdom Workshop, led by Bishop Janice Huie who addressed empowering and advocating for women in ministry. NTC COSROW sent four representatives to the "Do No Harm" global sexual ethics training, presented by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women. The committee also worked to revise the NTC sexual harassment policy for clergy who have face harassment by lay people, working in connection with the NTC United Methodist Women and the Clergy Women groups.

Committee on Religion and Race (CORR) – The NTC Committee on Religion and Race has the goal of strategic planning in the areas of diversity, cultural competency, racial justice, reconciliation and equity, and communication/advocacy for change. The committee has representatives on the North Texas Conference Cultural Intelligence task force, working to empower clergy and lay leaders to grow their congregation's cultural intelligence. CORR members also presented a day-long training to BOM resident, entitled "Cultural Intelligence and Dismantling Racism."

Intentional Interim Ministry (IIM) – Interim ministers are experienced clergy persons, committed to Wesleyan theology and the UMC, who have proven effective in their service to Christ and the church. Intentional Interim Ministers adapt well to a congregation's context and particular needs, are highly relational, and provide pastoral leadership and management for a season of ministry. IIMs are vetted by the Bishop and NTC Cabinet, trained and certified through an accreditation process, and may be deployed across conference boundaries. IIM's serve many contexts, which include sabbatical, renewal or study leave; pastoral transitions; conflict management; disability, terminal illness or death of a pastor; and clergy misconduct. In 2018-2019 the Cabinet and the Center for Leadership Development made two Intentional Interim Ministry placements.

For more information on IIM training and/or deployment, contact Rev. Cammy Gaston, Director of the Center for Leadership Development of the NTC at cgaston@ntcumc.org.

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

The Board of Ministry is privileged to serve North Texas. We share these dates for 2019-20 as we continue to journey in ministry with our conference. The BOM remains available to receive your questions, comments, and certainly your prayers as we faithfully strive to serve the Kingdom.

8/24/2019	Fall Candidacy Summit	9:30-1:30
9/16-18/2019	Residency Retreat	Prothro
9/19/2019	BOM Meeting	Ministry Center – 9:30-Noon
10/17/2019	Residency Covenant Group	
10/31/2019	BOM & 2020 Candidates	Ministry Center – 9-Noon
12/12/2019	Residency Covenant Group	
1/25/2020	Winter Candidacy Summit	9:30-1:30
1/27-29/2020	Commissioning Interviews I	Prothro
2/14/2020	Deadline for Districts to submit names	
2/20/2020	Residency Covenant Group	
3/2-4/2020	Ordination Interviews I	Prothro
4/2/2020	Cultural Intelligence/Dismantling Racism Workshop	
4/4/2020	Licensing School Session 1	Ministry Center
4/18/2020	Licensing School Session 2	Ministry Center
4/23/2020	Residency Covenant Group	
4/25/2020	Licensing School Session 3	Ministry Center
5/2/2020	Licensing School Session 4	Ministry Center
4/23/2020	Continuation Interviews	Grace Ave UMC

5/9/2020	Licensing School Session 5	Ministry Center
5/17-22/2020	Residential week of Licensing School	Prothro

Respectfully submitted by Tim Morrison – TMorrison@crumc.org

COMPENSATION OF CLERGY
APPOINTED BEYOND THE LOCAL CHURCH-2018
(2016 Book of Discipline, ¶628)

	ANNUAL CASH SALARY	UTILITIES/OTHER HOUSING RELATED ALLOWANCE	OTHER CASH ALLOWANCE	TRAVEL ALLOWANCE
Susan Bryan	40,000			
John W. Cole III	52,000	39,670		
C. Megan Danner	64,812			
Dierolf, Brian	50,000	21,900	2,000	
C. David Grant	105,100			
Joel B. Green	200,000	28,000		
Brian Hardesty-Crouch	40,617			
Leslie A. Herrscher	53,682			
Marjoire Bishir Hill	39,000			
Katrina M. Klein	43,000			
Sheri S. (Hollingsworth) Lake	34,000			
Sarah Lancaster	31,000	36,000		1,200
Carol Montgomery	70,516	24,984		
Connie Nelson	82,000	18,000		
JamesPaul Qazilbash	27,500			
Kelly Sanford	62,000			
Jennifer Beth Scott	55,000			
Mark W. Stamm	109,650			2,500
DonnaLea Sutton	45,000			
Patricia Piron Thresher	39,200	32,000		
Harry S. Wright, Jr.	72,000			

CENTER FOR MISSIONAL OUTREACH

The mission of the Center for Missional Outreach (CMO) is to help local churches make disciples through ministry *with* their neighbors, particularly the poor and marginalized. This mission calls for the CMO to focus on serving the local churches of the North Texas Conference as a catalyst for creativity and fruitfulness in local church missional outreach.

What exactly is meant by “ministry *with*” neighbors? Each fall at the start of a new school year, many churches collect school supplies and donate them to their neighborhood schools. During the summer months, youth groups travel to destinations near and far to make repairs on homes and to tackle other small construction projects. Throughout the year, many churches manage food pantries, which help address food insecurity among their neighbors. In most cases, these ministries could be described as “ministry *to*” neighbors or “ministry *for*” neighbors. They are good things to do, and the people who do them are caring and faithful; however, these kinds of ministries typically are limited in their holistic, transformational impact, and sometimes they send an unintended, harmful message to our neighbors about their dignity and efficacy (see *When Helping Hurts* by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert and *Toxic Charity* by Robert D. Lupton).

In contrast, “ministry *with*” neighbors reflects the following core values:

- Come alongside neighbors in a spirit of friendship and mutuality. Listen to and learn from them.
- Build long-term relationships with neighbors.
- Uncover the often-undervalued gifts, talents, dreams, desires, and connections of neighbors.
- Adopt the iron rule: Never do for others what they can do for themselves.
- Address the systems that perpetuate suffering and inequity rather than only dealing with the symptoms of our broken world.
- Use a strengths-based approach that leverages the gifts and relationships of local partners.

In an effort to help local churches develop bold, “ministry *with*” initiatives, the CMO now offers a limited number of grants each year ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and can be found on the CMO website – ntcumc.org/missional-outreach.

The CMO currently is living out its mission by focusing on the following five areas:

- 1) Equipping local churches to be successful in establishing strong church-school partnerships or deepening already existing ones (One + One);
- 2) Serving as a catalyst for bold, local church “ministry *with*” initiatives;
- 3) Facilitating meaningful conversations among local church leaders to help name and combat racial injustice in our church and communities;
- 4) Activating people of faith to be advocates – locally and nationally – around immigration issues in ways that reflect the compassion and grace of our Wesleyan heritage; and
- 5) Sending 300 mission teams to the Rio Texas Conference in 2018, 2019 and 2020 to aid in Hurricane Harvey recovery along the Texas Gulf Coast.

Below are highlights of the work of the CMO in the above focus areas. For more information, go to the CMO website, explore, and then sign up to receive the monthly CMO e-newsletter by clicking “Subscribe” on the ntcumc.org home page. In addition, the CMO staff is eager and available to assist you.

- Rev. Andy Lewis, Director - lewis@ntcumc.org
- Rev. Andrew Fiser, Associate Director – fiser@ntcumc.org
- Jurrita Williams Louie, Associate Director – jwlouie@ntcumc.org

One + One – Church/School Partnerships

The One+One initiative exists to place United Methodists in one-on-one relationship with students through church-school partnerships. Through intentional work in the fall of 2017, the CMO learned that approximately 50 percent of local churches in North Texas are engaged in some kind of church-school partnership and 33 percent of those partnerships involve mentoring relationships. The CMO also learned that many churches, though inspired by the One+One vision, struggled to live into it fully.

As United Methodists, we acknowledge that children are full human beings in their own right. We believe children have a right to education, and parents and governments have an obligation to provide them with the access to an adequate education [*The Book of Discipline 2016*, Social Principles, ¶162(C)]. Educational equity is core to who we are as United Methodists; therefore, One+One mentors and volunteers seek to “do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God” *and with* the children and families in our communities that suffer from unjust practices and policies.

Over the last year, the CMO has worked to assist local churches in recognizing the inequities that exist in education and how people of faith may strategically participate in providing adequate educational access for children of color and those living in poverty. The CMO came alongside local churches to deepen already existing relationships with schools, equipped local churches with relational tools to aid in starting new partnerships, released a comprehensive North Texas One+One Handbook, and continued to be a key partner in One+One Dallas, which aims to facilitate church-school partnerships specifically in DISD.

A Deeper Look: In the last year, local churches already living into the call of ministry *with* their neighbors through One+One received tools to go deeper in the relationship with their schools. For example, the CMO provided Cultural Intelligence training to assist local churches in their capability to relate and work effectively across cultures. This training focused on how to develop and live into a contextualized commitment to partnership with a school.

A New Start: Local churches with the desire to begin a new partnership received equipping to begin the healthy partnership in three ways: listening to their school to assess needs, discerning the capacity of the church team, and exploring a theology of mutuality and collaborative exchange.

For more information about One+One, go to ntcumc.org/missional-outreach/one-plus-one or contact Jurrita Williams Louie, jwlouie@ntcumc.org.

Zip Code Connection to “Ministry With”

Begun in 2013, the work that was a part of the Zip Code Connection (ZCC) has now transitioned into helping local churches and partners in 75215 and 75246, as well as around North Texas, be in “ministry *with*” their own communities.

The founding goals of the ZCC were (a) to develop deeper relationships with our neighbors in the two highest-poverty zip codes in North Texas, and (b) to extrovert the best learnings from this experience to our conference’s life.

One of the important learnings from the ZCC has been that the CMO can be most effective by partnering with local churches and UMC-related mission agencies who are “on the ground.” Local churches and organizations have the proximity to the poor and marginalized in their communities that allows them to build credibility and trust. An institution like the annual conference is better at building outside partnerships and resourcing than building direct relationships with neighbors. Using this approach, the CMO can teach and instill “ministry *with*” values in multiple North Texas contexts.

In Clarksville/Red River County, the CMO has transitioned fully to direct, local leadership of the efforts the ZCC initiated. And in South Dallas/Fair Park, the CMO continues to work alongside neighborhood local churches and UMC-related organizations as a way to walk with our neighbors. As such, the CMO’s efforts will be known as efforts by local stakeholders in partnership with the CMO, instead of under the name Zip Code Connection. The ZCC name and branding will be retired to reflect the CMO’s shift to focusing on and resourcing local churches and related organizations.

The CMO wants to celebrate some of the lasting impacts of the Zip Code Connection:

- **Hub Community Center:** This acclaimed center for important meetings, social services, and innovative action was begun with the intention that a local organization could one-day sustain and operate it. Since October, 2018, The Hub has continued under the umbrella of the Economic Development Corporation and is home to a variety of organizations.
- **South Dallas/Fair Park Faith Coalition:** Early on, a Perkins School of Theology intern identified 135+ faith communities within South Dallas/Fair Park alone. The ZCC leadership knew that connecting with, listening to, and partnering these congregations together could make a powerful difference. Twenty-six congregations continue to actively participate in the South Dallas/ Fair Park Faith Coalition, which is led by the Reverend Todd Atkins of Salem Institutional Baptist Church. These congregations work together to identify issues they can collectively address, including homelessness, school partnerships, and public health. Affordable housing and resisting gentrification that would push residents out of the neighborhood are emerging issues.

- **Counseling Partnership with Clarksville ISD:** School administrators told ZCC leadership that zero licensed mental health professionals were stationed in Red River County. Students struggling with poverty and difficult circumstances did not have access to a school counselor, except one that had to drive in. Funded by a \$50,000 General Board of Global Ministries Grant, a mental health clinic in a neighboring county hired and supervised for licensure a local resident to become the district's counselor. As of January, 2019, Mrs. Adrianna Kirkindoff is fully licensed and is serving as a school counselor and resource staff person at the Clarksville High School. With the guidance and support of the CMO, CISD funding has been approved to hire a full-time counselor at the elementary school, as well. The academic performance and classroom behavior of students who have interacted with this counseling service have improved dramatically.

As the CMO transitions to extroverting the learnings of the ZCC and focusing on and resourcing local churches and related organizations, the CMO is excited to highlight the following ministries:

Warren UMC: Experiments with Missional Identity – Neighborhood Partnership: In March, 2018, Warren UMC decided to accept an invitation to partner with the CMO to help the congregation focus outwardly on their neighborhood. Warren UMC intentionally rebuilt in 2007 after a previous building burned. They have chosen to remain in ministry with their neighbors at the corner of Malcolm X & MLK Boulevards in South Dallas/Fair Park. With the leadership of the Reverend Joshua Manning, the church has boldly explored partnering with other organizations to use their modern space to create a co-working center and multi-use rental space for community-oriented groups. This effort leverages the church's legacy of being a gathering space for community activists and visionaries since the Civil Rights Movement.

Community Building Work in South Dallas/Fair Park: DFW FaithHealth Collaborative (DFW FHC) is a partnership between faith communities, local health systems, and other community partners. DFW FaithHealth Collaborative partner programs provide support to local faith communities through educational training for faith community volunteers. These volunteers support and grow health ministries and, in some cases, provide support to neighbors before, during, and after hospitalization. This organization has helped uncover that the leading cause for hospitalization in South Dallas/Fair Park is loneliness and isolation. This finding is corroborated by the experience of many of the 135+ faith communities and 55+ nonprofits that are based in the neighborhood. Very few of these groups have relationships with actual residents. The CMO, working with DFW FHC and many others, is currently exploring ways to rebuild the social fabric of South Dallas/Fair Park, block by block, so that residents are less isolated from community, faith resources, and health.

Top Learnings Guide & Resource Portal: Included on the CMO website are the top learnings from the relationships and experiences of the Zip Code Connection. These learnings have generated several resourcing opportunities for leaders and local churches and are found at ntcumc.org/Zip_Code_Connection_Learnings_Guide.pdf accessible via our website. In addition, anyone can access a rich variety of resources to explore "ministry with" by going to ntcumc.org/missional-outreach/additional-resources.

CitySquare Pastoral Leadership Cohort: As a way of equipping rural churches and leaders for "ministry with," the CMO is partnering with CitySquare and the Reverend Rob Spencer to provide a unique coaching and resourcing opportunity. In 2015, Rev. Spencer and First UMC Paris boldly re-engaged their community through school partnerships, which provoked big questions about how to respond to issues of generational poverty, affordable housing, and transforming a city through partnerships. They approached CitySquare, our resident poverty- fighting experts, for help. Included in the Pastoral Leadership Cohort are site visits, regular coaching calls, and goal-setting, plus access to the expertise of the Reverend Larry James and the staff of CitySquare. This cohort will bring this substantial knowledge and experience, along with a sense of community, to rural pastors. In June, five clergy from the East and Northwest Districts will begin participating in the cohort.

For more information about any of the above “ministry *with*” initiatives or resources, go to ntcumc.org/missional-outreach or contact Rev. Andrew Fiser.

Racial Injustice

One of the important learnings from the ZCC was that community transformation, as well as individual discipleship, require naming, understanding, and combatting racial injustice. One of the tools the CMO is using to help us live into this need is the work of Dr. Robin DiAngelo in *White Fragility: Why it is So Hard for White People to Talk About Race*. Beginning in the spring of 2019, the CMO will be facilitating discussion groups with North Texas clergy and lay leaders, as well as conversations at local churches, using this resource. It is our hope that this resource will help white clergy and laity become better equipped to understand their own reactions and those of other white people to discussions of race. And with this knowledge, these leaders will increase their capacity and that of the North Texas Conference to engage in more constructive conversation with people of color and to take action toward building racial justice.

For more information about White Fragility discussion groups or local church conversations, go to ntcumc.org/Tri_fold_White_Fragility.pdf or contact Rev. Andrew Fiser.

Immigration Advocacy

In the summer of 2018, the complex and often heartbreaking realities of immigration that are a part of the fabric of daily life along the Texas/Mexico border entered our nation’s consciousness in a new and profound way. Many United Methodists in North Texas found themselves filled with compassion for the people they were reading about in the news and wondering what they could do. Out of this concern, Courts and Ports was born.

Courts and Ports is the brainchild of Texas Impact, a statewide grassroots network that advocates for freedom, justice, and economic opportunity for all people in ways that are consistent with the values of mainstream faith communities such as The United Methodist Church. In partnership with various entities including the CMO, Texas Impact crafted this powerful immersion experience in the Valley through which people of faith can see with their own eyes what is really happening at the border. First and foremost, Courts and Ports participants are equipped and sent out to be court monitors in federal undocumented entry trials in South Texas. This experience provides an unfiltered view into our court system and an avenue for making a real difference. In addition, participants spend a morning at two “ports of entry” – border bridges – in Brownsville, which gives them an up-close-and-personal look at what it is like to come to the United States seeking asylum. With the help of a translator, participants can even talk with people from the Northern Triangle in Central America and other countries from all over the world who are waiting in line for their initial conversation with U.S. border officials.

Since September, 2018, teams from local churches have headed to the Valley to participate in Courts and Ports almost every week. More than 10 local churches from North Texas, most notably First UMC Denton, First UMC McKinney, and First UMC Dallas, have participated. What the CMO is learning is that as people of faith have these experiences along the border, they are awakened and return home as strong advocates around immigration issues in ways that reflect the compassion and grace of our Wesleyan heritage. This spring, the CMO has convened multiple follow-up conversations among Courts and Ports participants to answer the question, “Now that I have been to the border and have seen what is happening with my own eyes, what can I do here in North Texas to be a friend and advocate for immigrants and asylees like those whom I met in the Valley?”

Texas Impact and the CMO are poised to continue sending local church teams to the Valley throughout 2019 and into 2020. If you are interested in the Courts and Ports experience or if you want to join the conversation about how to take local action, go to ntcumc.org/missional-outreach/courts-ports or contact Rev. Andy Lewis.

Hurricane Harvey Recovery

In late August, 2017, Hurricane Harvey slammed into the Texas Gulf Coast, causing \$125 billion in damage and disrupting countless lives. Within the bounds of the Rio Texas Conference alone, more than 12,000 households were damaged and found to require outside assistance in order to rebuild. In the immediate aftermath of the storm, United Methodists in North Texas responded generously by giving \$362,258 to the North Texas Disaster Relief

Fund and by sending 10 Early Response Teams, as well as other key volunteer, to clear debris, tarp roofs, and muck out flooded homes.

As the calendar turned to 2018, it became time to shift from immediate relief to long-term recovery. Our friends in the Rio Texas Conference estimate that it will be 2-4 more years before life returns to pre-storm conditions. In light of the long road of recovery ahead, Bishop McKee and the CMO cast a vision for the North Texas Conference to commit to a long-term partnership with the Rio Texas Conference. We set a goal of sending 300 mission teams to Rio Texas in 2018, 2019 and 2020 to aid in Hurricane Harvey recovery along the Texas Gulf Coast. The CMO has helped local churches live into this vision in a number of ways, including making it easy for local church leaders to plan and lead their own hurricane recovery mission teams, offering matching grants to defray trip costs, hosting United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) training seminars, and sponsoring a variety of trip options so every United Methodist who feels called to participate can do so. The CMO is excited to report that as of April 2019, the North Texas Conference has made great progress toward reaching our goal and has sent more than 100 mission teams to the Texas Gulf Coast!

For more information about how you and your local church can be a part of these long-term recovery efforts, go to ntcumc.org/missional-outreach/disaster-response/hurricane-harvey-trips or contact Rev. Andy Lewis.

United Methodist Mission in Honduras Partnership

For more than 20 years, the United Methodist Church has had a growing presence in Honduras. Today, the Mission there consists of 23 congregations and numerous United Methodist-affiliated organizations. In January, 2019, Bishop McKee was installed as the new episcopal leader of the Mission in Honduras. This leadership transition offers great promise for the Mission in Honduras, not only because of Bishop McKee's gifts and passion but also because he brings with him the relationships and resources of the North Texas Conference.

This spring, the CMO has been in dialogue with leaders of the Mission in Honduras to develop a model for local churches in North Texas to be in partnership with our Honduran brothers and sisters. In keeping with our "ministry *with*" values, the CMO is putting together ways for local churches, as well as individual clergy, in North Texas and Honduras to form long-term relationships based on mutual learning and exchange. The CMO also is making plans to curate training for the leadership of the Mission in Honduras by leveraging the wisdom and experience of leaders in North Texas. It is likely that the Reverend Andy Lewis will lead a trip to Honduras in the fall to continue building relationships and exploring opportunities for partnership.

If you or your local church is interested in learning more about the fall trip or emerging partnership opportunities with the Mission in Honduras, please contact Rev. Andy Lewis.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Andy Lewis, Rev. Andrew Fiser, and Jurrita Williams Louie.

BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

The North Texas Conference Board of Church and Society has continued to focus on homeless students within our boundaries. On April 27 we hosted a luncheon at Grace Avenue UMC to continue the discussion that began at Annual Conference in 2018. Our speaker was Kalee Wulfers from Journey to Dream, an organization that offers wrap around services and housing to young people in the Lewisville and Flower Mound areas.

There were a number of laity and clergy who took part in the Courts and Ports program, a two-day immersion experience that engaged people of faith to witness first-hand the legal and law enforcement processes related to immigration, detention, and deportation occurring in South Texas. At its luncheon this year, the Board, along with the United Methodist Women, hosted Bee Morehead with Faith in Texas and a panel of North Texas clergy and laity who made the trip.

We awarded a number of applicants financial assistance through the Peace with Justice grants. These grants are made possible by the donations of local churches and private individuals who make an offering on Peace with

Justice Sunday. Peace with Justice Sunday is officially on June 16, 2019, but can be celebrated on any Sunday that is convenient for the congregation. Another alternative would be to celebrate the International Day of Peace on September 22 and make an offering to support the many peace-seeking ministries in the North Texas Conference. Your offering can be sent to the NTC Center for Connectional Resources, marked specifically for the Peace with Justice grants. Several important ministries are supported by these grants, and it is vital that we continue to raise these funds to ensure creative ministry with those in need will continue.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Denise Peckham, Chair.

BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Encourage. Resource. Link. Companion. These four undertakings are the core-efforts of your North Texas Conference Board of Global Ministries toward the people and congregations of the North Texas Conference. This Board seeks to be an enabling bridge between United Methodism's groups in North Texas and the outstanding mission opportunities and relationships provided by the General Board of Global Ministries. Whether it be a supportive relationship with a GBGM missionary or missional agency, participation in a stand-alone GBGM initiative, support for or volunteerism with UMCOR, mission teams that travel & serve, or disaster recovery call outs responded to – our General Board of Global Ministries have something that fits the gifts, energies, vision, and sense of God's calling of every church family in our conference, regardless of size, location, or composition. As you regularly refresh your discernment of Christ's missional and service invitation to your congregation and its groups, let your Conference Board of Global Ministries serve you through these four core-undertakings.

➤ Noteworthy points of faithful endeavor by the people & congregations of North Texas in the past year:

- 1) **Toward *The Advance*** opportunity of missional support, North Texas Methodists shared **793 gift expressions totaling \$393,599** of monetary value to missionaries & missional agencies and initiatives. During the past five-year period, this gift-given number ranked fourth in size; the monetary amount ranked fifth. For both categories, conference year 2017-2018 substantially ranked #1 over the other years in the grouping. Hurricane Harvey's landfall had much to do with it. The Advance (www.umcmision.org/Give-to-Mission/The-Advance) is a simple way to identify and support a valuable, fruitful missional happening amid our Lord's work in the world.

The NTX Conference's "top ten" targets of numerical gifts in 2018-2019:

1. UMCOR "where needed most"
2. UMCOR USA
3. UMCOR International
4. Global Migration response
5. Material Resources (for emergency scenarios & disaster recovery)
6. ZOE Ministry
7. Maua Hospital (AIDS orphans & community health)
8. Congo Restoration
9. Eurasia support (Russia & Belarus)
10. Mission Volunteers, individual

The NTX Conference's "top ten" targets of monetary value of gifts in 2018-2019:

1. UMCOR USA
 2. UMCOR 'where needed most'
 3. Eurasia support
 4. Congo DRC: North Katanga
 5. Heifer International
 6. Mission Volunteers, individual
 7. Czech Republic initiative
 8. Material Resources
 9. Moscow Seminary
 10. UMCOR International
- Global Migration
ZOE Ministry

- 2) **Sixteen GBGM missionaries were supported:** *Collin Ako, Kristen Brown, Cynthia Cebellos, David Cabellos, Eun Ha Choi, Jae Hyoun Choi, Mary Escobar, Emily Everett, David McCormick, Elizabeth McCormick, Katherine Meek, Mary Jo Phillips, Kayla Pless, Jacques Akasa Umenbudi, Sarah Walker, and Cornelia Wieck.*

Thanks be to God for these sixteen consecrated workers in our Lord's worldwide vineyard and their ministries! It is time well-spent in going online to www.umcmmission.org/learn-about-us/our-work and prayerfully reviewing the names, service areas, and background of the 303 active missionaries noted. *An ongoing supportive relationship with a missionary is one of the most satisfying connections a United Methodist congregation, class, family, or individual can possess.* Your board warmly invites you to take steps to be in relationship with a United Methodist missionary.

- 3) **More NTX Methodists are on mission teams!** Our Conference continued to see an INCREASE in our people being on UMVIM mission teams:

95 reported mission teams sent by local churches, combined church groups, and sponsored by the conference this past year. Last year's number of teams sent: 72 (!)

1,316 reported NTX Methodists were part of these teams. And, that's not counting a great host of local Methodists who partnered with the teams through prayer, provisioning, providing tokens of love & support for the teams and those they served, etc. Last year's number of persons participating in a mission team: 1,154 (!). To God be the glory.

Hurricane Harvey rebuild response continues to be a major contributor in fueling our growth of UMVIM mission teams. But the number of teams is also increasing in domestic and international missions engagement ... to go along with the strong local outreach that characterizes a great many of our congregations in urban, suburban, exurban, and rural sectors of our conference. It is about serving alongside of Christ and one another for the sake of the neighbor and growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ through those occasions of service. Mission teams can come from local congregations, a collaboration of local congregations, districts, and by whole annual conferences. So, reach out.

- A need for growth: **greater support of UMCOR Sunday each year.** Annually, toward the end of the month of March, a special offering opportunity known as UMCOR Sunday can happen. Formerly known as the One Great Hour of Sharing, UMCOR Sunday's offering across our Connection can provide 100% of the administrative costs of our denomination's UMCOR organization and staff. That's a good thing: as a stronger UMCOR Sunday offering can happen, it guarantees that our other gifts to UMCOR can be 100% applied to the *Disaster Response, Global Health, Sustainable Agriculture, Water & Sanitation, and Sustainable Development* targets we United Methodists seek to support. NTX Conference's last-reported UMCOR Sunday response was \$16,346. The more-surprising element of this giving opportunity was the small number of congregations who participated: *28 local churches* only.

An UMCOR Sunday offering can happen anytime during the fiscal year, if need be. Your Board of Global Ministries cordially and respectfully encourages our sisters and brothers of the conference to encourage those back home to plan for an UMCOR Sunday offering each year.

Thanks to God and to you for the impact North Texas United Methodists make as we live out of our missional and spiritual DNA and into a discipleship of engaged witness and service. In Christ Jesus, what a wonderful way to be faithfully alive and in mission together.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Clay Womack, Chair of the North Texas Conference Board of Global Ministries

EARLY RESPONSE TEAM (ERT)

The North Texas Conference is committed to providing assistance in the wake of disasters and to being a constant presence for relief in our communities. As a *Ministry of Care*, this multifaceted ministry has theological, material, mental health, advocacy and social-service components. They are designed to provide for spiritual, emotional, and physical recovery of disaster survivors and for the well-being of their caregivers.

Over the last year our focus for disaster relief centered on the survivors of Hurricane Harvey. On August 25, 2017, the Category 4 hurricane made landfall along the Texas Gulf Coast area, resulting in an estimated 30,000 people needing temporary shelter.

The North Texas Conference churches began working with the Dallas County Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), volunteering in Dallas shelters, donating clothing, preparing food for those who took refuge in our city, and providing temporary living quarters for a family.

The NTC UMCOR Disaster Response Certified Early Response Teams (ERT) and 2nd Responders, answered the call to tear out walls, tarp roofs and “provide a caring Christian presence in the aftermath of disaster.”

The NTC UMCOR Disaster Response held several ERT Basic and Re-certification Trainings, hosted by NTC churches in all of the NTC Districts. Under the leadership of four UMCOR disaster response certified ERT Trainers – Alma Cone, Mike Walker, Mike Ridgley, and Bobby Aga – over 125 persons were trained to join the over 200 already-trained ERTs to work in the devastated communities along the Texas Gulf Coast. In addition to those trained in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, two more ERT trainers have joined the training team (Sue Gross and Janet Bell Odom), and we have added an additional 13 ERT-trained persons, ready to serve in the time of disaster.

The North Texas Conference would like to ask for God’s richest blessings on Alma Cone and Mike Walker as they have announced their retirement from ERT training. They have served in this capacity well over a decade, and their service has been greatly appreciated by the conference staff, those who have been trained by them, and those who received first-hand assistance from their recovery participation and actions. Thank you, Alma and Mike!

Special thanks to all of the churches in the North Texas Conference for your monetary contribution and donations. There have been over 3,000 flood/cleaning buckets, hygiene and school kits collected. Because of your generosity, we were able to provide over \$250,000 in relief assistance to the Rio Texas and Texas Conferences. Through the NTC Disaster Response efforts, you have shown those who are suffering the heart of God in the midst of disaster.

Respectfully submitted by Jurrita Williams Louie

CORE LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Core Leadership Team (CLT) serves as a sounding board and strategic partner for the Bishop and the Center Directors in their leadership within the North Texas Conference. In the 2018-2019 conference year, the CLT met three times and engaged in faithful and fruitful discussion.

In October, the agenda focused on the newly launched chief missional strategy of the North Texas Conference – New Faces New Spaces – and the various shifts in the culture of our conference that will undergird it; the Lewis Center report on clergy in the United Methodist Church and its implications for our leadership ecosystem; the important work of the Black Church Initiative (BCI); updates on the Center for Missional Outreach’s ongoing role in Hurricane Harvey recovery and the Center for Leadership Development’s Advanced Leadership Coaching initiative; and the bishop’s leadership related to the Commission on a Way Forward and the 2019 Special Session of General Conference.

In February, the CLT continued discussion of New Faces New Spaces as well as the 2019 Special Session of General Conference. In addition, the agenda included learning about the Center for Church Development's new approach to church planting, innovations in the summer camping program at Bridgeport, and the Center for Connectional Resources' work on implementing a new Customer Relationships Manager program for the conference.

In April, the CLT celebrated the statistics and stories indicating how New Faces New Spaces is having an impact across the conference and then reflected on next steps. The agenda also included learning about conversations being facilitated around the conference by the Center for Missional Outreach (CMO) to name and combat racial injustice in our church and communities and about new CMO grants to encourage bold, local church "ministry *with*" initiatives. The CLT also reviewed the proposed Conference Nominating Committee's report.

For more detailed descriptions of the work being done by the Centers, refer to the individual Center reports in this section of the Journal, or go to ntcumc.org and explore "NTC Centers."

The CLT is convened by Bishop McKee and includes:

- Vice Chair/Conference Lay Leader – Jeff Bouis
- Lay members elected by each district – Clay Johnson, East; Kim Brannon, Metro; Tim Crouch, North Central; Abbey Echols, Northwest
- Three at-large members appointed by the Bishop – Alfred White, Marie Mitchell, and Mary Beth Hardesty-Crouch
- One District Superintendent – Debra Hobbs Mason
- Center Directors – Jodi Smith, Cammy Gaston, Owen Ross, and Andy Lewis

CENTER FOR CONNECTIONAL RESOURCES

COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Church history is always happening. Sometimes, like now, it is just more obvious. For these times, a solid understanding of our founding priorities and how they have played out over the last quarter of a millennium provides a surer footing in times of change.

The Conference Commission on Archives and History is tasked with preserving and presenting the history of the North Texas Annual Conference. Frances Long, our Conference Archivist, curates the historical records of both the North Texas Annual Conference and the South Central Jurisdiction at the Conference Archives at Bridwell Library, Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, Dallas. This year, the archive has received the records of the Woman's Society of Christian Service (1939 – 1972), a predecessor of the United Methodist Women. This timely acquisition has assisted with the planning for the two-year long celebration by the United Methodist Women of their 150th Anniversary. During the summer, the archives room will be renovated for better access by researchers.

Frances is a tireless missionary for the Archives and has visited churches throughout the Conference to help local churches and local church historians better preserve and proclaim their testimony. She answers research requests regarding local and conference church history and searches for genealogical, baptismal and membership records.

The Commission is an advocate for the Kate Warnick Award for best local church history. Last year, Casa Linda UMC won the award for its innovative English-Spanish history of its first 66 years. The award, which is sponsored by the Texas United Methodist Historical Society, honors the best local UM church histories published in the local annual conferences (Central Texas, North Texas, Northwest Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma Indian Mission, Rio Texas, Texas) published during the preceding calendar year. To encourage and celebrate the research, writing, and publication of histories of local churches, there are three different awards annually based on the size of the church.

The Commission is also dedicated to training and motivating local church historians. In 2018, our Annual Local Church Historians Workshop focused on finding your church's story in unusual places, telling your church's story in innovative ways and getting started. Rev. Stan Copeland of Lovers Lane UMC was the keynote speaker and panelists from First Whitesboro, Webb Chapel UMC, Warren UMC, Casa Linda UMC, First Richardson and Highland Park UMC led discussions of the opportunities for story-telling in the digital age.

Save the date for this year's Annual Local Church Historians Workshop, November 16, 2019, at the Ministry Center in Plano, Texas. We will focus on telling the story of the women of the North Texas Conference with experienced historians and engaging history makers from First Richardson, St. Luke's "Community" UMC, Agape Memorial UMC and Lovers Lane UMC.

Kent Roberts, Commission on Archives and History, acting Chair
Frances Long, Conference Archivist

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A. Fidelity Bond for Local Churches

The North Texas Conference continues to provide a \$100,000 Employee Dishonesty (Crime) Bond as an integral part of our current conference wide mandatory insurance program for the employees and volunteers responsible for all aspects of finances in the local churches.

B. Electric Aggregation Program

Electric utilities in the state of Texas were deregulated effective January 1, 2002. Deregulation offered the opportunity for the churches of the North Texas Conference to join together to purchase electricity. With the encouragement of the Council on Finance and Administration (CF&A), a group of large churches in the conference initiated an effort to secure a group contract for the purchase of electricity. All of the churches of the conference have been invited to participate in this effort. The program will enter its sixth aggregate contract this July 2019 at a rate of .041 per kWh.

Effective July 1, 2021, we will move to a contract with Reliant for 72 months at the rate of .0391 per kWh.

In order to compare our program with other providers, be aware that there are four primary charges regardless of the provider you select. The first is, of course, the kWh rate that we have negotiated. The second is the basic charge for delivery of your electricity by ONCOR. At this point, the rate for this service is .035 per kWh. Third, ONCOR does charge extra for high demand periods. The rate varies and may exceed all other charges on a kWh basis. The fourth component is related to your local utilities tax. The last three charges will apply regardless of which provider you select.

BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS

Summary of Funding Basis for Existing Defined Benefit Pension Plans

The Special Called Session of General Conference met in February of 2019 to consider the recommendations from the group called “The Commission on the Way Forward” to discern how our denomination will move forward concerning issues of human sexuality in the church. While the focus of the 2019 Special Called Conference centered on human sexuality, Wespeth evaluated how the various plans being proposed could affect the administration of the “Defined Benefit” portion of our retirement plan and submitted legislation that would provide guard rails around these plans regardless of the outcome of the plan selected. The “Defined Contribution” balances are already fully vested with each participant and therefore do not have ongoing funding liabilities to the conference.

Two petitions were approved to deal with the pension liabilities of departing churches and the accrued benefits of departing clergy. One requires that any local church that withdraws or is closed must pay, at a minimum, its fair share of unfunded pension liability for their annual conference. The other petition spells out that any clergy members who end their relationship with a conference will be treated as “terminated vested” participants, meaning their accrued benefits would be safe and converted to an individual account balance.

Currently all of our pension plans are fully funded on a funding basis. On a market basis, all of the plans are underfunded. The market basis is the amount of assets that would be needed in the plan for a third party to purchase the plan benefits and liabilities, relieving the member churches from any future contractual obligations. A third party would require the assets in the plan to be valued at approximately 110% of the liabilities to allow for fluctuations in the market. A funding basis assumes long term growth in the value of the underlying assets as well as continued funding of the program going forward.

In 2008, the pension assets for The North Texas Conference fell by approximately ten million dollars in a single year. The apportioned budget is twelve million dollars. The funds needed to restore the pension plan to its full funding status would have nearly doubled our apportionments in a single year. Wespeth provided a glide path for the conferences to return to a fully funded status by 2021 to avoid such a sharp increase in apportionments. The long term view of the plan assets assumes the conference would not need to provide more funds to these plans in the foreseeable future, barring a dramatic or protracted downturn in the markets.

The legislation passed at the 2019 Conference recognizes the possible liability left to the churches remaining in the denomination in the event of another protracted downturn in the market and provided legislation to move the funding liability to those churches leaving to the level it would take for the local church to sell their portion to a third-party provider. The plan provides pension benefits to every pastor and their spouse who has ever served a given church, not just the pastor serving it at the time of the departure. The legislation covering departing churches considers the impact of that departure on the total of the plan liabilities. The North Texas Conference uses apportionments to cover unfunded liabilities, so the Conference Board of Pension determined the apportionment decimal is the correct method to use to determine the liability of a departing church.

The North Texas Annual Conference remains fully funded on a funding basis, with a surplus of \$2.2 million per the chart below.

North Texas Annual Conference Defined Benefit Liabilities
As Determined on a Funding Basis
1/1/2018 for 2020 Contributions

	<u>Assets</u>	<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Conference Share</u>	<u>Conference Funded Status</u>
<u>All Conferences Liabilities</u>					
MPP Annuities	3,957,474,936	(3,885,277,143)	72,197,793	1.0548%	761,542
CRSP-DB	<u>1,998,465,782</u>	<u>(1,904,387,237)</u>	<u>94,078,545</u>	1.4491%	<u>1,363,292</u>
TOTALS	5,955,940,718	(5,789,664,380)	166,276,338		2,124,835
<u>Conference Specific Liabilities</u>					
Pre-82 on Funding Basis	18,878,351	(18,788,019)	90,332		90,332
TOTAL FUNDED (LIABILITY)					2,215,167

The Funding Status of each annual conference and all of the conferences combined is evaluated every year based on the assets in the plan and the liabilities as determined as of January 1 of the previous year. The MPP and CRSP DB plan benefits are the same across all conferences, so the liability is allocated on the percentage of the total attributable to a given conference. The Pre-82 plan was established by each conference and the service rate is set each year by each conference. All conferences in the connectional system are liable for the funding of other conferences should there be a shortfall in any part of the system across any of the defined benefit plans. The oversight obligation of the North Texas Annual Conference is to ensure its share of the total liabilities are fully funded.

Per the chart below, The North Texas Annual Conference would need to add an additional 27.1 million to its assets in order to sell the plan to a third party provider as established on a market basis.

North Texas Annual Conference Defined Benefit Liabilities
As Determined on a Market Basis
1/1/2018 for 2020 Contributions

	<u>Assets</u>	<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Conference Share</u>	<u>Conference Funded Status</u>
<u>All Conferences Liabilities</u>					
MPP Annuities	3,957,474,936	(4,645,409,688)	(687,934,752)	1.0548%	(7,256,336)
CRSP-DB	<u>1,998,465,782</u>	<u>(2,956,176,463)</u>	<u>(957,710,681)</u>	1.4491%	<u>(13,878,185)</u>
Total Connectional Liabilities	5,955,940,718	(7,601,586,151)	(1,645,645,433)		(21,134,521)
<u>Conference Specific Liabilities</u>					
Pre-82 on Market Basis	18,878,351	(24,889,624)	(6,011,273)		(6,011,273)
TOTAL FUNDED (LIABILITY)					(27,145,794)

**COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
CONFERENCE TREASURER'S REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

REMITTANCES

APPORTIONMENTS	2017 RECEIPTS	2018 RECEIPTS
World Service	1,769,326.81	1,806,136.20
Ministerial Education	597,596.50	457,522.52
Black College Fund	238,375.83	243,344.60
Africa University Fund	55,636.00	54,457.76
Interdenominational Cooperation Fund	46,736.40	47,708.26
General Administration Fund	210,092.90	214,463.93
Episcopal Fund	546,443.00	562,963.00
Lydia Patterson Institute	69,898.97	69,259.36
Jurisdictional Administration Fund	43,070.66	42,676.53
Leadership Development	1,779,665.26	1,929,658.40
Center for Church Development	1,269,056.88	1,321,581.92
Missional Outreach	674,307.30	737,208.38
Connectional Resources	1,414,721.20	1,332,038.72
Area and Conference Administration	515,358.75	581,900.45
Conference Benefits	1,579,300.00	1,579,300.00
District Superintendents Fund	584,795.00	594,008.00
District Administration Fund	667,240.97	670,760.42
TOTAL APPORTIONMENTS	<u>12,061,622.43</u>	<u>12,244,978.45</u>

**COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
CONFERENCE TREASURER'S REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

REMITTANCES

	2017 RECEIPTS	2018 RECEIPTS
TARGETED CAUSES		
Second Mile Apportionment Fund	19,016.22	11,998.57
GENERAL ADVANCE SPECIALS		
UMCOR		
UMCOR Undesignated Gifts	38,495.19	35,750.49
UMCOR Relief Supplies	6,385.26	7,596.75
UMCOR Domestic Disaster Response	280,799.01	42,957.80
UMCOR International Disaster Response	4,861.97	2,210.50
UMCOR Global Health	190.00	250.00
Total UMCOR	330,731.43	88,765.54
WORLD MISSIONS		
Regional Africa	4,624.50	3,800.00
Cameroon	1,066.00	721.00
Congo	3,400.00	2,100.00
Europe	3,943.00	8,400.00
Russia	664.75	0
Latin America and the Caribbean	2,295.00	3,125.00
Panama	5,936.00	703.74
Zoe Ministry-Rwanda	6,652.33	6,665.00
Global Migration	1,398.44	0
Haiti Advance Project	1,185.00	1,780.00
	31,165.02	27,294.74
TOTAL GENERAL ADVANCE SPECIALS	361,896.45	116,060.28
OTHER ADVANCE SPECIALS		
Heifer International	12,765.89	14,896.45
Africa University Scholarship	500.00	0
TOTAL OTHER ADVANCE SPECIALS	13,265.89	14,896.45
TOTAL ALL ADVANCE SPECIALS	375,162.34	130,956.73
YOUTH SERVICE FUND	2,069.61	925.92

**COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
CONFERENCE TREASURER'S REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

REMITTANCES

	2017 RECEIPTS	2018 RECEIPTS
GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFERINGS		
UMCOR SUNDAY (One Great Hour)	16,345.98	17,614.94
World Communion	5,236.21	5,112.33
UM Student Day	961.50	920.75
Human Relations Day	1,415.17	1,362.57
Peace With Justice	1,673.46	672.62
Native American Ministries	1,210.00	2,103.19
TOTAL GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFERINGS	26,842.32	27,786.40
OTHER CONFERENCE BENEVOLENCES	499,064.90	87,952.48
TOTAL NON-APPORTIONED FUNDS	922,155.39	259,620.10
TOTAL APPORTIONED FUNDS	12,061,622.43	12,244,978.45
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	12,983,777.82	12,504,598.55

**North Texas Conference
of the United Methodist Church**
Plano, Texas

Consolidated Financial Statements Together
With Independent Auditor's Report

December 31, 2018

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church
Consolidated Financial Statements
December 31, 2018

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Ratcliff & Associates, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Council on Finance and Administration of
The North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of The North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church (a nonprofit organization) and affiliates, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as of December 31, 2018, and the related consolidated statements of activities, cash flows and functional expenses for the year then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church and affiliates as of December 31, 2018, and the changes in their net assets and their cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Ratcliff & Associates, P.C.

July 30, 2019

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2018

Assets

Current assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,135,346
Accounts receivable	2,122,101
Investments	35,966,801
Prepaid expenses	301,932

Total current assets	<u>45,526,180</u>
----------------------	-------------------

Noncurrent assets

Net property and equipment	5,219,350
Land and buildings held for sale	1,905,351
Endowment and other long-term investments	1,800,960

Total noncurrent assets	<u>8,925,661</u>
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Total Assets	<u>\$ 54,451,841</u>
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Liabilities & net assets

Liabilities

Current liabilities

Current portion of note payable	\$ 182,902
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,846,942
Accumulated postretirement benefits obligation, due in one year	330,441

Total current liabilities	<u>2,360,285</u>
---------------------------	------------------

Noncurrent liabilities

Note payable	1,788,460
Accumulated postretirement benefits obligation	10,260,373

Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>12,048,833</u>
------------------------------	-------------------

Total liabilities	<u>14,409,118</u>
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Net assets

Without donor restrictions	37,432,682
With donor restrictions	2,610,041

Total net assets	<u>40,042,723</u>
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Total Liabilities & Net Assets	<u>\$ 54,451,841</u>
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The accompanying note disclosures are an integral part of these financial statements.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Consolidated Statement of Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Changes in net assets without donor restrictions

Revenues

Revenues without donor restrictions

Apportionment receipts	\$ 12,241,981
Unrestricted donations and grants	396,567
Program and event fees	2,020,480
Receipts of legacy church facilities	793,964
Services (health, pension, property)	14,646,783
Investment income (loss)	(1,655,214)
Other	856,845

Total revenues without donor restrictions	<u>29,301,406</u>
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Net assets released from restrictions

Satisfaction of program restrictions	<u>247,005</u>
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Total revenues	<u>29,548,411</u>
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Expenses

Programs

General programs	3,527,261
Missions	4,405,427
Supervisory	625,804
Services	15,910,242
Subsidiaries	2,684,400

Total program expenses	<u>27,153,134</u>
------------------------	-------------------

Support services

General and administrative	<u>1,916,898</u>
----------------------------	------------------

Total expenses	<u>29,070,032</u>
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Change in net assets without donor restrictions before other changes	478,379
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Other changes

Change in postretirement benefits obligation	<u>1,208,980</u>
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Change in net assets without donor restrictions	<u>1,687,359</u>
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Changes in net assets with donor restrictions

Contributions for programs	167,711
Investment return, net	(110,327)
Net assets released from restriction	<u>(247,005)</u>
Change in net assets with donor restrictions	<u>(189,621)</u>

Change in total net assets	1,497,738
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Net assets at beginning of year	<u>38,544,985</u>
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Net assets at end of year	<u><u>\$ 40,042,723</u></u>
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The accompanying note disclosures are an integral part of these financial statements.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist ChurchConsolidated Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018**Cash flows from operating activities**

Increase in net assets	\$ 1,497,738
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities	
Depreciation	310,613
Change in postretirement benefits obligation	(1,208,980)
Investment (gains) losses, net	1,769,005
Non-cash receipts of property held for sale	(790,000)
Change in operating assets and liabilities	
Accounts receivable	(190,851)
Prepaid expenses	(3,259)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	198,089

Net cash provided (used) by operating activities 1,582,355

Cash flows from investing activities

Purchases of investments	(4,746,452)
Proceeds on sale of investments	3,586,351
Purchases of property and equipment	(242,666)
Proceeds on sale of property and equipment	121,012

Net cash provided (used) by investing activities (1,281,755)

Cash flows from financing activities

Payments on note payable	(233,469)
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Net cash provided (used) by financing activities (233,469)

Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents 67,131

Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year 7,068,215

Cash and cash equivalents at end of year \$ 7,135,346

The accompanying note disclosures are an integral part of these financial statements.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Consolidated Statement of Functional Expenses

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	Programs					Support services	
	General programs	Missions	Supervisory	Services	Subsidiaries	Programs subtotal	General and administrative
Staff	\$ 573,541	\$ 273,171	\$ 447,198	\$ 223,586	\$ 925,929	\$ 2,443,425	\$ 894,627
Employee benefits	99,288	24,619	56,876	8,775,643	118,921	9,075,347	142,452
Travel/meetings	275,678	12,804	67,207	19,987	38,917	414,593	61,562
Professional/contract	86,808	100,175	-	35,527	2,898	225,408	79,711
Supplies	100,742	12,632	8,054	29,010	647,217	797,655	250,360
Training/development	377,912	22,970	-	-	141,215	542,097	-
Grants/benevolence	1,776,285	3,941,528	-	32,635	47,283	5,797,731	281,482
Facility/occupancy	162,564	9,905	39,620	91,397	610,434	913,920	148,797
Property insurance	12,984	1,405	881	6,657,528	10,443	6,683,241	7,011
Depreciation	61,459	6,218	5,968	44,929	141,143	259,717	50,896
Total expenses	\$ 3,527,261	\$ 4,405,427	\$ 625,804	\$ 15,910,242	\$ 2,684,400	\$ 27,153,134	\$ 1,916,898
							\$ 29,070,032

The accompanying note disclosures are an integral part of these financial statements.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 1, Nature of the Organization

The North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church (the “Conference”) is the administrative headquarters of the North Texas United Methodist regional districts. The Conference represents approximately 280 member churches and fellowships and 15 new church starts. The Conference provides various services for its member churches including administration of health benefits and retirement plans available to member clergy and Conference lay employees and collection of funds for remittance to various regional, national and global benevolences.

The principal source of revenue and support for the Conference is apportionments received from the member churches represented by the Conference. A portion of these receipts is dependent upon the local, national, and international economy.

In February 2019, the United Methodist Church held a special conference to determine certain denominational policies and practices to be implemented by the various churches and clergy of the Conference. These denominational matters could have a significant impact on the future receipts, assets and overall activities of the Conference. However, the effects of these changes cannot be reasonably estimated as of the date of this report.

The accompanying consolidated financial statements (“financial statements”) include the assets, liabilities, net assets, and financial activities of all institutions and agencies providing services at the Conference level of administration and for which the Council on Finance and Administration has oversight responsibility. Furthermore, the following agencies of the Conference are separately incorporated 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, however they are consolidated with the Conference for financial statement presentation: Bridgeport Camp and Conference Center, Prothro Center at Lake Texoma, NTC Offsite Camping Ministry, Paris Jr. College Wesley Foundation, Midwestern University Wesley Foundation, Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, and Board of Trustees. Significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated.

Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The following is a summary of the Conference’s significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements:

New accounting pronouncement: For the year ended December 31, 2018, the Conference has adopted the new reporting standards issued by the FASB in ASU 2016-14, *Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958) – Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities*. The new standards require the following significant changes or clarifications to the Conference’s financial statements and disclosures:

- Net assets on the financial statements are renamed and combined into two classes: net assets without donor restriction and net assets with donor restriction.
- Disclosures are enhanced to show the amounts and purposes of net assets without donor restriction that are internally designated, in addition to the already required disclosures for net assets with donor restrictions of both a temporary and permanent nature.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

New accounting pronouncement (continued):

- The statement of financial position is classified to show subtotals for current assets and current liabilities as part of the Conference's enhanced disclosure of liquidity. The Conference anticipates using current assets and satisfying current liabilities within one year of the statement date. Current assets, excluding prepaid expenses and other nonliquid current assets (as applicable), represent financial assets available for general expenditure within one year of the statement date. Disclosures are presented for both the quantitative and qualitative aspects of liquidity and the availability of financial assets.
- The statement of functional expenses has been added as a fourth statement to the financial statements reporting package in order to show a combined presentation of the functional and natural classifications of expenses.
- Underwater deficiencies in endowments, if any, that were previously reported with unrestricted net assets are now included in net assets with donor restriction.
- Investment expenses are reported net of investment returns and are not included on the statement of functional expenses.
- Management activities, except for direct conduct or supervision of programs, are allocated to support services on the statement of activities.
- Net assets with donor restriction for the acquisition or construction of a long-lived asset, as applicable, are not released from restriction until the asset is placed in service.

The Conference has adjusted the presentation of its financial statements and disclosures accordingly. Certain changes have the following effects on net assets at the beginning of the year 2018:

<u>Net Asset Class</u>	<u>Before adoption of ASU 2016-14</u>	<u>After adoption of ASU 2016-14</u>
Unrestricted net assets	\$ 35,745,323	
Temporarily restricted net assets	1,985,594	
Permanently restricted net assets	814,068	
Net assets without donor restriction		\$ 35,745,323
Net assets with donor restriction		<u>2,799,662</u>
Total	<u>\$ 38,544,985</u>	<u>\$ 38,544,985</u>

Basis of accounting: The financial statements of the Conference have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) of the United States of America. Revenues are recognized when earned, and expenses are recorded when incurred.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Revenue recognition: Revenues of the Conference are primarily derived from contributions from the Conference's members and supporters. A portion of the Conference's revenues is tied to the local economy. All contributions are considered available for the Conference's general programs unless specifically restricted by the donor.

Amounts received that are donor restricted by time or purpose are reported as increases in net asset with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restriction. However, contributions received with restrictions that are met in the same reporting period are reported as increases in net assets without restrictions.

Investment income that is limited to specific uses by donor restrictions is also reported as increases in net assets without restrictions if the restrictions are met in the same reporting period as the income is recognized.

Net assets without donor restrictions: The Conference further disaggregates net assets without donor restriction into two subcategories:

- General unrestricted: Net assets that are neither subject to donor-imposed restrictions or self-imposed limits are general unrestricted.
- Internally designated: Net assets that are subject to the Conference's self-imposed limits by action of the governing board or its delegates are internally designated. These voluntary limitations allow the Conference to earmark net assets for a variety of needs that may arise. Such limits may also be lifted at any time in the future by resolution of the board or its delegates.

Net assets with donor restriction: The Conference further disaggregates net assets with donor restriction into two subcategories:

- Temporarily restricted: The Conference reports gifts of cash and other assets as with temporary donor restriction if they are received with donor stipulations temporarily limiting the use of the contributions and if the restrictions are not met in the period of receipt.
- Permanently restricted: The Conference reports gifts of cash and other assets as with permanent donor restriction if they are received with donor stipulations permanently restricting the contribution to investment but permitting the Conference to use part or all of the income derived from the investment for general or restricted purposes.

The Conference operates under the Texas Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (TUPMIFA) which requires preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date for donor-restricted endowment funds, absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result, the Conference classifies as net assets with restrictions all gifts restricted by the donor for endowment investments in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument. See the endowment investments note disclosure.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Functional classifications of expenses: The Conference pursues its mission through the execution of the following major categories that are also the reported functional expense classifications of the Conference. The functional classifications are allocated from the episcopal office, the district superintendents offices, the four ministry centers, camps, Wesley foundations, trustees, and the Board of Pension and Health Benefits (see Note 1 disclosure regarding consolidation). The descriptions of each function below is intended to provide an overview of how expenditures are allocated.

- General programs: Conference wide programs such as Annual Conference, clergy retreat, new church starts, leadership development, all aspects of the licensing and ordination process as well as programs required by the Book of Discipline such as COSROW and Ethnic and Local Church Concerns are included here. This category also includes programs administered by the Conference on behalf of the local church like the moving fund, children, youth, young adult, and college ministries.
- Missions: This category includes the general and jurisdictional apportionments as well as all other funds collected and distributed through the Conference for disaster relief, benevolences and special Sunday offerings. Missional support of our local churches and clergy is included here to provide opportunities for ministries to thrive in the mission field. This includes equitable compensation support, pension and health insurance subsidies, as well as grants to local churches and pastors conducting ministries in underserved demographic areas.
- Supervisory: The Conference provides supervisory oversight through its Bishop and District Superintendents as well allocated portions of other Center expenses related to the oversight of the Conference churches and related entities.
- Services: The Conference office administers pension, health insurance, and property insurance services on behalf of the churches and other affiliated entities. The premiums paid for these services is included here, along with some of the costs needed to administer these programs.
- Subsidiaries: The Conference has subsidiary entities based on our governance structure. For the camps, their finances are managed at their camps, but their final audited financial statements must be incorporated into our consolidated statements because we maintain governance control over the camps. The district offices operate as subsidiaries because their budgets are determined at the district level. The Conference office allocates their budget to the churches in their district, collects the funds, and provides the accounting a payroll functions for the district offices. The Conference provides the payroll and accounting functions for two of our Wesley Foundations. The Conference also manages funds for associated entities like Clergy Women, UMM, and SEEK camps. The Conference manages all of these funds in trust for these entities and provide financials to their governing boards.
- General and administrative: These are the costs incurred to maintain the ongoing functions of the Conference. Costs such as depreciation, utilities, administrative support salaries are generally located in this category, though some may be allocated to the other functions depending on the circumstances.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Allocation of expenses by function and nature: The costs of providing the various programs and other activities have been allocated and summarized on a functional basis in the statement of activities and on both a functional and a natural bases in the statement of functional expenses. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the program and supporting services, as well as the natural categories, benefited.

Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates. Significant estimates included in the financial statements are depreciation and the estimated allocation of certain payroll, facility and other shared expenses among the functional areas. Depreciation is computed using management's estimate of the useful lives of the asset. The allocation of payroll, facility and certain other expenses is, respectively, based on management's estimate of the related staff's time and roles and facility space and usage.

Cash and cash equivalents: For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Conference considers highly liquid investments with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. When applicable, cash and short-term investments held in investment brokerage accounts are reported as investments instead of cash because the Conference maintains and invests those funds separately.

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Conference to credit risk include cash on deposit with a financial institution exceeding \$250,000 at various times during the year. The U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insures amounts for up to \$250,000.

Accounts receivable: As a significant dollar amount of member church apportionments and other remittances are received close to year-end, member churches are provided a cut-off date subsequent to year-end in order for churches to fulfill their annual apportionments. The amount of apportionments and other remittances received between year-end and the cut-off date are recognized as accounts receivable in the accompanying statement of financial position. Due to the nature of these receivables, no allowance for doubtful accounts is deemed necessary.

Investments: All investments are measured at fair value based upon the exit price model. Funds are managed by Wespeth Investment Management ("Wespeth") and the Texas Methodist Foundation ("TMF"). The underlying investments are in short-term money market funds, fixed income, equities, energy and TMF Methodist loan funds and are subject to market risk. Dividends, interest, realized and unrealized gains and losses are included in investment income on the consolidated statement of activities as part of the change in net assets without donor restriction unless the use of the assets received is limited by donor-imposed restriction. Investments fees and other investment activity expenses are netted within the investment income. These expenses are not material to these financial statements.

Property and equipment: Buildings, improvements and equipment are recorded at cost, if purchased or at estimated market value at the date of receipt if acquired by gift. Assets over \$5,000 are capitalized. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Building and improvements have useful lives of 10-30 years. Furniture and equipment have useful lives of 5-10 years. The cost of maintenance and repairs is charged to expense as incurred.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 2, Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Impairment of Long-lived assets: Long-lived assets include property and equipment and land and buildings held for sale. Management evaluates its long-lived assets for financial impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognized when the estimated undiscounted future cash flows from the assets are less than the carrying value of the assets. Assets to be disposed of are reported at the lower of their carrying amount or fair value, less cost to sell. Management is of the opinion that the carrying amount of its long-lived assets does not exceed their estimated recoverable amount.

Income tax status: The Conference is a nonprofit organization that is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as other than a private foundation, except on net income derived from unrelated business activities. For the year ended December 31, 2018, the Conference conducted unrelated business activities at the Prothro and Bridgeport Camps. Management has determined that expenses exceed unrelated business revenues, and therefore, no tax is due. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes is included in the financial statements. The Conference's previous tax filings for the previous three years are open for examination by the taxing authorities.

Note 3, Other Income

	2018
Gain on sale of parsonage	\$ 377,775
Insurance claims receipts	120,810
Other	358,260
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 856,845

Note 4, Investments

The Conference has an agreement with TMF in which TMF acts as agent and investment manager for the Conference's investments. These investments are either directly invested or pooled by TMF into larger investment funds. TMF adheres to the Statement of Investment Guidelines adopted by the General Council of Finance and Administration of the United Methodist Church.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 4, Investments (continued)

The Conference also maintains investments with Wespath which are invested by the Wespath in pooled investment funds. Wespath investments are comprised of approved investment instruments in accordance with the funds' objectives.

The Conference's investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the consolidated statement of financial position.

The Conference's investments are financial assets that are measured and reported on a fair value basis. The Conference measures and discloses fair value measurements in accordance with the authoritative accounting literature. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

The authoritative accounting literature establishes a framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives highest priority to unadjusted quote prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under authoritative accounting literature are described as follows:

Level 1: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Conference has the ability to access.

Level 2: Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data by correlation or other means.
- If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual term), the level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 4, Investments (continued)

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for level 2 assets measured at fair value.

- Level 2 investments include assets held with Wespeth that are pooled into larger investment funds of Wespeth. Wespeth funds are measured using net asset value (“NAV”) per share, or its equivalent, which is based upon an active market with daily pricing for these funds, that may be redeemed at the NAV at the date of the yearend financial statement or in the near term, which is generally considered to be within 90 days.
- Level 2 investments also include long term investments maintained by TMF and are valued using significant other observable inputs that are based upon fixed or variable rates of broader financial markets.

The preceding methods described may produce fair value calculations that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Conference believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different value measurement at the reporting date.

The following table sets forth, by level within the fair value hierarchy, the Conference’s investments at fair value at December 31, 2018.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
TMF short-term investments	\$ 611,815	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 611,815
Wespeth deposit account	-	3,292,383	-	3,292,383
Wespeth retiree health account	-	24,630,406	-	24,630,406
Wespeth superannuate fund	-	126,348	-	126,348
Wespeth Metro	-	786,511	-	786,511
Wespeth Episcopal residence	-	348,189	-	348,189
Wespeth North Central	-	371,262	-	371,262
TMF long-term investments	-	5,799,887	-	5,799,887
Current investments subtotal	611,815	35,354,986	-	35,966,801
Endowment and other	1,800,960	-	-	1,800,960
Total investments	<u>\$ 2,412,775</u>	<u>\$ 35,354,986</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 37,767,761</u>

Significant changes in investments year over year consist of net unrealized gains and losses as well as additions or withdraws as reported in the consolidated statement of cash flows.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 5, Property and equipment

Buildings, improvements and equipment acquired by the Conference are recorded at cost when purchased and fair value when donated. Depreciation is computed based on expected useful lives and is calculated using the straight-line method. Property and equipment consist of the following at December 31:

	2018
Land	\$ 694,908
Buildings, parsonages and capital improvements	8,004,585
Furniture and equipment	777,561
Automobiles	94,670
	<hr/>
Total	9,571,724
Less: accumulated depreciation	(4,352,374)
	<hr/>
Net property and equipment	\$ 5,219,350
	<hr/>

Note 6, Multi-employer Pension Plans

The Conference is a participating employer in five separate trustee-managed multi-employer defined benefit pension plans which are described in further detail below.

The risks of participating in these multi-employer defined benefit pension plans are different from single-employer plans because: (a) assets contributed to the multi-employer plan by one employer may be used to provide benefits to employees of other participating employers, (b) if a participating employer stops contributing to the plan, the unfunded obligations of the plan may be required to be borne by the remaining participating employers, and (c) if the Conference chooses to stop participating in one of its multi-employer plans, it may be required to pay a withdrawal liability to the plan. The Conference has no plans to withdraw from its multi-employer pension plans.

Because employers that contribute to multi-employer plans are responsible only to make the contributions called for and they do not have a directly identified or separate interest in investment gains or losses or administrative costs, nor does the employer have a directly identified or separate obligation for benefit payments, separate assets and liabilities for their portion of the plan are not recognized, and the contributions are recognized as expense in the period they are paid.

Pre-1982 Plan ("Pre-82"): The Conference participates in the Pre-1982 Plan which is a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by Wespeth Benefits & Investments ("Wespeth Benefits"), formerly known as the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of the United Methodist Church. The fund covers service prior to 1982 for substantially all clergy and lay pastors. For service subsequent to 1981, clergy members of the Conference are eligible to participate in the multi-employer retirement plans offered by The United Methodist Church as described below.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 6, Multi-employer Pension Plans (continued)

The Board of Pensions and Health Benefits of the Conference (“the Board”) acts as trustee responsible for deposits with the Wespeth Benefits. All assets of the plan are available to pay all benefits of the plan, regardless of the conference from which the contributions came or under which benefits were accrued. However, each conference controls certain benefit provisions of the plan and may choose to fund this plan using different funding methodologies. In the past, the Conference has chosen to fund the plan using the full actuarial allocation and is currently fully funded. An actuarial report is available from the Wespeth Benefits that shows the funding requirements and funded status of all the conferences for the Pre-82. In 2018, Pre-82 assets are expected to be overfunded by approximately \$146,989,709.

An advanced contribution of \$483,007 was required for 2018 for the Pre-82.

Wespeth provided all of the annual conferences with a two-year holiday for its Comprehensive Protection Plan premiums (see “CPP” below) in order to assist all of the conferences in reaching the mandated full funding of this liability by 2021. For the North Texas Conference, the holiday totaled approximately \$650,000 per year for two years. At its properly called meeting on March 5, 2019, the Board voted to remit the full \$1,300,000 for the CPP for the 2018 and 2019 years to the Pre-82 pension account for the North Texas Conference at Wespeth.

Ministerial Pension Plan (“MPP”): U.S. bishops, Conference members and local pastors under Episcopal appointment are eligible for pension coverage under the Ministerial Pension Plan. The MPP is a multi-employer defined contribution plan which required the Conference to contribute 12% of each participant’s compensation, subject to a limit on total compensation. This plan was frozen effective December 31, 2006; however, the Conference is required to make payments to the plan as needed. No payment was required in 2018, and no payment will be required for 2019 although future payments towards the plan are possible. This plan was replaced by the CRSP described below.

Comprehensive Protection Plan (“CPP”): In addition to the Pre-82 Plan, certain ministerial employees are provided disability and death benefits as well as certain minimum benefits related to pension coverage through participation in the Comprehensive Protection Plan. The CPP is a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by Wespeth Benefits. As noted in the Pre-82 Plan section above, Wespeth provided a two-year holiday for the premium payments for the CPP. The amount billed to the conference for 2018 was \$670,195.21. In 2019, the Conference elected to deposit \$1,300,000 into its Pre-82 pension plan assets held by Wespeth.

United Methodist Personal Investment Plan (“UMPIP”): Effective January 1, 2006, the Cumulative Pension and Benefit Fund and the Personal Investment Plan were merged to form the United Methodist Personal Investment Plan. Conference clergy members, lay employees, and local church personnel are eligible to participate in this multi-employer defined contribution plan administered by Wespeth Benefits which currently allows an employer contribution of up to 12%. The Conference contributes 6% of all eligible lay participants’ compensation. Total contributions to the plan for the year ended December 31, 2018 were \$64,128. These amounts are included in conference benefits in the consolidated statement of activities.

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 6, Multi-employer Pension Plans (continued)

Clergy Retirement Security Program (“CRSP”): Effective January 1, 2007, the Conference established the CRSP, which is a multi-employer defined benefit plan and a multi-employer defined contribution plan administered by Wespath Benefits. Clergy members and local pastors under Episcopal appointment to a conference, church, charge, district or conference-controlled entity or unit are eligible to participate. For the defined benefit plan, the contribution is based on a formula using the denominational average compensation and the years of credited service beginning January 1, 2007. For the defined contribution plan, contributions are 3% of each eligible participant’s compensation.

The contributions to the CRSP for the year ended December 31 were as follows:

	<u>2018</u>
Defined contribution plan, funded from the Conference	\$ 716,300
Defined benefit plan, funded from the Conference	<u>2,128,558</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,844,858</u>

The Conference expects future annual contributions for all of the plans above to be approximately \$2.5 million. The total costs for the above benefit plans are generally billed to the churches of the Conference; however, any shortfalls are obligations of the Conference.

Note 7, Postretirement Benefit Plan

The Conference sponsors a defined benefit postretirement health care plan for ministerial employees of its member churches and employees of the Conference. Actuarial reports are currently obtained every year for the plan. The annual measurement date is December 31. The plan is unfunded, however, as of December 31, 2018, the Conference has \$24,630,406 designated by the Board to be used for payment of future net periodic postretirement benefit costs. Any changes in the plan or revisions to assumptions that affect the amount of expected future benefits may have a significant effect on the amount of the reported obligation and future annual expense.

The following tables present the Plan’s accumulated postretirement benefits obligation (“APBO”), funded status, activities and net unrestricted assets for year ended December 31, 2018.

	<u>2018</u>
Gross APBO	\$ 10,590,814
Fair value of plan assets	<u>-</u>
Net unfunded status of plan	<u>\$ 10,590,814</u>

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 7, Postretirement Benefit Plan (continued)

Amounts recognized in the statement of financial position consist of the following:

	2018
Current liabilities	\$ 330,441
Noncurrent liabilities	<u>10,260,373</u>
Gross APBO	<u>\$ 10,590,814</u>

Reconciliation of APBO to amounts recognized in the statement of activities:

	2018
APBO, beginning of year	<u>\$ 11,799,794</u>
Service cost	386,427
Interest cost	406,352
Actuarial (gain) loss	(1,622,267)
Expected benefits paid directly to the Conference, net of retiree contributions	<u>(379,492)</u>
Net change	<u>(1,208,980)</u>
APBO, end of year	<u>\$ 10,590,814</u>

Net unrestricted assets are developed as follows:

	2018
Net prior service credit (cost)	\$ 4,505,832
Net gain (loss)	<u>4,682,314</u>
Net unrestricted assets	<u>\$ 9,188,146</u>
Net unrestricted assets, beginning of year	\$ 9,453,248
Amounts amortized during the year	
Net prior service (credit) cost	(1,706,754)
Net (gain) loss	(180,615)
Occurring during the year	
Net gain (loss)	<u>1,622,267</u>
Net unrestricted assets, end of year	<u>\$ 9,188,146</u>

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 7, Postretirement Benefit Plan (continued)

Net periodic postretirement benefit (income) costs are as follows:

	<u>2018</u>
Service cost	\$ 386,427
Interest cost	406,352
Net prior service credit amortization	(1,706,754)
Net gain amortization	<u>(180,615)</u>
Net periodic postretirement benefit income	<u>\$ (1,094,590)</u>

The following assumptions and dates are used:

Discount rate	4.15%
Current health care cost trend rate	7.00%
Ultimate health care cost trend rate	5.00%
Year of Ultimate trend rate	2027

Effective of 1% increase in health care cost trend rates:

ABO	\$ 10,842,721
Amount change	\$ 251,907
Percentage change	2.38%

Effective of 1% reduction in health care cost trend rates:

ABO	\$ 10,376,667
Amount change	\$ (214,147)
Percentage change	2.02%

The following benefit payments, which reflect expected future services, as appropriate, are expected to be paid in future years:

2019	\$ 337,228
2020	388,064
2021	435,982
2022	491,048
2023	546,738
2024 - 2027	<u>3,033,448</u>
Total	<u>\$ 5,232,508</u>

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 8, Note Payable

For the year ended December 31, 2018, the note payable is to the Texas Methodist Foundation. The loan is secured by real estate of the Conference and bears interest at a variable rate, 2.50% at December 31, 2018. The loan amortizes over 20 years. Annual payments of principal and interest total \$218,760. Interest expense for the year end December 31, 2018 totaled \$46,591.

Future principal amounts due are as follows:

2019	\$ 182,902
2020	186,221
2021	189,601
2022	193,042
2023	196,546
Thereafter	<u>1,023,050</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,971,362</u>

Note 9, Endowment Investments

The Conference's endowment investments are composed of funds from contributions permanently restricted by the donor. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, net assets associated with permanent restrictions, including board designated funds, are classified and reported based upon the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

The Conference operates under the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional funds Act of the State of Texas (TUPMIFA). This Act eliminates the historic dollar value limitation imposed by the previous law, thereby increasing the Conference's ability to apply a total-return spending rate to its funds. The historic dollar value limitation is replaced with a new standard of prudence. The Conference may apply its spending rate if it is determined to be the prudent course of action, even though application of the spending rate will cause the value of the fund to fall below the value of the original gift.

Endowment investments are reported in endowment and other long-term investments in the consolidated statement of financial position. As of December 31, the endowment investments of the Conference consisted of the following:

	<u>2018</u>
Nannie F. Bean Trust	\$ 64,068
Perkins Fund	<u>1,729,484</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,793,552</u>

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 9, Endowment Investments (continued)

The Nannie F. Bean Trust is held at the General Council of Finance and Administration (the “GCFA”) in compliance with the estate documents. Income is managed by the GCFA and distributed periodically. Per the trust agreement, the Conference returns the funds to the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) designating the recipient of the funds from the list GBGM maintains. The purpose of the Perkins Fund is to assist retired clergy with catastrophic medical expenses.

The Conference has a spending policy of appropriating for distribution each year up to 95% of its endowment fund’s net income. In establishing this policy, the Conference considered the long-term expected investment return on its endowment. Accordingly, over the long term, the Conference expects the current spending policy to allow its endowment fund to grow at an average of 5% annually. This is consistent with the Conference’s objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets as well as to provide additional real growth through investment return.

To achieve that objective, the Conference has adopted an investment policy that attempts to maximize total return consistent with an acceptable level of risk. Endowment assets are invested in a diversified asset mix, which includes equity and debt securities that is intended to result in a consistent inflation-protected rate of return that has sufficient liquidity to make an annual distribution of up to 95%, while growing the fund, if possible. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount. Investment risk is measured in terms of the total endowment fund; investment assets and allocation between asset classes and strategies are managed not to expose the fund to unacceptable levels of risk.

Endowment investments balances and activities by net asset classification are as follows:

	Net assets without donor restriction	Net assets with donor restriction			
		Temporary deficiency	Temporarily restricted	Permanently restricted	Total fair value
Beginning investment balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,125,459	\$ 814,068	\$ 1,939,527
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-
Investment gain (loss), net	-	-	(113,339)	-	(113,339)
Appropriated for expenditure	-	-	(32,636)	-	(32,636)
Ending investment balance	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 979,484</u>	<u>\$ 814,068</u>	<u>\$ 1,793,552</u>

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 10, Net Assets

The current year summary of change in net assets are as follows:

	Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions		Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	
	General Unrestricted	Internally Designated	Temporarily Donor Restricted	Permanently Donor Restricted
Balance, January 1	\$ 2,395,781	\$ 33,349,542	\$ 1,985,594	\$ 814,068
Transfers to (from)	745,533	(745,533)	-	-
Net change	<u>1,687,359</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(189,621)</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance, December 31	<u>\$ 4,828,673</u>	<u>\$ 32,604,009</u>	<u>\$ 1,795,973</u>	<u>\$ 814,068</u>

The details of the Conference's net assets by categories at December 31 are as follows:

	2018
Net assets without donor restrictions	
General unrestricted	<u>\$ 4,828,673</u>
Internally designated	
Benefits reserves	24,630,406
New church starts reserves	3,686,175
Fixed assets reserves	4,206,649
Other	80,779
Subtotal	<u>32,604,009</u>
Total net assets without donor restrictions	<u>\$ 37,432,682</u>
Net assets with donor restrictions	
Temporarily restricted	
Disaster relief	\$ 183,220
CUT Trust reserves	271,269
Seminary assistance	125,000
Perkins Fund - net endowment earnings	979,484
Johnny Irish scholarship	103,900
Other	133,100
Subtotal	<u>1,795,973</u>
Permanently restricted	
Perkins Fund	750,000
Nannie F. Bean Trust	64,068
Subtotal	<u>814,068</u>
Total net assets with donor restrictions	<u>\$ 2,610,041</u>

North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

Note Disclosures to the Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

Note 11, Liquidity and Availability of Financial Assets

The Conference's financial assets are current assets available for general expenditure within one year of the statement date. Financial assets are calculated as follows: current assets less donor-restricted, board-designated and/or contractually-obligated cash and investments, prepaid expenses, and other similar current assets, as applicable.

As part of the Conference's liquidity management, it has a strategy to structure its financial assets to be available as general expenditures, liabilities and other obligations come due. The significant qualities of this strategy are as follows:

- The Conference invests cash in excess of daily requirements in short-term investments such as interest-bearing savings accounts or money market funds.
- The Conference is highly dependent on recurring apportionment contributions from its member churches and other donors which have remained relatively consistent year-to-year.
- If liquidity becomes an ongoing concern, the Conference may elect to decrease its program budget in order to eliminate excess spending.

The Conference's financial assets are quantified as follows:

Current assets	\$ 45,526,180
Less: non-liquid assets: prepaid expenses	(301,932)
Less: those unavailable for general expenditures within one year, due to	
Internally designated:	
Board-designated	(32,604,009)
Other unrestricted general reserves	(4,828,673)
Donor-imposed restrictions or contractual requirements:	
Donor restrictions (excluding endowment)	<u>(816,489)</u>
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	<u>\$ 6,975,077</u>

Note 12, Subsequent Events

Subsequent events have been evaluated through the date of the independent auditor's report on page one, which is the date the consolidated financial statements were available to be issued.

**NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE
(EXCLUSIVE OF CAMP ACTIVITIES*)
DESIGNATED FUND SUMMARY (Unaudited)
December 31, 2018**

	<u>Beg. Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursement</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
	12/31/17				12/31/2018
Fund Balances:					
Net Assets without Donor Restrictions					
Operating Reserves					
CCD-Operating Reserves	916,071	1,420,380	1,231,026		1,105,425
CLD-Operating Reserves	155,299	1,933,994	1,733,339	(137,231)	218,723
CMO-Operating Reserves	398,600	734,138	414,172	(311,976)	406,590
CCR-Operating Reserves	1,491,348	1,278,919	1,234,197	(6,000)	1,530,070
Reserves-Conference	778,869	3,865,419	3,998,783		645,504
Reserves-Episcopal NTC Area Funds	172,953	73,086	129,090		116,948
Reserves-Communications Office Operations	220,374	481,358	470,225		231,506
Reserves-District Superintendent Fund Operations	161,073	595,036	586,059		170,050
Reserves-Conference Benefits	3,074,412	8,556,554	6,652,943	(3,262,456)	1,715,567
Reserves-East District Operations	178,784	168,563	150,353		196,994
Reserves-Metro District Operations	174,641	175,949	208,965		141,625
Reserves-North Central District Operations	74,426	180,196	180,075		74,547
Reserves-Northwest District Operations	241,747	154,380	112,282		283,845
Reserves-Midwestern Wesley Foundation	65,465	5,904	96,590	78,154	52,932
Reserves-Paris Junior College	10,044	7,333	35,039	49,077	31,416
Reserves-Bridgeport Camp and Conf Center	(47,178)				(47,178)
Reserves-Prothro Center Operating	188,449				188,449
Reserves-Go Camp	16,034	98,760	116,255	10,000	8,539
Total Operating Reserves	8,271,412	19,729,969	17,349,395	(3,580,432)	7,071,553
Board Designated Reserves					
CCD NC Starts Donation	23,636		23,636		-
CLD Campus Ministries	86,058				86,058
CLD Cultural Competency Training	1,556		817		739
CLD Jumpstart Reserves	83,646		10,000		73,646
CLD IIM and Transitional Care	25,649				25,649
CMO CSGM	202		202		-
CMO Restorative Justice	1,728				1,728
CMO ZCC Operating Reserves	(139,792)	178,902	369,534	330,423	-
CCR-GC Delegates	4,564	500			5,064
CCR-Archives and History Reserves	428	2			431
CCR-Annual Conference (incl Electronic Voting)	18,000			6,000	24,000
CCR-Moving Fund	249,240	107,711	86,709		270,243
Reserves-Episcopacy Committee	363				363
Reserves-DS Emergency Fund	18,061				18,061
Reserves-Wellness Initiative	161,188		1,014		160,175
Reserves-RevItUp	23,669				23,669
Reserves-Benefits Academy	-		1,000	30,000	29,000
Reserves-Superannuate Retiree Assistance	12,728	1,506			14,234
Reserves-Retiree Medical	14,294,632		255,040		14,039,592
Reserves-Wespath Investments and Benefits	1,518,956	2,101,435	3,523,455	3,232,456	3,329,393

	<u>Beg. Balance</u> 12/31/17	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursement</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u> 12/31/2018
Reserves-Property & Liability GAP Fund	2,692,662	6,824,614	5,953,033		3,564,243
New Church Starts Reserves	3,223,356	2,545,525	2,297,544		3,471,336
New Church Start-East	57,283	277			57,560
New Church Start-North Central	163,886	792	7,400		157,279
Reserves-Second Mile East	-	256	256		-
Reserves-Way of Salvation	695				695
Reserves-Early Response Team	3,828		60		3,769
Reserves-Metro District Parsonage Earnings	137,937		51,426		86,511
Reserves-Second Mile Metro	-	4,969	3,969		1,000
Reserves-Second Mile NC	-	668	162		506
Reserves-Second Mile NW	30,786	6,105	15,106		21,785
Reserves-DS Continuing Education	7,801				7,801
Reserves-Prothro Camp Center	36,081		36,081		-
Reserves-Cabin	5,109				5,109
Reserves-John Oestmann Scholarship	598				598
Total Board Designated Reserves	22,744,536	11,773,263	12,636,443	3,598,879	25,480,234
Fee Based Event Reserves					
CLD-SEEK Activity	16,309				16,309
CLD-Youth Events	14,077				14,077
CMO-UMW Cooperative Mission Event	4,127				4,127
CMO-Volunteer In Mission	6,545	977	1,247		6,274
Reserves-Mission Trip Greece	1,600				1,600
Total Fee Based Event Reserves	42,657	977	1,247	-	42,387
BOD Designated Reserves					
CLD-MEF Operating Reserves	63,341	168,380	126,650		105,070
Reserves-Episcopal GCFA Funds	20,852	86,368	83,027		24,193
Reserves-Episcopal Residence	195,064	626,466	287,421		534,110
Urban Ministries Reserve	566,455	1,118,546	1,219,803		465,199
Total BOD Designated Reserves	845,712	1,999,761	1,716,901	-	1,128,572
Fixed Assets Reserves	3,810,591	523,492	127,433		4,206,649
Conference Managed Reserves	28,956	14,691	13,049		30,599
Total Net Assets without Donor Restrictions	35,743,864	34,042,152	31,844,468	18,447	37,959,995
Net Assets with Donor Restrictions					
Donor Designated Reserves					
Reserves-Superannuate Required Reserve	89,338				89,338
CCD-JV Partnership Value	4,659		261		4,398
CLD-SEEK Scholarship Reserves	18,595				18,595
CLD A Time for Children	10,000				10,000
CMO-Disaster Relief	344,435	13,608	171,958		186,085
CMO-Peace with Justice	8,030	444	6,650		1,824
CMO-Native American Ministry	10,971	1,015		(11,986)	-

	<u>Beg. Balance</u> 12/31/17	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursement</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u> 12/31/2018
CMO-Hispanic Plan GBGM Grant	6,461			(6,461)	-
CUT Trust Reserves	271,269				271,269
Nannie Bean Earnings	-	3,012	3,012		-
Reserves-Robertson Award	1,787	9			1,795
TRNA Perkins Fund Earnings	1,125,458		145,974		979,484
Reserves-Johnny Irish Scholarship	88,900	30,500	15,500		103,900
Reserves-A Wilkinson Playground	7,149				7,149
Total Donor Designated Reserves	1,987,052	173,589	343,356	(18,447)	1,798,839
Permanently Restricted Endowment Corpus					
CMO Nannie Findlay Bean Trust	64,068				64,068
Reserves-Perkins Fund	750,000	-			750,000
Total Permanently Restricted Endowment Corpus	814,068	-	-	-	814,068
Total Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	2,801,120	173,589	343,356	(18,447)	2,612,907
Total Fund Balance	38,544,984	34,215,741	32,187,824	0	40,572,901

2019 NTC CONNECTIONAL REPORTS

AFRICA UNIVERSITY

Africa University thrives in ministry because of the unwavering support of local congregations of The United Methodist Church. Thank you to the members of the North Texas Conference for prioritizing Africa University and its ministry with an investment of 95.01 percent of the asking to the Africa University Fund (AUF) apportionment in 2018.

The university community is greatly encouraged by the ongoing efforts of North Texas United Methodists to invest in transforming the lives of students through second-mile gifts for scholarships and campus infrastructure.

The students, faculty, staff, trustees, and alumni of Africa University value every gift. They are especially humbled by the sacrifices that are being made in the North Texas Conference to establish a tradition of 100 percent support for the AUF and address emerging needs.

In giving so consistently to the AUF, the North Texas Conference continues to affirm the university's core mission of nurturing leaders who inspire and invite new people into a relationship with Jesus Christ. The impact of the North Texas Conference's strong support for Africa University is evident in the contributions of graduates who address real-life challenges and help communities to experience peace, sustainable livelihoods, food security, and abundant health.

Institutional Update:

- For the first time in five years, there is new construction on the Africa University campus thanks to a 25th anniversary gift from Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas, TX. In December 2018, work began on the foundation for a new residence hall. The university subsequently broke ground for the construction of phase two of its Student Union and Cafeteria building. Both projects are progressing well and are expected to be fully in use by August 2020.
- Africa University remains a top choice for African young people who are seeking a relevant and life-changing educational experience. In 2018, Africa University enrolled more than 700 new students and maintained an overall enrollment of around 2,000 students. There were 25 African countries represented in the student body. Women made up 53 percent of the student population, which is almost twice the average for African higher education institutions. Africa University's women graduates are emerging as the difference-makers of their generation, whether empowering victims of gender-based violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo or working alongside rural women to establish and operate community-based telecommunications infrastructure and provide internet connectivity to underserved communities across Africa.
- Throughout 2018, Africa University addressed the challenges of operating in a depressed and uncertain socio-economic environment in Zimbabwe with creativity and prudence. The university delivered teaching, learning, and community-service activities of high quality without interruption, while also renewing and expanding its infrastructure. Key enhancements in 2018 included the full implementation of an ERP software system to integrate and manage all facets of the university's operations and the refurbishment of three dormitories for women students.
- With conflict, poverty, and the impact of climate change persisting as the key drivers of food insecurity and the rise in internal displacement, migration, and refugeehood in Africa, the university consolidated its position as a trailblazer by offering new graduate training and research opportunities. Africa University has also continued to provide scholarships for refugee women so that their experiences, talents, and ideas are a part of the search for lasting solutions.
- Africa University delivered critical data for reducing malaria deaths in southern Africa and controlling the spread of insect-borne diseases worldwide. AU's insectary—a laboratory for rearing and studying live insects, such as mosquitos—shares its findings through the Southern Africa Centers of Excellence for Malaria Research. This data informs regional policies, practices, and malaria control efforts.

Africa University is deeply grateful to the members of the North Texas Conference for their prayers and support, which continue to grow and sustain its ministry. Thank you to the North Texas Conference for all that has been invested in Africa University over the past 27 years and for being part of a shared story of faithfulness, hope, and realized dreams. As Africa University and the North Texas Conference move forward together in missional engagement, we trust in God for the increase.

*Submitted by: James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement Africa University
Development Office, jsalley@gbhem.org , 615.340.7438*

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Greetings from Boston University School of Theology (BUSTH) as we live together as disciples in uncertain times!

BREAKING NEWS:

- **Students:** We continue to increase and celebrate diversity in our student body, creating remarkable opportunities for in-depth exchanges and fruitful collaboration.
- **Faculty:** We welcomed two amazing faculty this year: **Shively Smith** as Assistant Professor of New Testament, and **Nicolette Manglos-Weber** as Assistant Professor of Religion and Society.
- **Online Lifelong Learning:** We are launching a new Online Lifelong Learning Program at the school, offering webinars, workshops, and reading groups for professional enrichment.
- **Scholarships:** We continue our offer of free tuition to UMC-registered candidates for ordained ministry, and we continue to build student scholarships and housing as a central campaign priority. New scholarships include the Korean Student and African Student Scholarships, and leadership fellowships for promising leaders: Raíces Latinas for Latinx leaders, Sacred Worth for leaders in the LGBTQIA+ community, Howard Thurman for African-American leadership, and Indigenous Studies Fellowships.
- **Faith and Ecological Justice Program:** This new student program undertakes initiatives to increase ecological awareness, education, and activism in ecological justice.
- **Theology and the Arts Initiatives:** Recent exhibits and events include “Moments in Time” and “Transcending Conflict.”
- **Grants:** Henry Luce Foundation has awarded a 3-year grant to support the Educating Effective Chaplains Project. The grant supports work with other seminaries to develop models that can better prepare chaplains for effective ministry.
- **Website:** After several years of planning, a new school website will launch in Fall semester 2019.

PARTNERING FOR MINISTRY AND TRANSFORMATION: Preparing students for ministry means meaningful partnerships with the local spiritual community.

- **Creative Callings:** Our vocational project is an exciting partnership with local churches, seeking to create “a culture of call.” It is sponsored through a grant from the Lilly Endowment.
- **Engagement with the UMC:** Many of our students are delegates, project leaders and assistants, and class participants in General Conference 2019.
- **Congregational courses:** The Continuing Scholar program offers current BUSTH courses to alums and local clergy as continuing education credit for a small fee per course.
- **Doctor of Ministry:** The DMin in Transformational Leadership is soaring with lively student cohorts that are broadly ecumenical, culturally diverse, and global. The model includes intensives, online courses, and faculty mentoring.
- **Religion and Conflict Transformation Clinic:** The clinic provides internships and workshops that foster justice and peace building.
- **Travel seminars:** These courses engage students with immersion journeys to the Arizona-Mexican border, Israel and Palestine, Argentina, and other sites of learning and ministry. Attendees from the recent Serbia and Croatia Seminar presented to the 2018 Parliament of the World’s Religions in Toronto, Canada.

- **Ecumenical partnerships:** We continue to build robust communities of learning with the Episcopal Church and United Church of Christ, and to develop new communities with the Unitarian Universalist and Baptist churches.
- **Partnership with Hebrew College:** Together we are able to enrich interreligious learning through joint courses and public events, and also co-sponsor The Journal of Interreligious Studies and State of Formation cohort of emerging leaders.

TAKING ACTION GLOBALLY AND LOCALLY:

- **Campus action:** Work to improve accessibility and sustainability. BUSTH is the first certified Green School in BU and participates actively in the Green Seminary Initiative. It has also been named as one of the “Seminaries that Change the World” for the second consecutive year.
- **Internships in global service and peacemaking:** We provide internships that support students who engage in ministry with churches and service organizations across the world.

COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE: Celebrating differences while joining in action.

- Faculty and students have led and participated in UMCOR; support efforts with victims of hurricanes and fires; protests on behalf of Puerto Rico, Texas, and Florida; protests of white supremacist movements; services with immigrants and DACA young people; and ecumenical and interreligious witnesses for justice in the city of Boston.
- Through student-led town hall meetings, the community has had deep conversations on issues that divide (including theological differences). We seek to foster respectful listening that builds community life and communal action.

OTHER NOTABLE NEWS:

- 2019 marks the 180th year of the School of Theology, originally founded as the Newbury Bible Institute in 1839.
- Our major development campaign for BUSTH will end in September, 2019, and we continue working toward grand success for the future of our school and the vitality of your ministries.

As BUSTH looks to the future, we celebrate transformational leaders of the United Methodist Church, who keep the word of Jesus Christ alive. Your living legacy and faithful witness give us hope and courage for the future.

*Blessings and gratitude,
Mary Elizabeth Moore, Dean*

CC YOUNG Senior Living *Serving Seniors since 1922.*

Our campus has transformed! Our beautiful new building called *The Vista* opens in 2019! How does this new building allow us to better serve you?

- 325,000 square feet with 219 state-of-the-art patient rooms and apartments.
- Skilled nursing, long-term care, short-term rehabilitation, memory support, and the adult day center program.
- New, larger assisted-living residences.
- Inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation.
- A comprehensive aquatic program and therapy pool.
- Other amenities include underground parking, a spa, a grand hall, multiple dining venues, family gathering rooms, a community room, a meditation chapel, an art gallery, a gift shop, team member areas, sun rooms, and multiple sensory gardens.
- We are thrilled to offer new assisted living residents a Priority Program: depositors can earn up to \$15,000 in added benefits. To learn more: 214-258-4000.

Other recent highlights:

- CC Young launched a new website in 2018. See what's new and take an animated tour of The Vista by visiting www.ccyoung.org.
- Our next phase of the strategic plan? The Terraces, a new independent living project next to The Overlook. Design is well underway and pre-sales have begun.
- Special thanks to the CC Young Auxiliary for their ongoing support since 1925! In 2018, Auxiliary members assisted with our 2nd annual Noon Year's Eve celebration which is a special luncheon held the Friday before New Year's Eve for our residents in licensed services on campus: nursing, memory support, and assisted living. The Auxiliary makes an incredible difference! If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary and supporting CC Young, contact CCY resident and Auxiliary 1st Vice President, Judith Baner at jbanner@mail.smu.edu so you can make a difference, too!
- Our capital campaign for The Vista has reached the public phase. With an original goal of \$12 million, we need only \$500,000 more. Your donation can make a difference and help us close out this campaign. If you would like to donate and help us reach this goal, contact Sharon Ballew, Vice President, Development: sballew@ccyoung.org or 214-841-2909.
- The "CC Young Centennial Club" continues our tradition to honor our residents as they reach their 100th birthday. In February, 2019, we celebrated Ms. Bernice Press, our longest-tenured resident who has lived at CC Young for 25 years. Thanks to Dallas County Commissioners Court for providing a proclamation honoring each resident!
- Continuing our robust Community Outreach program, The Point has revamped the membership program! For only \$180/pp/year, members have full access to the Dr. Kenneth Cooper Fitness Center plus wellness classes, technology classes for smart devices and more, and Spanish classes for no additional cost. Additionally, membership now includes discounts on workshops, clinics, and specialty classes, \$10 off massage services on campus, 20% discount on food and beverage in The Point Café, and a monthly calendar emailed outlining all the great events happening at The Point, where every day is truly "A HAPPENING!" For information, contact Brian Parman, Director of The Point and Pavilion: bparman@ccyoung.org or 972-755-3260.

Significant for our future growth:

We are pleased to announce the arrival of new team members to assist with transformation and expansion of our services, both on and off campus:

1. Tim Miller, **Administrator of our Health Center** operations. Onboard since Fall 2018, Tim brings years of experience in health center management and process improvement. He is making an impact, and we are grateful for his contributions!
2. CC Young is licensed in 13 counties in North Texas to provide individual care wherever patients call home. We are fortunate to have three strong and experienced team members onboard, helping us grow these lines of service. Help us welcome our administrators of our Community Services offerings: Catherine Thomas, **Home Healthcare**; Jennifer Broadway, **Hospice**; and Nena Paris, **Home Services**. These women are doing a tremendous job expanding our outreach both on campus and into the community. For more information on services offered, contact this team at 214-841-2825.

The future looks bright as we continue to expand on Reverend Young's ministry of service! For information on all programs or to schedule a tour, visit our newly designed website: www.ccyoung.org or call 214-258-4000.

About CC Young, a non-profit organization founded in 1922:

At CC Young, our vision is to enhance the quality of life for all we serve. Our mission is to foster premier environments where every life at every age is valued and enriched. We strive to create life-enriching experiences for all to celebrate life every day. The Point offers creative, educational and fitness opportunities for not only residents but also for the general public. Our campus is located on 20 acres near Dallas' White Rock Lake and offers these services for seniors, age 55 and better: independent living, assisted living, memory care, skilled nursing, long-term care, in- & out-patient rehabilitation, pastor care, point membership, home healthcare, home services, hospice, respite care, volunteer opportunities, adult day center, CCY Cares outreach program, and massage therapy.

DALLAS BETHELHEM CENTER

Dallas Bethlehem Center (DBC) serves children and families living in poverty in South Dallas/Fair Park, comprised of zip codes 75215 and 75210.

We talk about zip codes a lot here at DBC. Where you are born largely determines your opportunities in life. Zip code is destiny. We see this every single day serving the poorest, most violent zip codes in Dallas.

Our neighbors are drowning in a river of generational poverty, mass incarceration, low education, violent crime, food insecurity, drug sales, gang activity, teen pregnancy, infant morbidity, racial inequality, and the list goes on. The challenges stemming from poverty and its related issues begin early, typically with the lottery of birth, and persist through generations. A child born in South Dallas will likely start behind and stay behind – for the rest of their life.

And that's where Dallas Bethlehem Center comes in.

For 73 years, DBC has remained committed to the purpose under which it was founded: "To help persons of all ages escape from the self-perpetuating poverty cycle and find satisfaction in the life of dignity which God intends for all."

Dallas Bethlehem Center has reached an inflection point in its history. Under new leadership, DBC is moving into a new era of impact that will help affect large-scale change in South Dallas. We spent the past six months working with Social Venture Partners to develop a bold plan to improve lives through cradle-to-career education and community connection.

Breaking the cycle of poverty requires early and sustained intervention. In phases over the next three years, we will expand our program offerings to meet the educational needs of babies, children, teens, and adults.

In 2019, we will continue our Early Head Start program for babies 0-3 years old and launch a high-quality afterschool program for elementary-aged children. With the assistance of Dallas Afterschool, DBC's afterschool program will focus on helping students perform successfully on grade level and develop positive social/emotional skills.

Through this exciting time of growth, transformation, and even a few changes, one thing remains: our deep appreciation for the ongoing support of the North Texas Conference of churches and United Methodist Women. Quite literally, we cannot do this important work without you.

Thank you.

DREW UNIVERSITY THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

Drew University Theological School continued its multi-year self-transformation by launching its new curriculum for the Master of Divinity in the fall of 2018. This entirely reconceived degree seeks to form graduates that are rooted in the Christian story and traditions, capable of effective and creative leadership, and spiritually and socially resourceful for cultivating the transformative gospel of Jesus Christ in, with, and for the church and the world.

A new two-year degree, the Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry, also launched and offers students the opportunity to prepare for public leadership or a specialized vocation through deep theological and ethical reflection informed by biblical, historical, theological, and practical sources. New pathways in the Master of Arts, the Master of Sacred Theology, and the Doctor of Ministry were also created as part of the curriculum transformation process which seeks to more intentionally focus the school's service to the church, as well as to the academy and civil society.

Drew welcomed 145 entering students this academic year, its largest entering class in over a decade, with an overall enrollment of 350 for the current academic year. In the coming year, a new 5-year strategic plan will be developed, new degree delivery options that increase accessibility and affordability for prospective students, as well as new partnerships with annual conferences, other church bodies, and values-based organizations that share and strengthen Drew's mission to advance peace, justice, love of God, neighbor, and the earth.

GENERAL BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND MINISTRY

As the leadership development agency of The United Methodist Church, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) builds capacity for United Methodist lay and clergy leaders to discover, claim, and flourish in Christ's calling in their lives. The agency creates connections and provides resources to aid in recruitment, education, professional development, and spiritual formation. Every elder, deacon, and licensed local pastor benefits from our training and candidacy programs. Many young adults find help in clarifying God's call in their lives through our discernment opportunities.

Through its Office of Strategic Leadership, GBHEM refined plans for a center for leadership development and spiritual formation. It is drawing on research to plan the expansion of leadership training offerings to churches and communities through a range of means such as face-to-face training, online conferencing, consulting, and recommending resources and experts.

The Division of Ordained Ministry (DOM), using extensive research on the components of effective ministry, introduced a new formation process, Effective Ministry 360 (EM360), which guides pastors and congregations to plan and execute mission and ministry objectives. EM360 also offers assessment modules for candidacy, district superintendents, eight-year clergy assessment and Course of Study. DOM provides introduction and orientation sessions about the process.

The Division of Higher Education (DHE) has initiated research to inform a "leadership pipeline" process for university leaders on United Methodist campuses. Among the books GBHEM published this year, "Missio Dei and the United States: Toward a Faithful United Methodist Witness" (book and study guide) exhibits the best of church and academy collaboration. Contributors explore how the church can reengage its Wesleyan heritage as it participates in God's mission.

The Office of Loans and Scholarships announced an increase in the maximum amount of money United Methodist students can borrow to pursue their education. The annual maximum is \$10,000, with a lifetime maximum of \$40,000. On average, the agency distributes \$5.5 million in scholarships annually.

Partnering with churches and institutions, GBHEM has promoted projects, programs, initiatives, education, and leadership development in various cultural contexts within United Methodism and in pan-Methodist relationships. The agency expanded the Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development, supported the work of regional networks with the International Association of Methodist Schools, Colleges, and Universities, and established Regional Hubs for Leadership, Education and Development. In 2018, hubs were active in nations in Africa, Asia, Europe and England, North America, and South America.

GOLDEN CROSS METHODIST HEALTH SYSTEM FOUNDATION

Mission Statement: *"Golden Cross is a faith-based program of Methodist Health System and the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church. Its purpose is to provide quality healthcare for those who are underserved and most vulnerable within the North Texas Conference."*

Golden Cross Division Board: As a division of Methodist Health System Foundation and guided by the original vision of a healthcare ministry, the Board of the Golden Cross Division of Methodist Health System Foundation is charged with governing and directing the Golden Cross Ministry. The Golden Cross Division Board is comprised of dedicated clergy and lay members from congregations throughout the North Texas Conference.

Benefits for the North Texas Conference: The Golden Cross Ministry began in 1921 as an idea of a men's Sunday School class at First United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas. The vision of these city leaders was to create a healthcare ministry providing services at Dallas Methodist Hospital, now Methodist Dallas Medical Center, for those in the community who needed medical care but could not afford it, regardless of their faith. This idea was considered revolutionary at the time.

As the Golden Cross Ministry evolved, for many years ministers in the North Texas Conference referred individual patients to receive needed healthcare at Dallas Methodist Hospital. The model limited the number of patients served. After learning that medication costs were one of the most significant needs for these patients, in 2006 the Golden Cross Division Board adapted its program support to MedAssist, a prescription medication program administered by physicians and social workers through the Golden Cross Academic Clinic. This new model allowed the Golden Cross Ministry to serve more patients, and since 2008 the Golden Cross Ministry has funded more than \$1.9 million in medication and medical supply support.

Today Golden Cross continues to bring together Methodist congregations, dedicated physicians, and caring individuals to provide medical care for those in need.

The Golden Cross Ministry also supports the Faith Community Nursing program. This specialized area of professional nursing practice focuses on the promotion of health within a faith-based community. In Faith Community Nursing, a nurse professional provides ministry by assessing the needs of a congregation on an ongoing basis then planning and implementing relevant programs to promote health and wellness. Since its inception in 1996, the Faith Community Nursing program has grown significantly and now partners with 62 congregations across Dallas County.

Golden Cross Ministry-Funded Program Achievements:

MedAssist:

MedAssist provides qualified patients with health education and medications at no cost. Administered by the Golden Cross Academic Clinic, in 2018 the MedAssist program provided significant services to its patients:

- Total MedAssist patients served: 6,700
 - 69 new patients
 - 215 patients are currently receiving medication and medical supply support
- Funds used: \$13,450 to purchase prescriptions and medical supplies including diabetic testing supplies for 184 patients
- Provided 130 health education referrals - 54% diabetes, 37% weight management, 11% other.
- Prescription medication: The retail value of savings of free medications written through the MedAssist program total \$411,796.
- Other MedAssist services: social services, nutrition services, and education programs to help patients remain well and active in the workplace and the community. Short-term counseling services are provided as needed to help patients learn better ways to cope with chronic illness.

Faith Community Nursing:

Partnering with faith communities in North Texas, the program promotes health and wellness for all people. Faith Community Nurses work with nurses in the church congregations to provide medical resources to help their members. In 2018 there were:

- 62 partnering churches
- 8 congregational nurses completed the 40-hour Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Course
- 50,900+ served

- 288 flu shots provided
- Identified and began connecting congregations with the online resource tool Aunt Bertha, <https://www.auntbertha>

In 2018, the Faith Community Nursing program offered the Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Course for the first time online. To enhance and improve reporting, there is an online documentation tool for partnering churches.

Funding: The Golden Cross Division Board funds the MedAssist and Faith Community Nursing programs through individual contributions, church contributions, and with funds from the Golden Cross Endowment. Churches are asked to support Golden Cross by continuing to contribute one dollar (\$1.00) per member per year, which is the funding model envisioned by the founders of Golden Cross. If a church is unfamiliar with the program and would like more information to find out how to participate in Golden Cross, it should contact the Methodist Health System Foundation.

Oversight: The Golden Cross Board reviews its program support annually to determine the highest priority and best use of available funds. The Board takes seriously its responsibility to manage the sacred trust of donors successfully. Golden Cross needs the support of the entire North Texas Conference to realize its mission.

The Future: The goal and mission of Golden Cross are to grow and strengthen its ministries in the visionary spirit of its founders. Exciting cooperative opportunities to expand the capabilities of the Golden Cross ministry into underserved geographic areas of the North Texas Conference are in development.

The mission of Golden Cross answers the call of Christ, “Heal the sick...Freely you have received; freely give” (Matthew 10:8). Through the prayers and generous support of the North Texas Conference, Golden Cross will continue its ministry to people in need of quality healthcare.

2019 Golden Cross Division Board

The Rev. Linda Roby, Chair; Jim Atkins; The Rev. Mitchell Boone; The Rev. April Johnson Bristow; Ken Brown; Kenneth Cheairs; John Collins; Rev. Edlen Cowley; Alina Esquivel; John Hasley; Michael Hutton; Tricia Loe; Meredith McKee; G. David Neal; Carole Somers-Clark; Julie Yarbrough; James M. Johnston, ex-officio, President, Methodist Health System Foundation.

For More Information: To access the services of Golden Cross, please call the Golden Cross Academic Clinic at 214-947-6700.

METHODIST CHILDREN’S HOME

Greetings from Methodist Children’s Home (MCH) and the more than 5,000 children, youth, and families we serve. Our ministry is possible thanks to the support of our many benefactors and friends. I am honored to report that MCH continues to be in compliance with and, in many cases, exceed best practice standards for childcare established by the states of Texas and New Mexico as well as the Council on Accreditation (COA), an international accrediting organization of child welfare, behavioral health, and community-based social services.

I invite each member of the annual conference to visit our website at www.MCH.org. There you can view our strategic plan, annual report, or explore in more detail the services we offer.

You can also download stories, identify resources to help educate your congregation on our ministry, view a transparent listing of our financial resources and services delivered, find out how you can refer a child for placement, or learn more about a call to join our ministry as a home parent, foster parent, or in another capacity.

The report to the North Texas Annual Conference will be my last as President/CEO of this amazing ministry. I recently announced my plans to retire on June 30, 2019, after 36 years of service, including nine years as President/CEO. I share this news with a grateful heart, a sense of peace, and the satisfaction of seeing so many young lives change for the better, families reunite, and staff members serve, flourish and grow professionally and personally.

I was blessed to begin my career at MCH as a home parent, and I am equally blessed to be ending it as President/CEO. I am proud to leave MCH with confidence in our outstanding employees and Board of Directors who are committed to the vision and goals in our strategic plan. It is my sincere desire that we continue to give God the glory for the success at MCH and build on the legacy of service of past Presidents, most recently Dr. Jack Kyle Daniels and Mr. Bobby Gilliam.

MCH remains committed to our mission as a Christian ministry and to evidence-based practices and trauma-informed care through our partnership with the Institute of Child Development at Texas Christian University. Guided by our core values of Christian Principles, Relationships, Responsibility, Growth, Service, and Hope, MCH provides the care, programs, and talented individuals needed to positively impact the lives of children, youth, and families throughout Texas and New Mexico. This is happening every day in residential programs as well as through 13 MCH Family Outreach offices including Dallas.

Through the generosity of our benefactors, the prayers of our friends and supporters, and the commitment of a skilled community of MCH employees, here are some of the things you helped MCH accomplish this year for God's glory and those we serve:

- Received the funds needed to build the fourth and fifth new homes on our Waco campus as part of the Building Hope Campaign. These new state-of-the-art homes are designed with the unique needs of the children we serve today in mind coupled with our trauma-informed research and modern efficiencies. At the writing of this report, we are more than halfway toward our fundraising goal that will build the sixth, seventh and eighth homes! To date, our supporters have blessed our young people with more \$13 million for these new homes.
- Supported 90 MCH Alumni pursuing higher education at community colleges, trade schools or four-year institutions. This is possible because of the scholarship funds from our generous benefactors. This year we awarded more than \$500,000 in scholarship funds to assist MCH Alumni pursuing degrees and vocational certificates.
- Achieved designations of the Gold Seal of Transparency from Guidestar and four-star charity rating from Charity Navigator. We also received an outstanding evaluation from the Council on Accreditation (COA) during our reaccreditation process. This process involved detailed reviews and evaluation of our organization's administrative operations and service delivery practices. These designations recognize our commitment to excellence and efforts to conduct our work with the utmost integrity and transparency.
- Enjoyed another great year showcasing student Ag Science/FFA projects at the Heart O' Texas Fair and Rodeo and other local livestock shows.
- Participated in multiple mission trips including U.M. ARMY and other community service projects. These activities give opportunities for our youth to show Christ's love and to learn selflessness by sharing their time and talents to meet the needs of others.

Our achievements in the past, and those yet to come, are directly related to the men and women who give their time, talents and resources to bless our children. Our board members, commissioners and benefactors are valuable resources to our mission. The following individuals from the North Texas Annual Conference serve on the MCH Board of Directors:

Mrs. Amy Barley, Celina
Rev. Marie Mitchell, Grand Prairie
Mr. Dan Moore, Dallas

As we now celebrate our 129th year of ministry, MCH knows our service to children and families is possible because of God's amazing grace and our generous benefactors. Thank you for your trust and support of our ministry. May God continue to bless you, the ministries of the North Texas Annual Conference and Methodist Children's Home.

*Sincerely,
Tim Brown, President/CEO*

PERKINS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

Perkins celebrates our vital connections with the North Texas Annual Conference:

- Fifty-six (56) students affiliated with the North Texas Annual Conference are enrolled at Perkins, including: thirty-six (36) Master of Divinity (M.Div.) students, seven (7) Master of Arts in Ministry (M.A.M.) students, six (6) Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) students, one (1) Master of Theology (Th.M.) student, and six (6) Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) students.
- Six (6) Perkins Scholars from the North Texas Annual Conference are enrolled at Perkins School of Theology.
- Twenty-four (24) Perkins students have been placed as interns within the North Texas Annual Conference this year.
- Eligible 2018-2019 students from the North Texas Annual Conference received a PACE grant up to the amount of \$8,739 with qualifying full-time students receiving an additional \$2,000 in need-based aid.

Enrollment at Perkins for the 2018-19 academic year totals 318 students, including 33 enrolled in the Ph.D. program. Fall 2018 statistics reflect the following: 59 percent of our entire student population are United Methodist, and more than 41 percent are ethnic minority students. Master's degree programs comprise approximately 45 percent male and 55 percent female students. The D.Min. program includes students from southern Asia taking classes in Dallas.

Enrollment at Perkins for the Fall 2018 totaled 298 students, including 33 students enrolled in the Ph.D. program and with an additional 28 students enrolling in Spring 2019. Fall 2018 statistics reflect the following: 59.5 percent of our entire student population are United Methodist and more than 41 percent are ethnic minority students. Degree programs are comprised of 51 percent male and 49 percent female students.

For Dr. Craig C. Hill, in the midst of his third year as Dean and Professor of New Testament at Perkins School of Theology, a number of his early initiatives are bearing fruit, including deeper and more fruitful relationships with feeder colleges, new co-curricular initiatives, revamped D.Min. and Houston-Galveston programs, additional staffing in critical areas, and additional financial aid. Enrollment, giving, impact, and overall momentum continue to surge under his leadership with deep appreciation for those who make up and support the school.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- Fall 2018 admissions increased by 14.1 percent over the previous year with an incoming class of 89 students (including D.Min. but excluding Ph.D. students). Six new international students enrolled. An additional 28 students were added for the Spring 2019 semester. Over half of the entering class have average undergraduate GPA's above a 3.2.
- Perkins School of Theology is the recipient of a five-year, \$1 million grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc., for an initiative designed to strengthen congregational ministry with youth. Co-directors of the grant are the Rev. Bart Patton, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Education, and Dr. Priscilla Pope-Levison, Associate Dean, Office of External Programs.
- The highly successful Perkins Scholars scholarship program, which each year adds to the financial aid of 10 outstanding M.Div. students, continues to attract excellent scholars. A total goal of \$630,000 in funding will

provide 10 additional scholarships for Fall 2019. Next fall there will be a total of 30 Perkins Scholars in the student body. Combined with additional financial aid, this program provides nearly full scholarships for these highly skilled servant leaders.

- In an effort to deepen relationships between Perkins and undergraduate colleges and universities, new partnerships in the form of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) have been launched in 2018. Formal agreements have been signed with historically United Methodist institutions including Huston-Tillotson University in Austin, Texas; Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas; Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, Texas; and Wylie College in Marshall, Texas. These are in addition to those previously noted: Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana; Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas; McMurry University in Abilene, Texas; Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas; and Presbyterian-related Austin College in Sherman, Texas. These MOUs establish a preferred pathway for graduates of the institutions interested in pursuing ministerial vocations at the graduate level, granting preferred consideration and early acceptance to Perkins School of Theology for students pursuing ministerial vocations. The agreement also states that the undergraduate institutions and Perkins will encourage new opportunities for future cooperation.
- Anthony Elia has been named J.S. Bridwell Foundation Endowed Librarian and Director of Bridwell Library effective June 1. He succeeds retiring Director Robert Schaafsma, who served in that role since April, 2007.
- Marcell Silva Steuernagel, an internationally-acclaimed musician and scholar, is the new director of the Master of Sacred Music (M.S.M) Degree Program. Steuernagel succeeds Dr. C. Michael Hawn, University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Church Music, who retired as director of the Master of Sacred Music Program in 2017.
- In 2017, SMU launched a three-year current-use giving campaign called Pony Power, with a goal of raising \$150 million over three years for the University in current-use giving. The University's goal for 2018-19 is \$45 million. Perkins' goal for this fiscal year, which ended May 31, 2019, is \$2.5 million. Perkins donors are asked to consider making a three-year pledge to a current-use project at Perkins. The areas of greatest need are 1) the SMU Fund for Perkins, which is used by Dean Hill at his discretion, and 2) Perkins student financial aid.

Perkins School of Theology is committed to those *called to serve* so that they might be *empowered to lead*. We thank our many colleagues, friends, and alumni/ae across the connection for their generous support, including referrals of prospective students, as we continue our vital mission of preparing women and men for faithful leadership in Christian ministry.

Grace and peace,

Craig C. Hill, Dean and Professor of New Testament

PROVIDENCE PLACE

On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, and those on our campus who are working hard to achieve their own personal level of success, I thank you – Bishop and the members of the North Texas Annual Conference – for your dedication in partnership with the ministry of Providence Place. By God's grace, we celebrated our 123rd anniversary in 2017, thanks to the committed support from individual donors and United Methodist Churches. We have been able to be a blessing to those around us for well over a century, and we couldn't have done it without you.

Providence Place provides a safe haven for those who have felt excluded. We offer adoption services to women who are facing an unplanned pregnancy, as well as those who are looking to open their hearts and homes to a child in need of a forever family. We have expanded on this wonderful service and now offer Parenting with a Purpose classes for parents to improve upon their parenting skills.

We were able to hold onto our Transition Program which is now called Legacy. This is a transitional living program for young adults with disabilities, and we presently have 15 young adults with disabilities living independently

in apartments either on campus or in community apartments. We also have our Oasis Home which is an 8-bed Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Currently, all students in both programs are gainfully employed.

On February 11, 2019, we opened our doors to an eighteen month transitional housing program called My Mariposa Home, which will help women who have survived trauma through domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

On April 26, 2019, Providence Place hosted our third fiesta event which we call Familia Palooza. Families from our surrounding community and San Antonio are invited to take part in fiesta activities that included a live band, games, food trucks and face painting.

Last but certainly not least, I would also like to take the time to recognize those from the North Texas Annual Conference who give of themselves, their time, and resources to serve on the Providence Place Board of Directors:

Dr. Joan Gray LeBarr, Carrollton, TX
Catherine Tunks, Dallas, TX
Louise Taylor, Paris, TX

I encourage you to schedule a tour of our beautiful 25-acre campus, coordinate a volunteer mission trip, arrange a speaker for your congregation or church group, and request offering materials for an annual church offering. We couldn't continue these ministries without you, and we would love to come and share the stories of Providence Place! If we could be a resource to you, contact our Advancement Team at (210) 696-2410 or at mission.advancement@provplace.org. Also, please visit our website at www.provplace.org to learn more about these special ministries and to hear first-hand stories from those we have served.

Respectfully,
Judith Bell, President & CEO

SAINT PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Saint Paul School of Theology, a seminary of the United Methodist Church, is committed to the formation of people for innovative, creative ministry. We are one institution with campuses in Kansas and Oklahoma. During the 2018-2019 academic year, the seminary enrolled 99 students in master and doctoral degree programs.

Saint Paul School of Theology began the 2018-2019 academic year moving its Kansas staff and faculty offices to the Kansas Campus where classes are held. This move was the final step in the process of renovating classrooms with larger spaces as well as bringing Kansas faculty, staff, and students together. A new Common Room equipped with refrigerator, microwave, and snacks was added to give students a place to gather for community meals, student forums, and study. Enhanced technology upgrades were made on both campuses with the launch of the new FLEX schedule and FOCUS week. We received a \$5,000 grant from the Missouri United Methodist Foundation to support our technology program for students. In an ever-increasing digital world, Saint Paul is constantly working to reach beyond its walls.

A new **Doctor of Ministry (DMin) focus**, Spiritual Leadership in Unsettled Times, was announced **with courses beginning** Fall 2019. The new DMin focus is offered in partnership with Church of the Resurrection, Gamaliel Network, and the Metro Organization for Racial and Economic Equity. Students can take a mixture of online and hybrid (blended online and on-campus) courses to complete the required curriculum.

This year marks the celebration of over 10 years in Oklahoma. Since 2008, Saint Paul has prepared Oklahoma-area leaders for ministries that meet the needs of today's churches and society. In collaboration with Oklahoma City University, students enjoy access to all the resources of a vibrant university, as well as the hospitality and support of a close-knit seminary community.

For Fall 2019, The Oklahoma Foundation, in partnership with Saint Paul School of Theology, is offering a three-year scholarship to educate future church leaders. An Oklahoma Foundation Fellow will receive 3 years of full-tuition and fees (covering 79 credit hours toward the Master of Divinity degree). Foundation Fellows will learn multiple ministry skills in areas such as worship, pastoral care, evangelism, and discipleship.

Saint Paul's faculty continue to contribute to the academy, church, and society. Dr. Elaine Robinson, Professor of Methodist Studies and Christian Theology, worked along with co-editor Amos Nascimiento to solicit chapters from United Methodist scholars around the globe who could present an indigenous account of the history of Methodism in their own context. These authors include: Fulgence Nyengele (Congo), Julio Vilanculos (Mozambique), Ulrike Schuler (Western Europe), Sergei Nikolaev (Russia), and Luther Oconer (Philippines). The manuscript is now finished and in the process of being published by GBHEM's Foundry Books under the title, *Global United Methodism: Telling the Stories, Living the Realities*.

Dr. Jim Brandt, Professor of Historical Theology and Director of Contextual Education, wrote the lead article in the recently published book, *Schleiermacher and Sustainability: A Theology for Ecological Living*. As part of the Columbia Series in Reformed Theology, each chapter deals with a particular locus in Schleiermacher's systematic theology, focusing on its implications for sustainable living.

Saint Paul's 2018-2019 Lecture Series boasted several exciting keynote speakers from across the United States to speak on a myriad of topics such as "10 Steps on the Path of Moral Leadership" and "Speaking of Jesus: Early Methodist Principles for Bearing Witness to the Christian Story in a Multi-Religious World". In October, Dr. Luke Bretherton of Duke University was the speaker for the Wayne E. Drake Peace Lecture. In February, the Foundation for Evangelism sponsored Rev. Dr. Jack Jackson of Claremont School of Theology to present this year's Wallace Chappell Lecture. In March, Rev. Dr. David Gushee of Mercer University was the keynote speaker for the Slater-Wilson Lectureship on Spiritual and Intellectual Life.

For 2018, Saint Paul received a grant from Kansas Leadership Center (KLC) in Wichita, KS that allowed 20 people to experience KLC programs. Several faculty, staff, and alumni were able to practice KLC's approach to leadership. Those participants have reported being enriched and inspired by the program. For 2019, Saint Paul received 40 slots for community leaders to attend KLC programs.

Saint Paul Course of Study (COS) School educated 299 students in Leawood, KS; Hays, KS; Oklahoma City, OK; Columbia, MO; and Springfield, MO. Saint Paul launched a part-time, accelerated COS satellite program in Columbia, MO this year. Comprised of 9 courses in practical theology, this COS option is designed specifically for part-time local pastors or certified lay ministers entering ministry following completion of the Missouri Conference Licensing School. Like any other COS Satellite, the Columbia satellite is a pilot and collaborative program of Saint Paul Course of Study Regional School in collaboration with the Missouri Conference. Since September 2018, COS has offered two courses and enrolled and registered 23 students in the satellite program.

Saint Paul School of Theology is pleased to report that the Higher Learning Commission has changed the seminary's status from "Accredited - Probation" to "Accredited". For 60 years, Saint Paul has supplied excellence in theological education, and our previous challenges have inspired us to strive beyond excellence. We are excited about our future and furthering the mission of Saint Paul. President Neil Blair, Saint Paul trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, and students thank you for your interest, prayers and support.

Kansas Campus

13720 Roe Avenue, Building C
Leawood, KS 66224

Oklahoma Campus

2501 North Blackwelder
Bishop W. Angie Smith Chapel
Oklahoma City, OK 73106

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SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

In 1911, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, founded Southern Methodist University (SMU) as a nonsectarian institution of higher learning committed to the enduring values of academic freedom and open inquiry. In continuing partnership with The United Methodist Church, SMU welcomes students of all faiths and serves as a powerful catalyst for addressing the world's most urgent challenges in new and innovative ways. Now entering our second century, we are committed to shaping world changers – for today and tomorrow.

SMU Update

Students, Faculty, and Staff

Fall 2018 enrollment, totaling 11,649, included 6,479 undergraduates and 5,170 graduate students. Ethnic minority students made up 28 percent of total enrollment. An international enrollment of 1,596 (approximately 14 percent of total enrollment) represented 83 foreign countries. Our impressive Class of 2022 was chosen from a pool of nearly 14,000 applicants, and it's the most academically qualified in our history. With 1,530 students, the class's average ACT score is 30.4, representing the top 6 percent of all students who take the test. The average SAT score is 1363, an increase from last year. SMU employs 2,830 faculty and staff, including 2,394 full time and 436 part time/adjunct.

Rankings

For the third consecutive year, SMU was ranked in the top 20 percent of best national universities by *U.S. News and World Report* and in the top 10 percent of U.S. universities by *The Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education*. In the 2019 *U.S. News & World Report* listings, released September 2018, SMU is ranked No. 59 among the nation's top universities – representing a two-point rise from No. 61 in 2017. SMU saw key improvements in the peer assessment score, the rating of academic reputation by college admission deans, provosts and presidents, as well as in the high school counselor assessment score. In addition, SMU ranked No. 31 for best national universities for veterans. Several individual schools and academic programs also earned elevated national rankings.

- Dedman School of Law is ranked No. 50 among 194 accredited law schools, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. In addition, the law school is ranked 18th in the U.S. for Employment Rate 10 months after graduation.
- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked SMU's Simmons School of Education among the 100 best graduate education schools and Lyle School of Engineering among the 100 best undergraduate and graduate engineering programs.
- For the second year in a row, SMU Guildhall has been ranked first in the world for graduate game design and development, topping The Princeton Review's 2018 annual list of the 25 best graduate game design programs.
- *The Hollywood Reporter* ranked SMU Meadows among the top 25 schools internationally for an M.F.A. in acting.

SMU placed in *Forbes'* 2018 Best Value Colleges ranking of only 300 schools nationwide that are worth the investment, based on net price, net debt, school quality, alumni earnings, timely graduation, and population of Pell Grant recipients.

Funding

In FY 2018, SMU received \$26.6 million in external funding for research in the U.S. and worldwide, representing a 21 percent increase over the previous year. Current research subjects cover a wide spectrum of disciplines, including the search for dark matter, drone communications, antimicrobial resistance, data analytics, broadening the math teacher pipeline, improving algebra instruction, understanding the impact of genetic diversity on the health of marsh ecosystems, immigration, cancer treatments, recognizing joy in the face of depression, and exploring the connection between brain function and asthma. Regarding private fundraising, we finished FY 2018 strong as well. In total, we raised \$111 million for capital priorities and current operations.

2018 Highlights***Significant Gifts and Grants*****Perkins School of Theology Received \$1 Million Grant from Lilly Endowment**

In December, SMU received a \$1 million grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to Perkins School of Theology to fund a new initiative designed to help ministries rethink and reconfigure strategies to strengthen youth participation in their congregations. Entitled “Reboot: The Congregation as Youth Worker,” the project will identify a cohort of 18 congregations without paid full-time youth workers within a 300-mile radius of Dallas. The program will help the selected congregations assess the viability of youth ministries in their communities and introduce the innovative models for engaging youth.

Toyota USA Foundation Granted \$2 Million to Simmons School of Education for STEM Model School

The Dallas Independent School District (Dallas ISD), Toyota USA Foundation, and SMU are collaborating to create an innovative model for STEM education for kindergarten through eighth-grade students in West Dallas. Toyota USA Foundation granted \$2 million to the Simmons School of Education and Human Development to develop a business-aligned curriculum, provide professional development for teachers, and coordinate with nonprofits implementing supportive community programming. The school will begin a phased opening with kindergarten to first grade and the addition of grades seven and eight in Fall 2020.

Rich and Mary Templeton Gave \$5 Million to Establish Templeton Endowed Research Excellence Fund

Longtime SMU supporters Rich and Mary Templeton committed \$5 million for research at SMU’s Lyle School of Engineering. Their generous gift provides a major boost to the University’s externally sponsored research, which is critical to the University’s global academic influence. Designed to provide the flexibility necessary to respond to the Lyle School’s most pressing and important research needs, the Templeton Endowed Research Excellence Fund includes \$4 million for an endowment and \$1 million for operations. It covers a range of project essentials, including postdoctoral researchers, doctoral and graduate student stipends, equipment, and supplies.

Center for Business Law and Leadership Named for Robert B. Rowling through \$4 Million Gift Consortium

A \$4 million gift consortium created the Robert B. Rowling Center for Business Law and Leadership in SMU’s Dedman School of Law. The center will train the next generation of prominent legal and business leaders and also influence national conversations surrounding business and corporate law. At the request of the anonymous lead donor of \$3 million, the new center is named in honor of Dallas businessman Robert B. Rowling, owner and chairman of TRT Holdings, Inc., which owns Omni Hotels and Resorts and Gold’s Gym International. The Dedman Foundation is also providing support.

Hoblitzelle Foundation Committed \$1.25 Million to the Owen Arts Center Renovation

A \$34 million project to renovate and modernize existing spaces will add new space for the Division of Art, Art History, and Creative Computation. The Hoblitzelle Foundation gift supports these capital enhancements, as well as the creation of welcoming reception areas, accessible entrances, updated classrooms, and enhanced studio spaces to attract talented artists and their audiences.

National Science Foundation Granted \$1 Million to Discover New Algebra Solutions

SMU math researcher Candace Walkington has received a three-year \$1 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop and test strategies to increase student engagement in algebra problem-solving. The grant also funds further development of ASSISTments, a powerful online tool that ties algebra skills to everyday interests. An associate professor at the Simmons School of Education and Human Development, Walkington says her research will identify ways to enhance student interest in algebra and in STEM careers.

National Institutes of Health Granted \$2.6 Million to Fund Collaborative Study of Cognitive Impairment in Older Asthma Patients

SMU psychologist Thomas Ritz and UT Southwestern Medical Center psychiatrist Sherwood Brown will lead a \$2.6 million study funded over four years by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to explore the apparent connection between asthma and diminished cognitive function in middle-to-late-age adults. The Dallas Asthma Brain and Cognition Study will build on the work Ritz and Brown have accomplished with a core group of researchers over a period of eight years as it explores *relationships between inflammatory lung disease and brain function in older adults*.

Program Highlights**“Sea Monsters Unearthed” Opened at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.**

In November, “Sea Monsters Unearthed” opened at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History. This groundbreaking exhibition brought together an international team of researchers with more than 100 undergraduate SMU students representing diverse majors, including Myria Perez ’18, who is now working at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science in Dallas. A longtime member of the SMU family, Louis Jacobs, professor *emeritus* of earth sciences in Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences, spearheaded this remarkable 13-year study of fossils off the west coast of Africa that had never been “unearthed.”

The Meadows School of the Arts Announced the Formation of SMU DataArts

In August, SMU announced the merger of the Meadows School’s National Center for Arts Research with DataArts, a respected Philadelphia-based data-analytics resource for nonprofit arts and cultural organizations. The formation of SMU DataArts represents yet another major investment in big data and research with impact. SMU DataArts’ mission is to empower arts and cultural leaders with data insights to make better decisions, such as how to optimize tight marketing and management budgets. Thanks to the support of major national funders, such as Bloomberg Philanthropies, SMU DataArts offers these valuable tools at no cost to organizations in exchange for their data input.

SMU Team Shares \$3 Million XPRIZE for Development of Mobile App to Increase Adult Literacy

In 2018, SMU was named one of five finalists among 109 teams contending for the \$7 million Barbara Bush Foundation Adult Literacy XPRIZE, sponsored by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation. After a year of field testing, we learned in February 2019 that the SMU team tied for the grand prize – winning \$1.5 million – and also received **an additional \$1 million Achievement Award for the most effective adult literacy app for English language learners**. SMU’s Simmons School of Education and Human Development joined forces with SMU’s Guildhall and Literacy Instruction for Texas (LIFT) to form People ForWords, a dedicated app production team. Currently available on Android devices at no cost, the goal of the project is to transform the lives of low-literate adults nationwide.

Holly Jeffcoat Appointed Dean of SMU Libraries

Following an international search, Holly Jeffcoat assumed the role of Dean of SMU Libraries on August 1, 2018. Jeffcoat, a proven leader in leveraging technology in instruction and library services, came to SMU from the University of Connecticut. As Associate Dean of UConn Library, Jeffcoat led core library operations that include access services, administration, marketing, development, facilities, finance, human resources, information technology, and strategic planning. Prior to UConn, Jeffcoat held positions at the University of New Mexico College

of University Libraries and Learning Sciences, as well as at the UNM Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center and the Charles Darwin Research Station in Galápagos, Ecuador. Jeffcoat has published and presented on translational science support, use of virtual reality in education collection development, and numerous scholarly communication topics.

Nazi Hunters Beate and Serge Klarsfeld Receive 2018 Triumph of the Spirit Award

In November, world-renowned Nazi hunters Beate and Serge Klarsfeld visited SMU and were honored by the Embrey Human Rights Program in SMU Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences with the 2018 Triumph of the Spirit Award. As dedicated docents of the Dallas Holocaust Museum/Center for Education and Tolerance, they received the award for their tireless efforts to educate our world about the history of the Holocaust, as well as for advancing human rights to fight prejudice, hatred and indifference. At the ages of 79 and 82, Beate and Serge Klarsfeld have earned prestigious international awards for their activism, such as the French Legion of Honor and German Federal Order of Merit, but they paid the price – with beatings, prison time and attempts on their lives. They describe their experiences in the memoir *Hunting the Truth: Memoirs of Beate and Serge Klarsfeld*, published in English in March 2018. While on campus, they met with human rights students in a special seminar class.

Empowering Cultural Intelligence as a Core Value

SMU is leading the way for other universities nationwide in the realm of cultural intelligence (CIQ). CIQ is a revolutionary approach in higher education to ensure that every member of the SMU community is equipped with the skills and the knowledge to manage and communicate effectively in complex, cultural contexts. “If you are going to be a world changer, you need to know how to talk to the world,” says Maria Dixon Hall, senior advisor to the Provost for Campus Cultural Initiatives and Associate Professor of Corporate Communication and Public Affairs. Changing the world requires being able to learn, teach, mentor, collaborate, and work with people of a myriad of cultural identities, including race, ethnicity, political ideology, gender, sexual orientation, and religion. The goal of CIQ is for SMU community members to move beyond appreciating diversity to being able to effectively and authentically communicate respectfully with anyone, anywhere.

SMU is a grateful member of the Methodist family, and we request your continued prayers and support as we endeavor to make a meaningful difference in the lives of all those we serve.

Warm regards,

R. Gerald Turner, President, Southern Methodist University

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

This year has seen many notable highlights and achievements at Southwestern University. In August, we welcomed 442 entering students, the second-largest class in our university’s history. Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Red McCombs ’49 and his wife Dr. Charline Hamblin McCombs ’50, Southwestern received the largest single gift in its history. We also implemented the Mosaic program, in which Southwestern students shape their futures through mindful consideration of activities and experiences beyond the classroom. The final phase of the Fondren–Jones Science Center expansion continues—our commitment in stone to interdisciplinary collaboration, learning, and research. These and so many other achievements represent more than just forward momentum. What Southwestern University is experiencing now is acceleration, fueled by our commitment to preparing our students for a future that will be vastly different from that of any other generation.

Our 2018 accolades include *Forbes* ranking Southwestern the #1 undergraduate liberal arts and sciences college in Texas in the Grateful Graduates Index (#92 nationally). *U.S. News and World Report* and *Washington Monthly* rank Southwestern as the top national liberal arts college in Texas. Southwestern’s Center for Career & Professional Development ranks seventh in the nation and first in Texas, according to *The Princeton Review*, which also ranked Southwestern third in the nation and first in Texas among its Impact Schools.

In academics, for the 18th consecutive year, the King Creativity Fund supported significant, innovative, and visionary student projects across the disciplines. Thirty-five students participated in 10 different SCOPE research projects as part of a student-faculty collaborative summer program. Southwestern added one new minor in Fall 2018: Design Thinking; this addition brings the total minors offered to 40, with 35 majors.

Among our internationally-recognized scholar-teachers, six faculty and emeritus faculty members published books. Eleven full-time faculty members received Sam Taylor Fellowship grants to support their scholarly work. Dr. Maha Zewail-Foote (chemistry and biochemistry) was awarded a prestigious research grant from the National Institutes of Health for her work on DNA damage caused by environmental agents. Dr. Therese Shelton (mathematics) is a coprincipal investigator with a newly awarded three-year grant from the National Science Foundation. A research proposal by Dr. Dirk Early (economics), “Effective Homeless Interventions and the Importance of Local Housing Market Conditions,” was accepted for funding by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Drs. Maria Cuevas and Maria Todd (biology) received a \$12,000 grant from the Joe and Jessie Crump Foundation for Medical Research to support their current research on uterine cancer.

Among student achievements, twenty-seven students were inducted into our chapters of Phi Beta Kappa honor society. Music and computer science double major Isabel Tweraser and computer science and chemistry double major Lauren Gillespie, both class of 2019, coauthored the paper “Querying Across Time to Interactively Evolve Animations.” Six students presented their research at the American Chemical Society National Meeting in New Orleans, LA in March, 2018. Five economics majors of the classes of 2018 and 2019 presented their research at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas in April. Studio art majors Marissa Shipp and Angelina Palacios, both class of 2019, had their animated artworks accepted for the International Mathematical Games Committee’s 19th Salon Culture et Jeux Mathématiques (Culture and Math Games Exhibition) in Paris, France in May. Six current psychology and animal behavior majors and an alumna from the class of 2017 published an article in the journal *Pharmacology, Biochemistry, and Behavior* titled “The Effects of Ketamine on Sexual Behavior, Anxiety, and Locomotion in Female Rats.”

In athletics, Southwestern finished second for the SCAC President’s Trophy and garnered 102 All-Conference honors, including 33 First Team selections, 28 Second Team selections, 7 Third Team selections, and 34 Honorable Mention selections. Seven different teams advanced in the SCAC Tournament to the championship: women’s basketball, men’s tennis, women’s tennis, softball, men’s soccer, women’s soccer, and volleyball. Our student athletes earned five NCAA National Championship Tournament appearances. Southwestern coaches earned six Coach of the Year Awards. Southwestern is home to four All-Americans, six West All-Region Team selections, and four SCAC All-Sportsmanship Teams. Football’s third consecutive winning season reached no. 26 in the BennetRank poll and no. 41 in the AFCA poll.

The University’s guest speakers included Dolores Huerta, a longtime civil rights leader and an advocate for farmworkers, immigrants, and women; renowned social psychologist Jonathan Haidt on “The Age of Outrage — What It Is Doing to Our Universities and Our Country,” and world-renowned historian Carole Levin, who delivered a public lecture and led a staged reading of her play, *Elizabeth I: To Speak or Use Silence*. The 2018 Research and Creative Works Symposium was held on April 10, 2018, featuring 244 presenters mentored by 50 faculty and staff from across the University. The University celebrated its 174th Commencement Convocation in May, 2018, with Dr. Sybil Hampton, the first African-American student to complete her entire education at Little Rock Central High School, as the keynote speaker. Throughout Fall 2018, the President’s Thinking Symposium on Living, Learning, and Leading hosted six guests from various fields.

As stated in the University By-Laws, “Conference trustees are nominated by the University’s board of trustees, upon recommendation to the board’s trusteeship committee, and elected by their respective conferences.” The names of Ms. Pam S. Bush and Ms. K. Elizabeth Yeager come to the patronizing bishop of the North Texas Conference for election to a three-year term as Episcopal trustees, having been nominated by the board of trustees. Their terms conclude in 2022.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to visit Southwestern and experience, in person, the ways in which this intellectual community is thinking, creating, and connecting ideas to make meaning and make a difference.

*Respectfully yours,
Dr. Edward Burger, President and Professor*

TEXAS METHODIST FOUNDATION

Texas Methodist Foundation (TMF) is committed to being faithful to the future by casting a God-sized vision and building our capacity to fulfill that vision. During 2018, TMF continued our role as managing agent of The United Methodist Development Fund (UMDF), while preparing to transition to controlling agent in January 2019. UMDF is a national lender to United Methodist churches with \$120 million in assets. We joined forces with Heartspring Methodist Foundation, consolidating resources to better serve our constituency. We continued to gather and assimilate new knowledge, build new partnerships, and implement new technologies to support our goal of helping congregations unite their leadership and financial resources into a purposeful plan for living out God's unique call for them to serve their communities.

Carol Montgomery, TMF Senior Area Representative for the North Texas Conference, is the primary point of engagement between congregations (clergy and laity) and TMF. She connects North Texas Conference constituents to resources relevant to their unique goals for missional growth in their congregations and communities.

TMF, headquartered in Austin, serves United Methodist individuals, churches and agencies within the six annual conferences in Texas and New Mexico. We appreciate the opportunity to report some of the ways we served United Methodists last year.

Within the North Texas Conference:

- Loans to churches in the North Texas Conference totaled \$93.4 million at the end of 2018.
- Churches and agencies, not including individuals, within the North Texas Conference had \$55.3 million invested in the Methodist Loan Fund.

Throughout Texas and New Mexico:

- As of December 31, 2018, **total assets** under management by TMF were approximately \$549.4 million.
- **Methodist Loan Fund investments** ended the year at \$333.6 million and our loan portfolio at \$324.1 million.
- TMF's **Undesignated Endowment** ended the year at \$38.4 million.
- Our **Leadership Ministry Endowment** was \$7.4 million at the close of 2018.
- Highlighting a significant year of **financial support for TMF** was a gift of \$1 million from the Lilly Endowment to fund TMF's Courageous Leadership Imperative (CLI). **Gifts to Leadership Ministry and unrestricted support to TMF** totaled \$1.4 million, including more than \$110,000 in new gifts to the Dr. Gil Rendle Learning & Leadership Endowment.
- During 2018, the TMF **Grants Ministry** awarded \$1.5 million in support of 35 churches and not-for-profits. Of that total, an estimated \$804,000 came from restricted endowments, \$660,000 from TMF operations, and \$23,000 in individual and online gifts. We awarded approximately \$118,000 for Hurricane Harvey victims. The Grants Committee of the TMF Board of Directors determines distribution decisions for the discretionary funds. In 2018, grant funds were distributed as follows: 40% to outreach ministries and evangelism targeting systemic change; 37% to ministries which systemically benefit families living in poverty; 15% for scholarships; and 8% Hurricane Harvey relief.
- TMF continued its work with individuals and families to support their philanthropic goals. In 2018, TMF received \$2.7 million in gifts and pledges to support ministries across Texas and New Mexico including \$1.6 million in support of the ministries of TMF. Gifts to endowments will enhance agricultural development in Africa, the Moscow Theological Seminary of the UMC, and the local church.

- TMF distributed approximately \$1 million from **permanent endowments**.
- This year TMF's **Leadership Ministry** launched the Courageous Leadership Imperative (CLI) which seeks to network, resource, and embolden innovative leaders throughout the South Central Jurisdiction. One hundred twenty-two leaders from throughout the jurisdiction plus the SCJ bishops and foundation representatives gathered in St Louis for a 48-hour immersive experience designed to expand imagination. These leaders are already experimenting with new ways to make disciples and impact their communities.
- In 2018, the **Area Representatives** (AR) drove over 125,000 miles to visit people from Texarkana to El Paso and from Farmington to Las Cruces. The New Mexico office now has four wheels, as Scott Sharp visits people all over the state. Members of the AR team led groups from Clear Lake UMC (close to NASA headquarters south of Houston), WordServe Church (Fulshear, TX), Waples Memorial UMC (Denison, TX), Elmwood/El Buen Samaritano UMC (Dallas), Northaven UMC (Dallas), First UMC San Marcos, and First UMC Corpus Christi, in the Holy Conversations discernment process. The team developed new resources for work with finance and endowment committees and learned new skills from our partnership with Horizons Stewardship Company. It was a very big year for TMF's legacy giving workshop, *Putting Your House in Order*, with area reps presenting it 25 times. The team is proud to welcome Rev. Mark Woodward, who is our newest AR, serving the Texas Conference and working primarily in the area of endowments.

TMF Board members

TMF has submitted the following candidates for election and re-election to the TMF Board of Directors from the North Texas Conference:

- Dr. Will Green, Layperson, 3-year term (Dallas)
- Mr. Larry Haynes, Layperson, 3-year term (Coppell)
- Ms. Gail Utter, Layperson, 3-year term (Sherman)
- TMF Board members previously elected by the North Texas Conference include:
- Rev. Jeff Lust, Clergy, currently serving through 2020 (McKinney)
- Rev. Katherine Glaze Lyle, Clergy, currently serving through 2021 (Dallas)
- Dr. Owen Ross, Clergy, serving through Annual Conference 2019 (Plano)
- Dr. Andrew Stoker, Clergy, currently serving through 2021 (Dallas)
- Mr. Joseph W. Holmes, Layperson, currently serving through 2020 (Plano)
- Mr. Kelvin Walker, Layperson, currently serving through 2020 (Dallas)
- Ms. Julie Yarbrough, Layperson, currently serving through 2020 (Dallas)

TMF Board members from within the North Texas Conference who are currently serving in an otherwise elected or advisory capacity include:

- Mr. Jim Adams, Layperson, Advisory member (Dallas)
- Mrs. Patricia M. Deal, Layperson, Senior member (Wichita Falls)
- Mr. Robert Dupuy, Layperson, Senior member (Dallas)
- Bishop Mike McKee, Clergy, Senior member (Plano)
- Dr. Clayton Oliphint, Clergy, TMF Chair (Richardson)
- Mrs. Kay Yeager, Layperson, TMF Past Chair and Senior member (Wichita Falls)

Tom Locke, President

TEXAS UNITED METHODIST COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

As a result of the generous support of our churches in Texas, the mission and ministry of the Texas United Methodist College Association (TUMCA) remains strong. The churches have exhibited an extravagant generosity through their support of scholarships for TUMCA students in our United Methodist Universities. We believe this partnership reflects a Wesleyan tradition of the union and power of knowledge and vital piety. Together they provide an education well suited to the challenges of modern life.

The TUMCA funds granted to Southwestern University, Southern Methodist University, McMurry University, and Texas Wesleyan University are restricted to scholarships for deserving student from United Methodist congregations in Texas. During the Fall, 86 students representing all five of the Texas United Methodist Conferences have received TUMCA scholarships this academic year (2018-19). They join thousands of others who have been helped through the years by the support of our United Methodist family. As always, funds cannot be used for endowment or capital projects. All support goes to fund scholarships at our United Methodist colleges.

As our TUMCA scholars graduate, they become contributing members of the American experience. Their intellectual and spiritual development prepares them to play an important role in our rapidly changing church and society. These students who go on to become clergy, laity, leaders, teachers, and responsible business and civic leaders will help chart the course of our church.

We at TUMCA are grounded in our belief that our work is an extension of the work of our congregations. This partnership helps in the realization of the great commission and works to create disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We thank God for the ministry we share with the North Texas Conference and the opportunity to serve so many students from our diverse church family. We look forward to our continued work together.

Dr. Darrell M. Loyless, President

UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

We are equipping 459 men and women to be faithful, fruitful pastors and Christian leaders for the Church:

292 Masters Students

167 Doctoral Students

Third largest United Methodist seminary in the United States

Founded nearly 150 years ago by Bishop Milton Wright, father of famed aviators Wilbur and Orville Wright, United has continued that spirit of innovation through:

Online degrees:

98% of master's students have taken one or more courses online while studying at United.

United students live in 39 different states.

Week-long intensives fulfill UMC residency requirements.

Live Interactive Virtual Education (LIVE):

New grant brings the latest technology in virtual education.

Participate in on-campus courses via webcam and enjoy live lectures and real-time discussion with faculty and peers.

Doctor of Ministry Degree:

Become a doctor for the Church, addressing a real problem or challenge in your church or community.

Study under a mentor who is an expert in their field and learn alongside a small group of dedicated peers.

Three-year program that allows you to complete projects as you go, leading to a 78% program graduation rate in 2017 (vs. 54% average among other seminaries).

Practical education designed to resource the Church:

The majority of United faculty have pastored churches.

91% of entering United students are already serving in ministry, bringing that context to the classroom.

A focus on Church Renewal:

165 Course of Study students.

42 students in the Hispanic Christian Academy (3-year Spanish online course of ministry program for Hispanic lay pastors and leaders).

Certificates in Church Planting, Disability Ministry, and Supervision.

Academic AND Spiritual Growth:

95% of students say the United community supports both their academic and spiritual growth.

Diverse Christian Views:

Over 30 different denominations.

19 international students from 15 different countries.

96% of students feel their views are respected in the classroom/seminary community and say they have been taught to respect the views of others.

47% of students who reported are African-American, 43% Caucasian, and 10% represent other ethnicities.

We thank God for the men and women coming to United because God has called them to serve the least and the lost. We pray as the Lord Jesus instructed his disciples saying, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest” (Luke 10:2).

Dr. Kent Millard

President

United Theological Seminary

WESLEY VILLAGE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Wesley Village Retirement Community is located in Denison, Texas and has been providing independent and assisted living opportunities for seniors since 1988. In 2002, Wesley Village completed construction of The Meadows of Wesley Village. The mission of The Meadows is to provide low-income seniors with quality housing at an affordable cost. The covenant relationship that exists between the North Texas Conference and Wesley Village reaffirms the importance of aging persons as well as the support for the people who care for them. For twenty-four years, Wesley Village’s mission remains strong: make available caring, supportive, and quality services to older adults for the enhancement of their physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being, reflecting Christian values of love and serving.

We endeavor to accomplish this by respecting the worth and dignity of the individual; offering and delivering services to persons without regard to religion, sex, race, national origin, creed, or source of payment; fostering the personal independence of residents; and creating an atmosphere where each resident is able to reach his or her full potential in whatever level he or she resides.

We are fortunate that we have a great team at Wesley Village fulfilling this mission every day.

Our Staff:

Kathy Busbey, Executive Director

Christy Auten, HR/Accounts Manager

Carlye Baasch, Dining Services Manager

Louann Nelms, Life Enrichment Manager

Susan Marrs, Assisted Living

James Blevins, Operations Supervisor

Woody Reding, Resident Consultant/Marketing Manager

Tameshia Harris, Meadows Manager

Our Board of Directors:

Ron Woodworth, Mary Beth Mitchell, Alan Smith, Frank Holcomb, Leigh Ann Sims, Keith Lightfoot, Linda Kirby, Allen Snider, Charles Byler, Tom Busby, Frank Drenner, Brett Evans, and Robert Pool.

As Wesley Village's ministry blossoms, we depend upon friends for resources and support to ensure future growth and effectiveness.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- ☐ Volunteer
- ☐ Encourage your congregation to include Wesley Village in its mission.
- ☐ Help us spread the good news about Wesley Village.

The residents of Wesley Village, The Meadows, staff, and the Board of Directors appreciate your continued support. Thank you.

For more information, please contact Kathy Busbey, Executive Director, Wesley Village, 2800 Loy Lake Road, Denison, Texas 75020, (903) 465-6463

WESLEY-RANKIN COMMUNITY CENTER

Wesley-Rankin Community Center (WRCC) has always been defined by innovation and compassion. Hattie Rankin demonstrated this when she first crossed the Trinity River to the "Devil's Backdoor" to sit with a grieving mother and begin educational classes in her backyard. Just like Hattie knew then, we know that our West Dallas neighbors are capable and full of potential but are facing incredible obstacles in reaching their full potential. And so we innovate. For over 100 years, Wesley-Rankin has compassionately partnered the residents of West Dallas and people from all over the metroplex to "provide education and resources to drive community transformation." Here's a look at our work in the last year:

After School Program: The After School Program for students in grades K-12 is holistic in providing transportation, homework assistance, enrichment in math and reading, recreation, reading intervention, interest clubs, and a snack and warm dinner. We have several counselors on site, thanks to our partnership with Pastoral Counseling Center, and 35 students take advantage of their services. Our enrollment is at capacity with 115 students, and we have a waitlist of 30. **In Fall 2018, we partnered with the June Shelton School** to open a Saturday Scholars program for students with learning differences. Ten students receive tools and techniques through 1:1 volunteer-to-student ratios. This tutoring is specifically designed to teach students in ways that they best learn. By Fall 2019, Wesley-Rankin supervisors will be fully trained and certified, making the program only dependent on Shelton for testing and books.

Beakers, Base Ten and the Beat (B3X) Summer Camp: In 2018, B3X-ploers focused on physics, learning of the Archimedes principle, building Rube Goldberg machines and levers, and experiencing the art mediums of clay, oil pastels, and watercolor. Two hundred seventeen students attended the 7-week camp in efforts of connecting learning in a classroom with hands-on experience. Impact numbers: 79% of students maintained or improved their math scores, and 78% of students maintained or improved their reading scores. One thousand thirty-seven total first-time experiences this year included: visiting a planetarium, creating pottery on a wheel, constructing a ferris wheel, and swinging pendulums. Worthy to mention, this program is dependent upon and grateful for the 5,000 volunteer hours logged by helping hands.

GOh GOh Girls (Girls of Hope, Girls of Honor): This program designed to foster faith, self-esteem, goal setting, and responsibility strives to create a safe space to discuss sensitive subjects and provide accurate information in a supportive environment. Weekly, 4th-12th grade girls explore and practice a character trait such as empathy, gratitude, and generosity. Thanks to partnerships with AT&T Performing Arts Center and Fidelity Investments, the GOh GOh Girls have access to the arts and financial literacy. Every fall, the girls attend a retreat at Riverbend Retreat Center. In Fall 2018, **Tri-B Hue (Boys of Honor, Boys of Unity, Boys of Equality)**, began with 4th and 5th graders. The boys, too, are learning character and identity, and in their words, “acting as gentlemen to better the world.”

Native-American / Mexican-American Civil Rights Trip: Thanks to funding from the National Plan for Hispanic and Latino Ministry of the UMC, Wesley-Rankin organized and hosted the first-ever Native-American / Mexican-American Civil Rights Pilgrimage for middle and high schoolers. Over spring break, a group of 15 visited Taos, NM to explore the intersection between Native-American and Mexican-American culture. Experiencing music and art, learning of environmental issues, and visiting the Pueblo reservation, students learned more of their cultural story and heritage. In addition, Wesley-Rankin is working with the National Plan to produce civil rights training materials so other groups can journey and/or learn.

Adult Academy and Leadership Council: Adult parenting classes continue at Wesley-Rankin in topics such as computer basics, nutrition, and self-care. The Adult Academy is now offered on two school campuses, **Lorenzo De Zavala Elementary and Sidney Lanier Vanguard**, serving as their primary parent education provider. The Leadership Council’s Uniform Store has now officially raised over \$10,000 in college scholarships for West Dallas seniors.

Casa Feliz Senior Citizen Program: The senior citizen health program encourages strength and balance through exercising and nutritious meals, creates social networks to reduce isolationism, and promotes cognitive health and chronic disease management. The seniors celebrate nearly every holiday and birthday with dances, DJs, and special guests such as instrumentalists and break dancers. Every week includes activities like arts and crafts, movie days, and regular field trips to the Latino Cultural Center, Texas Theater, and Arboretum. In 2018, the seniors hosted their first-ever **Senior Citizen Summer Camp** in partnership with FUMC Dallas and Kessler Park UMC. The program also includes a home-bound program of 10-12 seniors who are regularly visited by the staff team and senior friends.

At Wesley-Rankin, we believe that historic inequality and injustice should not determine a person’s future. We believe that innovation and compassion are powerful forces for good. Therefore, we partner with this strong and vibrant community to level the playing field in West Dallas and promote pathways out of poverty through education, employment, and housing.