

2022 CONFERENCE WORKBOOK



June 5-7



Welcome to Annual Conference 2022!

This Conference Workbook contains an agenda, program announcements, schedules, reports, and legislative proposals for the 2022 North Texas ANNUAL CONFERENCE in Richardson, Texas.

VOTING MEMBERS:

Lay and Clergy Members who are eligible to vote at District and Annual Conferences should contact their district offices if they have not received an email explaining registration. At Annual Conference, please wear your badge at all times.

VISITORS:

The balcony of First UMC will be reserved for visitors. In addition, the business sessions on Monday and Tuesday, as well as worship services Sunday and Monday evenings, will be livestreamed. Check the ntcumc.org web page for the link for each session and service.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- **The agenda** provides the schedule of events planned during Annual Conference.
- **General Meals** will be served in the Bartula Family Life Center, which is located on the Custer Road side of the campus. This will include Monday evening dinner, as well as lunch on Tuesday. Meals must be pre-purchased online at ntcumc.org/ac2022. Deadline is Thursday, May 26th. Please note there are some meals that are provided at no cost to participants. Those meals are listed on page 4. To ensure we have enough for those special meals, pre-registration is required. These meals will be held on the campus of First UMC Richardson.
- **Area Maps** are included at the back of this workbook.
- **Information/Registration** is at the Welcome Desk located in the Ministry Center and is easily accessed from the Shawver Welcome Center. Please check here for general information, messages, nametags, etc. Lost and Found will also be here.
- **Hearing devices** are available at the Welcome Desk.
- **First Aid supplies** are available at the Welcome Desk.
- **Snack Station** is in the Shawver Welcome Center. Bottled water, coffee, and other beverages will be available, along with snack foods. These are available for all attendees for a donation of your choosing at the stations.

SUNDAY, June 5

3:30 p.m. *Laity Session*, First UMC, Plano

5:00 p.m. *Laity Dinner*, First UMC Plano

7:00 p.m. *Opening Worship Service*, **Bishop Cynthia Harvey preaching**, First UMC Richardson sanctuary. Worship to include commissioning of young adults serving with Project Transformation, Bridgeport Camp, Prothro Camp, Conference Camp Youth Leadership Program, and in local churches. (Childcare available.) *Reception* to follow in the Coleman Family Hall hosted by Bishop & Mrs. McKee honoring Bishop Harvey and Mr. Dean Harvey.

MONDAY, June 6 and TUESDAY, June 7

7:00 - 9:00 a.m. *Quest Diagnostics* screenings for HealthFlex participants to be held Monday and Tuesday in the Brides Room located in the sanctuary complex on the north hallway to the sanctuary. Pre-registration is required.

7:30 a.m. *Holy Communion* will be served by the Order of St. Luke on Monday and Tuesday mornings in the Chapel located in the Sanctuary Complex on the south hall to the sanctuary.

8:00 a.m. *Exhibitors* in Ministry Center Coleman Family Hall.

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. *General session in the sanctuary.* The main floor of the sanctuary is for all voting members of Annual Conference. A section to stage left will be reserved for persons requiring sign language. The balcony is reserved for visitors. Please wear your name badge at all times.

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. *Clergy Photographs* will be taken in the balcony above Shawver Welcome Center.

7:00 p.m. *The Monday Evening Service of Ordination and Commissioning*, **Bishop Michael McKee preaching**, First UMC Richardson sanctuary. Reception will be in the Bartula Family Life Center.

Childcare for ages 11 and under is available at no cost, but reservations must be made in advance for worship services and onsite sessions. On Sunday, childcare will be available beginning at 3:15 p.m. and will end at 9:00 p.m. Monday's childcare will be available from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday's childcare will be available at 7:45 a.m. and end at 5:30 p.m. If your child will be in childcare during a mealtime, please provide food for them. Please register online at <https://ntcumc.org/ac2022> to register your child/children. Deadline to register is Tuesday, May 24.

PLEASE NOTE: *If you want a bound, printed, 8 ½ x 11, black and white copy of the 2022 North Texas Conference Journal, you must complete the order form located in the back of this workbook*



NAME BADGE COLORS

BLUE	Clergy members who are entitled to vote except for the election of lay delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences.
PEACH	Provisional clergy members, associate clergy members, clergy appointed under 346.2, and local pastors under part-time and full-time appointment, retired local pastors under appointment who are entitled to vote unless the subject is constitutional amendments or election of lay delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences and matters of ordination, character and conference relations of clergy.
GREEN	Lay members who are entitled to vote unless the matter pertains to the clergy, such as ordination, reception into full membership, or election of clergy delegates.
YELLOW	Diaconal ministers who are entitled to vote unless the matter pertains to the clergy, such as ordination, reception into full membership, or election of clergy delegates.
PINK	Student local pastors, retired local pastors, clergy from other annual conferences (§346.1), missionaries assigned by the GBGM, and certified lay missionaries from nations other than the United States, both who are serving within the bounds of the Annual Conference, who have voice but are not allowed to vote.
WHITE	Visitors who are not permitted to speak on the floor or allowed to vote.



CLERGY PICTURES
Monday, June 6 and Tuesday, June 7
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 pm.
Balcony above Shawver Welcome Center



All clergy are encouraged to have a free picture taken for the 2022 Conference Journal. The photographer will be in the balcony above the Shawver Welcome Center between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Monday, June 6, and Tuesday, June 7.

MEALS: *Great Food, Great Friends, Total Convenience!*

All meals must be pre-purchased online at ntcumc.org/ac2022.

No meals can be purchased on site.

Room assignments for pre-purchased meals will be on the back of your name tag.

The Welcome Desk, as well as volunteers, will be available
at First UMC Richardson to help you find your meal.

GENERAL MEALS:

This year, general meals will be offered at First UMC, Richardson, **Monday evening** and **Tuesday lunch** by reservation. General meals are open to anyone; please see the schedule below for special group meals and be sure to register for your choice of meals. No meals may be purchased on site.

MONDAY LUNCH, TOGETHER WE DINE:

Together We Dine offers the opportunity to network with a diverse group of community members and engage in courageous and safe conversations about race relations. Led by a trained facilitator at each table, diners participate in a structured dialogue and listen to the perspectives and experiences of people who look and think differently than they do.

By discussing our beliefs and differences over a meal, Together We Dine experiences reinforce that what unites us is greater than what divides us.

The Together We Dine program at Annual Conference will be the featured lunch on Monday and a highlight of our time together. Join us as we engage in these important conversations.

ORDINAND & COMMISSIONEE DINNER

Ordinands, and commissionees please make sure to register for the Monday evening meal, and include those that will be attending with you, including your sponsor. Commissionees may bring up to two guests, and ordinands may bring up to four guests. **Note:** Members of P&Q who are not sponsors will need to register for the general dinner Monday evening.

MEAL SCHEDULE (please register online to attend these meals):

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

5:00 pm Laity Dinner at First UMC Plano
5:00 pm Clergywomen at First UMC Richardson

MONDAY, JUNE 6 (all meals at First UMC Richardson)

11:45 am Together We Dine
5:00 pm General Dinner
5:00 pm Children and Youth Workers
5:00 pm Ordinands/Commissionees (invitation only)

TUESDAY, JUNE 7 (all meals at First UMC Richardson unless noted otherwise)

7:00 am	Perkins Alumni Breakfast	
NOON	General Lunch	Duke Alumni Lunch
	Administrative Assistants Lunch	Evangelical Fellowship (Lake Highlands UMC) Lunch
	BMCR Reception Lunch	Local Pastors Lunch
	Clergy Spouse Lunch	Hispanic Ministries Lunch
	Deacons Lunch	Retired Clergy Lunch (invitation only)

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AGENDA FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022

“VISION”

Sunday, June 5

3:30 pm-9:00 pm	Childcare Open.....	<i>Education Building Nursery</i>
3:30 pm	Laity Session	<i>First UMC, Plano</i>
4:30 pm-6:30 pm	Clergy Check-In and Receive Name Badges	<i>Ministry Center Concourse</i>
5:00 pm	Laity Dinner	<i>First UMC, Plano</i>
7:00 pm	Opening Worship with Bishop Cynthia Harvey, preacher	<i>First UMC, Richardson sanctuary</i>
8:30 pm	Reception hosted by Bishop Michael and Joan McKee honoring Bishop Cynthia Harvey.....	<i>Ministry Center Coleman Family Hall</i>

Monday, June 6

7:00 am	Welcome Desk open	
7:00 am-9:00 am	Health Quest Screening (by appointment only)	<i>Bride's Room</i>
7:30 am	Communion and Prayer Service.....	<i>Chapel</i>
7:45 am-4:30 pm	Childcare	<i>Education Building Nursery</i>
8:00 am-6:45pm	Exhibitors open.....	<i>Ministry Center Coleman Family Hall</i>
8:30 am-4:30pm	Clergy Photography.....	<i>Balcony above Shawver Welcome Center</i>
8:00 am	Opening Music	
8:10 am	Welcome – Bishop McKee Welcome to First UMC Richardson – Rev. Clayton Oliphint Organization of the Conference – Rev. Kenny Dickson Consent Calendar – Rev. Andy Lewis	
8:25 am	Baptismal Renewal Service and Episcopal Address – Bishop McKee	
9:20 am	Episcopacy Committee Report – Rev. Clayton Oliphint Retiree Video 1 Board of Ordained Ministry Report Retiree Video 2 Announcements and Prayer – Rev. Kenny Dickson	
10:40 am	Break to prepare for Memorial Service	
11:00 am	Order of the Day – Memorial Service with Rev. Dr. Ron Henderson preaching	
11:45 am	Lunch – Together We Dine	
1:45 pm	Gathering Music Journey Toward Racial Justice / Racial DEI Report – Rev. Dr. Ron Henderson and Rev. Silvia Wang	
2:20 pm	Keynote Address 1 – Bishop Gregory V. Palmer	
3:00 pm	Agency Video – Providence Place Lydia Patterson Institute Center for Leadership Development Report – Rev. Cammy Gaston United Women of Faith Video Award Presentations Center for Connectional Resources Report – Christy Drenner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equitable Compensation • Board of Pension and Health Benefits • Board of Trustees Announcements and Prayer – Rev. Kenny Dickson	
4:30 pm	Dismissal – Bishop McKee	
5:00 pm	General Dinner	<i>Bartula Family Life Center Gym</i>
	Ordination Participants Dinners	<i>Education Building</i>
6:30 pm-9:00 pm	Childcare	<i>Education Building Nursery</i>

7:00 pm	Ordination Service – Bishop Michael McKee, preacher.....	<i>FUMC Richardson sanctuary</i>
8:30 pm	Reception for Ordinands and Commissionees	<i>Bartula Family Life Center Gym</i>

Tuesday, June 7

7:00 am	Perkins Alumni Breakfast.....	<i>Ogden Fellowship Hall</i>
7:00 am	Welcome Desk open	
7:00 am-9:00 am	Health Quest Screening (by appointment only)	<i>Bride's Room</i>
7:30 am	Communion and Prayer Service.....	<i>Chapel</i>
7:45 am-4:30 pm	Childcare	<i>Education Building Nursery</i>
8:00 am	Exhibitors open	<i>Ministry Center Coleman Family Hall</i>
8:30 am-4:30 pm	Clergy Photography.....	<i>Balcony above Shawver Welcome Center</i>
8:00 am	Opening Music	
8:10 am	Welcome – Bishop McKee Consent Calendar – Rev. Andy Lewis	
8:20 am	Keynote 2 – Bishop Gregory V. Palmer Agency Video 2 – UM Seminaries/MEF (Perkins) Boy Scouts of America Report – Christy Drenner and Rev. Andy Lewis General Conference Delegation Report – Rev. Clayton Oliphint and Kelly Carpenter Agency Video 3 – Wesley Village	
9:45 am	Break	
10:05 am	Gathering Music	
10:10 am	Deaconess Consecration Service – Rhudene “Dee Dee” Spivey Laity Address – Kim Brannon Young People’s Address Video Center for Church Development – Rev. Dr. Owen Ross Black Church Initiative – Rev. Edlen Cowley, Phiebie Hutchins, Rev. Lucretia Facen	
11:05 am	Legislative Items • Council on Finance and Administration – Larry Womack, chair	
11:50 am	Announcements and Prayer – Rev. Kenny Dickson	
NOON	Lunches General	<i>Bartula Family Life Center Gym</i>
	Local Pastors Lunch	
	Clergy Spouses Lunch	
	Black Methodists for Church Renewal Reception	
	Deacons Lunch	
	Duke Alumni Lunch	
	Hispanic Ministry Lunch	
	Administrative Assistants Lunch	
	Clergy Retiree Lunch	
	Evangelical Fellowship Lunch	
1:15 pm	Gathering Music Clergy Spouses Report Agency Video 4 – Justice for Our Neighbors Center for Missional Outreach – Rev. Andy Lewis General Board of Global Ministries Video Nominations report – Rev. Andy Lewis and Kim Brannon	
2:05 pm	Keynote 3 – Bishop Gregory V. Palmer	
2:45 pm	Legislative Items	
3:45 pm	Closing Worship – Bishop McKee	
4:30 pm	Dismissal – Bishop McKee	

VISION

NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022

“... Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 5:14-16

Henry Ford. Maya Angelou. Nelson Mandela. Steve Jobs. It’s easy to call to mind visionaries – those leaders who can think about the future with inspired wisdom and imagination. Underneath their dreams and creativity, though, is another crucial type of vision: clarity of purpose. By knowing who we are at our core, we can understand and live into who we are called to be.

The 2022 North Texas Annual Conference’s theme scripture is Matthew 5:14-16, part of Matthew’s account of Jesus’ sermon on the mount. In his sermon, Jesus reminds his disciples and a large crowd of listeners – and us – that our purpose is to be the light of the world. We’re not meant to be dimmed or put under a bushel basket, but to shine before others, bringing glory to God.

Our keynote speaker is Bishop Gregory V. Palmer, Resident Bishop of the West Ohio Area and former President of the Council of Bishops. He will provide us a clear and candid reminder of who we are, where we’ve come from, and who we’re called to be.

At Annual Conference 2022, we will celebrate who we are, where we are headed, and who we intend to be. Together, we will embrace the VISION that is coming into focus for the North Texas Conference.

2022 NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE FEATURED SPEAKERS



BISHOP MICHAEL MCKEE ORDINATION PREACHER

Bishop Michael McKee is a native of Fort Worth, Texas. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Texas at Austin (1973), a Master of Theology from Perkins School of Theology of Southern Methodist University (1978), and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Texas Wesleyan University (2005). Additionally, Bishop McKee was honored in 2017 with the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Perkins.

He was ordained deacon in 1975 and ordained elder in 1979 in the Central Texas Annual Conference, where he served several churches, including most recently 15

years as the senior pastor of First UMC, Hurst. He has held numerous offices including chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Mid-Cities District Committee of Ordained Ministry. He was a delegate to three Jurisdictional Conferences and two General Conferences.

In 2012, McKee was elected to the episcopacy by the South Central Jurisdictional Conference and assigned to serve as the resident bishop of the Dallas Area effective September 1, 2012. He previously served as president of the South Central Jurisdiction College of Bishops. Currently, McKee is president of the Board of the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) of the UMC. He serves on the Boards of Trustees of Southern Methodist University, Texas Methodist Foundation, Southwestern University, and Methodist Health System, Dallas and is co-chair of the Executive Board of Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University.

Mike and Joan (Craig) McKee have been married since 1975 and have two adult children: Erin, who lives with her husband, Darin, and sons, Knox and Ford, in California; and Meredith, who lives in Dallas.

BISHOP CYNTHIA FIERRO HARVEY GUEST PREACHER

Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey serves as episcopal leader of the Louisiana Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, having been assigned there in September of 2012. The Louisiana Annual Conference is composed of 486 congregations and 118,725 members and includes the entire state of Louisiana.

In connection with her Episcopal assignment, she is immediate past President of the Council of Bishops (2020-2022) and served as the Secretary of the Council of Bishops from 2014-2018. She also serves on the Board of Trustees for Centenary College and on The Perkins School of Theology Executive Board. Bishop Harvey is a board member of the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana and past President of the Louisiana Interchurch Conference.

After graduating from the University of Texas in Austin in 1980, Bishop Harvey spent 12 years in the corporate world as a regional director of marketing for the Rouse Company, a shopping center developer with properties throughout the United States. She focused on properties in Texas, Colorado, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

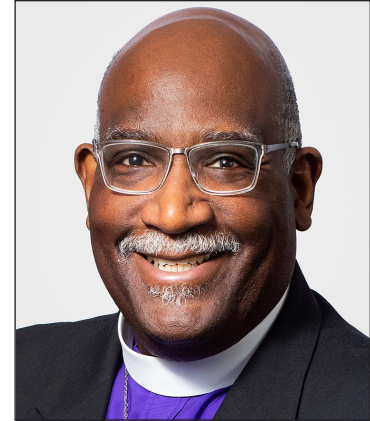
Harvey went on to serve as associate pastor for The Foundry United Methodist Church in Houston from 1992-1996 and as executive pastor for Memorial Drive UMC in Houston from 1996-2008. She then moved to the position of Director of Missional Excellence for the Texas Annual Conference, serving from February of 2008 until May 1, 2010. Just prior to her election as a United Methodist bishop during the 2012 South Central Jurisdictional Conference, Harvey served as Deputy General Secretary for United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

Harvey is a graduate of Southern Methodist University, Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, where she earned a Master of Divinity, and The University of Texas at Austin, where she earned her undergraduate degree in Journalism.

She and her husband, Dean Alan Harvey, were married in 1981. Dean is a financial advisor and owns his own firm. Their daughter, Elizabeth Grace Harvey Reames is a design specialist and makes her home in Dallas.



BISHOP GREGORY VAUGHN PALMER KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Bishop Gregory Vaughn Palmer serves as the episcopal leader of the West Ohio Area of The United Methodist Church. He was assigned there Sept. 1, 2012.

Born and reared in Philadelphia, Palmer is a “child of the church,” the son of the Rev. Herbert E. and Mrs. Charlotte Sue Hewitt Palmer. Palmer’s father (now deceased) was a retired United Methodist pastor; his mother (now deceased) was a schoolteacher in the Philadelphia Public School system.

Bishop Palmer received his undergraduate degree from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and the Master of Divinity degree from Duke University Divinity School, Durham, N.C. Baldwin-Wallace College, Iowa Wesleyan College, Simpson College, Hood Theological Seminary, and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary awarded him honorary degrees.

He was ordained a deacon and elected a probationary member in the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference in 1977. In 1981, he was elected into full membership and ordained an elder in the East Ohio Annual Conference.

His pastoral career includes student pastorates in North Carolina and post-seminary appointments in the East Ohio Conference in Cleveland, Canton, and Berea. Palmer also served as superintendent of the Youngstown District of the East Ohio Conference.

Elected to the episcopacy by the North Central Jurisdictional Conference in 2000, Palmer served the Iowa Area until assuming responsibilities in the Illinois Area in 2008. Palmer served as president of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry from 2004 to 2008 and president of the Council of Bishops from April 2008 to May 2010. Palmer served on the Commission on a Way Forward.

Currently, he is a member of the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters and chair of the Comprehensive Africa Plan. He also is a board member of several organizations, including The United Methodist Publishing House, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, United Theological Seminary, and OhioHealth, a family of nonprofit hospitals and health care facilities.

Married for 45 years to his wife, Cynthia, they are the parents of two adult children. Monica is a public-school principal in Charlotte, N.C., and Aaron is a Senior Product Owner for an interactive technology company based in Charlotte, N.C.

Cynthia Palmer is an honors graduate in religion from Duke University. She is a senior sales director with Mary Kay Cosmetics. She has served as a director of Christian education and as staff of several community action agencies focused on Welfare-to-Work projects. She is an outstanding student and teacher of the Scriptures and has strong competencies in leadership development.



REV. DR. CYNTHIA A. WILSON WORSHIP LEADER

Rev. Dr. Cynthia A. Wilson is the Executive Director for Worship Resources and Director, Liturgical Resources at Discipleship Ministries, a General Agency of The United Methodist Church in Nashville, TN. She is an ordained deacon under extension ministry appointment in the Great Plains Annual Conference. Dr. Wilson is responsible for supervising and guiding the process for development of resources in the areas of contextual liturgy, music, and preaching.

Prior to joining the staff of Discipleship Ministries, Dr. Wilson served as Assistant Vice-President of Student Life and Dean of Students at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. In October of 2016 she launched the Center for Music and Worship in the Black Church Experience, a one-of-a-kind North American Institute that provides training in the sacred music of the Black Church and beyond for musicians and worship leaders.

A talented vocalist, this Grammy nominee was noted the “Best Female Vocalist” at the Gospel Choice Awards held in Atlanta, GA (1998). Her recording credits include *New Songs of Zion*, which was nominated for several awards; featured soloist on *Spirituals: Songs from the American Experience* from the “Global Praise Series;” *Prayers from the House*, *Praise from the Heart*; *All That Is Within Me*; *A CHRIST-mas Experience*; and *Simply Cynthia*, featuring the music from the 2000 General Conference of The United Methodist Church, where she served as the first female and first African American Director of Music.

Dr. Wilson has toured Europe (Denmark, Sweden, France, Italy, Greece, Hungary, Vatican City) which included a spirit-filled concert where she served as song leader. As a global recording artist, she has also performed concerts in South America (Argentina, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Aruba, Trinidad, Lima), South Africa (Johannesburg, Nigeria, Durban, Egypt, Mozambique, Zimbabwe). She was part of a fund raising-concert tour in Seoul, Korea sponsored by The United Methodist Church’s Africa University (Mutare, Zimbabwe). Dr. Wilson has been a guest soloist for the World Methodist Council at Washington Cathedral in Washington D.C. and has shared the stage with such music legends as Richard Smallwood, Edwin Hawkins (“Oh Happy Day”), Nancy Wilson, Patti LaBelle, Shirley Caesar, Cissy Houston, the late Lionel Hampton, and the late Rev. James Cleveland.

One of the true highlights of her music ministry journey includes a benefit concert for Africa University at Carnegie Hall in New York City where the late Ossie Davis was host. The event was sponsored and hosted by the New York Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Dr. Wilson holds degrees from Dillard University (Bachelor of Arts), Southern Methodist University/Perkins School of Theology (Master of Sacred Music); and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (Doctor of Philosophy- Liturgical Studies).

Other Contributions:

- *Songs in Worship: United Methodist Hymnody & Song* (2021-22 in progress)
- Lay Servant Ministries Advanced Course
- *Forming Discipleship Through Worship* - DM Resource, *See all the People Series* (2020)
- “*Reflect, Reclaim, Rejoice: Preserving the Gift of Black Sacred Music*” (2017)
- Emmy Award Winning DM Africana Hymnal Project (DVD)
Cynthia A. Wilson, Featured Soloist / Narrator and Alfre Woodard, Guest Narrator
- *Zion Still Sings* – Chair of Tunes Committee (2007)
- *Songs of Zion* – National Advisory Task Force (1981)

PRELIMINARY CONSENT CALENDAR GUIDELINES

The Consent Calendar will be presented as a resolution in which the reports listed can be approved in one motion rather than separate motions for each item. A consent calendar, as the name implies, refers to the general agreement that certain item(s) are voted on, without questions or discussion, as a package. It differentiates between routine matters not needing explanation and more complex issues needing examination. It is not that the routine matters are not important, nor that they don't need to be approved by the body, it is just that they are not controversial and so there is no need for discussion before taking a vote. Many of the items are placed on the consent agenda because there is no change what-so-ever or a minor word(s) change for clarification year after year. The main purpose of a consent calendar is to liberate our business sessions from administrative details, repetitious discussions, and help keep our focus on celebrating, worshipping, teaching, learning and strategic issues.

To be placed on our consent calendar, the report item must:

- 1) **Not have financial implications that have not already been included in the new budget, and**
- 2) **Not deal with conference rules.**

To be removed from the consent calendar, the report item must have the following actions:

- 1) **A note proposing the item to be removed, signed by five (5) voting members of the annual conference, submitted to the Conference Secretary, and**
- 2) **Must be done within twenty-four (24) hours of presenting the consent calendar.**

PRELIMINARY CONSENT CALENDAR

CENTER FOR CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN.....

CENTER FOR MISSIONAL OUTREACH.....

BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES.....

CENTER FOR CONNECTIONAL RESOURCES

BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS

RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE RENTAL/HOUSING ALLOWANCES FOR RETIRED OR
DISABLED CLERGYPERSONS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT.....

CLOSING OF LANNIUS UMC.....

CLOSING OF CASA LINDA UMC

CLOSING OF ANNA UMC

CLOSING OF GARVIN UMC.....

COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP-CC YOUNG SENIOR LIVING

COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP-DALLAS BETHLEHEM CENTER.....

COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP-METHODIST CHILDREN’S HOME.....
 COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP-METHODIST HEALTH SYSTEM.....
 COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP-WESLEY VILLAGE RETIREMENT
 COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP-WESLEY-RANKIN.....
 COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
 COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
 STATISTICIAN’S REPORT
 YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORTS

CORE LEADERSHIP TEAM

CONNECTIONAL AGENCY REPORTS

AFRICA UNIVERSITY
 BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
 C.C. YOUNG SENIOR LIVING.....
 DALLAS BETHELEM CENTER.....
 DREW UNIVERSITY THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL
 DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL.....
 LYDIA PATTERSON INSTITUTE
 METHODIST CHILDREN’S HOME
 PERKINS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
 PROVIDENCE PLACE.....
 SAINT PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
 SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY
 SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
 TEXAS METHODIST FOUNDATION
 TEXAS UNITED METHODIST COLLEGE ASSOCIATION (TUMCA)
 UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
 WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
 WESLEY-RANKIN COMMUNITY CENTER

STANDING RULES: PROCEEDINGS FOR THE MEETINGS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Motions by Function Chart

<i>Motion</i>	<i>What to say</i>	<i>Second?</i>	<i>Debate?</i>	<i>Amend?</i>	<i>Vote?</i>
Adjourn	"I move that we adjourn."	Yes	No	No	Majority
Adopt a report	"I move that the report be adopted."	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
Amend a motion on the floor	"I move to amend by [describe]."	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Complain about air conditioning, noise, etc.	"I rise to a question of privilege."	No	No	No	No vote. Chair rules
Divide motion into parts to be voted on separately	"I move that we divide the question to consider separately [specify]."	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
End debate	"I move the previous question."	Yes	No	No	Two-thirds
Introduce a main motion	"I move that . . ."	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Give closer study	"I move to refer the matter to committee."	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Protest a breach of rules or conduct	"I rise to a point of order."	No	No	No	No vote. Chair rules
Reconsider an action	"I move to reconsider the vote on [specify]."	Yes	same as original motion	No	Majority
Request information	"Point of information."	No	No	No	No vote. Chair responds
Suspend an issue	"I move to table the motion."	Yes	No	No	Majority
Suspend the rules	"I move to suspend the rules so that [specify]."	Yes	No	No	Two-thirds
Take up a tabled matter	"I move to take from the table [specify]."	Yes	No	No	Majority
Vote on a chair's ruling	"I appeal from the decision that [specify]."	Yes	No	No	Majority

Motions by Rank Chart

Ranking Motions The ranking motions are listed in order of rank. When any one of these motions is immediately pending, those above it are in order and those below it are not in order.		Principal Requirements		
<i>Privileged Motions</i>	Second Required?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Vote Required
Adjourn	Yes	No	No	Majority
Raise a question of privilege	No	No	No	No vote. Chair rules
Call for order of the day	No	No	No	No vote. Chair rules
<i>Subsidiary Motions</i>				
Table	Yes	No	No	Majority
Move the previous question	Yes	No	No	2/3
Refer to committee	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
<i>Main Motions</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Non-Ranking Motions Whether these non-ranking motions are in order depends upon the business already under consideration and what purpose they may serve when introduced.		Principal Requirements		
<i>Incidental Motions</i>				
Appeal	Yes	No	No	Majority
Divide the question	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
Parliamentary inquiry	No	No	No	No vote
Point of order/point of information	No	No	No	No vote. Chair rules/responds
Suspend the rules	Yes	No	No	2/3
Withdraw a motion	No	No	No	Majority
<i>Motions that Bring a Question Back</i>				
Reconsider	Yes	per original	No	Majority
Take from the table	Yes	No	No	Majority

ACRONYMS

BOM	Board of Ordained Ministry
CCYM	Conference Council on Youth Ministries
CFA	Council on Finance and Administration
CPP	Comprehensive Protection Plan
DCOM	District Committee on Ordained Ministry
DS	District Superintendent
EA	East District
ELCC	Ethnic Local Church Concerns
GBCS	General Board of Church and Society
GBGM	General Board of Global Ministries
GBHEM	General Board of Higher Education and Ministry
GBOD	General Board of Discipleship
GCAH	General Commission on Archives and History
GCCUIC	General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns
GCFA	General Council on Finance and Administration
GCOSROW	General Commission on Status and Role of Women
GCCR	General Commission on Religion and Race
JFON	Justice For Our Neighbors
LPI	Lydia Patterson Institute, El Paso
ME	Metro District
MEF	Ministerial Education Fund
MHBT	McQueary/Henry/Bowles/Troy
MPP	Ministerial Pension Plan
NC	North Central District
NTC	North Texas Conference
NW	Northwest District
NYMO	National Youth Ministry Organization
P-PR	Pastor-Parish Relations Committee
P&Q	Division of Preparations and Qualifications of the Board of Ordained Ministry
SCJ	South Central Jurisdiction
S-PR	Staff-Parish Relations Committee
TMF	Texas Methodist Foundation
TUMCA	Texas United Methodist College Association
UMC	The United Methodist Church
UMCom	United Methodist Communications
UMCOR	United Methodist Committee on Relief
UMM	United Methodist Men
UMW	United Methodist Women
UMYF	United Methodist Youth Fellowship
VBS	Vacation Bible School
VIM	Volunteers in Mission
YSF	Youth Service Fund

2022 AWARDS

HARRY DENMAN EVANGELISM AWARDS

For over 43 years, The Foundation for Evangelism has partnered with annual conferences to present the Harry Denman Evangelism Awards to youth, clergy, and laity whose ministries help to nurture and empower disciples so changed by their relationship with Jesus Christ that they cannot stop themselves from serving as Christ served, or sharing “Why Jesus” in all aspects of their lives.

Harry Denman, a noted lay evangelist and leader in the Methodist Church in the 1950s, believed that each person must live their call to make disciples of Jesus Christ through relationship, mission, and preaching. Denman’s words still inspire more than 40 years after his death: “Today...the only way we can see Christ is to see him wrapped in a person...” What relevant words for the times we live in now!

CLERGY

Rev. Joy Gonzalez

The Uptown Church



Rev. Joy Gonzalez, Rev. Elizabeth Moseley, and worship leaders Jake and Ally Glover have come together to create a dynamic leadership team for a new church start called “Uptown Church.” They gather every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. at the House of Blues for an inspiring message and incredible music. The House of Blues porch provides a place for meeting friends and drinking coffee before worship. Churchgoers also linger there after worship, before heading to downtown eateries for brunch. This vibrant life outside the building is just a glimmer of what is happening inside the worship community. With 125 people worshipping each week, Uptown Church welcomed 21 adults who offered new professions of faith in 2021. This church plant is reaching new people and transforming lives at a challenging time. One of the unexpected bright spots of Uptown Church is their “Uptown Kids” ministry. Kids are welcome to join their parents in the music hall or to hang out with a safe, fun, and engaging ministry designed just for them.

Uptown Church’s statement of belief is clear, bold, and passionate: “Love without strings, grace without merit... relentless pursuit of diversity and equality... Jesus always with us... live out your faith.” Rev. Gonzalez and her team often describe the church as “FOR you, and FOR Dallas” – a direct response to many sentiments they heard in their mission field that the church had never connected with people’s real lives before now. What is said is important, but what is amplified really tells the story. The church is all about feeding people spiritually, giving opportunities for service, and developing “honest, authentic, and meaningful friendships.”

Congratulations to Rev. Joy Gonzalez, the Uptown Church Ministry Team, and Highland Park UMC for reaching people for Christ in Uptown Dallas!

*LAITY***Launny Thies**

First United Methodist Church, Terrell



The North Texas Conference 2022 Harry Denman Evangelism Award for Laity is awarded to Launny Thies. As Missions Chair at First UMC in Terrell, Texas, John “Launny” Thies saw the economic and racial divide in his historic town and dared to bridge the gap. In downtown Terrell, a missional outpost called Serenity Corner offers listening ears, loving hearts, accepting arms, and sensitive spirits to Terrell’s homeless, housing challenged, and addicted population. Launny organized First UMC Terrell to faithfully partner with this small, local non-profit organization. Church members bring casseroles and desserts monthly and gather coats, gloves, and hats in the winter months, along with food that is ready-to-eat and easy to handle for those living on the streets or suffering from housing insecurity. Bible studies and prayer meetings are held at Serenity Corner each week, and the men who are served by Serenity Corner often come to worship at First UMC Terrell and are welcomed by Launny and other members of the congregation.

Launny’s service to Christ is not only changing the lives of those being served, but also the lives of church members who have begun to see their neighbors from the other part of town as their friends. Under Launny’s leadership, the church greatly increased its budgeting for missions, and today it stands ready to help in many areas throughout the city and beyond. In September, 2021, Launny worked with a committee of community leaders to include Serenity Corner as a recipient of funds on North Texas Giving Day. They planned, organized, and spread the word and were able to raise more than \$42,000, making Serenity Corner one of the most successful first-year participants of North Texas Giving Day. The money raised will ultimately contribute to a new location for Serenity Corner. Launny has been named to the Board of Directors of Serenity Corner and serves as its treasurer. In this capacity, he is helping to secure funding and grants and is establishing budgeting practices that will catapult this mission forward into the future to touch lives and build community. Pastor Peter McNabb of First UMC Terrell sums up the power of Launny’s evangelism by saying: “Launny goes where needed and brings the backing and support of the church with him. He leads with the love of Christ.”

*YOUTH***Jillian Jackson**

Hamilton Park United Methodist Church, Dallas



Jillian Jackson, a senior at Hamilton Park UMC, is an active leader of her church and the North Texas Conference youth. She is a model of service and displays the servant leadership Christ calls his followers to emulate. Jillian serves in many ministries at Hamilton Park. She dances in the Liturgical Dance Ministry and has served as chaplain of the Ignite Youth Ministry. She volunteers with the Path to Nourishment team where she sorts, bags, and distributes nutritious groceries to families in need, and in the Souper Bowl of Caring drive each year to fill the food pantry. Jillian was the only youth active on the JOYLAND Nursery renovation team where she painted wall flowers, recovered furniture, and even created gift registries for the Hamilton Park family to contribute new nursery items. Jillian also devotes time to the Backpack Blessing team where she sorts, bags, and distributes new backpacks and school supplies to the children in the community, and participates in the Socks of Love ministry for those in the community who are unsheltered.

In her ministry with the conference, Jillian has been a leader in the Conference Council on Youth Ministry (CCYM) for four years, serving as activities chair for two of those terms. Jillian has led the students on CCYM and the students who attend Midwinter with great joy and confidence, always allowing space for her peers to express themselves and grow in their understanding and love of God. She was one of the speakers at the Virtual Midwinter in 2020, where she offered a reflection on how we can use the gifts God has given us and how we can recognize and encourage in others the gifts God has given them. She has also been on the team of leaders in the new Conference Camping and Youth Leadership Program (CCYLP), where she has worked with camp directors and adult volunteers to lead small groups and other activities. Last summer, Jillian made such an impactful connection with her campers that she inspired a new student to sign up for CCYLP and begin her own Christian leadership journey.

Jillian is a delightful blessing to all who know her and all she serves. With each area of ministry, she exhibits grace, compassion, knowledge, generosity, thoughtfulness, love, and faithfulness. Anyone who interacts with Jillian has felt the love of Jesus Christ. Her commitment to God and service shines through her, allowing everyone around to experience the joy and grace that comes from the Spirit of God.

BISHOP WILLIAM B. ODEN ECUMENICAL AWARDS

The North Texas Conference Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns honors three outstanding ministries for the Bishop William B. Oden Ecumenical Award this year. These ministries reflect the spirit of this award for their faithful work in three different areas of social justice, each faithfully working with other denominations to serve the least of these in our communities.

Leah Parker Body & Soul Ministry



Leah Parker realized there were no hot meals available for the homeless on the weekends. Working with St. Paul United Methodist Church, Dallas, Social Service Ministry members, she began to create a solution. After researching the needs, they combined efforts with Highland Park Presbyterian Church, First UMC Richardson, West Irving Church of God in Christ, Highland Park UMC, and West Mesquite Baptist Church. As they continued the meals during the pandemic, they made creative adjustments, switching to To-Go Bags. As of March 12, they returned to their full hot delicious meals at the church. Body & Soul has served weekend meals for over 1300 weeks, equaling 78,000 meals and 85,000 cups of coffee.

First United Methodist Church, Rockwall Faith Leaders for Racial Justice

First United Methodist Church of Rockwall has taken the lead in creating an alliance of seven churches called Faith Leaders for Racial Justice in Rockwall County. Four staff members from First UMC are very active with representation from: First Presbyterian Church (Rockwall), Rockwall Friendship Baptist Church, Saint Paul AME Church (Rockwall), FAME Mission (Fate), Meeks Chapel AME Church (Royse City), and First Christian Church (Rockwall). Also serving on the committee is a teacher from Rockwall-Heath High School, as well as the

former pastor of Saint Paul AME Church. They have brought the community together for Unity Worship services, worked with different groups, and worked with school guidance departments for conversation with their students surrounding racial reconciliation and awareness.



The Mission of Faith Leaders for Racial Justice, Rockwall County: *It is a multi-racial organization of leaders of faith who have come together to foster collaboration between communities of color in the greater Rockwall area to achieve racial justice by: bridging divides through listening and learning, equipping faith leaders and their communities to be agents of racial healing, identifying and transforming the drivers of systemic racial injustice, and taking prophetic action alongside those who historically have been denied equal justice and opportunity.*

Dallas Ecumenical Working Group

During the spring of 2021, Dallas Ecumenical Working Group revived relationships among diverse Christian bodies as they cared for the migrant children housed at the Dallas Convention Center. The group formed under the leadership of The Roman Catholic Diocese of Dallas Catholic Charities. Members of several churches gathered every Sunday evening to provide worship and pastoral care for young people fleeing gang violence, poverty, and climate disasters in Central America. The churches involved were Episcopal, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and United Methodist. Nearly 30 United Methodist worship leaders provided spiritual praise and care through vibrant services, music, and spiritual exercises. This group is actively discerning ways to embody compassion and justice collaboratively in the Dallas area. Their faithful work and unity continue to create new ways to minister together.

ONE MATTERS AWARD

Discipleship Ministries offers the ONE Matters Award (OMA) program in order to recognize one congregation from each annual conference that has successfully increased its numbers of professions of faith and baptisms from zero to one. The OMA consists of a commemorative plaque and a check of \$1,000 to be delivered to the selected congregation. This year's nominee will be named at the 2022 North Texas Annual Conference.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

LEGISLATIVE ITEM #1

LAY/CLERGY EQUALIZATION TABLE 2022 EQUALIZATION OF LAY AND CLERGY MEMBERSHIP

DISTRICT	CLERGY	LAY	RULE IIIA(1)	TOTAL RULE IIIA(1)	LAY EQUAL FACTOR
EAST	74	62	4	66	8
METRO	294	117	24	141	153
NORTH CENTRAL	202	114	11	125	77
NORTHWEST	83	61	4	65	18
TOTALS	653	354	43	397	256

STANDING RULE IIIA(1)

	EA	ME	NC	NW	TOTAL
Conference Lay Leaders/Assoc. Lay Leaders		2	1		3
Core Leadership Team		1	1	1	3
UMM President					0
UMW President		1			1
Youth Organization President		1			1
Wesley Foundation Directors	1	2			3
District Lay Leaders	1	1	1	1	4
Young Adults under 25 yrs.	1	1	1	1	4
Council on Youth Ministry	1	1	1	1	4
Diaconal Ministers		11	1		12
Agency Chairs/GBOGM Secretary		3	5		8
TOTALS	4	24	11	4	43

	Membership 2021	% of Total	To Be Elected
East	7,969	6%	15
Metro	52,310	44%	113
North Central	49,029	41%	105
Northwest	10,169	9%	23
TOTALS	119,477	100%	256

1 **LEGISLATIVE**2 **ITEM #2****EQUITABLE COMPENSATION ANNUAL DETERMINATION**

3

4 **FROM:** Center for Leadership Development (CLD)

5

6 **BACKGROUND:** The primary purpose of the Equitable Compensation Pastors Funds is to assist local
 7 churches in moving from part-time pastoral positions to full-time pastoral positions. These funds are meant to
 8 be transitional funds rather than long-term subsidies. Some congregations have the potential to reach a sustained
 9 average worship attendance of adults to move from a part-time to a full-time pastoral position with this short-term
 10 conference assistance. The time frame and benchmarks for moving from part-time to full-time should be reflected
 11 in yearly increases in worship attendance, Sunday School and small group attendance, professions of faith, those
 12 enrolled in annual confirmation classes, and annual increases in the number of individuals and families supporting
 13 the church's mission and ministry budget (operations) of the church. In essence, growing churches can move from a
 14 part-time to full-time pastoral position in three to five years. To continue receiving Equitable Compensation Funds,
 15 a congregation in such a transitional setting shall pay 100% of the annual apportionments.

16

17 The North Texas Conference also has a history of supporting missional settings where full-time pastors have been
 18 appointed to congregations not able to pay a full-time salary. Continued conversations with the pastor, congregation,
 19 and the Cabinet of the NTC are essential to ensure these congregations continue to be effective in reaching others,
 20 transforming lives, and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed. Annually, congregations in missional
 21 settings must also manifest the fruitful increases in worship attendance, small groups, professions of faith, confirma-
 22 tion classes, along with annual stewardship training and education. To continue receiving Equitable Compensation
 23 Funds, a congregation in a missional setting shall pay 100% of the annual apportionments.

24

25 The Center for Leadership Development in consultation with the Bishop and the NTC Cabinet takes into consider-
 26 ation not only the appropriate minimum level compensation for full-time clergy of the conference but also the needs
 27 of the churches in determining whether they can afford a full-time pastor.

28

29 **LEGISLATION:** The CLD requests that Pastors Subsidies and Equitable Compensation support and admin-
 30 istrative expenses be apportioned at \$51,594 for 2023.

31

32 **A Guidelines for Conference Members and Full-Time Local Pastors**

33

34 1 Equitable Compensation for Conference Members be set at \$51,954 for the minimum equitable com-
 35 pensation. This compensation includes:

36

37 a base salary,
 38 b utilities, which shall be provided with payments made by the local church or reimbursed when
 39 paid by the pastor,

40

41 c dependent premium payments made by the local church,
 42 d dependent premium supplemental payments paid by the conference at the discretion of the
 43 District Superintendent,

44

45 e and other conference subsidies received but excluding any reimbursement for Annual Confer-
 46 ence expenses or grants to assist with the expenses to attend expected spiritual formation or
 47 continuing education events for all of the clergy members of the conference (e.g., the Clergy
 48 Retreat) for conference members in full connection, associate members and provisional mem-
 49 bers of the North Texas Conference serving full time for 2023.

48

49 Applying the same formula adopted by the 2006 Annual Conference at the recommendation of CF&A
 50 for changes to the District Superintendent level compensation, the change in the equitable compensation
 51 amount for clergy appointed full time is an increase of 3.42% from \$50,236 in 2022 to \$51,954 in 2023. The
 52 percent change to the travel and utilities amount is included in the total.

2. Adjustments for years of service:

Years of Service	Equitable Compensation Amounts
0-5	\$51,954
6	52,054
7	52,154
8	52,254
9	52,354
10	52,454

3. Compensation for additional churches on a charge: Each charge with more than one church shall receive \$200 additional for the second church and \$100 each for the third through the fifth additional churches.

4. Housing shall be provided in a church-owned parsonage or provided for with a monthly allowance. It is expected that the minimum housing allowance that will be paid by those churches or charges that do not provide a parsonage for their pastor will be \$12,000 per year. Requests for equitable compensation salary supplements where housing allowances exceed \$12,000 will not be considered.

5. Local Pastors serving full time:

Five years or less	\$45,877
Six years or more	\$45,977
Expense recommendations same as above.	

6 Deacons serving under salaried appointments in a local church:

- a are not eligible to receive Equitable Compensation support from the Annual Conference;
- b shall be granted the same minimum salary as an elder in full connection when their primary appointment is within a local church. * **

*(Judicial Council decision #807)

***(2016 Book of Discipline, Paragraphs 331.10b, 625.4)*

B. The following policies are proposed to the North Texas Annual Conference for the distribution of equitable compensation assistance in 2023.

1. A local church exists to serve, not to be served. All churches should be motivated to a larger sense of ministry. Churches whose pastors receive salary subsidy should be open to linkage with other churches in order to utilize efficiently the service of full-time conference members to reduce the need for subsidy.

2. Equitable Compensation levels can best be met when appointments are open to all ministerial members without regard to race or gender. We continue to urge every conference member to make the subject of a fully open Conference and adequately supported ministry at the local church level a matter of daily personal prayer. Only as the love of Christ dwells in us can an annual conference be a communion of caring persons.

3. Growth in stewardship should be achieved by all below-minimum remuneration churches. In making application for salary subsidy, District Superintendents are to provide evidence of stewardship education and growth of the church.

4. Tenure payments are designed to honor the years of service of pastors who continue for more than five years in ministry to below-minimum compensation charges because of the needs of the Conference. The Bishop and the Cabinet are urged to make every effort to move pastors to above-minimum compensation charges within five years after they begin full-time service.

5. Applications for salary subsidy from Equitable Compensation are to be made by the District Superintendent on the prescribed forms.

6. The Charge Conference of any charge unable to pay the minimum salary set by the Conference shall be informed by the District Superintendent of the guidelines for receiving equitable compensation assistance. The Charge shall be informed of the amount required to bring the compensation level up to the minimum and shall be challenged to move toward the goal of full self-support at the earliest possible time. On the application for salary assistance, the District Superintendent shall certify that the charge has been duly notified. The amount of subsidy granted to a pastor shall be acknowledged annually at the Charge Conference.

7. Equitable Compensation assistance is not available to pastors serving as associate pastors or in staff positions other than pastor-in-charge. In order that such persons receive an equitable wage and to be in compliance with Judicial Council decision #807, however, it is expected that local churches use Conference minimum standards as minimum guidelines for setting associate and staff salaries.

8. Pastors who decline an appointment which would reduce or eliminate compensation support are ineligible for the Equitable Compensation tenure payment given for years of service.

9. Equitable Compensation assistance is not available for a North Texas Conference member appointed to serve in another annual conference, nor is it available to members of other annual conferences serving under appointment in the North Texas Conference.

10. There shall be no lump sum payments to persons receiving Equitable Compensation assistance, unless such sums are too small for monthly payments to be made.

11. It shall be the responsibility of the pastor receiving Equitable Compensation subsidy to inform the District Superintendent of any increase in remuneration or any changes in eligibility which occur after an application for Equitable Compensation has been approved.

EXCEPTIONAL REQUESTS BY THE CABINET:

All requests for exceptional support (assistance requested by the Cabinet in excess of the 25% maximum standard) shall be submitted in writing to the Center Director for Leadership Development and to the Center Director for Connectional Resources. The requests shall include the amount of assistance requested, length of time for assistance, and reason(s) for exceptional request.

LEGISLATIVE

ITEM #3 2023 BOPHB APPORTIONMENT BUDGET

FROM: Board of Pension and Health Benefits

BACKGROUND: The two previous apportionments to fund the work of the Board of Pension and Health Benefits (Insurance Subsidies and Board of Pensions) were combined beginning in 2009 to recognize that they are closely related and to allow for transferring funds between the two areas as needed. The Board of Pensions was incorporated as a separate entity, wholly owned by the Annual Conference, in 2016 to provide clarity on the designation of the benefits set aside to fund various long-term obligations of the conference for the benefit of its lay and clergy participants.

1 The proposed 2023 BOPHB apportionment budget shows an increase of 1.67% or \$26,050. There is a slight increase
2 in the pension expense and retiree health costs. The majority of the increase comes from the anticipated insurance
3 supplement line item. The projected cost of our health insurance plans for 2023 increased 11%. The North Texas
4 Conference average rate of increase over the past 7 years has been lower than the national average. The BOPHB
5 discussed amending the default plan but ultimately decided to remain with the C2000 plan for next year.
6

7 The Board of Pension and Health Benefits created an Economic Projection Team in 2016 to do an in-depth study of
8 all the long-term funding obligations of the North Texas Annual Conference. The Team consisted of members from
9 the Board of Pension and Health Benefits, the Council on Finance and Administration, and a representative from the
10 Appointive Cabinet. The Team was presented with a compilation of 12 different projections using regression analy-
11 sis of over 4,000 scenarios for each of the funds, assuming changes in population, age, market returns, and actuarial
12 gains and losses. The team met again in 2017 to review the updated projections. The team determined that we are
13 currently on the right track to remain fully funded for all of our benefit liabilities on a funding basis using conser-
14 vative assumptions that would allow for a significant drop in the financial markets, and therefore recommends no
15 change to the current benefits funding plan. In the fall of 2021, with the addition of new committee members, the
16 Board of Pension and Health Benefits revisited the plan allocations and funding. Overall, the team felt confident
17 in the current investment practices by Wespeth and the returns by the program compared to the market. The team
18 anticipates continuing analysis and conversations with Wespeth to ensure the conference stays up to date on any
19 significant denominational developments.
20

21 Legislation passed at the Special Called Conference of 2019 includes a provision for churches that choose to leave
22 the denomination to pay the unfunded portion of their pension liabilities as determined on a market basis. Our pen-
23 sions remain fully funded on a funding basis. When a church leaves, they are in essence “selling” their responsibility
24 for the long-term liability to the conference. The market basis is what it would cost to sell this liability to a third
25 party who would then assume the risks of market declines. The funding plan applied by the denomination in com-
26 pliance with federal laws governing church plans recognizes the value in keeping the expense of the pension plan
27 to the projected funding basis, with only a small buffer to the conference in the event of a market downturn. This
28 plan assumes the churches will continue to fund the liability as needed, with the opportunity to spread the additional
29 liability resulting from a sharp downturn in the market over several years.
30

31 The market basis funding liability for the North Texas Conference last year was reduced by \$24.3 million dollars.
32 Wespeth has provided an updated market funding liability as of September 1, 2021, for the North Texas Conference
33 of \$36,431,656. From the report “These unfunded liability estimates are lower than the estimates provided with the
34 actual valuation last year. The updated assumptions, the increase in the weighted market discount rate from 2.26%
35 to 2.41% as well as higher than anticipated asset returns are the primary drivers of this change. As you are likely
36 aware, market interest rates remain near all-time historic lows, and these low rates have a significant impact on
37 market liabilities.” Note the calculation of the liability is at 110% of the value. This liability would only become
38 due in full if all churches left the denomination at the same time.
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Conference Benefits
Proposed Budget for 2023

	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>2021 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2022 Budget</u>	<u>2023 Budget</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Employee Expenses					
51100 Salary	\$123,000	\$114,274	\$123,000	\$125,500	
Total Compensation	\$123,000	\$114,274	\$123,000	\$125,500	2.03%
51400 Employer FICA, Medicare	\$9,800	\$8,650	\$9,800	\$10,000	
53300 Lay Pension	\$7,500	\$6,856	\$7,500	\$7,600	
54100 Employer Health Insurance	\$23,000	\$21,720	\$23,000	\$24,648	
54200 Life Insurance	\$1,400	\$1,218	\$1,400	\$1,400	
54300 Workers Compensation	\$600	\$404	\$600	\$600	
Total Benefits	\$42,300	\$38,849	\$42,300	\$44,248	4.61%
Total Employee Expenses	\$165,300	\$153,123	\$165,300	\$169,748	2.69%
62150 Travel-Staff	\$5,200	\$0	\$5,200	\$5,200	
62350 Meals-Staff	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$400	
Total Travel and Meetings	\$5,600	\$0	\$5,600	\$5,600	0.00%
76600 Dues and Subscriptions	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$200	
77100 Supplies-Office	\$1,000	\$235	\$1,000	\$1,000	
77300 Postage	\$1,800	\$1,023	\$1,800	\$1,800	
77600 Printing	\$800	\$765	\$800	\$800	
Total Administrative Expenses	\$3,800	\$2,023	\$3,800	\$3,800	0.00%
Total Operations	\$174,700	\$155,146	\$174,700	\$179,148	2.55%
58970 BOPHB Disability	\$0	\$6,546	\$0	\$0	
77700 Retiree Expenses	\$10,000	\$5,289	\$10,000	\$10,000	
58950 CRSP Supplement	\$12,000	\$13,133	\$12,000	\$15,000	
58900 CPP	\$700,000	\$652,826	\$705,500	\$705,500	
Total Pension Expenses	\$722,000	\$677,794	\$727,500	\$730,500	0.41%
Expenses					
55000 Insurance-Medical Leave	\$52,000	\$45,036	\$52,000	\$73,944	
55100 Insurance-Supplement	\$22,800	\$26,375	\$35,342	\$32,000	
Total Health Insurance Expenses	\$74,800	\$71,411	\$87,342	\$105,944	21.30%
78400 Actuarial Services Retiree Medical	\$16,000	\$14,500	\$16,000	\$16,000	
82405 Insurance-Retiree Current Year	\$330,000	\$317,750	\$340,000	\$340,000	
77450 Pcori Expense	\$700	\$500	\$700	\$700	
99900 Insurance-Retiree Med for New Entr	\$215,000	\$175,000	\$215,000	\$215,000	
Total Retiree Health	\$561,700	\$507,750	\$571,700	\$571,700	0.00%
Total Net Program and Events	\$1,533,200	\$1,412,101	\$1,561,242	\$1,587,292	1.67%

LEGISLATIVE**ITEM #4 RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE RENTAL HOUSING ALLOWANCES
FOR RETIRED OR DISABLED CLERGYPERSONS OF THE NORTH
TEXAS CONFERENCE**

FROM: Board of Pension and Health Benefits

BACKGROUND: To be in compliance with Internal Revenue Service Revenue Ruling 75-22, 1975-1,49, as it relates to clergy housing, the North Texas Conference (the “Conference”) adopts the following resolutions relating to rental/housing allowances for active, retired, or disabled clergypersons of the Conference:

LEGISLATION: WHEREAS, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church (the “Church”), of which the North Texas Conference is a part, has in the past functioned and continues to function through Ministers of the Gospel (within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code section 107) who were or are duly ordained, commissioned or licensed ministers of the Church (“Clergypersons”); and

WHEREAS, the practice of the Church and of this Conference was and is to provide active Clergypersons with a parsonage or a rental/housing allowance as part of their gross compensation; and

WHEREAS, pensions or other amounts paid to active, retired and disabled Clergypersons are considered to be deferred compensation and are paid to active, retired and disabled Clergypersons in consideration of previous active service; and

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized the Conference (or its predecessors) as the appropriate organization to designate a rental/housing allowance for Clergypersons who are or were members of this Conference and are eligible to receive such deferred compensation:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT an amount equal to 100% of the pension or disability payments received from plans authorized under *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (the “*Discipline*”), which includes all such payments from Wespeth during the year 2023 by each active, retired, or disabled Clergyperson who is or was a member of the Conference or its predecessors, be and hereby is designated as a rental/housing allowance for each such Clergyperson; and

THAT the pension or disability payments to which this rental/housing allowance applies will be any pension or disability payments from plans, annuities, or funds authorized under the *Discipline*, including such payments from Wespeth and from a commercial annuity company that provides an annuity arising from benefits accrued under a Wespeth plan, annuity, or fund authorized under the *Discipline*, that result from any service a Clergyperson rendered to this Conference or that an active, a retired, or a disabled Clergyperson of this Conference rendered to any local church, annual conference of the Church, general agency of the Church, other institution of the Church, former denomination that is now a part of the Church, or any other employer that employed the Clergyperson to perform services related to the ministry of the Church, or its predecessors, and that elected to make contributions to, or accrue a benefit under, such a plan, annuity, or fund for such active, retired or disabled Clergyperson’s pension or disability as part of his or her gross compensation.

NOTE: The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a Clergyperson’s gross income in any year for federal income tax purposes is limited under Internal Revenue Code section 107 (2) and regulations there under to the least of: (1) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the Clergyperson’s employer or other

1 appropriate body of the Church (such as this Conference in the foregoing resolutions) for such year; (2) the amount
 2 actually expended by the Clergyperson to rent or provide a home in such year; or (3) the fair rental value of the
 3 home, including furnishings and appurtenances (such as a garage), plus the cost of utilities in such year.

6 LEGISLATIVE

7 ITEM #5 PRE-1982 SERVICE YEAR RATE FOR 2023

9 **FROM:** Board of Pension and Health Benefits

11 **BACKGROUND:** Paragraph 1506.7 of the *2016 Discipline* states that the responsibility for past service annu-
 12 ity rate for ministerial service rendered before 1982 be determined by each annual conference. Legislation passed at
 13 the 2012 General Conference removed the wording from Paragraph 1506.7 requiring the Past Service Rate increas-
 14 es be a minimum of .8% based on the Conference Average Compensation (CAC). Furthermore, General Conference
 15 2012 passed legislation requiring full funding of any Past Service Rate increases by December 31 of the year pre-
 16 ceding the proposed increase. In order to provide an increase in retirement benefits that keeps pace with inflation,
 17 the North Texas Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits is recommending the adoption of the percentage
 18 increase known as the “Cost-of-Living Adjustment” (COLA) as published by the Social Security Administration as
 19 the established rate for the annual increase in the Past Service Rate with a cap of 4%. The cap can be increased on
 20 recommendation of the Board of Pension and Health Benefits and approval by the Annual Conference.

22 The 2021 COLA rate was 5.9%. This was an unusually high rate which led the committee to compare it to the ten-
 23 year average COLA rate of 1.88%. The actuarial assumptions for the increase were calculated at 2.5%. At this rate
 24 of increase, the fund is projected to remain in a healthy position without needing further contributions by the annual
 25 conference at this time.

27 **LEGISLATION:** The Board of Pension and Health Benefits of the North Texas Conference proposes the pre-1982
 28 Service Year Rate for 2023 be increased by 2.5% to \$844 for approved service of clergy members in full connection,
 29 probationary members, associate members and local pastors of the conference.

32 LEGISLATIVE

33 ITEM #6 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

35 **FROM:** Council on Finance and Administration

38 INTRODUCTION

39 The North Texas Conference recorded a payout of 91.6% of our total apportionments for 2021. The apportionments
 40 received were approximately 5% lower than the average normally received by the conference over the last ten years.
 41 This is slightly better than last year’s comparison for the previous 10 years.

44 The total paid for apportionments was \$10,538,561 and the total paid for all benevolent causes beyond the appor-
 45 tionment was an additional \$531,662.

47 While the Council recommends that local churches strive to designate at least 25% of their total annual budgets
 48 for causes beyond their churches, it is expected that apportionments be given first claim by churches in their be-
 49 yond-the-local church payments, with advance specials and other benevolences viewed as second-mile giving.

51 The Council continues to expect 100% payout of our apportionments and urges every church to take seriously the
 52 recommended ten-month payment plan in which 10% of the annual apportionment amount is remitted monthly.

1 Without doubt, making monthly payments beginning in January or February is an important step in paying appor-
2 tionments in full.

3
4 Paragraph 622 of the 2016 *Book of Discipline* states that the Board of Pension and Health Benefits apportionment,
5 the Episcopal Fund, the District Superintendents Fund, and Equitable Compensation are apportioned funds which
6 are to be paid on the same schedule as the pastor's salary is paid. The Cabinet joins the Council in urging each
7 church to adhere to this mandate monthly.

8
9 All churches are also encouraged to make contributions to their District Second-Mile Fund. This is an important
10 way to assist districts and the conference as a whole to achieve 100% payment of our total apportionments.

11
12 The Council and the Conference Treasurer continue to update reports in order to provide the information conference
13 leaders and members expect in a more open and transparent way. The Council takes seriously its fiduciary respon-
14 sibility and is working with conference leaders to ensure faithful and effective stewardship of conference funds.

15 16 **END-OF-YEAR 2021 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

17
18 1 The 2021 apportionment payout was 91.6%.

19
20 2 The total operating reserves held by the conference treasurer at the beginning and end of 2021 were
21 \$5,316,239 and \$6,227,770 respectively. Although the apportionments received were down from the prior
22 years, the conference was able to curtail spending to preserve the operating reserves. A portion of these
23 reserves will be used to meet the financial obligation related to the BSA Bankruptcy as noted in the Board
24 of Trustees Report.

25
26 3 The conference treasury held \$10,770,282 in the operating account and \$6,586,242 in reserves at the
27 Texas Methodist Foundation. In addition, \$1,211,438 is held at Wespath for the Metro District parson-
28 age, \$550,869 for the North Central parsonage, \$541,966 for the Episcopal Parsonage, and an additional
29 \$42,215,091 in deposits at Wespath for the Board of Pension and Health Benefits. The reserves held by the
30 Board of Pension and Health Benefits are designated to provide the funding for accrued retiree medical and
31 pension benefits as well as an operating reserve for the direct billing function for the current year health
32 insurance, pensions, and CPP (Comprehensive Protection Plan).

33
34 4 Statement of Financial Activities - The Winter Storm of February 2021 had a significant financial impact.
35 66 churches sustained almost \$20M of loss. The majority of claims were closed by the end of the fiscal year
36 but the revenue is noticeable in the "Services" line item.

37
38 5 The 2021 financial reports may be found in the Conference Reports of this Journal.

39 40 **FURTHER INFORMATION**

41 42 **A. Pre-1982 Pension Liability**

43
44 The 2016 *Book of Discipline* requires the submission of an annual comprehensive funding plan for all of our benefit
45 liabilities including our pre-1982 pension liability.

46 47 **B. Retiree Medical Liability**

48
49 A plan to address the conference's Retiree Medical Liability was adopted by the 2002 Annual Conference session
50 and updated by the 2006 and 2008 Annual Conference sessions. A study group, under the leadership of Jerry Pinker-
51 ton, revisited our progress towards funding this liability in the fall of 2012. The Conference moved to OneExchange
52

1 in 2013 as our connector to Retiree Supplemental Insurance coverage, resulting in a significant decrease in costs to
 2 both the retiree and the conference. In 2018, OneExchange changed its name to Via Benefits in an effort to avoid
 3 confusion with the Affordable Health Care Exchange name.

4
 5 In 2015, an Economic Projection team was formed to re-evaluate our current funding of all liabilities, including the
 6 Retiree Medical Liability. The team recommended a reduction of \$115,000 in apportionments as the extensive study
 7 showed we would remain fully funded even if the market performed at 25% of assumed rates. This team met again
 8 in the summer of 2016 as well as the summer of 2017 to monitor the funding of all our liabilities and their impact
 9 on our apportionments. In the fall of 2021, with the addition of new committee members, the Board of Pension and
 10 Health Benefits revisited the plan allocations and funding. Overall, the team felt confident in the current investment
 11 practices by Wespath and the returns by the program compared to the market. The team anticipates continuing anal-
 12 ysis and conversations with Wespath to ensure the conference stays up to date on any significant denominational
 13 developments.

15 **C. Salary, Benefits and Expenses for District Superintendents**

16
 17 As stated in the NTC Standing Rule II.A.10, “the salary of a district superintendent shall be adjusted annually by
 18 the average percentage change in the base compensation of all full-time pastors appointed to serve local churches
 19 or appointments for which the conference is responsible.” This policy was started in 2008 and called for a periodic
 20 review to confirm that the increases maintain a salary level that falls at about 90% of the declension of salary pack-
 21 ages of full-time elders. The Council on Finance and Administration reviewed the policy in the spring of 2014 and
 22 determined that the current formula is maintaining the status set by the Annual Conference in 2008.

24 **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

27 **I. AUDITOR FOR THE CONFERENCE TREASURY**

28
 29 The Council recommends Ratliff & Associates, P.C. as the auditing firm for the Conference Treasury for the 2022
 30 audit.

32 **II. 2023 APPORTIONMENT BUDGET RECOMMENDATION**

34 **BACKGROUND**

35
 36 The Annual Conference budget includes the Episcopal Area fund, the Communications Office, the District Superin-
 37 tendents Fund, and the four centers: (1) the Center for Leadership Development, (2) the Center for Church Devel-
 38 opment, (3) the Center for Missional Outreach, and (4) the Center for Connectional Resources.

39
 40 The District Administration Fund budgets come from the District Conferences and are set at the District Confer-
 41 ences slated for May 22, 2022. They are not included in the total apportionment budget recommendation as they are
 42 not considered by the Council. These apportionment items are billed to the churches within each district.

43
 44 In setting the budget for 2023, several factors were considered: the continued financial implications of the pandem-
 45 ic to local churches, the potential impact of a delayed general conference, the increase costs of all insurances and
 46 a proposed increase in minimum compensation amount. A ten-year analysis of all costs to the local churches was
 47 done to evaluate how the financial landscape has changed. With all this information, the Council recommends a 1%
 48 decrease to the apportionments.

49
 50
 51 The four center directors continued to work together to streamline many tasks over the past year, sharing in person-
 52 nel and resources. The directors are confident that such efficiencies can be obtained again this next year. As each

1 center presented their proposed budget to the Council, the directors noted the focus on empowering ministry in the
 2 local church and providing resources to navigate the trends in the worldwide United Methodist Church. The new
 3 statement of functional expenses required for non-profits beginning in 2018 and presented in the Council reports
 4 section illustrates the focus on grants and resources for the local church. The staff budgets are aligned with their
 5 respective centers.
 6

7 According to the NTC Standing Rule II.A.10, the District Superintendent base salary was evaluated. For the past
 8 two years, the Council has recommended suspending the standing rule and no increase was provided. For 2023, the
 9 Council reviewed the calculations and recommends an increase of 3.42% for District Superintendents and Center
 10 Directors. The new base salary will be \$127,009. Parsonages or a Housing Allowance are provided by the districts.
 11 Travel and other business expenses are reimbursed through an Accountable Reimbursement plan.
 12

13
 14 **2023 Apportionment Budget Recommendation**

16	17	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	% Change
18	GENERAL CONFERENCE APPORTIONMENTS					
19	World Service Fund	\$ 1,318,214	\$ 1,168,885	\$ 1,318,214	\$ 1,318,214	
20	MEF - Global	\$ 334,000	\$ 296,096	\$ 334,000	\$ 334,000	
21	MEF - North Texas Conference	\$ 111,231	\$ 62,184	\$ 111,231	\$ 111,231	
22	Black College Fund	\$ 177,599	\$ 157,480	\$ 177,599	\$ 177,599	
23	Africa University Fund	\$ 39,746	\$ 35,244	\$ 39,746	\$ 39,746	
24	Interdenominational Coop Fund	\$ 34,820	\$ 30,876	\$ 34,820	\$ 34,820	
25	General Administration Fund	\$ 156,527	\$ 138,795	\$ 156,527	\$ 156,527	
26	Episcopal Fund	\$ 582,067	\$ 582,067	\$ 582,067	\$ 582,067	
27	Total Expenses	\$ 2,754,204	\$ 2,471,627	\$ 2,754,204	\$ 2,754,204	0.00%
28	JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE					
29	Lydia Patterson Institute	\$ 72,897	\$ 64,639	\$ 72,897	\$ 72,897	
30	Jurisdictional Administration	\$ 44,918	\$ 39,830	\$ 44,918	\$ 44,918	
31	Sub-Total	\$ 117,815	\$ 104,469	\$ 117,815	\$ 117,815	0.00%
32	TOTAL GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL	\$ 2,872,019	\$ 2,576,096	\$ 2,872,019	\$ 2,872,019	0.00%
34	CENTER FOR CHURCH DEVELOPMENT					
35	Staff	\$ 300,000	\$ 315,952	\$ 313,683	\$ 328,000	
36	Travel and Meetings	\$ 43,000	\$ 6,317	\$ 23,000	\$ 18,000	
37	Administration	\$ 18,756	\$ 2,827	\$ 12,050	\$ 11,000	
38	NFNS	\$ 32,000	\$ 79,661	\$ 141,500	\$ 147,000	
39	Vitalization	\$ 27,000	\$ 47,820	\$ 63,800	\$ 44,650	
40	New Faith Communities	\$ 70,850	\$ 1,635	\$ 53,000	\$ 37,000	
41	New Campuses	\$ 567,056	\$ 397,000	\$ 488,500	\$ 465,500	
42	Planters	\$ 140,000	\$ 60,140	\$ 102,000	\$ 111,000	
43	TOTAL	\$ 1,198,662	\$ 911,352	\$ 1,197,533	\$ 1,162,150	-2.95%

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	Description	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	% Change
1						
2						
3	CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT					
4	Staff	\$ 610,739	\$ 601,741	\$ 610,739	\$ 618,477	
5	Travel and Meetings	\$ 20,200	\$ 4,449	\$ 20,200	\$ 13,700	
6	Administration	\$ 11,350	\$ 8,780	\$ 11,350	\$ 11,850	
7	Board of Ministry (Professional Ministries)	\$ 52,150	\$ 11,166	\$ 52,150	\$ 50,450	
8	Board of Laity	\$ 6,000	\$ 483	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	
9	Faith & Leadership Formation	\$ 29,250	\$ 15,460	\$ 29,250	\$ 29,250	
10	Texas Methodist Colleges	\$ 50,000	\$ 44,271	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	
11	Effective & Fruitful Leaders Program	\$ 21,800	\$ 5,789	\$ 21,800	\$ 15,000	
12	Conflict Management	\$ 12,600	\$ 1,405	\$ 12,600	\$ 12,600	
13	Campus Ministries	\$ 537,777	\$ 471,154	\$ 537,777	\$ 535,777	
14	Equitable Compensation	\$ 50,832	\$ 30,021	\$ 50,832	\$ 51,594	
15	Intentional Interim Pastors	\$ 15,000	\$ 57,558	\$ 15,000	\$ 35,000	
16	Transitional Care for Clergy	\$ 35,000	\$ 8,781	\$ 35,000	\$ 5,000	
17	Emerging Leadership Programs	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,183	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,000	
18	Leadership Dev Standing Committee	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	
19	Coaching Initiative	\$ 10,000	\$ 4,385	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
20	Camping Ministries	\$ 373,050	\$ 314,211	\$ 373,050	\$ 383,050	
21	TOTAL	\$ 1,851,748	\$ 1,589,838	\$ 1,851,748	\$ 1,833,748	-0.97%
22						
23	CENTER FOR MISSIONAL OUTREACH					
24	Staff	\$ 316,530	\$ 308,136	\$ 333,379	\$ 340,556	
25	Travel and Meeting	\$ 8,500	\$ 3,407	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	
26	Administration	\$ 118,090	\$ 5,064	\$ 114,873	\$ 82,696	
27	Christian Unity & Interreligious Concerns	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,680	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	
28	Church & Society	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	
29	Ethnic Local Church Concerns	\$ 116,620	\$ 52,858	\$ 116,620	\$ 116,620	
30	Global Ministries	\$ 16,000	\$ 18,621	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	
31	Extension Ministries	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 47,500	\$ 47,500	
32	Ministry With	\$ 89,632	\$ 104,398	\$ 77,000	\$ 77,000	
33	Journey Towards Racial Justice	\$ 15,000	\$ 12,133	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
34	TOTAL	\$ 734,872	\$ 558,797	\$ 734,872	\$ 709,872	-3.40%
35						
36	CENTER FOR CONNECTIONAL RESOURCES					
37	Staff	\$ 561,900	\$ 585,946	\$ 561,900	\$ 561,900	
38	Travel and Meeting	\$ 22,500	\$ 8,526	\$ 22,500	\$ 22,500	
39	Administration	\$ 154,900	\$ 187,523	\$ 170,000	\$ 170,000	
40	Administrative Agencies	\$ 47,400	\$ 73,026	\$ 47,400	\$ 47,400	
41	Annual Conference	\$ 90,000	\$ 71,924	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	
42	Ministry Center Operations	\$ 197,000	\$ 157,418	\$ 197,000	\$ 197,000	
43	Ministry Center Debt Service	\$ 250,000	\$ 208,287	\$ 250,000	\$ 225,000	
44	Board of Pension & Health Benefits	\$ 1,533,200	\$ 1,412,101	\$ 1,561,242	\$ 1,587,292	
45	Moving Fund	\$ 110,000	\$ 79,014	\$ 110,000	\$ 80,000	
46	TOTAL	\$ 2,966,900	\$ 2,783,765	\$ 3,010,042	\$ 2,981,092	-0.96%
47						
48	EPISCOPAL OFFICE					
49	Area Office	\$ 65,000	\$ 42,445	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	
50	Episcopal Residence	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000	
51	TOTAL	\$ 107,000	\$ 84,445	\$ 107,000	\$ 107,000	0.00%
52						
53	COMMUNICATIONS					
54	Staff	\$ 291,275	\$ 279,007	\$ 296,005	\$ 308,662	
55	Administration	\$ 203,880	\$ 147,492	\$ 199,150	\$ 175,493	
56	TOTAL	\$ 495,155	\$ 426,499	\$ 495,155	\$ 484,155	-2.22%

	Description	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	% Change
3	DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS					
4	Administration	\$ 74,000	\$ 42,486	\$ 74,000	\$ 65,000	
5	Staff	\$ 532,480	\$ 536,129	\$ 532,480	\$ 550,691	
6	TOTAL	\$ 606,480	\$ 578,615	\$ 606,480	\$ 615,691	1.52%
8	ANNUAL CONFERENCE TOTAL	\$ 7,960,817	\$ 6,933,311	\$ 8,002,830	\$ 7,893,708	-1.36%
9	TOTAL BUDGETED APPORTIONED EXPENSES	\$ 10,832,836	\$ 9,509,407	\$ 10,874,849	\$ 10,765,727	-1.00%

Notes:

- 1 The General Conference apportionments are allocated to the annual conferences based on the expenditures of the annual conference and adjusted for an income factor related to geographical area. The apportionments for General Conference presented here reflect the proposed changes to the budget prior to the onset of the COVID-19 virus. The proposed budget reflects a 28% decrease in General Church apportionments. While the delay of General Conference necessitated the formerly established formula be used in presenting the budgets to the annual conferences, the General Agencies have prepared their budgets in alignment with the budget we believe will be adopted at General Conference when it meets in 2024. At that time, the budgets will be adjusted to the final amount as passed by the General Conference.
- 2 The Jurisdictional apportionments are expected to remain the same for each of the four years of this quadrennium.
- 3 The Annual Conference apportionments will decrease by 1.36% in total for 2023.

GUIDELINES FOR APPORTIONMENTS FOR LOCAL CHURCHES

- A. Formula for Two-Part Decimal:
1/3 membership and 2/3 finance
- B. Procedure for Computation of Decimal for Each Church:
The membership part is computed by dividing the total 2021 church membership of the Annual Conference (less discontinued churches and fellowships = 119,477) into the 2021 membership of each church. This becomes the church’s membership decimal.

The finance part is computed by adding the amounts of the operating expenses reported paid by each church in columns 41a, 41b, 41c, and 43-47 of the 2021 Statistician’s Report. (No funds reported in other statistical columns are included in this computation.) This total is then divided by the Conference total of these same columns (less discontinued churches, new church starts, missions, and fellowships = \$93,294,812). This becomes the local church’s finance decimal.

The finance decimal is doubled. The membership decimal is added to the doubled finance decimal. This total is divided by three to become the apportionment decimal.
- C. Procedure for Computation of Apportionments for Each Church:
The apportionment decimal for each church is multiplied by the Conference total of each apportionment to determine the amount that each church is asked to pay toward the apportionment.
- D. Margin for Correction:
To assure that 100% of the amount of each apportionment will be distributed to the churches, no more than one quarter of one percent may be added to each apportionment when needed.

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1 **LEGISLATIVE**2 **ITEM #7****CLOSING OF LANNIUS UMC – EAST DISTRICT**4 **FROM:**

North Texas Conference Trustees

6 **BACKGROUND:**

7 Because only a small number of members remain at the Lannius UMC, Fannin
8 County, the remaining members agreed that they cannot continue. Members of the church concluded that now is the
9 time to close the church.

10 **LEGISLATION:**

11 The North Texas Conference Board of Trustees recommends the closure of the
12 Lannius church. The property will return to the North Texas Conference in accordance with the Trust clause.

14 **LEGISLATIVE**15 **ITEM #8****CLOSING OF CASA LINDA UMC – METRO DISTRICT**17 **FROM:**

North Texas Conference Trustees

19 **BACKGROUND:**

20 Because only a small number of members remain at the Casa Linda UMC, Dallas
21 County, the remaining members agreed that they cannot continue. Members of the church concluded that now is the
22 time to close the church.

23 **LEGISLATION:**

24 The North Texas Conference Board of Trustees recommends the closure of the
25 Casa Linda church. The property will return to the North Texas Conference in accordance with the Trust clause.

27 **LEGISLATIVE**28 **ITEM #9****CLOSING OF ANNA UMC – NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT**30 **FROM:**

North Texas Conference Trustees

32 **BACKGROUND:**

33 The Anna UMC (Collin County) has voted to cease meeting as a congregation.
34 This decision was the result of a devastating fire that burned their facility. The congregation voted to convey their
35 property to the North Texas Conference Board of Trustees.

36 **LEGISLATION:**

37 The North Texas Conference Board of Trustees recommends the closure of the
38 Anna UMC. The property will conveyed to the North Texas Conference in accordance with the Trust clause.

40 **LEGISLATIVE**41 **ITEM #10****CLOSING OF GARVIN UMC – NORTHWEST DISTRICT**43 **FROM:**

North Texas Conference Trustees

45 **BACKGROUND:**

46 Because only a small number of members remain at the Garvin UMC, Wise County,
47 the remaining members agreed that they cannot continue. Members of the church concluded that now is the time to
48 close the church.

49 **LEGISLATION:**

50 The North Texas Conference Board of Trustees recommends the closure of the
51 Garvin church. The property will return to the North Texas Conference in accordance with the Trust clause.

LEGISLATIVE**ITEMS #11-16****COVENANT RELATIONSHIP STATEMENTS**

The 2012 General Conference voted to require the creation and maintenance of relationship statements with all related health and welfare ministries located within the geographical bounds of the annual conference. The following legal representation statements, Legislative Items #11-16, are the required update.

LEGISLATIVE**ITEM #11****COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH, INC. AND CC YOUNG SENIOR LIVING**Introduction

CC Young Senior Living (hereinafter "CC Young") with its Corporate Headquarters located in Dallas, Texas, and within the boundaries of The North Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc. (hereinafter "Annual Conference") was chartered on March 17, 1922 as a nursing or retirement home to minister to aged women living in poverty. CC Young is a faith-based community of care, dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of older persons. CC Young now accepts elderly male and female residents and works to intensify and broaden services so that each individual may flourish in body, mind, and spirit.

Purpose of Covenant Statement

Annual Conference and CC Young celebrate a long-standing and valuable relationship. The parties share the Wesleyan values of respect, compassion, diversity, generosity, partnership, and service. The parties view this covenant statement as setting forth elements of an enduring partnership which is important to each. CC Young is committed to this covenant in order to enhance the quality of life and holistic growth of older persons, in keeping with our United Methodist tradition. Annual Conference is committed to this covenant as an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of older adults by bringing to CC Young core United Methodist values as set forth in the *Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*.

Communication

The primary communication link between the parties will be the Chair of the Board of Directors of CC Young and the Bishop of Annual Conference. CC Young shall meet with Annual Conference on an annual basis to discuss programs and plans. This annual communication meeting may be accomplished by the parties' mutual participation in the Annual Conference meeting which is held in June of each year. Information shall be consistently shared so that both partners remain responsible and committed to each other's interests.

The leadership of CC Young will continue to be welcomed as non-voting participants of the Annual Conference or its successor organization. CC Young is encouraged to maintain active membership in The United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries.

1 Board Representation

2
3 Annual Conference and CC Young are independent entities, governed and financed separately and
4 without fiscal or legal responsibility to one another. However, because of the deep connection with
5 The United Methodist Church, CC Young has a strong commitment to having a significant number
6 of United Methodist, including North Texas Annual Conference, clergy and lay representation on
7 its Board of Directors.
8

9
10 Financial Considerations

11
12 Annual Conference and CC Young are financially and legally independent organizations, both
13 operating under the laws of the State of Texas. CC Young acknowledges that Annual Conference
14 shall not be legally responsible for the debts, contracts, or obligations, or for any other financial
15 commitments of any character or description created, undertaken, or assumed by CC Young,
16 absent the express consent of Annual Conference. However, CC Young, on behalf of its ministries
17 to its surrounding community, may request financial support from Annual Conference as a health
18 and welfare ministry. Furthermore, financial independence does not preclude the partners from
19 working together on projects of mutual interest, nor does it prevent the partners from contributing
20 to the charitable programs of the other. CC Young will not pursue a church-by-church financial
21 campaign without written permission from the Council on Finance and Administration of the
22 Annual Conference.
23

24 Structural Links

25
26 Annual Conference is a Texas tax-exempt nonprofit corporation. CC Young is a tax-exempt
27 nonprofit organization. CC Young is governed by its Board of Trustees; its assets and property are
28 held in the name of CC Young Senior Living or in the names of wholly owned subsidiaries of CC
29 Young. In the event of dissolution of CC Young, all of its property (except that within the
30 boundaries of Annual Conference) shall, after making provisions of applicable financial codes, be
31 paid over and transferred to Annual Conference. In the event that neither Annual Conference nor
32 any successor to Annual Conference is in existence at the time, the Board of Trustees of CC Young
33 shall, after making provision for the discharge of all liabilities and obligations, dispose of the assets
34 to organizations organized and operating exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or
35 scientific purposes in such manner as described in the CC Young amended and restated Articles
36 of Incorporation or Bylaws.
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41 Use of United Methodist Insignia and Compliance Requirements

42
43 CC Young acknowledges that before it can use the official United Methodist insignia or the term
44 “United Methodist” in its name, mission statement, publications, or promotional or marketing
45 material that it must first obtain approval of the General Council of Finance and Administration.
46 CC Young shall also comply with any further requirements adopted by the General Council on
47 Finance and Administration, in consultation with the United Methodist Association of Health and
48 Welfare Ministries.
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Relationship Review

Annual Conference affirms its commitment to the quality of life of older persons through this relationship with CC Young, and CC Young affirms its commitment to be operated as an extension ministry of Annual Conference.

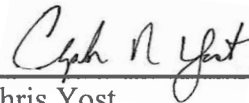
The statement of covenant relationship will be reviewed every quadrennium by CC Young with the Board of Trustees of Annual Conference as part of the ongoing communication and cooperation between Annual Conference and CC Young. Any change in this statement requires the approval of Annual Conference through its Board of Trustees and the approval of CC Young through its Board of Directors. The covenant relationship shall continue until either party, upon a year's notification, indicates the desire to terminate the relationship.

CC YOUNG SENIOR LIVING
a nonprofit organization

NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH, INC.
a nonprofit corporation



Russell Crews
President, Board of Directors



Chris Yost
Chair, Board of Trustees

Date: 2-25-2022

Date: March 14, 2022

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1 LEGISLATIVE**2 ITEM #12 COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN**
3 NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
4 METHODIST CHURCH, INC. AND DALLAS BETHLEHEM
5 CENTER, INC.
6
7**8 Introduction**
9

10 Dallas Bethlehem Center, Inc. (hereinafter "Center") is located in Dallas, Texas, and within the
11 boundaries of the North Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc.
12 (hereinafter "Annual Conference") was initially founded in 1946. The Center ministers to the
13 South Dallas community by providing social services such as the provision of early childhood
14 education (0-3), food security and physical wellness through food distribution, community garden,
15 fitness and wellness programs, and community empowerment through leadership development and
16 volunteer engagement. The Center is a faith-based community of care, dedicated to success-
17 readiness of the children and families of South Dallas zip codes 75215 and 75210.
18

19 Purpose of Covenant Statement
20

21 Annual Conference and Center celebrate a long-standing and valuable relationship. The parties
22 share the Wesleyan values of respect, compassion, diversity, generosity, partnership, and service.
23 The parties view this covenant statement as setting forth elements of an enduring partnership which
24 is important to each. Center is committed to this covenant in order to enhance the quality of life of
25 those in poverty, in keeping with our United Methodist tradition. Conference is committed to this
26 covenant as an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people by bringing to Center core
27 United Methodist values as set forth in the *Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*.
28

29 Communication
30

31 The primary communication link between the parties will be the Chair of the Board of Directors
32 of Center and the Bishop of Annual Conference. Center shall meet with Annual Conference on an
33 annual basis to discuss programs and plans. This annual communication meeting may be
34 accomplished by the parties' mutual participation in the Annual Conference meeting which is held
35 in June of each year. Information shall be consistently shared so that both partners remain
36 responsible and committed to each other's interests.
37

38 The leadership of Center will continue to be welcomed as non-voting participants of the Annual
39 Conference or its successor organization. Center is encouraged to maintain active membership in
40 The United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries.
41

42 Board Representation
43

44 Annual Conference and Center are independent entities, governed and financed separately and
45 without fiscal or legal responsibility to one another. However, because of the deep connection with
46 The United Methodist Church, Center has a strong commitment to having a significant number of
47 United Methodist, including North Texas Annual Conference, clergy and lay representation on its
48 Board of Directors.
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1 Financial Considerations
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3 Annual Conference and Center are financially and legally independent organizations, both
4 operating under the laws of the State of Texas. Center acknowledges that Annual Conference shall
5 not be legally responsible for the debts, contracts, or obligations, or for any other financial
6 commitments of any character or description created, undertaken, or assumed by Center, absent
7 the express consent of Annual Conference. However, Center, on behalf of its ministries to its
8 surrounding community, may request financial support from Annual Conference as a health and
9 welfare ministry. Furthermore, financial independence does not preclude the partners from
10 working together on projects of mutual interest, nor does it prevent the partners from contributing
11 to the charitable programs of the other. Center will not pursue a church-by-church financial
12 campaign without written permission from the Council on Finance and Administration of the
13 Annual Conference.
14

15 Structural Links
16

17 Annual Conference and Center are both Texas tax-exempt nonprofit corporations. Center is
18 governed by its Board of Directors; its assets and property are held in the name of United Methodist
19 Women, Inc, (UMW) Dallas Bethlehem Center or in the names of wholly owned subsidiaries of
20 UMW or Center. In the event of dissolution of Center, Annual Conference acknowledges that all
21 of Center's property shall, after making provisions of applicable financial codes, be paid over and
22 transferred to UMW.
23

24 Use of United Methodist Insignia and Compliance Requirements
25

26 Center acknowledges that before it can use the official United Methodist insignia or the term
27 "United Methodist" in its name, mission statement, publications, or promotional or marketing
28 material that it must first obtain approval of the General Council of Finance and Administration.
29 Center shall also comply with any further requirements adopted by the General Council on Finance
30 and Administration, in consultation with the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare
31 Ministries.
32

33 Relationship Review
34

35 Annual Conference affirms its commitment to success-readiness of the children and families of
36 South Dallas zip codes 75215 and 75210 through this relationship with Center, and Center affirms
37 its commitment to be operated as an extension ministry of Annual Conference.
38

39 The statement of covenant relationship will be reviewed every quadrennium by Center with the
40 Board of Trustees of Annual Conference as part of the ongoing communication and cooperation
41 between Annual Conference and Center. Any change in this statement requires the approval of
42 Annual Conference through its Board of Trustees and the approval of Center through its Board of
43 Directors. The covenant relationship shall continue until either party, upon a year's notification,
44 indicates the desire to terminate the relationship.
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1 DALLAS BETHLEHEM CENTER, INC.
2 a nonprofit corporation
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NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH, INC.
a nonprofit corporation

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7 Mr. Fred A. Jones
8
9 President, Board of Directors

Chris Yost
Chair, Board of Trustees

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12 Date: March 15, 2022
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Date: March 18, 2022

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LEGISLATIVE**ITEM #13****COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH, INC. AND METHODIST CHILDREN’S HOME**Introduction

Methodist Children’s Home has been providing care and facilities for children and youth since 1890.

Purpose of Covenant Statement

North Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc. (hereinafter "Annual Conference") and Methodist Children’s Home (hereinafter “MCH”) view this covenant statement as setting forth elements of an enduring, dynamic partnership that is fundamentally important to both. MCH is committed to this covenant in order to remain steadfast in its mission to equip children, youth and families to flourish by offering hope through Christ-centered relationships, services and support. Annual Conference is committed to this covenant to partner with MCH through financial and spiritual support for care and facilities for children, youth and families.

Communication

The primary communication link between the parties will be the President and CEO of MCH and the Bishop of Annual Conference. MCH shall meet with Annual Conference on an annual basis to discuss programs and plans. This annual communication meeting may be accomplished by the parties' mutual participation in the Annual Conference meeting which is held in June of each year. Information shall be consistently shared so that both partners remain responsible and committed to each other's interests.

In cooperation with the Annual Conference office and publications, MCH will communicate with the broad membership of Annual Conference for purposes of awareness, accountability, marketing, and mission development. Annual Conference recognizes that by emphasizing this relationship and promoting MCH, Annual Conference can expect to generate a flow of communications from United Methodists about MCH. The parties view this as important information that will provide insights not otherwise available.

The leadership of MCH will continue to be welcomed as non-voting participants of the Annual Conference or its successor organization. MCH is encouraged to maintain active membership in The United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries.

Board Representation

Annual Conference and MCH are independent entities, governed and financed separately and without fiscal or legal responsibility to one another. However, because of the deep connection with

1 The United Methodist Church, MCH has a strong commitment to having a significant number of
2 United Methodist, including North Texas Annual Conference, clergy and lay representation on its
3 Board of Directors.
4

5 Financial Considerations

6
7 Annual Conference and MCH are financially and legally independent organizations, both
8 operating under the laws of the State of Texas. MCH acknowledges that Annual Conference shall
9 not be legally responsible for the debts, contracts, or obligations, or for any other financial
10 commitments of any character or description created, undertaken, or assumed by MCH, absent the
11 express consent of Annual Conference. However, MCH, on behalf of its ministries to its
12 surrounding community, may request financial support from Annual Conference as a health and
13 welfare ministry. Furthermore, financial independence does not preclude the partners from
14 working together on projects of mutual interest, nor does it prevent the partners from contributing
15 to the charitable programs of the other. MCH will not pursue a church-by-church financial
16 campaign without written permission from the Council on Finance and Administration of the
17 Annual Conference.
18

19 Structural Links

20
21 Annual Conference and MCH are both Texas tax-exempt nonprofit corporations. MCH is
22 governed by its Board of Directors.
23

24 Use of United Methodist Insignia and Compliance Requirements

25
26 MCH acknowledges that before it can use the official United Methodist insignia or the term
27 “United Methodist” in its name, mission statement, publications, or promotional or marketing
28 material that it must first obtain approval of the General Council of Finance and Administration.
29 MCH shall also comply with any further requirements adopted by the General Council on Finance
30 and Administration, in consultation with the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare
31 Ministries.
32

33 Relationship Review

34
35 Annual Conference affirms its commitment to the ministries of MCH, and MCH affirms its
36 commitment to be operated as an extension ministry of Annual Conference.
37

38 The statement of covenant relationship will be reviewed every quadrennium by MCH with the
39 Board of Trustees of Annual Conference as part of the ongoing communication and cooperation
40 between Annual Conference and MCH. Any change in this statement requires the approval of
41 Annual Conference through its Board of Trustees and the approval of MCH through its Board of
42 Directors. The covenant relationship shall continue until either party, upon a year's notification,
43 indicates the desire to terminate the relationship.
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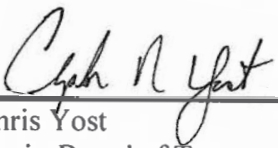
METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME
a nonprofit corporation



President and CEO

Date: 3/14/22

NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH, INC.
a nonprofit corporation



Chris Yost
Chair, Board of Trustees

Date: March 17, 2022

LEGISLATIVE**ITEM #14 RATIFICATION OF COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH, INC. AND METHODIST HOSPITALS OF
DALLAS dba METHODIST HEALTH SYSTEM**Introduction

Methodist Hospitals of Dallas d/b/a Methodist Health System (“System”) has been providing care to the sick and the injured, as well as the education of people who provide this care. Golden Cross, a faith-based program of Methodist Hospitals of Dallas, is included in this covenantal statement of relationship between North Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Inc. (hereinafter “Annual Conference”) and Methodist Health System.

Covenant Statement

In 1980, Annual Conference and System adopted the Covenant statement attached to this Ratification as Exhibit A. The Covenant statement has been in place and serving as the relational statement between Annual Conference and System for over forty years.

Purpose of Ratification of Covenant Statement

Annual Conference and System are financially and legally independent organizations. Annual Conference and System view the Covenant statement as setting forth the fundamental elements of what has been and will continue to be an enduring, dynamic relationship that is fundamentally important to both. System has been and remains committed to the Covenant statement as an integral part of its mission. Annual Conference has been and remains committed to the Covenant Statement through its spiritual support for the various System projects throughout the geographic bounds of Annual Conference.

Ratification

1. Annual Conference and System hereby affirms and ratifies that each are financially and legally independent organizations.
2. System acknowledges that Annual Conference shall not be legally responsible for the debts, contracts, or obligations, or for any other financial commitments of any character or description created, undertaken, or assumed by System, absent the express consent of Annual Conference.
3. Annual Conference acknowledges that System shall not be legally responsible for the debts, contracts, or obligations, or for any other financial commitments of any character or description created, undertaken, or assumed by Annual Conference, absent the express consent of System.
4. Without limiting the affirmation of independence as set forth in paragraph 1, Annual Conference hereby affirms and ratifies the Covenant statement and thereby its commitment to the health and welfare ministries of the System, and Methodist Health System hereby affirms and ratifies the Covenant statement and thereby its commitment to continue to be dedicated to the health care ministries.

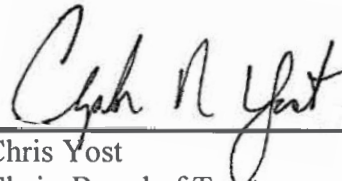
- 1 5. System, inclusive of Golden Cross, acknowledges that before it can use the official United
- 2 Methodist insignia as exemplified in Exhibit B or the term “United Methodist” in its name,
- 3 mission statement, publications, or promotional or marketing material that it must first
- 4 obtain approval of the General Council on Finance and Administration.
- 5 6. The statement of covenant relationship will be reviewed every quadrennium by System
- 6 with the Board of Trustees of Annual Conference as part of the ongoing communication
- 7 and cooperation between Annual Conference and System. Any change in this statement
- 8 requires the approval of Annual Conference through its Board of Trustees and the approval
- 9 of System through its Board of Directors. The covenant relationship shall continue until
- 10 either party, upon a year's notification, indicates the desire to terminate the relationship.
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16 METHODIST HOSPITALS OF DALLAS
 17 dba METHODIST HEALTH SYSTEM
 18 a nonprofit corporation
 19

NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL
 CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
 METHODIST CHURCH, INC.
 a nonprofit corporation

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26 Ron Ricks
27 Chair, Board of Directors

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34 Chris Yost
35 Chair, Board of Trustees

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Date: March 22, 2022

Date: March 28, 2022



Exhibit A

COVENANT BETWEEN NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE AND
METHODIST HOSPITALS OF DALLAS

Ministry in the name of Jesus Christ is the purpose of The United Methodist congregations of any conference. The Annual Conference and its agencies and affiliate institutions exist to serve as an extension of the ministry of outreach to persons. United Methodists serve in local health care institutions through hospitals, and caring and outreach are extended beyond the scope of local congregations.

The covenant statement exists to articulate the relationship of Methodist Hospitals of Dallas (Hospitals) and the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church (Conference) in this particular ministry of caring and healing. The assumptions of the covenant include the following:

First, each party to the covenant relationship must have something of value to offer the other, and something to gain from the other. A covenant implies that a sharing process is to take place in which each party is to give of itself and, in turn, to be enriched by what the other has to offer.

Second, Hospitals and Conference hold in common a mutuality of goals, objectives and purpose which relates to the specific functions and areas of expertise of Hospitals symbolized in the healing arts, pastoral care, post-secondary education for health careers and community services in preventive and rehabilitative medicine.

Third, Hospitals and Conference recognize each other as mature and independent entities. Hospitals has its own governing board. While the charter statement of Hospitals:

“In the event the corporation is dissolved, all of its liabilities and obligations shall be paid, satisfied and discharged and all of its assets and property then remaining shall be distributed to the North Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church or such other entity as may be entitled to hold property for the benefit of The United Methodist Church.”

indicates a relationship with Conference, Conference cannot make decisions of governance for Hospitals. Hospitals recognize that Conference is not legally responsible for liabilities and indebtedness.

Fourth, Hospitals and Conference both recognize high standards of care and administration.

1 Fifth, the objectives of Hospitals and Conference generally complement one another.
2 Hospitals provide direct services on behalf of Conference, such as pastoral care,
3 education opportunities and the rendering of charity services to the indigent. In turn,
4 financial support of some of Hospitals' programs is a direct evidence of support by the
5 Church of the Hospitals and their objectives. The Hospitals are interlaced with persons
6 who bring to their work in all capacities the concerns and commitments of their religious
7 faith.
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10
11 The foregoing is to be carried out through a mutual covenant relationship between Conference
12 and Hospitals.
13

14 This covenant, as approved by Conference and Hospitals, affirms that the care of the sick and
15 injured and the education of persons to care for them is a ministry of the Church and that
16 Hospitals covenants to serve as an extension of that ministry as outlined in the following four
17 areas:
18

19
20 Ministry. In the name of Christ the area of function and expertise of Hospitals is in touching
21 the lives of persons in need of healing, comfort, and education in the healing arts. This implies
22 that the policies and personnel of Hospitals exhibit the characteristics of the Christian faith.
23

24
25 Influence. While Hospitals and Conference are autonomous organizations, there are areas of
26 their life in which they influence each other. Influence allows each party to receive the insights
27 and concerns of the other party without the threat of sanction. While attempts to influence may
28 at times be uncomfortable for either or both parties, the hope is for a growth in ministry and
29 increased understanding of needs and issues.
30

31
32 Communication. For any covenant to have vitality, it seems apparent that there should be
33 established and used links of communication. The links of communication need to be both
34 formal and informal. The formal links are those administrative channels provided for the
35 fulfillment of responsibilities and liaison. The informal links are those which exist between
36 persons in both organizations to share concerns, information and issues but are not authorized for
37 making decisions.
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40
41 Support. Support is felt by both Hospitals and Conference as they work together in areas of
42 ministry. The expression of support may be both tangible and intangible. Within the covenant
43 relationship, the tangible support between Hospitals and Conference are those actions which
44 sustain specific policies or acts of ministry. The specific policy or act is identified as an area of
45 mutual concern to both Hospitals and Conference. The support may be personal participation,
46 financial or material resource. The decision as to what is supported and the extent of support is a
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1 mutual or negotiated decision for each item and may not be assumed. The intangible support
2 could be identified as the encouragement of persons who speak in favor of the mutual ministry
3 endeavors and offer their good will and volunteer help. Each organization in support of the
4 mutual aims and objectives and the activities of the other in furtherance of such aims and
5 objectives undertake and have undertaken:
6

7 8 HOSPITALS 9

10 To develop basic goals and purposes which reflect a commitment to Christian life and
11 learning, and when seeking to bring about a change in a position held by Conference will
12 do so without force or direct authority.
13

14 To assume responsibility for the fiscal operations of Hospitals.
15

16 To use funds given and accepted in trust for designated purposes in full compliance with
17 the wishes of the donor.
18

19 To assist Conference and the local churches to meet the health care and educational needs
20 of disadvantaged patients and students.
21

22 To commit to the fullest extent possible the resources of Hospitals in the provision of
23 educational, religious and health care programs and services for both ministers and lay
24 people.
25

26 To provide opportunity for members of the hospital community to serve the Conference
27 and local churches on a released time or nominal fee basis (speakers, committee, and
28 special project assignments, counseling service for parsonage families, etc.).
29

30 To provide the physical facilities and services of the Hospitals to Conference for meeting
31 on an “at cost” basis.
32

33 To acknowledge affiliation with, and support from, Conference in published documents
34 and statements.
35

36 37 CONFERENCE 38

39 To respect the integrity of Hospitals as places of health and pastoral care, medical
40 education, research and community services and to support their need for and the right to
41 carry out these functions with the freedom to act in accord with the most enlightened
42 scientific and moral leadership and judgment available to the governing board of each
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1 institution. When Conference seeks to influence these activities and decisions, it will do
2 so without force or direct authority.
3

4
5 To recognize that Conference budget support holds meaningful significance to Hospitals
6 as an indication of relationship as a voluntary supporting body, although Conference
7 does not bear the legal and financial responsibility of the Hospitals. Any major financial
8 assistance in the future is open to mutual decision of Hospitals and Conference.
9

10
11 To encourage the churches and United Methodist families to provide ways in which
12 Hospitals may freely and acceptably recruit United Methodist students for health and
13 related careers.
14

15
16 To encourage local churches and United Methodist Church members to support Hospitals
17 with their gifts, bequests, prayers, influence and voluntary service.
18

19 To work with the Hospitals in helping to meet the health care and educational needs of
20 disadvantaged students and patients.
21

22
23 To utilize the resources of Hospitals in joint development of continuing education
24 programs for both ministers and lay persons.
25

26 To encourage local church and Conference groups to make use of Hospitals' physical
27 facilities and services for seminars, meetings and conferences of all kinds.
28

29
30 To encourage local churches to provide physical facilities and services to Hospitals for
31 use on an "at cost" basis and to assure Hospitals that the Conference office and facilities
32 are available for use on an "at cost" basis.
33

34
35 To acknowledge the relationships of Conference to Hospitals in published documents and
36 statements.
37

38
39 The covenant relationship herein designated is best described as an interdependent one in which
40 Methodist Hospitals of Dallas and the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church
41 each do that for which it is best equipped to do in the corporate ministry in the name of Jesus
42 Christ.
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46 Approved by Methodist Hospital of Dallas
47 Board of Trustees on October 27, 1980
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Exhibit B

United Methodist Insignia



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LEGISLATIVE**ITEM #15 COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH, INC. AND WESLEY VILLAGE
RETIREMENT HOME, INC.**Introduction

Wesley Village Retirement Home, Inc. has been providing Independent and Assisted Living opportunities for seniors since 1987.

Purpose of Covenant Statement

North Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc. (hereinafter "Annual Conference") and Wesley Village Retirement Home, Inc. (hereinafter "Wesley Village") view this covenant statement as setting forth elements of an enduring, dynamic partnership that is fundamentally important to both. Wesley Village is committed to this covenant in order to remain steadfast in its mission to provide quality and affordable housing for seniors. Annual Conference is committed to this covenant to partner with Wesley Village through financial and spiritual support for seniors in need of housing.

Communication

The primary communication link between the parties will be the Chair of the Board of Directors of Wesley Village and the Bishop of Annual Conference. Wesley Village shall meet with Annual Conference on an annual basis to discuss programs and plans. This annual communication meeting may be accomplished by the parties' mutual participation in the Annual Conference meeting which is held in June of each year. Information shall be consistently shared so that both partners remain responsible and committed to each other's interests.

In cooperation with the Annual Conference office and publications, Wesley Village will communicate with the broad membership of Annual Conference for purposes of awareness, accountability, marketing, and mission development. Annual Conference recognizes that by emphasizing this relationship and promoting Wesley Village, Annual Conference can expect to generate a flow of communications from United Methodists about Wesley Village. The parties view this as important information that will provide insights not otherwise available.

The leadership of Wesley Village will continue to be welcomed as non-voting participants of the Annual Conference or its successor organization. Wesley Village is encouraged to maintain active membership in The United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries.

Board Representation

Annual Conference and Wesley Village are independent entities, governed and financed separately and without fiscal or legal responsibility to one another. However, because of the deep connection

1 with The United Methodist Church, Wesley Village has a strong commitment to having a
2 significant number of United Methodist, including North Texas Annual Conference, clergy and
3 lay representation on its Board of Directors.
4

5 Financial Considerations

6
7
8 Annual Conference and Wesley Village are financially and legally independent organizations, both
9 operating under the laws of the State of Texas. Wesley Village acknowledges that Annual
10 Conference shall not be legally responsible for the debts, contracts, or obligations, or for any other
11 financial commitments of any character or description created, undertaken, or assumed by Wesley
12 Village, absent the express consent of Annual Conference. However, Wesley Village, on behalf
13 of its ministries to its surrounding community, may request financial support from Annual
14 Conference as a health and welfare ministry. Furthermore, financial independence does not
15 preclude the partners from working together on projects of mutual interest, nor does it prevent the
16 partners from contributing to the charitable programs of the other. Wesley Village will not pursue
17 a church-by-church financial campaign without written permission from the Council on Finance
18 and Administration of the Annual Conference.
19

20 Structural Links

21
22 Annual Conference and Wesley Village are both Texas tax-exempt nonprofit corporations. Wesley
23 Village is governed by its Board of Directors.
24

25 Use of United Methodist Insignia and Compliance Requirements

26
27 Wesley Village acknowledges that before it can use the official United Methodist insignia or the
28 term “United Methodist” in its name, mission statement, publications, or promotional or marketing
29 material that it must first obtain approval of the General Council of Finance and Administration.
30 Wesley Village shall also comply with any further requirements adopted by the General Council
31 on Finance and Administration, in consultation with the United Methodist Association of Health
32 and Welfare Ministries.
33
34

35 Relationship Review

36
37 Annual Conference affirms its commitment to the ministries of Wesley Village, and Wesley
38 Village Wesley Village affirms its commitment to be operated as an extension ministry of Annual
39 Conference.
40

41 The statement of covenant relationship will be reviewed every quadrennium by Wesley Village
42 with the Board of Trustees of Annual Conference as part of the ongoing communication and
43 cooperation between Annual Conference and Wesley Village. Any change in this statement
44 requires the approval of Annual Conference through its Board of Trustees and the approval of
45 Wesley Village through its Board of Directors. The covenant relationship shall continue until
46 either party, upon a year's notification, indicates the desire to terminate the relationship.
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WESLEY VILLAGE RETIREMENT
HOME, INC.
a nonprofit corporation



President, Board of Directors

Date: 3/1/22

NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH, INC.
a nonprofit corporation



Chris Yost
Chair, Board of Trustees

Date: March 14, 2022

1 LEGISLATIVE**2 ITEM #16****3 COVENANT STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN**
4 NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
5 METHODIST CHURCH, INC. AND WESLEY-RANKIN COMMUNITY
6 CENTER, INC.**7**
8 Introduction
9

10 Wesley-Rankin Community Center, Inc. (hereinafter "Center") is located in Dallas, Texas, and
11 within the boundaries of the North Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church,
12 Inc. (hereinafter "Annual Conference") was initially founded in 1902, under the name of "The
13 Greater Dallas Board of City Missions of The Methodist Church." The name was changed to
14 Wesley-Rankin Community Center in 1988. Center ministers to the West Dallas community by
15 providing education and caring relationships. Center is a faith-based community of care, dedicated
16 to enhancing the quality of life and advancement opportunities of those in poverty.
17

18 Purpose of Covenant Statement
19

20 Annual Conference and Center celebrate a long-standing and valuable relationship. The parties
21 share the Wesleyan values of respect, compassion, diversity, generosity, partnership, and service.
22 The parties view this covenant statement as setting forth elements of an enduring partnership which
23 is important to each. Center is committed to this covenant in order to enhance the quality of life of
24 those in poverty, in keeping with our United Methodist tradition. Conference is committed to this
25 covenant as an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people by bringing to Center core
26 United Methodist values as set forth in the *Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*.
27

28 Communication
29

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31 The primary communication link between the parties will be the Chair of the Board of Directors
32 of Center and the Bishop of Annual Conference. Center shall meet with Annual Conference on an
33 annual basis to discuss programs and plans. This annual communication meeting may be
34 accomplished by the parties' mutual participation in the Annual Conference meeting which is held
35 in June of each year. Information shall be consistently shared so that both partners remain
36 responsible and committed to each other's interests.
37

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39 The leadership of Center will continue to be welcomed as non-voting participants of the Annual
40 Conference or its successor organization. Center is encouraged to maintain active membership in
41 The United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries.
42

43 Board Representation
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45 Annual Conference and Center are independent entities, governed and financed separately and
46 without fiscal or legal responsibility to one another. However, because of the deep connection with
47 The United Methodist Church, Center has a strong commitment to having a significant number of
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1 United Methodist, including North Texas Annual Conference, clergy and lay representation on its
2 Board of Directors.
3

4 Financial Considerations 5

6
7 Annual Conference and Center are financially and legally independent organizations, both
8 operating under the laws of the State of Texas. Center acknowledges that Annual Conference shall
9 not be legally responsible for the debts, contracts, or obligations, or for any other financial
10 commitments of any character or description created, undertaken, or assumed by Center, absent
11 the express consent of Annual Conference. However, Center, on behalf of its ministries to its
12 surrounding community, may request financial support from Annual Conference as a health and
13 welfare ministry. Furthermore, financial independence does not preclude the partners from
14 working together on projects of mutual interest, nor does it prevent the partners from contributing
15 to the charitable programs of the other. Center will not pursue a church-by-church financial
16 campaign without written permission from the Council on Finance and Administration of the
17 Annual Conference.
18

19 Structural Links 20

21 Annual Conference and Center are both Texas tax-exempt nonprofit corporations. Center is
22 governed by its Board of Directors; its assets and property are held in the name of Wesley-Rankin
23 Community Center or in the names of wholly owned subsidiaries of Center. In the event of
24 dissolution of Center, all of its property shall, after making provisions of applicable financial
25 codes, be paid over and transferred to the United Methodist Women of the North Texas Annual
26 Conference. In the event that neither the United Methodist Women of the North Texas Annual
27 Conference nor any successor to the United Methodist Women of the North Texas Annual
28 Conference is in existence at the time, the Board of Directors of Center shall, after making
29 provision for the discharge of all liabilities and obligations, dispose of the assets to organizations
30 organized and operating exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes in
31 such manner as described in Center amended and restated Articles of Incorporation.
32
33

34 Use of United Methodist Insignia and Compliance Requirements 35

36 Center acknowledges that before it can use the official United Methodist insignia or the term
37 “United Methodist” in its name, mission statement, publications, or promotional or marketing
38 material that it must first obtain approval of the General Council of Finance and Administration.
39 Center shall also comply with any further requirements adopted by the General Council on Finance
40 and Administration, in consultation with the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare
41 Ministries.
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1 Relationship Review

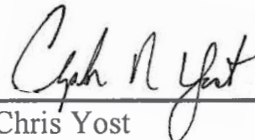
2
3 Annual Conference affirms its commitment to the West Dallas community through this
4 relationship with Center, and Center affirms its commitment to be operated as an extension
5 ministry of Annual Conference.
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8 The statement of covenant relationship will be reviewed every quadrennium by Center with the
9 Board of Trustees of Annual Conference as part of the ongoing communication and cooperation
10 between Annual Conference and Center. Any change in this statement requires the approval of
11 Annual Conference through its Board of Trustees and the approval of Center through its Board of
12 Directors. The covenant relationship shall continue until either party, upon a year's notification,
13 indicates the desire to terminate the relationship.
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17 WESLEY-RANKIN COMMUNITY
18 CENTER, INC.
19 a nonprofit corporation

NORTH TEXAS ANNUAL
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH, INC.
a nonprofit corporation

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24 _____
25 President, Board of Directors

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25 _____
26 Chris Yost
27 Chair, Board of Trustees

28 Date: Feb 22, 2022

28 Date: March 25, 2022

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LEGISLATIVE**ITEM #17****PROTECTING THE LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

FROM: Jessica Vittorio, Lay Delegate for FUMC Dallas, North Texas Annual Conference

Whereas, the Annual Conference is the fundamental legislative body of the United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, it is the primary task of the Annual Conference to be the platform for consideration of legislative items presented by the Annual Conference, which often reflect the priorities and concerns of the Conference as a whole; and

Whereas, it is through our true consideration of proposed legislative items that we, as an Annual Conference, have the most sincere opportunity to have our voices heard, and hear from our peers and colleagues throughout the conference; and

Whereas, there has been a concerning trend of deprioritizing the time allotted for consideration of legislative items until the end of the agenda, and then requiring the Annual Conference to forgo debate, table important legislative items, and rush through complex and critical legislative items due to time restraints; and

Whereas, we recognize that these habits and trends historically served as a detriment to the ministry and work of the Annual Conference, and the church; and

Whereas, the existing propensity for de-prioritizing time for consideration of legislative items diminishes our ability to be a vital and effective church and for that reason is no longer feasible; and

Now, therefore be it resolved, we, the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church, strongly encourage the Annual Conference Planning Team to reserve at least three hours of time at the **beginning** of the Annual Conference agenda for the consideration of legislative items; and

Be it further resolved, we, the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church, recognize the value and importance of the legislative process in the governance structure of the church, and desire to have sufficient time, opportunity, and space to allow the legislative process to be enacted in full during our Annual Conference gatherings; and

Be it further resolved, the conference secretary shall send copies of this resolution to the Annual Conference Planning Team and urge them to support the spirit and intention of this legislation and to make such legislation a priority in organizing the 2023 North Texas Annual Conference and future annual conferences.

LEGISLATIVE**ITEM #18****PROMOTING OPPORTUNITY FOR DELEGATE DIVERSITY IN THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

FROM: Jessica Vittorio, Lay Delegate for FUMC Dallas, North Texas Annual Conference

Whereas, it has been the tradition of the North Texas Annual Conference to hold the business of the Annual Conference on weekdays, specifically Mondays and Tuesdays; and

Whereas, such scheduling makes it difficult, if not impossible, for parents, teachers, students, single income families, families without access to weekday childcare, individuals/families dependent on wage-based income, individ-

uals without paid time off, individuals subject to a traditional work schedule, and many others to be able to serve as delegates; and

Whereas, the above factors disproportionality impact and exclude those within certain socio-economic classes, races, ethnicities, education levels, marital statuses, and ages; and

Whereas, the North Texas Annual Conference by its prior legislation, and episcopal priorities, has sought to incorporate and empower leadership that is reflective of the broad socio-economic, racial, ethnic, and geographic diversity that exists within the North Texas Conference; and

Whereas, the weekday scheduling tradition has historically served as a detriment to the ministry and work of the church, specifically as it relates to empowering leadership which is reflective of the true diversity within the North Texas Conference; and

Whereas, the scheduling tradition diminishes our ability to be a vital and effective church and for that reason is no longer feasible; and

Whereas, prioritizing the scheduling of the North Texas Annual Conference on Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday evening would increase the opportunity of participation to some groups who are currently excluded;

Now, therefore be it resolved, we, the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church, strongly encourage the Annual Conference Planning Team to prioritize scheduling of the North Texas Annual Conference on Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday evening beginning with the 2023 Annual Conference; and

Be it further resolved, we, the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church, recognize the importance of having a diverse Annual Conference delegate body, and will strive to dismantle the structures and traditions that prevent such diversity; and

Be it further resolved, the conference secretary shall send copies of this resolution to the Annual Conference Planning Team and urge them to support the spirit and intention of this legislation and to make such legislation a priority in organizing the 2023 North Texas Annual Conference and future annual conferences.

LEGISLATIVE

ITEM #19 RESOLUTION TO BLESS AND PROVIDE CLARITY TO DISAFFILIATING CONGREGATIONS IN THE NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE

FROM: Rev. Jill Jackson-Sears, Clergy Member, Lake Highlands UMC

WHEREAS prolonged uncertainty regarding the future of The United Methodist Church as well as limited information about requirements in the North Texas Conference for congregations desiring to disaffiliate causes harm, anxiety, and distraction in United Methodist congregations; and

WHEREAS the North Texas Annual Conference wants to bless faithful congregations, who have discerned a call to disaffiliate and need clarity regarding the process and requirements in order to make informed decisions; and

WHEREAS *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* contains two options for disaffiliation from The United Methodist Church: 1) Paragraph 2548.2 relating to release of the trust clause to join a church “represented in the Pan-Methodist Commission or another evangelical denomination;” or 2) Paragraph 2553 which grants the

1 limited right, until December 31, 2023, for United Methodist congregations to disaffiliate for reasons of conscience
2 over “the practice of ordination or marriage of self-avowed practicing homosexuals or actions or inactions of the
3 annual conference.”
4

5 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 2022 Session of the North Texas Conference desires to graciously
6 bless these congregations and directs the Board of Trustees of the North Texas Conference and all officials of the
7 Annual Conference to be governed by the following principles, policies and processes in engaging congregations
8 who desire to join “one of the other denominations represented in the Pan-Methodist Commission or to another
9 evangelical denomination” (Paragraph 2548.2), or to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church “for reasons of
10 conscience regarding a change in the requirements and provision of The Book of Discipline related to the practice
11 of homosexuality or the ordination or marriage of self-avowed practicing homosexuals as resolved and adopted
12 by the 2019 General Conference, or the actions or inactions of its annual conference related to these issues which
13 follow” (Paragraph 2553).
14

- 15 1 Congregations joining one of the denominations represented in the Pan-Methodist Commission or other
16 evangelical church may, at their sole discretion, choose to disaffiliate under the provisions of Paragraph
17 2548.2.
18
- 19 2 Only congregations disaffiliating to an independent status shall be required to use the provisions of
20 Paragraph 2553.
21
- 22 3 Any required payments for unfunded pension liability shall be based on Wespath calculations of the
23 aggregate unfunded liability of the North Texas Annual Conference. Allocation of a proportional share
24 of that liability to the local church shall be determined using the North Texas Conference apportionment
25 formula.
26
- 27 4 The North Texas Conference Trustees and officials shall adhere to the following policies in administering
28 Paragraph 2548.2:
 - 29 a Any allocation, exchange of property, or comity agreement shall include the following requirements.
30 No additional or punitive sums shall be required.
 - 31 i The local church retains all its assets and liabilities.
32
 - 33 ii The local church shall be current in apportionments for the period of 12 months preceding
34 disaffiliation. Payment of unpaid amounts for the 12 months preceding the effective date of
35 disaffiliation shall be made preceding the effective date of disaffiliation.
36
 - 37 iii The local church shall repay previously documented loans from the Annual Conference.
38
 - 39 iv The local church shall either remain under Wespath and carry its unfunded liability forward
40 with it or repay the North Texas Conference for the local church’s proportional share of the
41 unfunded liability. The liability shall include unfunded obligations related to The United
42 Methodist Church’s pre-1982 pension plan, the Ministerial Pension Plan, and/or the Clergy
43 Retirement Security Program.
44
 - 45 v No additional or punitive sums will be required to obtain release of all the congregation’s
46 property and assets from the trust clause.
47

b The local church shall make the decision to disaffiliate at a church conference duly called according to the provisions of *The Book of Discipline*. The Church Council (or its equivalent) shall determine whether a simple majority or a two-thirds super majority shall be required for approval of the motion to disaffiliate. The district superintendent shall approve the request of the Church Council and shall preside or choose another elder to preside at a church conference to take place no later than sixty days after the request is made.

5 The North Texas Conference Trustees and officials shall adhere to the following policies in administering Paragraph 2553:

- a No additional or punitive sums shall be required for release of the local church's property and assets beyond those defined in Paragraph 2553.4 b – h.
- b The required apportionment payment (Paragraph 2553.4b) shall be for the twelve months immediately preceding the effective date of separation, plus twelve times the most recent month apportionment amount prior to separation. Payment of any unpaid sums shall be made by the local church prior to the date of separation.
- c No additional or punitive terms, standard or otherwise, shall be imposed by the North Texas Annual Conference on the disaffiliating local church.

LEGISLATIVE

ITEM #20

A RESOLUTION FOR FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS

FROM: Phil Dieke, Clergy Member White Rock UMC, NTC Church and Society Board Chair

Whereas the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church affirms “that all persons are individuals of sacred worth, created in the image of God;” and

Whereas the 2016 Book of Discipline, Paragraph 164.A states, “We hold governments responsible for the protection of the rights of the people to free and fair elections... The form and the leaders of all governments should be determined by exercise for the right to vote guaranteed to all adult citizens;” and

Whereas the Book of Resolutions, 3378 calls for a vision of beloved community founded on economic and racial justice. The vision includes among many things, “reinstating and strengthening voting rights protection,” in light of continued systemic racism that threatens to undermine provisions for fair and free elections for all citizens; and

Whereas the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 1; and

Whereas the passing and implementation of Senate Bill 1 already has led to numerous instances of voter confusion; claims of disenfranchisement; anxiety on the part of volunteer election workers; and lawsuits.

Therefore, be it resolved that United Methodist Churches in the North Texas Conference will advance the social principles of the United Methodist Church and serve their local communities through Election and Voter Mobilization.

Be it further resolved that our churches will encourage one hundred percent voter participation from eligible voters in their congregations.

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- 1 **Be it further resolved** that our churches will ensure every eligible church member has the info and resources they
2 need to vote.
3
- 4 **Be it further resolved** that our churches will encourage free and fair elections and full civic engagements within
5 our communities.
6
- 7 **Be it further resolved** that the North Texas Conference Center for Missional Outreach, and specifically the
8 Board of Church and Society, will provide resources to equip and empower local churches for Election and Voter
9 Mobilization.
10
- 11 **Be it further resolved** that United Methodist churches in the North Texas Conference that document and report
12 their Election and Voter Mobilization projects during the 2022 election cycle will receive official, public recognition
13 from the North Texas Conference Center for Missional Outreach.
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2022 NTC CONFERENCE REPORTS



2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT JOURNEY TOWARD RACIAL JUSTICE (JTRJ) REPORT

The Journey Toward Racial Justice Team continues its work to engage, equip, and implement opportunities for transformation through following its vision statement to end active and passive racism and create an equitable future for all people in the North Texas Conference and the communities we serve. As envisioned by Bishop McKee, the JTRJ Team is delegated work in the areas of Vital Conversations, Intercultural Competency, and Institutional Equity. JTRJ is housed under the NTC Center for Missional Outreach. Since the 2021 Annual Conference, JTRJ has collaborated closely with and also supports the NTC Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, as well as the Conference Committee on Religion and Race (CORR), in dismantling racism for personal and systemic transformation. JTRJ also has partnered with other Conference and community groups and continues to seek further opportunities to do so.

JTRJ and Conference representatives hosted and facilitated conversations on the NTC Racial Equity Audit conducted in Spring 2021. The comments and feedback were fruitful and instructive. JTRJ thanks everyone who participated in the racial equity audit conversations. To view the Racial Equity Audits Results, please see ntcumc.org/about/combating-racism.

At the NTC Clergy Residency Retreat, JTRJ representatives presented their personal stories of encountering racism, spoke about the NTC Racial Equity Audit Results, and shared ways to continue the work of racial justice through impacting change.

The Congregational Journey Toward Racial Justice finished its pilot phase and was open to all churches interested in the Congregational Journey. CJTRJ churches are forming their own anti-racism taskforces and engaging with their communities. JTRJ is grateful for the Congregational JTRJ Journey Companions who walk alongside the churches engaged in the congregational journey. To learn more about the Congregational Journey Toward Racial Justice, please contact Rev. Andy Lewis at (972) 526-5016 or lewis@ntcumc.org.

JTRJ continues to offer cultural competency trainings to churches and other groups. JTRJ envisions expanding cultural competency training opportunities to include “train the trainer” events.

An updated CJTRJ Guidebook was published following feedback and assessment received. The Guidebook is available at ntcumc.org/congregational-journey. Ideas to adapt the CJTRJ Guidebook for individual use and for various people groups are in the works of planning and implementation. Further development of additional JTRJ resources is anticipated as well to meet the needs of our mission field.

JTRJ representatives participated in a livestream event hosted by a Church and Society Facebook group. The conversations were in-depth opportunities for learning, connecting, and building relationships for collaborating in anti-racism work.

JTRJ produced a video presentation for NTC District Laity Training Day that included sharing personal stories, updates on JTRJ opportunities, and a method for understanding implicit biases and engaging in conversations with people from different racial and cultural backgrounds. The Journey Toward Racial Justice video presentation for the District Laity Training is available at ntcumc.org/dlt/jtrj.

The Virtual Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural Ministry Spring Training sponsored by the North Texas Conference Center for Leadership Development, The Center for Church Development, and Cowley Coaching will take place April 29-30, 2022. This is a great opportunity with worship and learning experiences for clergy and laity. A number of JTRJ members will be serving as speakers at the CR/CC Ministry Spring Training.

JTRJ will be collaborating with Project Unity (projectunity.net/), to host a lunch event at the 2022 Annual Conference. This lunch event guided by Project Unity facilitators offers a safe space for participants to get to know one another and engage in conversations about race, with the vision for preparing hearts and minds for transformative social action.

In the coming year, the Journey Toward Racial Justice Team continues its calling to build bridges and strengthen relationships with all people. JTRJ seeks to engage in further collaborative engagement through dedicated persistence, to create a symphony of unified hearts and hands equipped for action. It is our hope that we listen more deeply, dissolve barriers, and overcome personal and systemic racial injustices by God's transforming grace.

We are grateful for your prayers and support. If you would like to learn more about JTRJ, please feel free to reach out to Rev. Silvia Wang at rev.silvia.wang@gmail.com.

CENTER FOR CHURCH DEVELOPMENT (CCD)

The vision for the Center for Church Development of the North Texas Conference (CCD) is *Every Church Planting*. With the wide diversity of churches in the North Texas Conference (NTC), with the vision of every church to be planting, the CCD knows that church planting will look different in every church. For some churches, planting looks like gathering a very small group of persons not currently in their congregation for discipleship. For other churches, planting looks like developing a multi-million-dollar campus. Planting happens in the wide variety of ways when two or more new faces gather for Christian discipleship. The 2021-2022 Annual Conference (AC) year saw a diversity of planting taking place throughout the NTC.

First, the CCD launched the Spark Tank. The CCD gathered five innovative leaders, both clergy and laity, to assist pioneers of New Spaces in the NTC with expertise and funds from the CCD. Modeled after the TV show "Shark Tank," North Central Lay Leader Kenneth Wolverton, First UMC Sherman lay person Gail Utter, St. Luke UMC pastor Richie Butler, GBHEM of Product Development Michael Baughman, and Custer Road UMC Associate Pastor Danielle Kim served as the "sharks." Each were given \$10,000 to distribute along with a commitment of their time to work with the grantees.

The CCD received 30 ideas for New Spaces. 30 ideas are over 10% of NTC congregations. The CCD is grateful and celebrates this level of engagement in the inaugural Spark Tank:

Life in Abundance Holistic Health Discipleship	Christ's Foundry UMM
Ikana (Choctaw: Friend/Be Friendly) Baseball Discipleship	Shady Grove UMC East District
Summer "Tings" - Family Discipleship	Church of the Disciple
Waste Not-Want Not! Cooking & Dining Discipleship	Glen Oaks UMC.

Eat.Drink.Argue. Relationship Brunch Discipleship	St Paul UMC Dallas
The Traveling Hope Showcase Youth and Arts Discipleship	Wheatland UMC
Neighbors Community Discipleship	Christ United Plano & First Allen
Shelter ReImagined for Discipleship with Victims of Abuse	FUMC Mabank
Church in the Oculus Digital Discipleship	Kavanaugh U.M.C. in the East District
Farm-to-Table Discipleship	Owenwood Farm & Neighbor Space
"Home Church"	Trietsch Memorial UMC
Bike in the Park Discipleship	The Seed / Christ's Foundry UMM
Paint and Praise Children and Family Discipleship	The Village UMC
Terrell Grief Support Group	FUMC Terrell
Paris Safe Space Young Adult Discipleship	PJC Wesley Center
Coffee Shop Works Theater Discipleship	Union Coffee
Mind Education Discipleship	Kirkwood Casa de Dios Huerto de Oracion
Join us at the Kitchen Table Community Discipleship	Oak Lawn UMC
Kids Haven Children's Discipleship	Oak Haven UMC
The Creation Space Workshop Discipleship	FUMC Royse City
Conversations English Language Learning Discipleship	FUMC Sachse
Indian/South Asian Neighbors Discipleship	FUMC Coppell
Esperanza Strings - Music Discipleship	Casa Linda UMC
FestiKids Children's Open-Air Discipleship	The Seed / Christ's Foundry UMM
Common Ground Children's Discipleship	Lovers Lane UMC Wesley Prep School
Refuge Ministries - Youth Discipleship	FUMC Mt. Vernon
The Vining Garden Discipleship	Rhome UMC
The Colony Urban Farm Discipleship	FUMC The Colony
Let it Bee Café Youth and Community Discipleship	Flower Mound UMC

These ideas are shared with the prayer that these ideas spark ideas in other churches of ways in which new persons can be gathered in new space to experience the good news, hope, and love of Jesus Christ.

Second, even in the adverse conditions of the pandemic, new congregations continue to be planted, and these new congregations are growing. Churches that received new church funding include Oasis, CCM Grand Prairie, Cockrell Hill, Kirkwood Huerta de Oración, Vecinos-Sherman, The Seed Pleasant Mound/Christ's Foundry, Gracia Viva in Oak Lawn, Grace Chapel-Grace Avenue, Immanuel Korean, Oak Haven Spanish, and Jahweh Rafah. The CCD also assisted with the adoption merger of Walnut Hill UMC by Lovers Lane UMC and assisted Krum UMC. Because all funding is matching, contextual, and leveraged with a vision towards long-term vitality, income is measured, among many other metrics. Although the majority of projects are in lower-income communities, these new churches experienced an average of 72% increase in mission field giving and a median increase of 41%. New churches are growing, and the strategy of churches planting churches is bearing fruit.

Third, the 2021 AC report shared the demographics of the NTC mission field and the underrepresentation of most ethnic groups in north Texas. CCD funding and strategy is working to reach underreached populations. These

strategies include the planting of new faith communities as demonstrated in the above list of plants and also investing in cohorts through the Latinx Laity Fellowship, as well as connecting with and investing in African and Asian pastors and congregations.

The 2021 recommendations from Black Church Task Force have been incorporated into the Black Church Initiative, and a Black Church Initiative Advisory team has been formed under the leadership of Metro District Superintendent Rev. Edlen Cowley. Through the Black Church Initiative (BCI), a new rural Black Church cohort was launched this past AC year in addition to continuing the Southern Dallas County cohort. St. Luke “Community,” Hamilton Park, The Village, St. Paul, Church of the Disciple, and Warren have continued to work their BCI assessments and have grown in their community engagement through the BCI process. Strategic planning continues, and next AC year is promising to see new BCI initiatives.

Fourth, the Accelerated Church Expansion (ACE) Initiative leverages the assets of closed churches to plant new campuses. These funds partnered with First UMC McKinney to construct Melissa UMC in 2020. Under the leadership of Rev. Stacey Piyakhun at Melissa UMC, this ministry has continued to grow with its mission field.

ACE funds were also used to purchase property in west Prosper/east Aubrey for a future site of Grace Chapel UMC, a campus of Grace Avenue UMC, Frisco. Under the leadership of Rev. Courtney Schultz at Grace Chapel, this congregation has continued to grow, and groundbreaking on their new facility is anticipated in the upcoming 2022-2023 AC year.

The third and most recent ACE project is Anna UMC. On December 11, 2020, Anna UMC tragically burned beyond repair. On October 17, 2021, Anna UMC boldly voted unanimously to enter the ACE program, which meant them relocating from their historic location to one of the growing areas in Anna, Texas. Under the leadership of Pastor Dallen Morgan, the process of acquiring land and of developing a planting and church growth strategy are underway with the hopes of groundbreaking in this coming 2022-2023 AC year.

Fifth, both lay and clergy planters continue to be trained through the Genesis and Launch cohorts of the CCD, led by Rev. Matt Temple. With a growing population in North Texas, with fewer persons in our mission fields seeking out churches, and with the CCD’s vision of every church planting, skills at church planting are needed throughout the NTC. The CCD is continuing to recruit NTC clergy and laity interested in connecting with other existing and potential planters to learn more about planting and develop strategies to gather new faces in new spaces.

Sixth, the CCD continues to resource pastors, local churches, and District Superintendents. Webinars have been held almost monthly and have covered subjects such as digital discipleship, church-based social enterprises, rural ministries, and creating new spaces. Through financial investments, connecting with coaches, experts, and practitioners, and through spending time throughout the NTC, the CCD equips congregations and leaders to gather new faces in new spaces.

One tool that has gathered interested in the NTC is the Simplified Accountable Structure (SAS) as an alternative to traditional governance structures and as an alternative to single board models of governance. The Mission Coordinator has connected churches in every district to SAS coaches to explore if SAS is right for them. Many churches have made this transition and are seeing the fruits of their work by becoming more missionally focused in their governance.

Seventh and finally, the NTC hosted the National UMC Developers’ Gathering in April 2022. This annual gathering meets in a different annual conference each year and was hosted by the CCD this year. Developers from throughout the connection gathered in Dallas to explore latest trends in church development and to engage in peer learning. The CCD attached to the Developers’ Gathering the National UMC Planters’ Gathering to allow planters and developers to learn from practitioners in plenaries and workshops as well as to network with others who are on the front lines of church planting through the UMC from throughout the United States.

In conclusion, the staff of the CCD (Owen K Ross, Director; Matt Temple, Associate Director; and Jessica Vargas, Mission Coordinator) are grateful for the support and engagement of the United Methodists of the North Texas Conference in CCD initiatives. After seasons of pandemics and divisions, the NTC is in the narthex of a sanctuary of revival, and the CCD is witnessing congregations engaging the Wesleyan spirit and heritage of reaching new people in new ways. We give thanks to God as congregations throughout the NTC are living into the vision of *Every Church Planting*.

—Rev. Dr. Owen K Ross, CCD Director

CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (CLD)

The Center for Leadership Development seeks to make principled Christian leaders for the transformation of the world through education, resource distribution, and support services for clergy and lay leadership. Our team consists of Kelly Carpenter, Associate Director; Rev. Emma Williams, Faith Formation; Joseph Bradley, Director of Camping and Retreat Ministries; Pastor Liz Greenwell, CART Crisis Team; Rev. Dr. Marsha Middleton, Board of Ministry Officer; Mariel Vela, Administrative Assistant; and Rev. Cammy Gaston, Director.

In 2021-2022 we cultivated Biblical literacy, spiritual development, experiences of the Holy Spirit, and renewed our traditional leadership and discipleship making platforms.

Biblical, Theological, and Spiritual Cultivation

With identity and vision in mind, **The Wesleyan Roots** curriculum was released in February. Written by Rev. Dr. Marsha Middleton, this 12-week study covers distinctive United Methodist beliefs. Each session includes a video by one of our North Texas Conference clergy or lay leaders and brings to life the topics covered. The resource is available free of charge for small groups or persons who are interested in learning more about the United Methodist core beliefs and our biblical foundation. Biblical and theological foundations are important for all ages which is why we also focus on teaching the scriptures to children through Camp Bible and Confirmation Camp. These camps are designed for biblical, theological, and spiritual experiences while enjoying the Bridgeport Camping and Conference Center location.

Experiencing the Holy Spirit through Community and Creation

Our Covenantal relationships were renewed formally and informally at Clergy Covenant Day at Lovers Lane UMC. Clergy shared in the Baptismal Renewal Service and recited the Wesleyan Covenant Prayer offering their vows of service. The lay leadership of our Conference gathered in the same spirit for Laity Training Day in January. It seemed that the Holy Spirit was present in our journey as we discussed the challenges of ministry during the past two years. We also witnessed to the light of Christ in our ministry contexts, identified ways we could partner with the Holy Spirit, and explored what the Holy Spirit might be up to.

Carrying Traditions

We also reengaged the traditions of our Conference that feed souls, develop leaders, and bring new life to our churches and ministries. Our campers returned to in-person camp, our campus ministries expanded, our Conference Board of Laity came alive with new energy and our Clergy Residents gathered for retreats, and covenant groups to learn from experts and each other, as well as, develop their gifts and skills for ministry.

—Rev. Cammy Gaston, CLD Director

A Time for Children (ATFC) is completing its seventh year of learning cohorts in North Texas. We continue to see the support and education provided by this program nurture our children's ministries by equipping children's

ministry professionals to deepen and strengthen their programs. This year, ATFC hosted its first ever retreat at Prothro Retreat Center. Led by Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley, children's ministers from across the conference and the nation gathered for renewal and continued education, focusing on the liturgical calendar and ways to support the spiritual formation of children and families.

A Time for Youth (ATFY) – After two years of piloting, A Time for Youth officially rolled out as a program offering from the Center for Leadership Development supporting youth workers in the North Texas Conference. In addition to offering individualized coaching from trained coaches through the CLD, A Time for Youth meets in a retreat format twice a year to continue learning new ways to deepen faith formation in youth ministry. This year, both 24-hour retreats were held at Prothro Retreat Center, led by Rev. Emma Williams and Rev. Dr. Ben Marshall. They included new content, group learning and support, and unstructured fellowship time to promote community amongst youth workers in the NTC.

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. This October, Creekwood UMC hosted fifth-seventh graders and confirmation students from around North Texas in an outdoor celebration and worship, experiencing the connection of the conference and hearing words on faith development from our bishop.

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 planned the overnight camping experience where third through fifth grade children and volunteers were able to come together in person at Bridgeport Camp and Conference Center for the first time since 2019. Our theme this year was "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," and learning centered around stories of friends and friendship in the Bible, as well as some social emotional growth after years of COVID isolation.

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 serving on the Conference Journey Toward Racial Justice team and collaborates with the North Texas Conference Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. As led by God's vision, the committee focuses its present work on building equity and dismantling racism. The priorities of the committee include storytelling through a video medium, social media outreach, and coordination with Conference and community groups in the work of racial justice for transformative healing and reconciliation.

Committee on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) – The work of this team is to challenge the UMC for the full and equal participation of women in the total life and mission of the Church. We do that by providing educational opportunities and resources for local church leadership and collecting data in our annual conference to aid us in doing that work. This year, the committee considered the responses from last year's survey and is moving forward with creating resources and educational opportunities for North Texas churches to work for full and equal participation of women in their ministry context. We continue to encourage *all* pastors and church leadership teams to consider how women are in leadership in their church, to include women in decision-making positions, to invite women—both clergy and laity—to preach at least once each year, and to preach and teach on the call of Christian service in all vocations including ordination and consecration in The United Methodist Church. We are committed to further conversations with clergy, laity, district superintendents, the extended cabinet, and the bishop to develop tools and resources to empower, encourage, and enable women to serve at all levels of ministry leadership within the North Texas Annual Conference.

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 grade. The 2022 Mid-winter Retreat marked the return of our in-person gathering, after a year online in 2021 due to COVID. Youth and volunteers were ecstatic to return to Bridgeport Camp and Conference Center, and gather together for worship,

study, prayer and play. This year's theme was Incredible Heroes of the Bible and highlighted women's stories found in scripture. Over the two weekends of camp, CCYM led over 200 youth and adults as they grew in love and service to God and each other. The return of in-person camp also brought the return of the Youth Service Fund Snack Shack fundraiser, where CCYM students sell snacks at Midwinter to raise money for an organization of their choosing. This year, to reflect the theme of incredible women, Genesis Women's Shelter & Support was chosen as the recipient of the funds raised. Its mission is: *To provide safety, shelter and support for women who have experienced domestic violence, and to raise awareness regarding its cause, prevalence and impact.*

To find more information on all the above committees, events and programs, to host an event at your church or get involved, please visit ntcumc.org/leadership-development or email Rev. Emma Williams at emma@ntcumc.org.

Advanced Leadership Coaching – The Fall of 2021 was our fifth round of launching an eight-month season of 1-1 and group coaching relationships between over 65 laity and clergy with our trained Advanced Leadership Coaches. An additional 50 clergy gathered through the continuation of clergy cohorts which began in 2020 and one new cohort. Through the Ethnic-In-Service Training (EIST) grant distributed by the General Board of Higher Education and funded through World Communion Sunday offerings, we were also able to send two people, one lay and one clergy, to our International Coaching Federation (ICF) approved 60 hours of coach training to continue expanding our coaching connection. If you would like to connect with a coach, coaching group or clergy cohort contact Kelly Carpenter, kelly@ntcumc.org.

CART – Crisis Response and Care Team - This year, the Crisis Response and Care Team served 11 churches through in-person direct intervention, consulting, and resourcing. The team also provided consulting and resourcing services for District Superintendents, lay leaders, and conference staff. Resource Persons are laity on the Crisis Response Team who are specially trained to work one on one with someone affected by misconduct or a crisis in the church. Currently 10 Resource Persons serve the North Texas Conference by providing safe space for confidential conversations, finding appropriate resources for personal and familial healing, and offering support and guidance to both the aggrieved and the accused during a formal complaint process.

This year the Conflict Resolution Team, led by Lisa Hancock, Conflict Resolution Specialist, served eight churches within the conference, providing conflict resolution intervention, and weekly or biweekly consultations to clergy, staff, and laity in various ministry settings in the conference. Resources, trainings, and workshops included self-awareness, the role of anxiety and change, leadership, and information regarding the Enneagram. Please contact your District Superintendent or Liz Greenwell directly greenwell@ntcumc.org or (972)562-5000 for more information on how to access the help of the CART Teams.

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; Clergy Misconduct. In 2021 -2022 the Cabinet and the Center for Leadership Development made eight Intentional Interim Ministry placements.

For more information on IIM training or deployment, contact Rev. Cammy Gaston, Director of The Center for Leadership Development of the NTC at cgaston@ntcumc.org or go to the Transitional Intentional Interim Ministry Specialists Association at tiimsa.org.

Vocational Discernment and Candidacy – God is still calling! Twenty-four inquiring candidates attended virtual Candidacy Summits held in August of 2021 and January 2022 and approximately half are now certified candidates.

Candidacy Summit is an orientation to the candidacy process event focused particularly on preparing people for the certification interview and building connections with representatives of the Annual Conference and other inquiring candidates. Summit also launches the first of six group mentoring sessions of the inquiring candidacy process. This spring also began the transition to a new online system, Passage[UMC] to assist candidates, DCOMs, BOM and all clergy in their vocational journey. Vocational Discernment resources such as the 5 Cups of Coffee brochures, Christian as Minister, resources for the SPRC interview, and more can be found on the North Texas Board of Ordained Ministry website ntcumc.org/bom/call-to-ministry/discerning and by contacting Kelly Carpenter, Kelly@ntcumc.org.

Camp and Retreat Ministry

Conference Camp Youth Leadership Program – This 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 which are ministry staff at churches in our conference. This ministry was initially funded by the Young Clergy Initiative (YCI) of the General Board of Higher Education.

There was a lot of excitement from our returning Youth Counselors and Junior Counselors last summer. While our summer was shorter than in past years, we were still able to have YCs and JCs at our Junior High Camp. We are even more excited about this summer where we are planning on returning to our full offering of camps at Bridgeport. Over 30 youth have signed up to participate in this program, many of which are returning CCYLP'ers from previous summers.

Unified Camping Experience – We are in the beginning stages of creating a unified camp experience through all our summer and non-summer camps. Whether it is summer camp or Camp Bible in the Fall, each camp we offer has something special to offer its campers. That said we feel like there are opportunities to work together across all our camps to create a more cohesive camping experience.

This begins with a coordinated effort to collaborate on curriculum. In the past our Summer Camps and Non-Summer Camps (Camp Bible, Midwinter) had themes that were independent from one another. Starting in 2022 we are being intentional about carrying a single idea cross each camp's theme. For example, our summer camp curriculum this summer focuses on church and community. We will extend this broad theme to our other non-summer camps. The hope is that we can help to explore these camp themes and reach a larger audience by spreading them out through all our camps more fully.

We will continue this process of unification by implementing our Conference Camp Youth Leadership Program at our non-summer camps as well. This will give even more opportunities for Junior Counselors and Youth Counselors to grow in their leadership skills in a camp environment.

To find out more about any of our Camping and Retreat Ministries, please visit ntcumc.org/leadership-development/camps-retreats or email Joseph Bradley at joseph@ntcumc.org.

Bridgeport Camp and Conference Center - As it was for most of us, 2021 was a strange year of trying to live into the pandemic and figuring out what kind of, and what level of groups could use our facility in the uncertain times.

Though clearly our business increased from the year before, as we were closed for most of the 2020 year, 2021 was still a very slow year for groups being able to attend on property, but we were able to make ends meet and keep looking to our future.

For Summer Camp, we planned for a reduced schedule of four conference camp sessions at 75% capacity for those sessions. We were able to hold our first two sessions before the Delta variant was too much for us to contain, and out of an abundance of caution for the youngest campers whose were still yet to come, we had to cancel our elementary and family camps sessions. Still, we had just about 300 campers and 60 adults that were able to attend camps with us in the summer of 2021.

Throughout the rest of the year, we had 27 groups visit us and spend time on campus, with just shy of 1600 people attending those events. Though much smaller than years past, we were very grateful to be open and have so many of friends join us. As always, we are looking forward to the future year and camp season, and as always, we hope and pray that the new year will bring us more friends and our business will continue to thrive. For additional information on bringing your group to Bridgeport visit our website, bridgeportcamp.org and follow us on social media @bridgeport.camp.

Prothro Center at Lake Texoma - We continued to find ways to serve during our second consecutive year of the Covid 19 pandemic. With safety as our number one concern, we creatively spaced our guests in order to provide as many services as we could. Due to the inconsistency of bookings and decrease in participants, we leaned heavily on our community restaurants and caterers to provide meals, as needed.

The majority of our groups were family and school events, as most of our retreats and camps could not gather. We encouraged outdoor settings and enjoyed watching our 100 acres of natural beauty become a therapeutic environment for those needing an escape from their daily struggles.

We were able to make improvements to our beach areas, as we continued to sift and develop two of the best swimming spots on Lake Texoma. We also constructed a new pergola at our pool area, in order to provide an extra area of shade during summer swim times. Due to these additions, we saw an increase in our day use groups. These areas attracted gatherings such as: birthdays, swimming events, beach parties, anniversaries, graduation parties, and weddings.

Despite the absence of many familiar faces, Prothro still has so many things to be thankful for. We are looking forward to a return to normalcy in the months to come.

Cliff Dyer
Executive Director of The Prothro Center at Lake Texoma
prothro@ntcum.org - prothrocenter.org - 903-786-2141

Collegiate Ministry

Denton Wesley (UNT/TWU/NCTC) – The Denton Wesley serves the students of the University of North Texas, Texas Woman’s University, and North Central Texas College. DWF is an intersectional and inclusive community that invites, disciples, and empowers college students so that they might discern and fulfill their needed place in building the world God wants. We are striving to offer students experiences of the living God and opportunities to serve God and neighbor in Christian leadership.

Our worship program has reached new and existing students and provided a space for students discerning a call to ministry to explore their gifts. Wesley alumni Brooke Yrigoyen and Baylee Davis mentored our worship team for a semester to raise up new worship leaders and give them the confidence to take on the role themselves in the spring. We have invited guests such as: Wesley alum, Jordan Cramer, who preached on building community in college,

and Rev. Barbara Dunlap of Sacred Worth Ministries who preached on reproductive justice and the Bible. We have also had messages from two of our interns who work collaboratively with our director to write and deliver an entire sermon series on faith and emotions. Our worship services continue to be interpreted into American Sign Language online to give access to our deaf and hard of hearing students.

The Shiloh Food Pantry, a partner agency of the Tarrant Area Food Bank, has served a large number of clients dealing with food insecurity. Students stock and organize the pantry, fill and deliver orders, and engage in long-term planning and visioning to better meet the needs of our community. We've also partnered with local churches to provide Free Lunch regularly. Through this ministry we have engaged many new students and been a witness to the love of God which always comes freely.

This year our students have also started two new small groups: Craft & Create and Question Box. Craft & Create is a space for students to explore arts and crafts, connect with each other, and serve the community. Students have learned new skills from each other and guests, including Rev. Carly Payne of Grapevine UMC, who taught us a weaving class. This has been a great environment to welcome new students for whom the worship setting is unfamiliar or feels unapproachable. Question Box is led by our pastoral intern, Evan Ivy. It is a time for students to engage theological questions, to learn ways of researching and exploring different possible sources of wisdom, and to practice disagreeing graciously on opinions that are deeply held. Question Box draws topics from students' real questions about life, faith, and God.

We have given students transformative opportunities to connect with God and each other through special events such as our kayaking day retreat and trips to see Christian music artists perform live. The Wesley building is a place for students to rest, connect, and seek support. We have been a space for students to zoom with their therapists in private, to use a restroom that is safe for them regardless of gender identity, and in some cases to even take a nap.

We are so grateful to our supporters who have invested their time, gifts, and prayers into the Wesley. You have made this space of radical welcome and transforming love possible for our students. We seek to build more connections with local churches in the coming year, if you would like to work with the Wesley or have us visit your church, please visit thedentonwesley.org or contact Rev. Marianne Brown-Trigg at marianne@thedentonwesley.org.

The Wesley Center at Paris Junior College is a campus faith community in Paris, Texas, committed to journeying together, boldly questioning and deepening our beliefs, and living in a way that makes the world more like God's dream.

We aim to exude prevenient grace as we share the love of God and experience the love of God alongside the greater PJC community. The majority of college students who come through our doors could be described as belonging in the "none" or "done" categories. These students have either not been exposed to faith communities or have decided that the beliefs of their families are not for them. They are not actively searching for a faith community, but they desire to feel a sense of belonging and community. The Wesley Center is able to create a space where diverse people come together and are transformed by one another and God in their midst. Holy conversations happen late at night and between Minecraft gaming breaks. Throughout the week, students are gathering between classes, playing together, encouraging one another, and inviting their friends to join them. Since opening the Loads of Love Laundry in 2020, many clothes have been washed here and relationships formed. The laundry is one more way that the Wesley Center feels like a home and love is tangibly experienced. Our Free Lunches have drastically grown this year and have begun to look very different. Students are pulling out board games, painting t-shirts, or carving pumpkins while they stop by for lunch. Students who don't typically speak throughout the week have a chance to check in with a more diverse crowd and expand their social circles. This is transformational to the culture of the PJC student body.

Last summer, the PJC Wesley Center sent three students to work with Project Transformation North Texas and one of those students committed to work with them year-round in a leadership capacity. This semester, four students led

and participated in weekly worship at First UMC Paris and Connections. Last semester no PJC students attended worship with either congregation. Four student interns this semester are also learning about what working in ministry looks like and two of them have expressed a call into professional ministry. The interns have gone through a StrengthsFinder training to learn more about themselves and more about how they can lead well from their God-given gifts. They have been trained in asset-based mapping, as we continue to identify the abundant gifts that PJC has to offer and look for ways to partner together. Every week the interns brainstorm together about upcoming events and how to execute them well. Every activity or small group is a wonderful opportunity for them to hone their leadership and hospitality skills. The Wesley Center is an inclusive community of students who gather together to support one another through life, and it is growing quickly. To journey alongside these students well, as they are questioning their own faith beliefs and sense of identity, the director position was extended into a full-time position. We know that God is present and working in the lives of our students and we will continue creating spaces where that is cultivated and celebrated!

For more information, visit pjcwesleycenter.org or contact Michelle Wood at director@pjcwesleycenter.org.

Wesley at SMU is a ministry for ALL college aged students to become deeply devoted followers of Christ. This year has been without a doubt complicated, but brought with it many refreshing surprises. Wesley found a way to host over 200 students for our annual house party where we introduced close to 50 new freshman which allowed us to get them plugged into our group messaging systems. We have found a way to recruit, empower, and train 30 student leaders who help make Wesley an exciting and encouraging ministry that has something special for everyone who walks through the door.

This year we saw people come alive in Christ figuratively and literally. We were extremely blessed to have over 70 unique students get plugged into our retreats that pushed students further in their faith while also deepening their community. This year we saw an increase in the percentage of students who attend events during the week and those attend the local church on Sunday mornings. This applies to students in small groups and service as well. The vision of students being connected directly to a local church is beginning to gain momentum and we are absolutely thrilled.

We undoubtedly saw our mission shine a light in the darkness on the campus of Southern Methodist University by providing a place for community to be developed, questions to be asked and discussed, and for purpose to be discovered. We continue to partner with the local church to prepare people in their life long journey of becoming like Christ. To find out more about the SMU Wesley House visit hpumc.org/connect/college, contact Campus Ministry Director, Isaiah Terry at terryi@hpumc.org and follow us @thewesleyhouse.

Synergy Wesley Foundation (UTD/Dallas College/Collin College) - 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 ministry programming includes weekly worship, Bible study and covenant groups, retreats, praise band, missions and volunteering, fellowship events at the center of campus, free weekly dinner, and leadership development programs. Our ministry at UT-Dallas is thriving and growing, with more than 200 students involved in our Wesley discipleship ministries during the past year, in part due to our creative response to the pandemic by bringing in Christian innovators from across the U.S. to lead our students in worship both virtually and in-person outdoors. One such leader was Grace “Semler” Baldrige, who topped the Christian music charts twice in 2021, who we hosted in October to lead a well-attended outdoor concert for our college students at UTD. This spring, we have been hosting weekly campfire worship and reopened our Wesley storefront space adjacent to campus for students to build community during their breaks from classes. Our community college ministry at Dallas College is continuing to grow, and we are reaching more students than ever before.

We are excited about the future of Synergy Wesley Foundation, and we are so grateful for the North Texas Conference and church partners who support our work on an ongoing basis – Arapaho UMC, St. Andrew UMC, Chapel

Hill UMC, and Cochran Chapel UMC. We are continuing to seek connection with new church partners to grow in our United Methodist presence on the campuses of each of the North Dallas area college campuses – we invite you to join with us in our mission to synergize students, churches, and organizations to reach and grow a rising generation of young Christian leaders for the transformation of the world!

For more information, visit synergywesley.org, contact our campus minister at Brittany@SynergyWesley.org and follow us @synergywesley.

The Wesley @TAMUC (Texas A&M Commerce) has undergone many significant changes in the last year:

- A new appointment (Rev. Payton Parker) and transition (Rev. Brian Dierolf)
- Rebranding (name has changed from the Wesleyan Campus Ministry ® to Wesley @TAMUC) including a new website (wcmcommerce.org)
- Added new board members (Carlos Rickman, lay and Wesley @TAMUC alum and Sharon Cramer, lay and Denton Wesley alum)
- A total clean out of the building and painting of the entire building
- Raised over \$20,000 for our 30 for \$30k fundraising campaign (includes NTC matching grant)
- Grew to a total of 21 students this 2021-2022 academic year

This year the Wesley @TAMUC has functioned much like a new church plant! In July 2021, after one and a half years of COVID 19, with a new director, and with attrition (graduation, transfers, and online instruction), we were only left with one active student. We quickly became an active student organization and have hit the ground running ever since.

Our focus has been building relationships and getting the campus community reacclimated with our ministry. We have not focused on programming per se, but on making our building a space all would be proud to claim. Our goal is to be an active presence on campus and in the surrounding communities, and engage in discipleship via our Wednesday Night Bible Study. These actions have truly helped the Wesley @TAMUC grow from one student (who was/is an intern) to 21 total students and three interns!

We also have placed special attention in raising funds and utilizing our board and students to complement all our efforts. We raised over \$10,000 in 2021 with half of that coming specifically from our 30 to \$30k campaign. We've received generous donations from local churches in the East District, North Texas Conference congregants, and non-UMC supporters based on our personal relationships. We hope to build on this success and use these funds to improve our ministry and provide opportunities for leadership development and mission work (local and abroad).

Here are a few ways to stay updated and support us:

Tour our website: wcmcommerce.org

Join Facebook group page: [@tamucwesley](https://www.facebook.com/tamucwesley)

Follow our Instagram page: [instagram.com/wesleytamuc/](https://www.instagram.com/wesleytamuc/)

Donate to our 30 for \$30k campaign: wcm.churchcenter.com/giving/to/30-for-30-campaign

Sign up for 2022-23 Wednesday Night Dinner @6:30: wcm.churchcenter.com/people/forms/269714

Sign up to provide a college care package: wcm.churchcenter.com/people/forms/356521

The Wesley @TAMUC is grateful for the support of the North Texas Conference, East District, and every local church that has supported us and invited Rev. Payton Parker to preach. I hope invitations will continue to be extended as we grow our ministry and our effectiveness on campus and in the surrounding communities. This truly is only the beginning for what God has in store for us!

For more information, feel free to contact Rev. Payton Parker at pastorp@wcmcommerce.org.

The Wichita Falls Wesley (Midwestern State University/Mount Vernon College)

We categorized last year as a rollercoaster because of the ups and downs, twists and turns, and amazing challenges

we traversed that led to ministry growth and community. This year's ministry engagement was like a water ride: started out slow, came around the bend and down into a big splash, and now we are walking around the amusement park wet and hoping to dry before nightfall. Our campus community experienced the excitement of returning to classes and organizational gatherings without any COVID-19 restrictions. This excitement contributed to a noticeable decline in engagement in a few of our primary communities: Wesley on Wednesday, Wesley Lunch, and Barbershop Talks, respectively.

However, in September, our engagement increased back to our previous participation, and we experienced a literal 'splash' as two of our students were baptized. We welcomed four new students and a new group of first and second-year students. Additionally, we launched our first Sunday morning worship community. This community was created to allow students, faculty, and staff a place to worship together once per month. As engagement continues to grow, we are focusing our ministry attention on spiritual disciplines and discipleship. We taught a bible study series on fasting and over 20 students participated in a fast together during the month of October.

This has also been a year of transition for our Wesley. In the fall semester, six of our students graduated, and we anticipate 10 more graduates in the Spring. With many of these graduates being student leaders, we have engaged in intentional discipleship for first- and second-year students. In addition to student transitions, our Wesley will be welcoming a new director as Pastor Marcus Jones will be transitioning to serve at the University of Texas at Arlington Wesley Foundation. We are excited about the future of The Wesley at MSU Texas and how the ministry communities developed under Marcus and the Board of Directors' leadership will continue to provide engagement, impact, and community for MSU students.

For more information about our ministry communities, discipleship model, and ways to support our ministry, email campusministry@wfwesley.org.

2022-2023 Center for Leadership Development Dates

- Advanced Leadership Coaching Individual and Group Launch – *August 2022*
- Candidacy Summits - *August 2022 and January 2023*
- A Time for Children/Youth Fall Cohort Training – *September 2022 kick-off*
- Camp Bible (3rd – 5th grade students) - Bridgeport Camp – *September 24-25, 2022*
- Clergy Retreat – *October 10 - 12, 2022 at Tanglewood and Prothro Camp and Conference Center*
- Confirmation Camp – *TBD* – Contact Joseph Bradley
- Clergy Covenant Day – *January 2023*
- Lay Training Day – *February 5, 2023*
- Bishop's Rally (5th - 7th grade & Confirmation students)
- MidWinter Retreats 2023 (Middle & High School) – *January 27-29, February 10-12, 2023 at Bridgeport Camp*
- ONE Worship Event (Middle and High School Youth) – *April 2023*

For more information about the Center for Leadership Development visit ntcumc.org/leadership-development, join our [Facebook page](#) and follow us on Instagram [@ntcleadership](#).

Board of Ordained Ministry Report

The Board of Ordained Ministry is charged with the recruitment, credentialing, and ongoing support of ministerial leadership in our annual conference. While ¶635 of *The Book of Discipline, 2016* enumerates a long list of specific responsibilities of the Board, the most visible aspect of the Board's work is evaluating candidates seeking ordained ministry in The United Methodist Church. As with all ministry during the pandemic, candidate interviews moved online the past two years.

During this challenging season, I have been deeply grateful for the dedication and work of our Board, as well as the flexibility and perseverance of our candidates. While we eagerly look forward to the return of in-person interviews, the online option has allowed this important work to continue. This year, we will celebrate 19 candidates at our Service of Commissioning, Ordination, and Recognition of Orders.

Seven will be commissioned: Travis Burdett, Laura Byrd, Beate Hall, Randall Lucas, Gracie Millard, Melissa Nelms, and Christopher Vaughan.

Eleven will be ordained: Roy Atwood, Chad Johnson, Danielle Kim, Cottrell King, Macie Liptoi, Aaron Logan, Keri Lynn Lucas, Peter McNabb, Ken Park, Chelsea Peddecord, and Jeffrey Pehl.

We will also recognize the orders of Rev. Richie Butler, who comes to The United Methodist Church from another denomination.

Also, this year, because the work of the Board of Ordained Ministry directly pertains to questions of LGBTQ+ inclusion, the Board issued a statement regarding the ordination of LGBTQ+ candidates. At Annual Conference in 2019, the North Texas Conference adopted a resolution in support of what was then known as the One Church Plan, a model that would have allowed for diversity of practice in our very diverse mission field. With the continued delay of General Conference, our churches and candidates deserve clarity about the Board's position.

It is important to note that the Board of Ordained Ministry reflects the diversity of the North Texas Annual Conference. We are multiracial. We include clergy and laity from a wide range of age demographics. We include Elders, Deacons, and Local Pastors. We serve churches large, medium, and small, in urban, suburban, county seat, and rural settings. We represent theological perspectives that are conservative, progressive, and centrist. And, in the midst of this diversity, on the issue of LGBTQ+ inclusion, the Board overwhelmingly supports the position articulated by the North Texas Conference in 2019.

The full statement follows.

Statement Regarding LGBTQ+ Inclusion

Board of Ordained Ministry of the North Texas Annual Conference

July 2021

In 2019, the North Texas Annual Conference (NTC) overwhelmingly approved, by a vote of 80%, a resolution stating that: "...as people of the North Texas Conference we aspire to behave as One Church Congregations and Conference." (See North Texas Conference Journal 2019, pp. 187-199, for full details.) Although the names and details of various proposals have changed, and although General Conference has twice been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the spirit of this resolution remains an important guidepost. Namely, we recognize that there are theological differences among us regarding the full inclusion of LGBTQ+ persons in the life of the church.

As our delegates prepare for General Conference, now scheduled for August 29 - September 6, 2022 (now postponed to 2024), the Board of Ordained Ministry affirms the spirit of the One Church Resolution. Ours is a diverse Annual Conference with a wide range of theological perspectives, all of us faithfully preaching and living out the gospel of Jesus Christ in a variety of mission fields. Additionally, we have many LGBTQ+ Christian disciples and faithful, contributing leaders in our churches. We believe that this diversity should be honored and embraced, and that no congregations or pastors should be compelled to act in a way that is contrary to their theological convictions.

We have worked diligently to create a “culture of call” in our NTC churches, inviting and allowing persons to explore a call to ministry, regardless of their age, race, ethnic, or socio-economic background. As the Apostle Paul makes clear, our unity is grounded in our baptism: “There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.” (Galatians 3:28) In that spirit, LGBTQ+ persons have been active in our children’s and youth programs, attended our camps, participated in mission trips, served as faithful leaders in our congregations, and are responding to a call from God to ordained ministry. While, currently, *The Book of Discipline* affirms their response to God’s call, it simultaneously prohibits them from the blessings of marriage that we celebrate for heterosexual candidates (§304.3). As a diverse Conference serving a diverse mission field, this restriction not only hampers our witness, but also functions as a double standard for LGBTQ+ persons called to ordained ministry.

To honor the rich theological diversity of our Conference, we believe that two principles must be addressed. First, “self-avowed practicing homosexuals” (§304.3) should not be excluded from certification, ordination, or appointment, provided that they are otherwise qualified by the rigorous standards required by *The Book of Discipline* and the NTC in the areas of theology and doctrine, worship and proclamation, and call, service and disciplined life. Second, in the context of the process of consultation, congregations should not be expected to compromise their theological convictions when receiving appointed pastors.

Our theological diversity is a strength of our Methodist heritage. Allowing for these theological differences in practice will strengthen our witness in a society badly in need of the good news of Jesus Christ. Further, providing the theological space for faithful Christians to agree to disagree regarding LGBTQ+ inclusion is a powerful countercultural witness in these divisive times.

Therefore, while we continue to operate under the current *Book of Discipline*, we encourage our NTC delegates to work toward a solution at General Conference that honors the diversity of theological perspectives among us, thus better equipping us to faithfully live out our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. In the meantime, the position of the Board of Ordained Ministry is that “self-avowed practicing homosexuals” in the North Texas Annual Conference should not be prevented from interviewing with District Committees on Ordained Ministry based solely on their partnered status.

We remain hopeful that there is a way forward for The United Methodist Church on the question of LGBTQ+ inclusion, and we believe that honoring our theological diversity is an important cornerstone for our future.

—Rev. Chris Dowd, Chair

2022-2023 Board of Ordained Ministry Calendar North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church

- August, 2022** District Committees on Ordained Ministry begin interviews for the purpose of recommending eligible persons to the Committee on Preparation and Qualifications for possible commissioning in 2023. Districts should report recommended candidates to the Board of Ordained Ministry Officer.
- September 19 – 21, 2022** Residency Orientation and Retreat
- September 22, 2022** BOM Fall Meeting, 10:00 am – Noon (Christ UMC Plano)

October 3, 2022	Deadline for districts to submit names of those persons recommended to P&Q for possible commissioning in 2022
October 3, 2022	Deadline for provisional Deacons and Elders to submit their names to the Board of Ordained Ministry Officer for participation in the 2022 ordination selection process.
October 13, 2022	Residency Covenant Group Meeting
October 27, 2022	BOM Meeting with Commissioning and Ordination Candidates, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (NTC Ministry Center)
November 10, 2022	Residency Covenant Group Meeting
December 2, 2022	Commissioning paperwork deadline, 5:00 pm
December 8, 2022	Residency Covenant Group Meeting
December 16, 2022	Ordination paperwork deadline, 5:00 pm
January 12, 2023	Residency Covenant Group Meeting
January 22-25, 2023	Commissioning Interviews at Prothro Center
February 9, 2023	Residency Covenant Group Meeting
February 26-March 1, 2023	Ordination Interviews at Prothro Center
March 1, 2023	Deadline for districts to submit names of those persons recommended to attend Licensing School to BOM Officer
March 9, 2023	Residency Covenant Group Meeting
April 13, 2023	BOM Spring Meeting, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm (Christ UMC Plano)
April 15, 2023	Licensing School Session 1 (Ministry Center)
April 20, 2023	Dismantling Racism Seminar
April 22, 2023	Licensing School Session 2 (Ministry Center)
April 29, 2023	Licensing School Session 3 (Ministry Center)
May 6, 2023	Licensing School Session 4 (Ministry Center)
May 13, 2023	Licensing School Session 5 (Ministry Center)
May 21 – 26, 2023	Licensing School Sessions 6 - 11 (Prothro Center)

United Methodist Women (UMW) (doing business as United Women in Faith)

For the past 150 years, United Methodist Women (UMW) has faithfully engaged in its mission of putting faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth. Here in the North Texas Annual Conference in 2021, United Methodist Women generously donated over \$149,000 to support a variety of program initiatives – spiritual growth, transformative education, community engagement, and advocacy efforts – designed to impact lives and families locally, regionally, nationally, and globally.

Once again in 2021, as the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact communities throughout the North Texas area, NTC UMW continued to hold meetings and host special events virtually. NTC UMW hosted a virtual spiritual growth retreat, *Confident Faith*, led by Elgie Loyd, Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator, NTC UMW. In April, 2021, the NTC UMW Charter for Racial Justice Committee hosted its second annual racial justice event, *School-to-Prison Pipeline: Lean In. Listen. Learn*. This virtual event featured local and national UMW speakers and focused on the issue of systemic racism in the public schools: building awareness of its existence, looking closely at related biblical teachings regarding equality and justice, and discussing actions needed to prevent systemic racism from continuing in the public schools.

Local UMW units throughout the North Texas Conference in 2021 once again responded to the call for action to provide help, hope, and healing to neighbors and populations in need. UMW members across the conference generously supported local, community-based food pantries, outreach organizations, and advocacy efforts. NTC UMW members also supported two national mission institutions affiliated with UMW in the Dallas area – Dallas Bethlehem Center (South Dallas) and Wesley-Rankin Community Center (West Dallas) – by either volunteering on-site (with strict safety protocols) and/or generously donating to the organizations financially.



United
Women
in Faith

While the mission and purpose of UMW has not changed, the national organization's name, logo, and website were refreshed and rebranded for the purpose of nurturing and supporting current members as well as appealing to new women who are looking to join our sisterhood. As of March 2, 2022, United Methodist Women (UMW) is now doing business as (d/b/a) United Women in Faith (UWF). During the remainder of 2022 and throughout the first quarter of 2023, conference, district, and local UMW units will be engaging in the important process of transitioning their branding (bank accounts not included) to using the name "United Women in Faith (UWF)" from "United Methodist Women (UMW)."

Looking ahead: we welcome the day when we can fellowship in person and celebrate the life-changing work of United Women in Faith (UWF). We invite all women – laity and clergy – throughout the NTC UMC Annual Conference to join United Women in faith and consider making a commitment of time, talent, and a financial pledge to its transformational work. For additional information, contact Julie B. Noel, President, NTC UWF, jbnumw@gmail.com or check these websites: www.umwnorthtexas.org or www.uwfaith.org.

–Julie B. Noel, President, NTC United Women in Faith (UWF)

CENTER FOR MISSIONAL OUTREACH (CMO)

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 reflects our Wesleyan heritage – beginning with John Wesley's ministry among the coal miners of Kingswood and free medical dispensary at the Foundry in London – and our ongoing commitment to doing justice, practicing kindness, and walking humbly with God (Micah 6:8). In pursuit of this mission, the CMO is focused on investing in the faithful and creative work of local churches in the North Texas Conference (NTC) as well as pooling and directing our collective resources to address needs too daunting for any one congregation alone.

While remaining nimble and responding to the unique opportunities that have emerged this year, the CMO has sought to be an instrument of good in the NTC and around the world by keeping our eyes fixed on the following six areas:

- **Serve as a catalyst** for bold, local church ministry "with" initiatives.
- **Provide leadership** for making disciples who are anti-racist for the purpose of achieving racial justice and equity in the North Texas Conference and in our communities.
- **Develop a robust disaster response ministry** that not only responds to crises but also strengthens the witness of local churches year-round and builds resiliency in our communities.
- **Facilitate an international partnership** – marked by mutuality and empowerment – between the North Texas Conference and the United Methodist Mission in Honduras.
- **Equip local churches to be successful** in establishing strong church-school partnerships or deepening already existing ones (One + One).
- **Activate people of faith to be advocates** – locally and nationally – around immigration issues in ways that reflect the compassion and grace of our Wesleyan identity.

Below are highlights of the work of the CMO in the above focus areas in the past year. For more information, go to the CMO website (ntcumc.org/missional-outreach), explore, and then sign up to receive the monthly CMO e-newsletter by clicking *Subscribe* on the landing page. In addition, the CMO staff is eager and available to connect with you.

Rev. Andy Lewis, Director – lewis@ntcumc.org

Rev. Andrew Fiser, Associate Director – fiser@ntcumc.org

Rev. Jeremy Basset, Conference Disaster Response Coordinator - disasterresponse@ntcumc.org

Audrey Thompson, Administrative Assistant – ntcadmin@ntcumc.org

Ministry With

Ministry With Grants

A total of \$129,000 in Ministry With Grants was awarded to local churches and United Methodist-affiliated ministries between 2019 and 2021. This funding opportunity has generated a great deal of interest and ministry impact, affirming the CMO's belief that on-the-ground United Methodists know their contexts best and have what it takes to be in ministry with neighbors in creative ways.

The 2022 Ministry With Grant application process is intended to occur in two cycles:

- A Spring Cycle opened for applications March 1-April 1. Money available for the Spring included four \$5,000 grants. Additionally, ten grants of up to \$1,000 were made available to help individuals and groups jump-start new smaller-scale efforts. The \$5,000 grant application is a written application. The microgrant application is a video.
- A Fall Cycle will be open for applications October 1-November 1. Grant awards for the Fall may be up to \$10,000 per grant, with smaller grants available as well.

The CMO hopes that accessible, smaller start-up grants and an intended design event will help individuals and groups in local churches effectively start new ways to embody justice and compassion with and among neighbors.

The purpose of these CMO grants is to be a catalyst for making the “ministry with” dreams of local churches in the North Texas Conference a reality. Grants are for new efforts or efforts that catalyze existing ministries with creativity and innovation. Applications will be evaluated according to how they intend to live into the “ministry with” values below:

- 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.
- Embody and demonstrate racial equity and anti-racism
- Address the systems that perpetuate suffering and inequity rather than only deal with the symptoms of our broken world.
- Use a strengths-based approach that leverages the gifts and relationships of local partners.

For more information about Ministry With Grants, please contact Rev. Andrew Fiser or go to: ntcumb.org/ministry-with-grant.

Mental Wellness Initiative

The Mental Wellness Initiative has continued to unfold as a long-term response to the mental health challenges that surfaced during the pandemic in North Texas. Throughout 2020 and 2021, the CMO heard a consistent request from churches for help to address a tsunami of mental wellness concerns in congregations and communities. Local leaders responded with mental health focused worship series, counseling referrals, and training in mental health first aid.

To discern how to be instruments for good together, the CMO convened a mental health design team. This team was tasked with bringing the resources and connections of the NTC to help in local settings. Growing out of this design team's work, the CMO has assembled a resource library for NTC leaders to use in their settings, and this year the CMO will highlight specific resources, such as sermon starters, trainings, and other resources for local leaders. The CMO also plans to convene district leaders to explore opportunities for care in their communities.

Another concrete response that emerged from the design team's work was to form partnerships with relevant experts to explore how churches can become hubs for mental wellness in their communities. The CMO partnered with Rev.

Caesar Rentie and the Faith Community Nursing Program at Methodist Health System as well as the Mental Health Alliance. A working model was established for deploying a full-time Faith Community Nurse from Methodist Health System to three church-connected sites in Dallas County. The Golden Cross Foundation has awarded this collaboration a significant grant to fund a three-year experiment with this model!

A paid, full-time registered nurse, functioning as the faith community nurse for at least three South Dallas NTC Metro District–related congregations, will have a significant positive impact on health and wellness needs and will diminish health disparities of the congregants and those in their neighborhoods. Specifically, this nurse will complete Mental Health First Aid Instructor training and provide classes to persons in these communities, expanding awareness and increasing the number of helpers focused on mental health. It is our hope that the lessons learned through this experiment will aid other churches to live into being hubs for wellness in a variety of contexts.

Farm-to-Table Cohort

One of the commonalities across the NTC is a devotion to food-related ministries, and many churches have experimented with a variety of community gardens. Some have been very productive in growing food for neighbors. In the wake of the pandemic there is renewed interest in using church property to grow food as both a spiritual exercise and community connection point. In response to this interest from around the Conference, the CMO is developing the Farm-to-Table Cohort, which will help leaders design and build farm and garden related efforts. This effort will begin with a series of experiential learning gatherings in 2022, so groups can see one another’s spaces and already-built-out spaces like Owenwood Farm & Neighbor Space. Already, half a dozen churches have expressed interest in being a part of this Cohort experience, with at least one church from an adjacent Conference desiring to be a part of the effort as well. For more information about the Farm-to-table Cohort, please contact Rev. Andrew Fiser.

Ecumenical Collaboration

NTC United Methodists gathered March 3 with ecumenical leaders for a Lenten Prayer Dinner to remember Central American migrants whose plight brought them together in March, 2021. When the Dallas Convention Center was selected to host thousands of migrating unaccompanied boys in March, 2021, Catholic Charities of Dallas gathered diverse faith partners to provide volunteers, worship, and spiritual resources. Over 4000 volunteers signed-up to help. Worship leaders offered Spanish-language services to provide spiritual resources to the children who felt isolation, worry, and fear over their immigration cases and the safety of their families in Central America. While COVID-19 precautions and distancing protocols were implemented, volunteers found ways to engage the young people through music, art projects, and prayer exercises.

Participants in the Prayer Dinner included 70 lay and clergy leaders from The Roman Catholic Diocese of Dallas, The Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, Grace Presbytery of the PC(USA), and the Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana Synod of the ELCA. Bishop Greg Kelly, the Auxiliary Catholic Bishop of Dallas, led those gathered in prayer and reflected on how Paul’s vision for the church in 1 Corinthians 12, focusing upon “If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it...” We are all connected and drawn by Christ’s love to care for those who suffer.

A time for small group reflection and discernment was included to help the body discern how the Holy Spirit is prompting us to work together in the future. In mixed table groups, participants discussed their memories from the Convention Center and stories of migration. Table groups also discussed the places of suffering in our communities where our faith communities could collaborate for the common good.

Table discussions provided valuable observations:

- More faith groups should be at the table.
- It was care for vulnerable children and youth that brought the group together.
- Specific issues include: homelessness, food insecurity, mental health resources, care for vulnerable children and youth, refugees and immigration, domestic violence prevention, suicide prevention, and racial justice.

- Working together is a great way to embody the unity of the diverse Body of Christ.
- Interest is there for organizing around specific, common concerns.
- Governmental and legislative advocacy is needed.
- We must attend to the structures of inequity and disenfranchisement and express solidarity with the vulnerable.
- Many are already at work on issues, so we need to map out who is doing what.
- Deep listening is important to attend to the real needs of neighbors.
- Promote empathy and solidarity.

The Ecumenical Coordinating Team will use the feedback from the gathering to decide how best to move forward in working together. Options may include a reinvigorated organizing process among faith communities, creating working groups around specific actions or issues, and continuing to organize gatherings to build relationships across religious differences.

CitySquare Rural Church Leadership Cohort

After a pause during the COVID-19 pandemic, the CMO is excited about restarting a learning opportunity for rural churches eager to build relationships with neighbors and fight poverty. Beginning in 2019, seven pastors participated in a cohort learning experience for rural pastors seeking to engage their rural settings in transformational work. This experience has leveraged the proven work on poverty alleviation by both CitySquare and Rev. Rob Spencer, previously of First UMC Paris, to benefit of other rural communities in the NTC. In Paris, Rev. Spencer and his former congregation's leadership experienced success in fighting poverty and creating new spaces for new faces in Christian discipleship.

We believe that many rural congregations are positioned to accomplish great work in building relationships in their communities that can fight rural poverty in creative ways.

This restarted effort will engage clergy and lay leaders in this important work in their contexts beginning this year. Participants will receive the following: 1) monthly coaching calls with Rev. Spencer, which will be a combination of Co-Active and content coaching; 2) site visits for deeper, contextual engagement and support; 3) access through Rev. Spencer to the expertise of Rev. Larry James and CitySquare (CS), which could include visits to CS Sites, teaching, and consulting expertise. For more information about the cohort, please contact Rev. Andrew Fiser.

Winter Sheltering Action

In February, Oaklawn UMC alerted the CMO that roughly 1,000 unsheltered Dallas neighbors were going to need meals every day through the coming winter storm. They and their partners needed donations and volunteers. They centralized the Inclement Weather Shelter into a space made possible by the City's Office of Homeless Solutions and Office of Emergency Management at Fair Park. Oaklawn UMC and partners like Austin Street Center, The Bridge, Our Calling, and CitySquare, along with so many other wonderful non-profits, churches, and individuals, made sure there was a safe space for unhoused neighbors.

At Oaklawn UMC's request, our role in the Dallas Inclement Weather Shelter Collaboration was to provide \$25,000 of Disaster Relief Funds to match UMC donations to cover the roughly \$100,000 needed for meals. The NTC's contribution was subsidized by a \$10,000 UMCOR Solidarity Grant. United Methodist congregations responded by giving \$49,430 in addition to the \$25,000 from the conference, totaling \$74,430.

While this was a blessed undertaking, it was solving an annual, predictable crisis. The CMO continues to look for ways to partner with others to create "housing first" opportunities that can help unhoused neighbors avoid finding themselves in such vulnerable situations during dangerous weather. If you'd like to be a part of the solution, reach out to Rev. Andrew Fiser.

Good Neighbor Experiment

The Good Neighbor Experiment (GNE) is a transformative learning process that gives congregations the tools they need to forge more meaningful relationships with and sustainable impact on their communities. This process is offered by the Neighboring Movement associated with the Great Plains Annual Conference. The CMO subsidized the participation of a number of churches in a 2019 cohort and is hopeful that churches will continue to take advantage of this amazing resource.

GNE has offered an in-person cohort in April. Led in partnership with local GNE facilitators, 6-12 churches will meet and learn together. If you want to learn more about the GNE, check out their website at neighboringmovement.org. Rev. Jessica Wright is the local facilitator and can be reached at JessicaW@fumcallen.org.

Racial Justice and Equity

The CMO recognizes that all people are created with sacred worth and are bearers of the image of God. This core conviction undergirds our anti-racism work and shapes our vision for racial diversity, equity, and true inclusion in the NTC.

Since Bishop McKee casted the vision for the Journey Toward Racial Justice (JTRJ) initiative in January 2020, the CMO has provided support to the JTRJ team as together we do the hard and critical work of self-reflection and learning that bears the fruit of transformed hearts and minds as well courageous action, advocacy, and activism that dismantle racism in our churches and communities. In the past year, the CMO staff completed a revision to the Congregational JTRJ Guidebook and continued to support the efforts of 11 pilot churches representing all four districts engaging with the congregational process and resources. Conversations are underway to bring more churches along on this journey. To access and explore some of the anti-racism resources that the CMO has curated, go to ntcumc.org/missional-outreach or contact Rev. Andy Lewis and/or Rev. Andrew Fiser. For an update on the Journey Toward Racial Justice initiative, see the JTRJ's full report.

In 2021, an exciting collaboration developed between three bishops and conferences: Bishop McKee, NTC; Bishop Gregory Palmer, West Ohio; and Bishop Latrelle Easterling, Baltimore-Washington. After rich and challenging conversations about race, the vision of a podcast came into focus. For a year, the CMO and the NTC Communications team, along with staff from the other two conferences, have worked with our bishops to create The Unfinished Church podcast, which is a place for brave conversations to build a world in which racial prejudice has no power, because God is not finished with us. The first season of six episodes launches in May and features conversations with phenomenal guests including Nadia Bolz-Weber, Eboo Patel, Brain McLaren, and Opal Lee. To listen or for more information, go to theunfinishedchurch.org.

Another promising collaboration that has developed involves the CMO and Project Unity, founded by Rev. Richie Butler, St. Luke "Community" UMC. Project Unity has created a model for facilitating candid and respectful conversations about race around dinner tables called Together We Dine. In March, the CMO partnered with Project Unity to bring the Together We Dine experience to Holy Covenant UMC in Carrollton, where over 80 members of Holy Covenant UMC and Hamilton Park UMC came together to listen to and learn from one another. The vision for this collaboration is to bring Together We Dine to churches across the NTC. If you are interested in exploring hosting Together We Dine at your church, please contact Rev. Andy Lewis.

At the 2021 North Texas Annual Conference, the results of a Racial Equity Audit led by staff from the General Commission on Religion and Race were announced. Since then, the CMO in partnership with Rev. Dr. Ron Henderson (Director of Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) and the NTC cabinet have wrestled and reckoned with the results and have taken concrete steps toward greater equity in the conference. A few examples include adding more diversity to the Core Leadership team; intentional reflection by the Board of Ordained Ministry and the cabinet on

policies and practices that create inequity; and, more and more, providing resources in Spanish, Korean, and English. A lot of work remains to achieve diversity, equity, and inclusion in the NTC; the CMO is privileged to strive for these goals alongside Rev. Dr. Ron Henderson.

A final project worthy of note, also undertaken in partnership with Rev. Dr. Ron Henderson and the NTC Communications team, is “This Is Our Story.” The vision for This Is Our Story is to share the history and experiences of various racial ethnic groups who are a part of the NTC in a way that will broaden and deepen our understanding and appreciation of each other in this conference. With February being Black History Month, the team started by gathering, recording, editing, and sharing stories told by Black clergy and laity about the merger of the segregated West Texas Conference and the North Texas Conference in 1968 and what our shared life has looked like since. More stories from African-American, Hispanic, and Asian-American voices within the NTC will follow. To view the first set of videos, go to: ntcumc.org/our-story.

Disaster Response

R.E.A.C.H.: A New Vision for Disaster Response

Following the extensive winter storm of 2021, the disaster response ministry of the NTC has been re-imagining what it means to be a relevant and effective instrument for good in our communities.

This has led to an extensive process of consultation with the broad diversity of our conference churches and leadership. It has been reaffirmed that this ministry can be most effective when it is seen as an ongoing ministry of the local church – and not merely waiting for the next crisis. Furthermore, issues of mitigation and preparation have emerged as important contributors to a vital ministry.

To this end, the disaster response ministry has identified five aspects of this ministry, using the acronym R.E.A.C.H., that are now being implemented across the conference:

- 1. Resiliency Development:** This “view from above” helps identify the issues and conditions within our conference communities that best contribute to a sense of community strength, agility, and bounce-back after disasters.
- 2. Early Response Teams:** This is the major part of the ministry from the past that carries forward. We will continue to train, equip, and deploy certified teams into areas following disasters, both within our conference borders and beyond, using the tried and tested courses provided by UMCOR.
- 3. Academy for Mission Service:** Knowing that the ERT training provides just the foundational skills and understanding of a wide-ranging ministry, this online and in-person academy will provide courses in the skills needed for our recovery/rebuilding work (such as drywalling, flooring, tarping, etc.) as well as a deeper understanding of our mission theology and of spiritual/emotional care of survivors.
- 4. Connecting Neighbors:** This existing curriculum from UMCOR helps churches prepare their own campuses, the homes of their members and those of the surrounding community to face and recover from disasters. Facilitators will be trained in each district to offer these courses in person on request.
- 5. Helping Hands:** Rather than just waiting for the next crisis, we believe there is an opportunity for these teams to serve in regular, non-crisis ways. There are many construction/repair/maintenance project needs within each of the districts that present a wonderful opportunity for trained ERTs to engage as a way of meaningful service and to strengthen the ties between the team members for more effective deployment when a disaster arises. Projects are being identified and will be publicized when ready.

The first of these “Helping Hands” projects is already shaping up – and will be focused on Haven Chapel UMC in Denison. ERTs will be invited to deploy for a weekend or a day to assist in the vital refurbishment of Haven Chapel UMC’s sanctuary and parsonage.

All of this is to say that the work of “Disaster Response” is a real and ongoing ministry both within and beyond the church. At its best, this work reflects the deepest intent of “Ministry With,” the stated aim of the CMO in its work.

ERT Trainings Continue

While working on shaping the new vision for this ministry, the core task of training/recertifying ERT members has continued. Three training events were held in 2021: one each in the Northwest District (Henrietta UMC), the North Central District (Button Memorial UMC), and the Metro District (Hamilton Park UMC). One has been scheduled for April in the East District (College Mound) for 2022, with at least two or three more to follow in the second half of 2022.

Hurricane Ida Cleaning Kit Appeal

Following a request from UMCOR to replenish their stocks after Hurricane Ida, Bishop McKee challenged the churches of the NTC to assemble cleaning kits and hygiene kits. With some dozen collection points across the conference, a month-long effort saw our churches contributing approximately 1000 cleaning kits and over 400 hygiene kits – an outstanding effort given the short notice of the appeal! These were consolidated at First UMC in McKinney and, with the kind assistance of their church staff, then loaded onto a truck for onward delivery to the UMCOR-related depot in Pawnee, Illinois as Sager-Brown was still closed due to COVID-19.

Response to 2022 Weather Events

The conference disaster response ministry has been actively involved in responding to the needs arising from the March, 2022, tornadoes in Jacksboro, Bowie, and the Sherwood Shores community north of Whitesboro. ERTs were deployed for immediate recovery efforts such as tarping roofs, boarding up broken windows, and cleaning up houses and yards.

UMCOR responded quickly to the request from Bishop McKee for a Solidarity Grant. These \$10,000 grants are offered by UMCOR to allow conferences to get moving immediately in response to disasters. We are deeply grateful for their partnership in this work.

As of the writing of this report, steps were being taken to partner with local agencies for the long-term recovery effort. This will see our DR ministry engaged in the rebuilding efforts in Jack/Montague Counties and in Grayson County. We will be providing services as requested, likely case management, volunteer management and project management.

For more information about disaster response ministry, contact Rev. Jeremy Basset.

International Partnership with the United Methodist Mission in Honduras

For more than 20 years, the United Methodist Church has had a growing presence in Honduras. Today, the Mission there consists of over 20 congregations and numerous United Methodist-affiliated organizations. In January, 2019, Bishop McKee was installed as the new episcopal leader of the Mission in Honduras, which has opened the door for an exciting international partnership.

In September, 2019, Rev. Andy Lewis led a group of 20 clergy and laity from the NTC on a trip to Honduras to build relationships and explore ways to partner. The primary opportunity that emerged is the “Church to Church” partnership program. This program aims to build long-term relationships between clergy and laity of two churches – one from the NTC and one from the Mission in Honduras. In keeping with the CMO’s “ministry with” values, these relationships are marked by mutuality and empowerment. We celebrate that every congregation in the Honduran Mission that is ready for a U.S. partner church now has one! To date, the following NTC local churches have entered

into a Church to Church partnership: First UMC Prosper, Creekwood UMC, First UMC Dallas, Elmwood-El Buen Samaritano UMC, Christ's Foundry Mission, First UMC Wichita Falls, and First UMC Denton. In addition, St. Andrew UMC, Christ UMC Plano, First UMC Coppel, and Lovers Lane UMC have come alongside the Mission and offered much-needed support.

The years 2020 and 2021 were especially challenging for the Mission in Honduras. Like in the U.S., COVID-19 shuttered the Honduran economy and forced people to isolate at home. Limited access to vaccines and the internet in Honduras slowed the economic recovery and made it difficult for churches to stay connected with their people. Then, in late 2020, Honduras was hit by two devastating hurricanes – Hurricanes Eta and Iota. The Honduran pastors and laity showed tremendous faith and resilience in the face of these challenges, but the Mission has found itself struggling to make ends meet. In response, Bishop McKee declared the Mission in Honduras a missional focus for Lent 2022 and set a fundraising goal of \$85,000 – enough to fund the compensation packages of all clergy in the Mission for one year. To aid in this effort, the CMO and the NTC Communications team worked with leaders in the Mission to produce a series of videos in which Honduran leaders shared about the history of the Mission and the work of its local churches.

Another impactful way to partner with the Mission in Honduras is to sponsor a student at the Juan Wesley School in Ciudad Espana, Honduras. Public schools in Honduras are often poor and only go through the 9th grade, and many young people cannot afford to go to school without financial assistance. An education at the Juan Wesley School can open the door to hard-to-find job opportunities in Honduras and provides an alternative to joining gangs. The Juan Wesley School's sustainability depends on student sponsorships, which will go a long way toward creating a bright future for the school and its students.

Mission teams have begun returning to Honduras and tentative plans are underway for a second exploratory trip for NTC leaders in the fall of 2022 or spring of 2023.

For more information about the Church to Church program, the student sponsorship program, the upcoming exploratory trip, or how to be a part of the NTC's developing partnership with the United Methodist Mission in Honduras, go to ntcumb.org/missional-outreach/honduras-partnership or contact Rev. Andy Lewis.

One + One Initiative

The One + One Initiative was launched in 2015 with the vision of United Methodists being an instrument for good by engaging in one-on-one relationships with students through church-school partnerships. The CMO celebrates that approximately 50 percent of local churches in the NTC had developed a church-school partnership prior to the pandemic.

The pandemic took an unmistakable toll on teachers and students; schools are yearning for trustworthy community partners who will come alongside them and offer encouragement and support. The CMO is eager to help local churches revive dormant partnerships with schools and to equip them with missional and relational tools for starting new partnerships. The CMO has developed a comprehensive resource for this purpose called the North Texas One + One Handbook (ntcumb.org/Church-School-Partnership_Handbook.4.1.19.pdf).

For more information about how the CMO can support local church efforts to live into the vision of One + One, contact Rev. Andy Lewis.

Immigration Advocacy

In the summer of 2018, in response to the complex and heartbreaking realities for migrants at the Texas/Mexico border, the Courts and Ports program was born. Texas Impact (texasimpact.org) crafted this powerful immersion experience in the Valley in partnership with various entities including the CMO through which people of faith could

see with their own eyes what was really happening in our courts system and at ports of entry. Participants were equipped to serve as court monitors in federal undocumented entry trials in Brownsville and visit a border bridge where they could interact with people from the Northern Triangle in Central America and other countries from all over the world who were seeking asylum in the United States.

Courts and Ports trips to the Valley have been on pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but the wheels are in motion to reimagine and resume this program in 2022. For more information about Courts and Ports as well as emerging opportunities to learn about immigration and do humanitarian work at the border, go to ntcumc.org/missional-outreach or contact Rev. Andy Lewis.

—Rev. Andy Lewis, Rev. Andrew Fiser, and Rev. Jeremy Basset

Board of Church and Society

This year the North Texas Conference Board of Church and Society identified and focused on three main areas of justice work: education/awareness, raising and distributing funds, and engagement.

Education and awareness have come through podcasts and interviews hosted by the new board Chair Rev. Phil Dieke, as well as event partnerships with United Women in Faith (formerly UMW), Faith Forward Dallas, and Texas Impact. The raising and distribution of funds, through the Peace with Justice grants, has focused primarily on an auction being held simultaneously with Annual Conference. The engagement at the conference level is a bridge between the work of the General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) and the work of the local church. The board is working with GBCS to create a playbook so local churches can easily establish a local chapter of Church and Society within their congregation, then network together to enhance the work of each congregation as well as our conference as a whole.

If you are interested in joining this work or establishing a Church and Society Committee at your church find our table in the Exhibit Hall, or email Rev. Phil Dieke (pdieke@wrumc.org).

Board of Global Ministries

The United Methodist Church is a connectional church. Being connectional is the core of our work through the Board of Global Ministries. Global Ministries connects The United Methodist Church, its people, and congregations to partner with others engaged in God's global work.

Our goal as the Board of Global Ministries is to inspire, challenge, educate, and support local churches to find ways to be in mission in the world. Whereas the traditional approach to mission is often needs-based and short-term relief, our goal is to learn new ways of doing mission which embrace asset-based, long-term development.

Therefore, the board's primary focuses this year have been to support the Center for Missional Outreach (CMO) and Bishop McKee in mission initiatives that have been set as a priority for our conference. Some of the areas we have focused on this year have been:

- Global Missionaries
- Global Health
- Disaster Response and Recovery

- Honduran United Methodist Mission

The Board of Global Ministries also encourages our local churches to establish a covenant relationship with at least one of our 300+ United Methodist missionaries. United Methodist missionaries are from everywhere and serve everywhere. United Methodist missionaries serve in over 60 countries around the world. Currently, there are three United Methodist missionaries from the North Texas Conference, two serving in South Africa and one in Cambodia. We sponsored a virtual “Coffee with a Missionary” with each to highlight and garner support for the work of these three missionaries:

- Rev. Wes Magruder, Lecturer of Theology, Seth Mokitimi Methodist Seminary, in Kwazulu/Natal, South Africa Advance # 14943Z.
- Mrs. Leah Magruder, Formation Department Assistant to Seth Mokitimi, Methodist Seminary in South Africa, Advance # 14944Z.
- Patrick Booth, from FUMC Lewisville, Co-Director for Project ARK (Advancing Resilient Khmer) to Methodist Mission in Cambodia, Advance #3022599

In the wake of the Covid 19 Pandemic, NTCBGM Disaster response trips were postponed. However, in 2021 Rev. Jeremy Basset was appointed as the North Texas Conference Disaster Response Coordinator. The Board looks forward to working with him through Conference supported Disaster Response Trips.

Another way every church in our conference can support relief efforts around the world is by giving to the United Methodist Committee of Relief (UMCOR). 100% of donations are directed to an earmarked project or relief effort. Our churches can also help fund the administrative expenses for UMCOR by designating a special offering on UMCOR Sunday, formerly called One Great Hour of Sharing.

The Board continued our connection and encouraged our NTC churches to partner with the Honduras Mission. Here are the details from Rev. Andy Lewis: For over 20 years The United Methodist Church has had a growing, indigenous presence and witness in Honduras. Today, the United Methodist Mission in Honduras consists of 22 congregations, the Juan Wesley School, and a host of other ministries that are serving faithfully in a very challenging time. We hope our churches will connect to the Honduras Mission to deepen our relationship and offer our friends in Honduras some much-needed love and support.

One of the roles of the NTCBGM is to connect local NTC churches to Global Ministries. Below is an analysis of the financial support for Global Ministries over the last year:

Donor Account Type	Sum of Gift Amount
Grand Total	\$ 484,390.66
Church	\$ 300,390.66
Individual	\$ 180,125.00
Organization	\$ 3,875.00

Donor Account Type	Sum of Gift Amount
Grand Total	\$ 484,390.66
Church	\$ 300,390.66
Individual	\$ 180,125.00
Organization	\$ 3,875.00

Missionary Support	Sum of Gift Amount
Grand Total	\$ 28,669.75
Patrick Booth	\$ 6,400.00
Magruder, Wesley Walter	\$ 5,200.00
Elizabeth McCormick	\$ 2,700.00
David McCormick	\$ 2,500.00
Emily A. Everett	\$ 2,500.00
Guillermo Berman Ramirez	\$ 2,500.00
Maria d. Ramirez Meneses	\$ 2,500.00
Global Mission Fellows	\$ 2,000.00
Missionaries - Around the World	\$ 1,269.75
Magruder, Leah Jane	\$ 1,000.00
Collins E. Ako	\$ 100.00
Katherine Meek	\$ -

Advance Project	Sum of Gift Amount
Grand Total	\$ 161,221.50
Maua Hospital Service Fund	\$ 120,000.00
Living Gifts: Heifer International	\$ 10,373.50
Healthy Women, Healthy Liberia (HWHL)	\$ 5,158.00
Church World Service, Blankets and Tools	\$ 3,860.00
The Center of Hope (HIV-AIDS)	\$ 3,300.00
Scholarships for Elementary, Secondary, College & Seminary Education	\$ 2,250.00
Shade and Fresh Water	\$ 2,000.00
Grace Children's Hospital (GCH) and Outpatient Clinic	\$ 1,830.00
John Wesley Medical Boat	\$ 1,500.00
Moscow Seminary - Scholarship and Academic Support	\$ 1,500.00
Red Bird Missionary Conference Church and Outreach Ministries	\$ 1,500.00
Congo Restoration	\$ 1,424.00
Mary Jo Phillips Methodist Daycare Center of Asuncion, Paraguay	\$ 1,225.00
Prosthesis Program	\$ 1,000.00
Unalaska United Methodist Church Outreach and Community Ministry.	\$ 1,000.00
Love Beyond Borders: The Interfaith Movement to End the Pandemic	\$ 700.00
Aids Orphans and Community Health, Maua Hospital	\$ 550.00
Emmanuel Center for Women and Children, Tarime	\$ 526.00
House of Mercy Orphanage	\$ 500.00
Stove Builders of Guatemala	\$ 225.00
El Porvenir: Clean Water, Healthy Nicaraguans	\$ 200.00
National Justice for Our Neighbors	\$ 200.00
North Katanga Wings of the Morning	\$ 150.00
Southern Congo Wings of the Morning	\$ 150.00
Mujjila Falls Agriculture Center	\$ 100.00

Church Donor Name	Sum of Gift Amount
Grand Total	\$ 300,390.66
First United Methodist Church , of Richardson	\$ 139,656.45
North Texas Conference of the UMC	\$ 15,723.22
Grace Avenue , United Methodist Church	\$ 15,700.00
First , United Methodist Church Coppell	\$ 11,716.20
St. Andrew , United Methodist Church	\$ 11,300.00
First United Methodist Church , of Denton	\$ 7,175.00
Custer Road, United Methodist Church	\$ 6,028.00
First United Methodist Church , of Plano	\$ 5,467.50
Christ United Methodist Church , of Farmers Branch	\$ 5,200.00
Wesley Greenville, United Methodist Church	\$ 4,703.00
First United Methodist Church , of Decatur	\$ 4,600.00
Prosper, United Methodist Church	\$ 4,095.00
Christ United Methodist Church	\$ 3,925.00
Spring Valley, United Methodist Church	\$ 3,850.00
First United Methodist Church , of Frisco	\$ 3,658.00
Trietsch, United Methodist Church	\$ 3,300.00
First , United Methodist Church - DeSoto	\$ 3,187.00
Arapaho, United Methodist Church	\$ 3,170.00
St Stephen, United Methodist Church	\$ 3,000.00
University Park, United Methodist Church	\$ 2,900.00
StoneBridge, United Methodist Church	\$ 2,500.00
Lake Highlands, United Methodist Church	\$ 2,300.00
First United Methodist Church , of Forney	\$ 2,300.00
First Duncanville, United Methodist Church	\$ 2,100.00
Enloe United Methodist Church	\$ 2,000.00
First United Methodist Church , of Commerce	\$ 1,800.00
First United Methodist Church , of Paris	\$ 1,800.00
First United Methodist Church , of Rowlett	\$ 1,663.00
Trinity , United Methodist Church	\$ 1,626.66
First United Methodist Church , of Garland	\$ 1,624.42
First United Methodist Church , of Van Alstyne	\$ 1,600.00
Farmersville, United Methodist Church	\$ 1,500.00
Kessler Park, United Methodist Church	\$ 1,443.00
First , United Methodist Church Whitesboro	\$ 1,353.39
Suncreek , United Methodist Church	\$ 1,250.00
First United Methodist Church , of Holliday	\$ 1,215.00
Grace United Methodist Church	\$ 1,200.61
First United Methodist Church	\$ 1,175.00
Vista Ridge, United Methodist Church	\$ 1,000.00
Petrolia, United Methodist Church	\$ 832.00
Waples Memorial, United Methodist Church	\$ 793.00
Deport United Methodist Church	\$ 625.00
First United Methodist Church , of Terrell	\$ 600.00
First United Methodist Church	\$ 600.00
First United Methodist Church , of Celina	\$ 580.00
Alvord First , United Methodist Church	\$ 540.00
Highland Park, United Methodist Church	\$ 500.00
Walnut Hill, United Methodist Church	\$ 475.00
Good Shepherd , United Methodist Church - Lucas	\$ 471.00
Friendship Sherman, United Methodist	\$ 450.00
Bogata United Methodist Church	\$ 425.00
ChinnÆs Chapel , United Methodist Church	\$ 400.00
First United Methodist Church , of Lewisville	\$ 333.00
First United Methodist Church , of Dallas	\$ 310.00
Chambersville, United Methodist Church	\$ 300.00
Tyler Street, United Methodist Church	\$ 275.00
Grace United Methodist Church	\$ 267.61
First United Methodist Church , of Bells	\$ 225.00
Greenland Hills, United Methodist Church	\$ 214.00
Casa Linda, United Methodist Church	\$ 208.00
First United Methodist Church , of Grand Prairie	\$ 200.00
First United Methodist Church , of Leonard	\$ 150.00
Henrietta First , United Methodist Church	\$ 141.25
Aldersgate, United Methodist Church	\$ 139.35
Kavanaugh, United Methodist Church	\$ 115.00
Holy Covenant, United Methodist Church	\$ 100.00
Lone Oak, United Methodist Church	\$ 100.00
St Philip`s , United Methodist Church	\$ 50.00
Northgate, United Methodist Church	\$ 50.00
Lakeway , United Methodist Church	\$ 50.00
First United Methodist Church , of Bowie	\$ 36.00
First United Methodist Church , of Mount Vernon	\$ 30.00

Our Board continues to find ways to engage in Global Ministries in the midst on the COVID-19 pandemic. I am so proud of the voice that each member brings to the board and look forward to new ways of engaging in Global Ministries in 2022-23.

Please check the conference website for updates on ways we can help you and your church share the good news of Jesus Christ through engaging with Global Ministries during these unusual times. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

I appreciate the opportunity to have served this year as the chair of the Board of Global Ministries.

–Randall Lucas, Chair of NTC Board of Global Ministries, rlucas@lumc.org

CORE LEADERSHIP TEAM (CLT)

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 (NTC). In the 2021-2022 conference year, the CLT met three times and engaged in faithful and fruitful discussion.

In October, the CLT received a financial report for the NTC from Christy Drenner, including information about the year-to-date apportionment payout and the conference's property insurance program. The team looked ahead to 2022 and reflected on three key factors that will shape the next year's budget: property insurance; pension and health benefits changes; and the minimum compensation level for clergy. Rev. Jeremy Basset shared the emerging vision and work of the NTC Disaster Response ministry, which emphasizes on-going, year-round engagement, as opposed to only episodic responses to disasters. Rev. Dr. Owen Ross shared the Center for Church Development's comprehensive plan for Hispanic ministries to reach this growing mission field. Finally, Rev. Cammy Gaston shared about a new curriculum resource, called Wesleyan Roots, designed especially for laity to deepen their understanding of our Wesleyan theology and beliefs.

In February, the CLT engaged in a robust discussion of a monograph by Gil Rendle called "Jacob's Bones." The discussion yielded helpful insights about the NTC's identity (beliefs, values, practices) that will endure and be carried forward into an uncertain future. Rev. Andy Lewis gave an update on plans for the 2022 Annual Conference. The bishop then shared his vision for visiting with clergy and laity in each district in the spring and received input from the team on important topics to address. Christy Drenner reported that the apportionment payout for 2021 ended up at 91% – a very encouraging result indicative of the strength and commitment of the NTC. Rev. Andy Lewis highlighted two CMO initiatives: raising \$85,000 during Lent to fund the compensation packages of all clergy in the United Methodist Mission in Honduras; and producing a podcast called The Unfinished Church, hosted by three U.M. bishops including Bishop McKee and focusing on the work of anti-racism. Rev. Cammy Gaston unveiled two videos that are a part of the Wesleyan Roots curriculum and discussed the roll out of this new resource. Finally, Rev. Dr. Owen Ross presented the model the CCD uses for grants to local churches.

In late March, the CLT began its meeting with a reflection by Bishop McKee on the Jewish Community Relations Council's Interfaith Seder, held the night before. The team then engaged in dialogue to help the bishop prepare for his district visits with clergy and laity in April. Christy Drenner reported on the activity of several groups under the Center for Connectional Resources umbrella: Council of Finance and Administration (CFA), Board of Pension and Health Benefits, Board of Trustees, and the Property Insurance task force. She shared about a new option available to local churches to acquire cybersecurity protection as well as an upcoming training on the topic of workers compensation. The CFA is making plans for an annual audit of the NTC. Rev. Andrew Fiser shared about the CMO's role in convening local church leaders and other partners to develop a plan to create hubs for mental health access at churches in under-resourced areas. This plan was funded with a three-year grant from the Golden

Cross Foundation of over \$260,000. Joseph Bradley, Camping and Retreat Ministries, gave an overview of summer camping at Bridgeport, including the youth leadership development program. He also presented findings from the Effective Camp Research Project about the lasting impacts of camping and shared that Bridgeport Camp will be participating in this research project this year. Rev. Dr. Owen Ross closed the meeting by sharing about a National Planters Gathering in April being planned and hosted by the CCD.

The CLT is convened by Bishop McKee and in 2021-2022 included:

Vice Chair/Conference Lay Leader	<i>Kim Brannon</i>
Lay members elected by each district	<i>Phiebie Hutchins, Metro; Tim Crouch, North Central; Stephen Gillem, East; and Jordan McLarty, Northwest</i>
Five at-large members appointed by the bishop	<i>Mary Beth Hardesty-Crouch, Taylor Smith, Levy Laguardia, Deborah Vela, and Ted Haynes</i>
One District Superintendent	<i>Debra Hobbs Mason</i>
Center Directors	<i>Christy Drenner, Cammy Gaston, Andy Lewis, and Owen Ross</i>
Director of Racial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	<i>Ron Henderson</i>

CENTER FOR CONNECTIONAL RESOURCES (CCR)

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. Effective July 1, 2021, we moved 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. 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.

C. Boy Scouts of America Bankruptcy

As of April 29, 2022, this is the most recent update on the BSA Bankruptcy case.

The United Methodist settlement in addition to healing initiatives for the survivors also includes

1. United Methodists reviewing and updating their Safe Sanctuary policies and communicating how we as

a church must continue to be vigilant in working to end child sexual abuse in our churches, homes, and communities.

2. A \$30 million dollar settlement for sexual abuse cases through scouting United Methodist Chartered organizations. Each of the conferences across the United Methodist Church was allocated an amount based on the number of its cases. Our conference was assessed \$468,216. The conference will use operating reserves to meet this financial obligation and will not be allocating any of the cost to the local churches.

D. Disaffiliation

The Board has approved the following framework and timeline for disaffiliating churches.

**General Framework for the Disaffiliation Process per *The Book of Discipline, 2016*;
Paragraphs (¶) 2553 and 2548.2
(see also ¶1504.23)**

Who sets the terms? The terms and conditions for disaffiliation shall be established by the Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference, with the advice of the cabinet, the annual conference treasurer, the annual conference benefits officer, the assistant to the bishop, and the annual conference chancellor.

What terms must be included? The General Council on Finance and Administration shall develop a standard form for disaffiliation agreements per ¶2553 to protect The United Methodist Church as set forth in ¶807.9. The agreement shall include a recognition of the validity and applicability of ¶2501, notwithstanding the release of property therefrom. Other terms shall include:

- a) Apportionments: The local church shall pay any unpaid apportionments for the year in which the effective date of disaffiliation is set, as well as an additional 12 months of apportionments based on the decimal for the year in which the date of disaffiliation occurs.
- b) Property: A disaffiliating local church shall have the right to retain its real and personal, tangible and intangible property. (Note that certain endowments, restricted gifts, and intellectual property may be excluded.)
- c) Property: All transfers of property shall be made at the point of disaffiliation.
- d) Property: All costs for transfer of title or other legal work shall be borne by the disaffiliating local church.
- e) Pension Liabilities: The local church shall contribute withdrawal liability in an amount equal to its pro rata share of any aggregate unfunded pension obligations to the annual conference. The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall determine the aggregate funding obligations of the annual conference using market factors similar to a commercial annuity provider, from which the annual conference will determine the local church's share using the decimal for the year in which the date of disaffiliation occurs. (Even if a local church has never had a clergy requiring a pension contribution, it still must contribute its pro rata share because the NTC takes on the unfunded pension obligations in covenant as a conference.)
- f) Other Liabilities: The local church shall satisfy all other debts, loans, and liabilities, or assign and transfer them to its new entity, at the point of disaffiliation.
- g) Payment terms: Payment shall occur prior to the effective date of departure.
- h) Disaffiliating Churches Continuing as Plan Sponsors of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits Plans: The United Methodist Church believes that a local church disaffiliating under ¶2553 or ¶2548.2 shall continue to share common religious bonds and convictions with The United Methodist Church based on shared Wesleyan theology and tradition and Methodist roots, unless the local church expressly resolves to the contrary. As such, a local church disaffiliating under ¶2553 or ¶2548.2 shall continue to be eligible to sponsor voluntary employee benefit plans through the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits under ¶1504.2, subject to the applicable terms and conditions of the plans.
- i) Trust Clause: Once the disaffiliating local church has reimbursed the annual conference for all funds due under the agreement, and provided that there are no other outstanding liabilities or claims against The United Methodist Church as a result of the disaffiliation, in consideration of the provisions of this paragraph,

the annual conference shall release any claims that it may have under ¶2501 and other paragraphs of *The Book of Discipline* of The United Methodist Church commonly referred to as the trust clause, or under the agreement.

What additional standard terms “not inconsistent” with the above will be included in the NTC?

- a) Pay any unpaid salary and/or benefits due to appointed clergy of the local church up to the effective date of disaffiliation.
- b) Pay any unpaid pension invoices from the annual conference Board of Pensions for current clergy up to the date of disaffiliation.
- c) Pay any unpaid invoices for annual conference health insurance up to the date of disaffiliation.
- d) Pay any unpaid invoices for annual conference property insurance up to the date of disaffiliation.
- e) Provide indemnity to the annual conference for any future claims made against the local church.
- f) Obtain insurance coverages to the General Council on Finance and Administration standard effective on the date of disaffiliation, naming the annual conference as additional insured.
- g) Provide sufficient documentation to annual conference proving payment or transfer of all debts; releasing all claims upon the annual conference; and confirming it has no pending lawsuit, charge, complaint or other action against The United Methodist Church or its officers.
- h) Understand that any property insurance claims for damage deriving from incidents prior to the effective date of disaffiliation and filed after the effective date of disaffiliation will not be covered.
- i) Pay back any grants or gifts given by the conference in the prior 10 years.

What is the timeline for disaffiliations needing approval at Annual Conference 2023?

- 1) By August 15, 2022, the initial conversation between the District Superintendent (DS) and the pastor and/or lay leadership must take place.
- 2) By October 1, 2022, the initial meeting with the local church and the DS / Discernment Team must take place.
- 3) By December 1, 2022, the DS must receive a letter from the local church requesting disaffiliation under ¶2553.
- 4) By December 1, 2022, the DS must receive a letter from the pastor indicating his/her intentions.
- 5) By December 31, 2022, the DS must receive a letter from the local church requesting a church conference for the purpose of disaffiliation.
- 6) By March 1, 2023, the church conference must meet and approve the disaffiliation resolution.
- 7) By April 1, 2023, the local church, Board of Trustees, and assistant to the bishop prepare a legislative item for Annual Conference action.
- 8) Early June, 2023 (dates TBD), the annual conference votes on the disaffiliation resolution.
- 9) By December 31, 2023, all terms of the disaffiliation agreement must be met by the local church.

What does the overview of the “playbook” look like?

- 1) **Initial conversation**
- 2) **Initial meeting**
- 3) **Follow up conversation with the pastor**
- 4) **Period of discernment**
- 5) **Local church makes formal request for disaffiliation**
- 6) **Pastor communicates his/her intentions**
- 7) **Local church requests church conference**
- 8) **Church conference**
- 9) **Annual Conference action**
- 10) **Terms of disaffiliation are fulfilled**

What is the detailed “playbook” for conference leadership for disaffiliation under ¶2553?

- 1) **Initial conversation:** When a) a DS discerns that a local church is interested in and meets the criteria for disaffiliation under ¶2553 or b) local church leadership inquire about disaffiliation, information about the WCA, etc., the DS will communicate with the pastor and/or lay leadership and offer to come for a meeting to share the process. Contact/inquiry must come from at least one of the following: pastor; lay leader; council/board chair.
- 2) **Initial meeting:** The DS and members of the Discernment Team will meet with the congregation to listen to their concerns, to share about the identity and the “value” of the North Texas Conference, and to share about the disaffiliation process. All professing members of the local church will be invited. The Discernment Team will come to the meeting with an estimated payment amount per the required terms.
- 3) **Follow-up conversation with the pastor:** Around the same time the initial meeting with church leadership is held, the DS will also have an informal conversation with the pastor to discern where the pastor is in his/her alignment with the congregation’s desires, his/her leadership role in the departure process, and the implications of the church’s decision on his/her future in ministry.
- 4) **Period of discernment:** To avoid rash decisions or to ensure fully informed decisions are made, there will be a minimum two-month discernment period before moving forward with the disaffiliation process. The Discernment Team will hold at least one follow up meeting in that two-month period to which all professing members of the local church will be invited to listen further, answer questions that have emerged, and to continue discerning if the local church desires to move forward with the disaffiliation process.
- 5) **Local church makes a formal request:** The local church must send a letter to the DS (cc’d to the conference treasurer and assistant to the bishop) expressing their desire to disaffiliate. Until December 31, 2023, all disaffiliations will be guided by ¶2553. As such, in the letter the local church must sufficiently articulate their “reasons of conscience” or “the actions or inactions of its annual conference” that would justify ¶2553 being utilized if that is the local church’s intent. A consensus is reached by the extended cabinet as to whether the reasons articulated rise to the level of a ¶2553 departure. The DS needs to be reasonably sure that whatever is submitted represents the views of a significant portion of the professing members of the local church as may be reflected by the position of the board/council.
- 6) **Pastor communicates his/her intentions:** Pastor provides in writing his/her intention to remain with The UMC, retire, or surrender credentials to continue to lead the church.
- 7) **Local church requests church conference:** Assuming the extended cabinet agrees that the local church’s reasons meet the standards of ¶2553, the local church would then send a letter to the DS requesting a church conference for the purpose of disaffiliation, indicating a disaffiliation date which must be a date following the next AC. In the letter, the local church should indicate that they understand the “cost” the DS / Discernment Team has shared with them. It will be important to note that cost is beyond financial. The DS must schedule the church conference within 120 days. All church conferences must comply with all requirements of ¶248 which includes but is not limited to:
 - a. being requested by one of the following: the DS, pastor, church council, or 10% of the professing membership;
 - b. notice of time and place given at least ten days in advance by two or more of the following: from the pulpit of the church, in its weekly bulletin, in a local church publication, or by mail;
 - c. the church must provide a copy of any published notices as well as a list of the addresses to which the notices were mailed. (Sufficient evidence that the full membership has been properly notified will be requested by the DS.)
- 8) **Preparations for the church conference:** The Board of Trustees approves the final terms and conditions for disaffiliation. Treasurer prepares a document detailing payments required. Conference prepares disaffiliation resolution and process for proper voting. A printed list of church members on the roll should be compared to previous years of statistical review membership numbers.
- 9) **Church Conference:** The DS will preside. Members should sign in next to their name on the verified printed membership roll. The disaffiliation resolution must be approved by 2/3 majority vote of the professing

members present and voting. The ballot and voting results must be signed and certified by an officer of the church and sent to the DS.

- 10) Follow up from church conference:** Assuming the disaffiliation resolution is approved, the matter is turned over to the Board of Trustees, treasurer, and assistant to the bishop. DS sends disaffiliation agreement and vote count to trustees through the treasurer/assistant to the bishop and a cc to the chancellor. The local church then provides the following documents to the DS, treasurer, and assistant to the bishop:
- a. last statement of all bank accounts;
 - b. latest financial statement and balance sheet;
 - c. documentation of any debt;
 - d. information and balances for endowments or restricted gifts;
 - e. copies of all deeds and key contracts;
 - f. copies of leases and loan documents;
 - g. documentation of any grants received from the annual conference or district in the past ten years;
 - h. information on cemetery or columbarium;
 - i. information on Boy Scouts of America charter organization;
 - j. names of church's Secretary and Chair and Vice Chair of its Board of Trustees;
 - k. name of any successor church to which its property and legal descriptions for the real property;
 - l. list of insurance policies and renewal dates
- 11) Annual Conference Action:** Conference Board of Trustees works with the assistant to the bishop and local church to prepare a legislative item. It must be submitted by April 1 per Standing Rules unless with special permission. For disaffiliation either under ¶2553 or ¶2548.2, the annual conference must vote to approve the disaffiliation resolution previously agreed to by church and conference trustees. Disaffiliation does not happen until after the annual conference votes. The annual conference must approve the legislative item by a simple majority.
- 12) Final matters:** The local church fulfills the terms of the disaffiliation agreement and prepares a final statistical report and church archives. In addition, the local church will:
- a. change name on bank accounts, insurance, etc.;
 - b. file new deeds with Clerk of Circuit Court;
 - c. remove Cross and Flame logo and mention of The UMC from signage, websites, etc.;
 - d. obtain new state and federal tax ID numbers;
 - e. apply for tax exempt status with the IRS;
 - f. apply for tax exemption with counties in which it owns real property;
 - g. take all necessary steps to close and/or dissolve any legal entities and to settle, liquidate, or transfer all assets and obligations of such entities. (All sale of property must take place after annual conference vote.)

What if a local church determines it would like to re-enter the annual conference?

If a local church that has disaffiliated determines that it wishes to re-enter the annual conference, it shall notify the presiding bishop. The decision to become a member of the annual conference can only be made with the consent of the presiding bishop and the cabinet and in accordance with the provisions of ¶259 of *The Book of Discipline*. In addition, the decision must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the professing members of the local church present at a church conference called for this purpose. If a local church is re-established as a local United Methodist Church, the conference treasurer shall determine the amount of any funds paid for pension liabilities pursuant to the disaffiliation agreement, plus any investment earnings and minus any investment losses, calculated in accordance with the annual conference pension liability policy. The balance, less any funds paid to cover pension obligations, shall be rebated to the local church within six months of the date it re-enters the annual conference.

Commission on Archives and History

Whatever their feelings about The United Methodist Church as a denomination, North Texas United Methodists love their local churches and they are fascinated by the history of their chosen faith community. Local church historians are eager to tell that story.

Since June 2021, a group of local church historians of the North Texas Conference have been meeting monthly in a writer's support group to share best practices and work through how to tell the story of their church to its members and its community. We set goals and hold each other accountable. We also encourage each other and share research leads and best practices. The support group (which grows every month) includes experienced writers and novices, those who are about to publish their church's history and those who are thinking about starting to want to get organized. In ten meetings (so far), the Conference had developed a pipeline of church histories in process.

In October, 2021, our Conference Archivist and Commission Chair reported on historical activities in the North Texas Conference at the annual meeting of the Texas United Methodist Historical Society. It was very clear from the discussion that followed that the NTC has one of the most active local church history programs among UMC Conferences in Texas.

Starting in April, 2022, the Commission will be offering a seven-week basic training on the job of the local church historian. Hosted on Zoom, the training sessions will be on Thursday mornings and cover:

- What should be in your archival collection?
- How do you properly store and use of the collection (including basic legal considerations)?
- How do you create a system to understand your collection and access the information in it?
- How do you gather and use memories through oral histories?
- How do you let the congregation know about its history through short articles?
- How do you let the congregation know about its history through a formal history book?
- And for fun: How do quilts (yes, quilts) store memories from the life of the congregation?

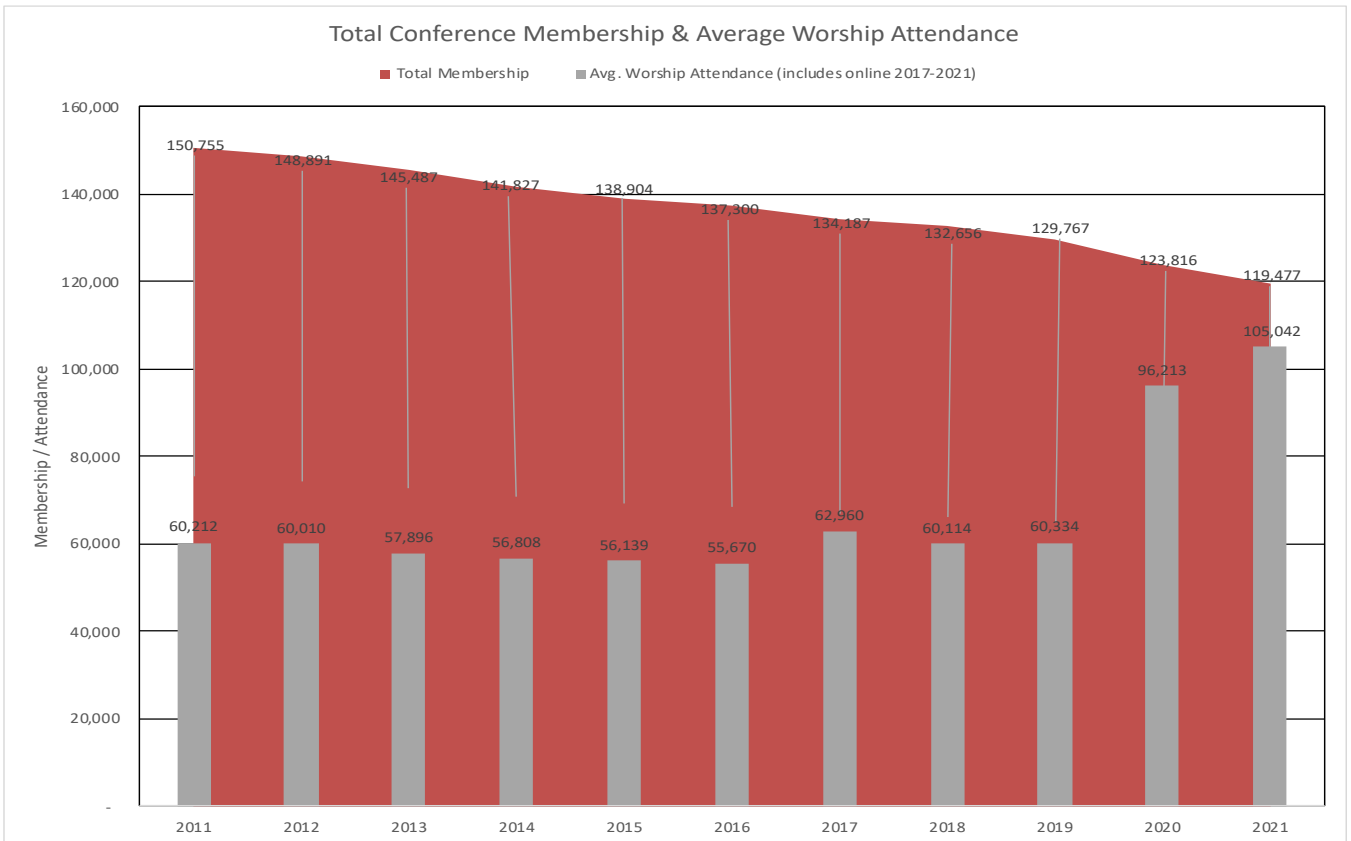
The Conference Archives at Bridwell Library at Perkins School of Theology are fully open again and Frances Long continues her yeoman work of answering questions and assisting researchers. The archives continue to receive deposits from closed churches and from the families of deceased ministers. The Commission is working to get Frances assistance so the word about what God has done in the local churches of the North Texas Conference since 1867 continues to get out.

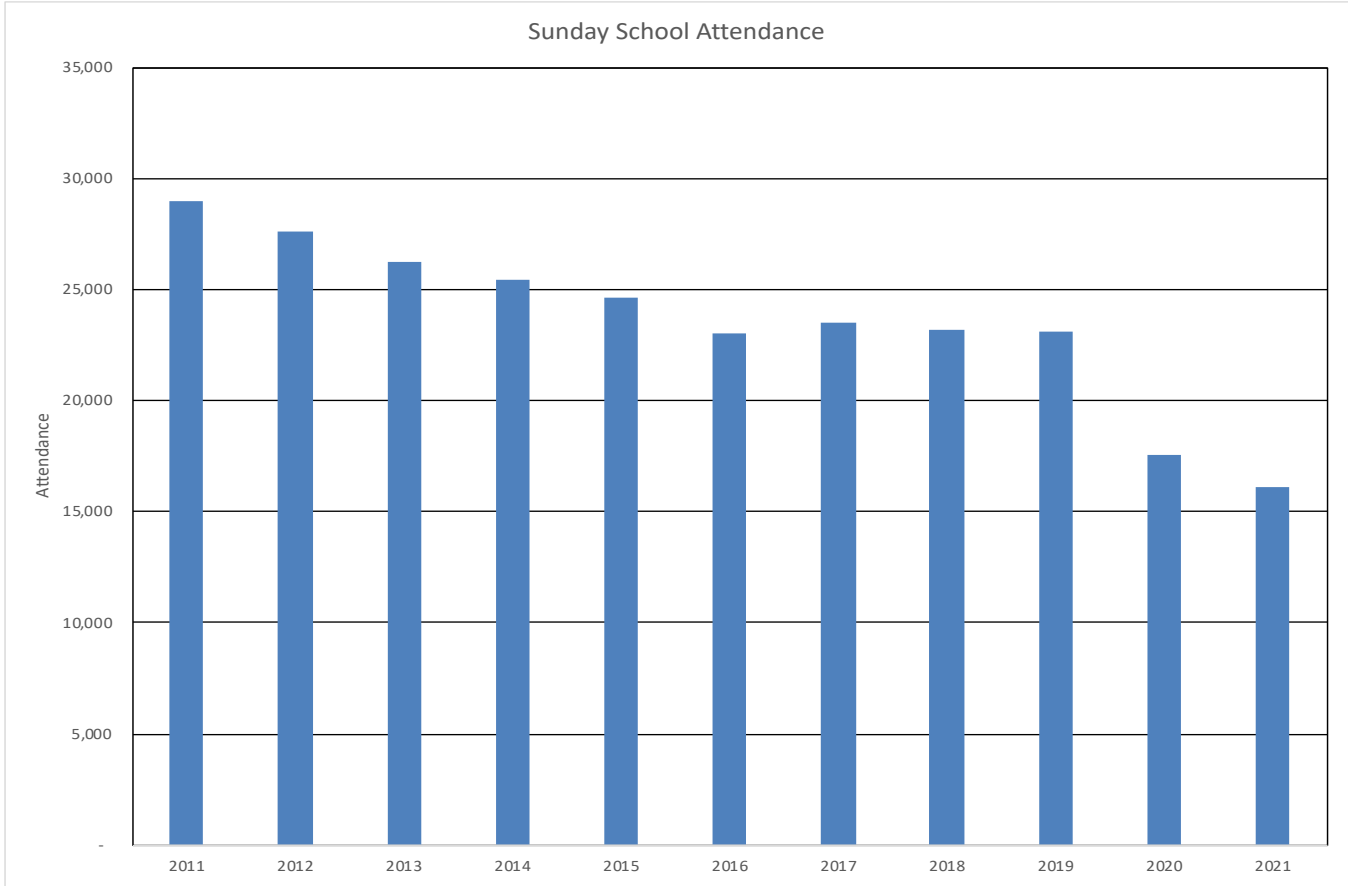
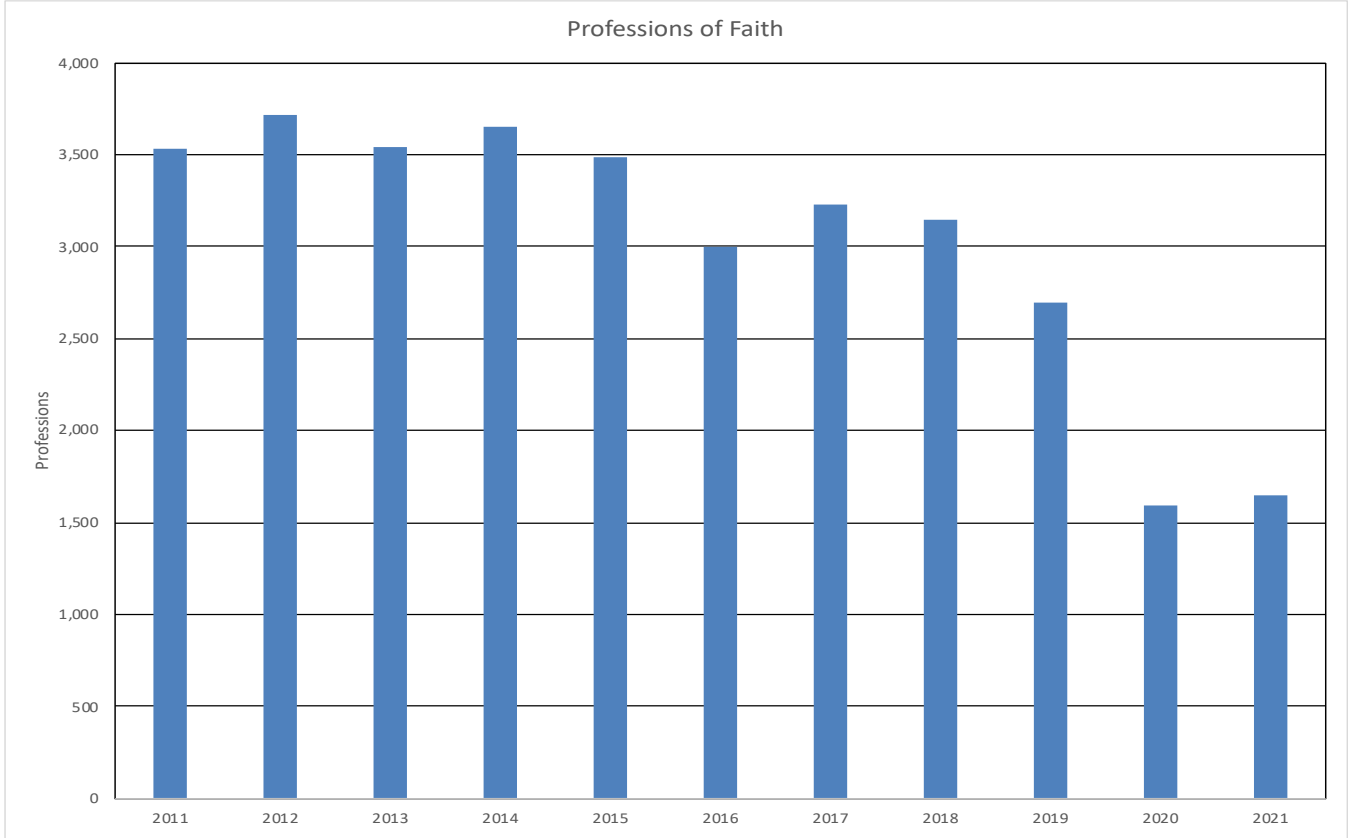
–Kent Roberts, Commission on Archives and History, Chair
–Frances Long, Conference Archivist

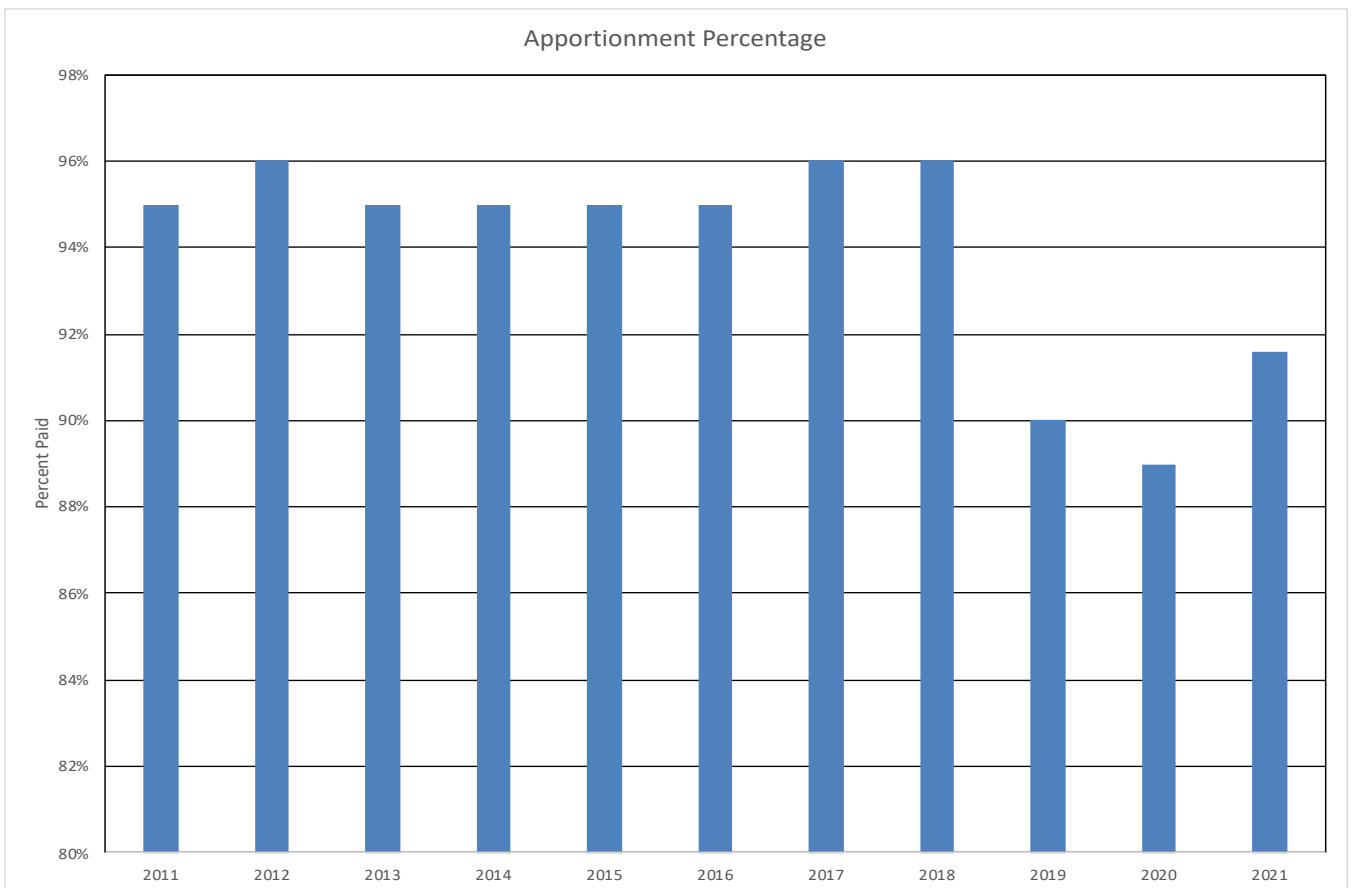
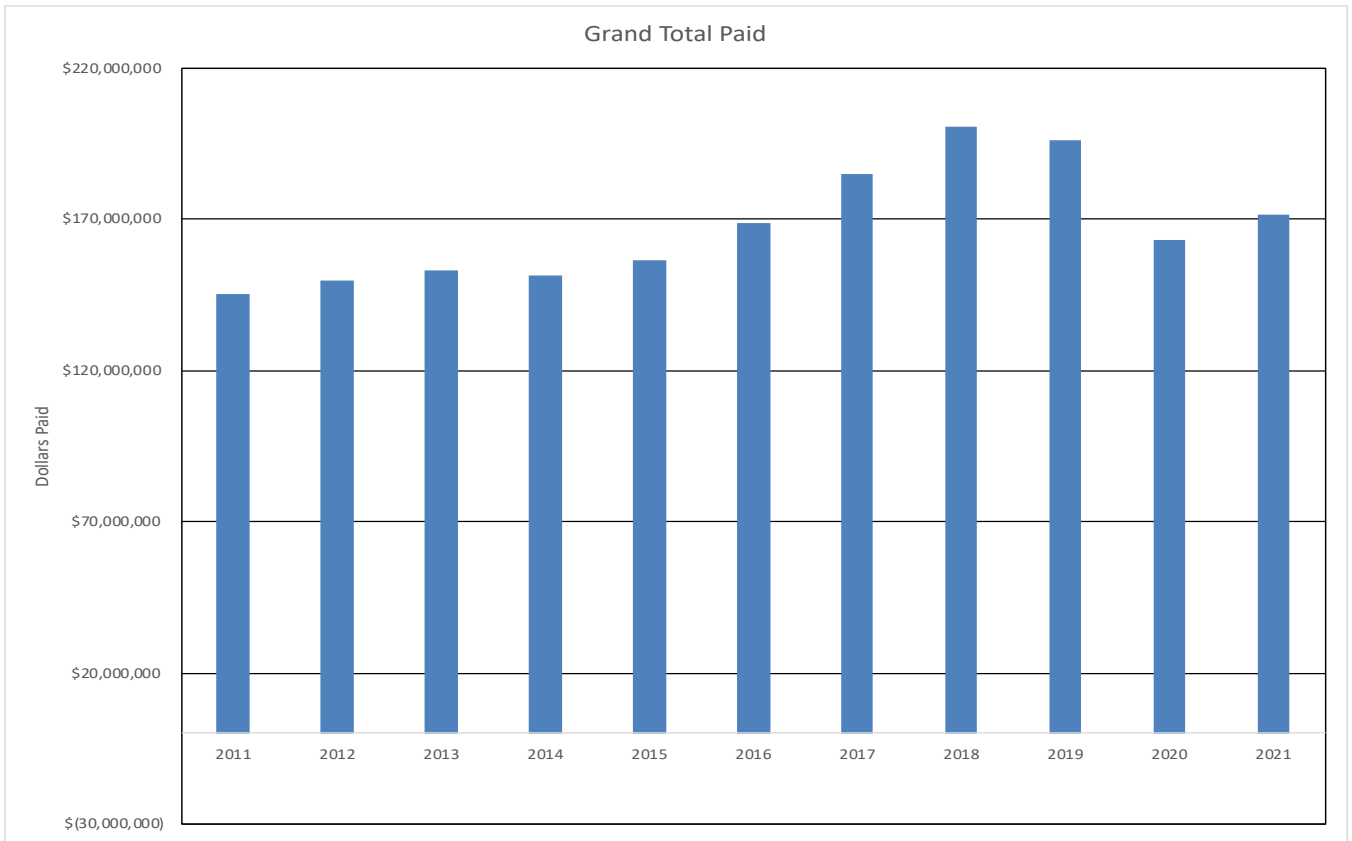
Report of Conference Statistician

2021 STATISTICS AT-A-GLANCE

Total Membership	119,477
Average Attendance	31,100
Average Attendance Online	73,942
Sunday School Attendance	16,146
Assets (Property and Liquid)	\$1,463,222,679
Debt	\$135,227,137
Programs/Operations	\$32,386,239
Clergy Costs	\$29,952,230
Staff Costs	\$43,299,478
Churches (reporting stats)	276
1000+ Churches (Membership)	26
999-500 Churches (Membership)	17
499-250 Churches (Membership)	39
249-0 Churches (Membership)	194







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

REMITTANCES

	2020	2021
	RECEIPTS	RECEIPTS
APPORTIONMENTS		
World Service	1,693,991	1,168,885
Ministerial Education	572,151	394,795
Black College Fund	228,226	157,480
Africa University Fund	51,076	35,244
Interdenominational Cooperation Fund	44,746	30,876
General Administration Fund	201,148	138,795
Episcopal Fund	585,565	582,067
Lydia Patterson Institute	62,452	64,639
Jurisdictional Administration Fund	33,037	39,830
Leadership Development	1,660,016	1,647,738
Center for Church Development	1,191,715	1,062,876
Center for Missional Outreach	655,273	651,625
Center for Connectional Resources	1,224,667	1,271,288
Area and Conference Administration	533,006	533,942
Conference Benefits	1,540,200	1,533,200
District Superintendents Fund	616,478	606,480
District Administration Fund	629,539	618,803
TOTAL APPORTIONMENTS	11,523,286	10,538,562

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

REMITTANCES

	2020 RECEIPTS	2021 RECEIPTS
TARGETED CAUSES		
Second Mile Apportionment Fund	8,118	23,068
GENERAL ADVANCE SPECIALS		
UMCOR		
UMCOR Undesignated Gifts	31,120	50,350
UMCOR Relief Supplies	0	0
UMCOR Domestic Disaster Response	27,995	45,840
UMCOR International Disaster Response	4,465	29,824
UMCOR Global Health	2,825	11,694
UMCOR Missionaries Around the World	120	0
UMCOR Sustainable Development	<u>1,300</u>	<u>1,100</u>
Total UMCOR	67,825	138,809
WORLD MISSIONS		
Regional Africa	5,400	8,300
Cambodia	1,000	0
Cameroon	0	0
Congo	956	100
Europe	0	
Heifer International Fill the Ark	850	145
Russia	0	0
Poland	320	0
Latin America and the Caribbean	19,695	8,236
Vietnam	0	
Global Migration	0	
Haiti Advance Project	<u>1,935</u>	<u>1,830</u>
Total World Missions	30,156	18,611
TOTAL GENERAL ADVANCE SPECIALS	97,981	157,420
OTHER ADVANCE SPECIALS		
Africa University Special Gifts	0	500
Black College Fund	0	500
Total Other Advance Specials	0	1,000
YOUTH SERVICE FUND	673	0

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

REMITTANCES

	2020 RECEIPTS	2021 RECEIPTS
GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFERINGS		
UMCOR Sunday (One Great Hour)	4,253	11,401
World Communion	846	6,357
UM Student Day	480	420
Human Relations Day	1,169	250
Peace With Justice	264	1,126
Native American Ministries	<u>1,027</u>	<u>140</u>
TOTAL GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFERINGS	8,039	19,694
OTHER CONFERENCE BENEVOLENCES	93,566	330,440
TOTAL NON-APPORTIONED FUNDS	208,377	531,622
TOTAL APPORTIONED FUNDS	11,523,286	10,538,562
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	11,731,663	11,070,184

North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church
Statement of Financial Position (Unaudited)
December 31, 2021

Assets	2021	2020
Current Assets		
Cash - Conference	\$ 10,940,791	\$ 8,896,098
Accounts Receivable	3,157,808	2,498,044
Prepaid Expenses	122,608	278,606
Investments	51,105,608	47,523,932
Total Current Assets	65,326,814	59,196,680
Other Assets		
Fixed assets, net of depreciation	4,445,535	4,775,303
Land and Bldgs held for resale	11,190,292	6,179,762
Investments	2,540,589	2,389,745
Total Other Assets	18,176,416	13,344,811
Total Assets	83,503,230	72,541,490
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	4,139,026	3,780,105
Current year postretirement benefits obligation	383,316	343,263
Total Current Liabilities	4,522,342	4,123,368
Non-current Liabilities		
Notes payable, non-current portion	7,616,017	6,475,279
Long term postretirement benefits obligation	8,977,750	9,876,986
Total Non-current Liabilities	16,593,767	16,352,265
Total Liabilities	21,116,110	20,475,632
Net Assets		
Net Assets Without Donor Restriction		
Operating Reserves	6,227,770	5,316,239
Board Designated Reserves	48,213,363	38,760,000
BOD Designated Reserves	685,159	665,554
Real and Personal Property Reserves	3,733,634	3,949,851
Conference Managed Reserves	295,560	262,870
Total Net Assets Without Donor Restriction	59,155,485	48,954,513
Net Assets With Donor Restrictions		
Temporarily Restricted	2,417,567	2,297,276
Permanently Restricted	814,068	814,068
Total Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	3,231,635	3,111,344
Total Net Assets	62,387,120	52,065,858
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 83,503,230	\$ 72,541,490

North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church
Statement of Financial Activities (Unaudited)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

	2021	2020
Changes in net assets without donor restrictions		
Revenues		
Revenues without donor restrictions		
Apportionment receipts	\$ 10,672,320	\$ 11,517,841
Unrestricted donations and grants	897,314	85,471
Program & Event Fees	40,845	548,067
Receipts of legacy church facilities	3,940,036	694,148
Services (health, pension, property)	33,598,781	15,117,850
Investment income (loss)	3,452,056	6,103,546
Other	758,493	220,276
Total Revenues without donor restrictions	<u>53,359,845</u>	<u>34,287,199</u>
Total Revenues	<u>53,359,845</u>	<u>34,287,199</u>
Expenses		
Staff	2,971,732	2,885,034
Employee Benefits	9,959,351	9,595,713
Travel & Meetings	168,978	141,199
Facility Occupancy	408,361	624,480
Property Insurance	24,432,196	7,565,188
Professional Fees & Contract	450,601	500,164
Supplies	44,930	1,216,949
Training & Continuing Education	470,186	579,241
Grants/benevolence	4,940,360	5,067,259
Depreciation	322,687	321,969
Total Expenses	<u>44,169,383</u>	<u>28,497,196</u>
Other changes		
Change in postretirement benefits obligation	859,183	(950,696)
Total Changes in net assets without donor restrictions	<u>10,049,645</u>	<u>4,839,307</u>
Changes in net assets with donor restrictions		
Contributions for programs	53,262	23,885
Investment return, net	218,355	361,461
Total Changes in net assets with donor restrictions	<u>271,618</u>	<u>385,346</u>
Change in total net assets	<u>10,321,262</u>	<u>5,224,653</u>
Net assets at beginning of year	52,065,858	46,841,205
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 62,387,120</u>	<u>\$ 52,065,858</u>

**North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church
Statement of Functional Expenses (Unaudited)
December 31, 2021**

Natural Classification	Programs						Support		Total
	Program	Missions	Supervisory	Services	Subsidiaries	Programs subtotal	General & Admin		
Staff	\$ 565,618	\$ 196,962	\$ 463,004	\$ 250,816	\$ 518,153	\$ 1,994,553	\$ 977,180	\$ 2,971,732	
Employee Benefits	173,916	28,019	60,923	9,398,132	125,029	9,786,019	173,332	9,959,351	
Travel & Meetings	99,631	2,914	27,047	6,522	12,520	148,634	20,344	168,978	
Facility Occupancy	55,776	-	957	37,593	126,349	220,675	187,686	408,361	
Property Insurance	9,415	-	-	24,398,376	17,344	24,425,135	7,061	24,432,196	
Professional Fees & Contract	252,919	33,538	-	51,289	670	338,416	112,185	450,601	
Supplies	86,589	14,347	3,129	(233,711)	124,441	(5,204)	50,134	44,930	
Training & Continuing	461,440	5,400	-	-	3,334	470,173	13	470,186	
Grants/Benevolence	1,369,490	2,800,311	20,800	369,430	68,495	4,628,527	311,834	4,940,360	
Depreciation	68,755	-	-	-	150,801	219,555	103,132	322,687	
Total Expenses	\$ 3,143,548	\$ 3,081,491	\$ 575,860	\$ 34,278,447	\$ 1,147,136	\$ 42,226,482	\$ 1,942,901	\$ 44,169,383	

**North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church
Designated Fund Summary - Condensed (Unaudited)
December 31, 2021**

	<u>Opening Balance</u>	<u>YTD Receipts</u>	<u>YTD Disbursements</u>	<u>YTD Transfers & Adjustments</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions					
Operating Reserves					
Center for Church Development	\$1,557,980	\$1,133,916	\$911,537	\$0	\$1,780,359
Center for Leadership Development	\$129,560	\$1,762,920	\$1,486,177	\$120,281	\$286,021
Center for Missional Outreach	\$472,145	\$711,486	\$550,797	\$8,000	\$624,834
Center for Connectional Resources	\$1,822,204	\$1,292,028	\$1,117,636	\$0	\$1,996,596
Episcopal NTC Area Funds	\$183,638	\$87,918	\$42,445	\$0	\$229,110
Communications Office Operations	\$266,139	\$479,702	\$426,499	\$0	\$319,342
District Superintendent Fund Operations	\$230,959	\$688,871	\$567,614	\$0	\$352,216
East District	\$180,594	\$180,929	\$209,999	\$0	\$151,525
Metro District	\$122,987	\$185,382	\$170,096	\$0	\$138,273
North Central District	\$60,308	\$177,041	\$179,371	\$0	\$57,978
Northwest District	\$289,726	\$170,925	\$169,136	\$0	\$291,515
Total Operating Reserves	\$5,316,239	\$6,871,120	\$5,831,308	\$128,281	\$6,227,770
Board Designated Reserves					
Center for Leadership Development	\$245,047	\$45,936	\$20,000	\$0	\$270,983
Center for Missional Outreach	\$1,728	\$214,850	\$60,637	\$0	\$155,940
Center for Connectional Resources	\$307,636	\$97,539	\$79,014	\$0	\$326,161
Episcopal Reserves	\$363	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$363
DS Reserves	\$24,561	\$6,000	\$11,000	\$0	\$19,561
Conference Benefits - Health Insurance	\$1,476,959	\$10,173,478	\$9,909,383	\$0	\$1,741,054
Conference Benefits - Scholarships	\$226,156	\$1,523	\$259	\$0	\$227,420
Retiree Benefits Reserves	\$28,977,674	\$4,716,793	\$587,006	\$0	\$33,107,461
New Church Start Reserves	\$3,784,670	\$2,385,602	\$2,252,267	\$0	\$3,918,005
New Church Starts - East District	\$58,810	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$58,810
New Church Starts - North Central District	\$146,984	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$146,984
Legacy Property Held for Sale	\$771,109	\$7,053,979	\$3,571,304	\$0	\$4,253,784
District Reserves	\$624,460	\$172,750	\$61,907	\$0	\$735,304
Property Insurance Reserves	\$2,108,135	\$25,538,604	\$24,400,915	\$0	\$3,245,824
Camping Reserves	\$5,707	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,707
Total Board Designated Reserves	\$38,760,000	\$50,407,054	\$40,953,691	\$0	\$48,213,363
BOD Designated Reserves					
MEF Reserves	\$229,385	\$116,853	\$68,484	\$0	\$277,754
GCFA Episcopal Office Reserves	\$23,237	\$75,290	\$83,641	\$0	\$14,885
Urban Ministries Reserves	\$412,932	\$0	\$20,413	\$0	\$392,519
Total BOD Designated Reserves	\$665,554	\$192,143	\$172,539	\$0	\$685,159
Fixed Assets Reserves					
Conference Office	\$498,426	\$2,848,217	\$2,956,727	\$0	\$389,916
Parsonages	\$1,945,587	\$82,003	\$52,000	\$0	\$1,975,590
Camps	\$1,505,838	\$0	\$137,710	\$0	\$1,368,128
Total Fixed Assets Reserves	\$3,949,851	\$2,930,219	\$3,146,437	\$0	\$3,733,634
NTC Associated Entities - Held in Trust					
NTC Clergy & Lay Organizations	\$52,063	\$700	\$3,287	\$0	\$49,476
Wesley Foundations	\$131,862	\$67,661	\$160,767	(\$128,281)	\$167,037
Camping Reserves	\$78,945	\$194	\$91	\$0	\$79,047
Total NTC Associated Entities - Held in Trust	\$262,870	\$68,555	\$164,145	(\$128,281)	\$295,560
Total Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$48,954,513	\$60,469,092	\$50,268,120	\$0	\$59,155,485

	<u>Opening Balance</u>	<u>YTD Receipts</u>	<u>YTD Disbursements</u>	<u>YTD Transfers & Adjustments</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Net Assets With Donor Restrictions					
Donor Designated Reserves					
Seek Scholarship Reserves	\$18,595	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$18,595
A Time for Children	\$9,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,400
North Texas Disaster Relief Reserves	\$104,634	\$27,593	\$70,111	\$0	\$62,116
CMO Reserves	\$616	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$616
Seminary Assistance Reserves	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150,000
Communications Reserves	\$1,795	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,795
Perkins Funds for Retiree Assistance	\$1,572,667	\$202,524	\$51,680	\$0	\$1,723,511
Johnny Irish NW District Reserves	\$71,812	\$25,100	\$13,135	\$0	\$83,777
Bridgeport Playground Reserves	\$7,149	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,149
CUT Trust Reserves	\$271,269	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$271,269
Superannuate Required Reserves	\$89,338	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$89,338
Nannie Bean Earnings	\$0	\$3,046	\$3,046	\$0	\$0
Total Donor Designated Reserves	\$2,297,276	\$258,263	\$137,972	\$0	\$2,417,567
Permanently Restricted Endowment Corpus					
CMO Nannie Findlay Bean Trust	\$64,068	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$64,068
Reserves-Perkins Fund	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$750,000
Total Permanently Restricted Endowment Corpus	\$814,068	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$814,068
Total Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	\$3,111,344	\$258,263	\$137,972	\$0	\$3,231,635
Total Net Asset	\$52,065,858	\$60,727,355	\$50,406,092	\$0	\$62,387,120

2022 NTC CONNECTIONAL REPORTS

AFRICA UNIVERSITY (AU)

You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can't be hidden. —Matthew 5:14 (CEB)

This year, The United Methodist Church marks 30 years of vibrant, transformative ministry through Africa University (AU). Thank you, North Texas Conference, for your faithfulness and generosity in bringing the dream of Africa University to life. In celebrating its 30th anniversary, Africa University is honoring the past and looking to the future, while remaining true to its mission as the cornerstone ministry for United Methodist-related leadership development in Africa.

Much like the year that preceded it, 2021 affirmed that God's grace is sufficient in all circumstances. In January, 2021, the students, faculty, and staff grappled with the sudden death of Africa University Vice Chancellor, Dr. Munashe Furusa. As the year unfolded, the coronavirus pandemic claimed more lives, restricted travel, and damaged livelihoods. Unable to be together on campus, the students, faculty, and staff grieved, pivoted, supported, and encouraged each other, and persevered.

Against the backdrop of a global pandemic, Africa University found new opportunities for missional engagement in 2021. The year's highlights include:

- **Effective online-only teaching, learning and student assessment:** About 99 percent of students participated in online learning. Enrollment held steady at 3,060 students and more than 500 graduates from 24 African countries were awarded degrees in July, 2021.
- **The installation of AU's fifth Chancellor:** Bishop Gaspar João Domingos of the Western Angola Episcopal Area was elected Chancellor following the death of Bishop John K. Yambasu of Sierra Leone.
- **Research and community service:**
 - AU researchers received US\$2 million in funding for regional initiatives to eradicate malaria, tuberculosis, and other communicable diseases. The Africa University Malaria Institute was established as a center of excellence supporting efforts to eradicate malaria.
 - AU's students and graduates led, and showed their love of neighbor, with initiatives to feed hungry families, care for the environment, and improve the quality of life of legally blind parents and their children.
 - AU received the 2021 Jairos Jiri Humanitarian Award by the Government of Zimbabwe for its pandemic impact mitigation efforts.

Africa University is grateful to the North Texas Conference for investing 58.86 percent of its budgeted commitment to the Africa University Fund (AUF) in 2021. Thank you for ensuring access to a life-changing higher education experience for Africa University students, most of whom are unable to fund a college education on their own!

Africa University's journey from day one, in March, 1992, to the present is a shared story of being salt and light. AU is also part of the North Texas Conference's story of restoring hope, equipping, and sending forth young leaders to shape an abundant life for themselves and for the communities they serve.

Thank you, North Texas Conference, for letting your light shine for young women and men who would otherwise be left on the sidelines. "A city on top of a hill can't be hidden." Similarly, AU's current students and its more than 10,000 graduates to date are that metaphor made real. The North Texas Conference walks alongside these young people as they hone their abilities, live fully into their purpose, and join in the work of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Learn more at africa.edu.

—James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement
and President/CEO Africa University (Tennessee) Inc.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY (BUSTH)



Boston University School of Theology

I am profoundly grateful for your partnership, prayers, and support in these challenging times. A year like 2021 makes even more relevant Boston University School of Theology's (BUSTH's) historic and ongoing commitments to peace and justice in cultivating transformational leaders. We remain hopeful and vigilant in our continued partnership with you.

BREAKING NEWS:

- **Return to Campus:** Faculty, administrators, and library returned to in-person instruction and work in Fall 2021, with many events reaching hybrid audiences. Strict COVID-19 precautions continue to ensure the safety of students, faculty, and administrators.
- **Students:** Our Fall 2021 entering class was among our most diverse, with 108 new students enrolling in September.
- **Faculty:** In September we celebrated the appointment of [Cristian De La Rosa](#) as Associate Dean for Students and Community Life. Prof. [Shelly Rambo](#) leads the Lilly-funded project on “Trauma-Responsive Congregations,” and two faculty members—Profs. [Dana Robert](#) and [Wesley Wildman](#)—were each honored with festschrifts. Prof. [Jonathan Calvillo](#)'s book *The Saints of Santa Ana* received the HTI Book Award, and Prof. [Choi Hee An](#) published *A Postcolonial Leadership*. BUSTH is conducting two faculty searches with anticipation of welcoming new faculty in the fall.
- **Launch of a New Online Degree:** BUSTH's first fully online master's degree—the Master of Religion and Public Leadership (MARPL)—is currently enrolling students for its first cohort in fall 2022. MARPL seeks students who wish to be prepared for leadership roles that creatively engage the challenges of public life.
- **Peale Foundation Grant:** Prof. [Steven Sandage](#) and his research team were awarded a \$2.19 million, five-year grant by the Norman Vincent Peale Foundation for a project that fosters a network of communities for relational care and support to spiritual leaders and therapists to offer resources to reduce trauma risk and vocational burn-out and foster flourishing.
- **Scholarships:** We continue to offer free tuition to UMC-registered candidates for ordained ministry and leadership fellowships that support students in ethnic, gender, and sexuality studies. New funds include the **Sacred Worth Scholarship Fund** and the **Dean Thurman & Bishop Easterling Fellowship Fund**.
- **Online Lifelong Learning:** BUSTH offers online workshops for professional and spiritual enrichment of religious leaders. Recent workshops include “Practices of Grief in a Time of Pandemic” and “Reflecting with Howard Thurman.” To learn more, visit bu.edu/sth/oll.
- **Development:** Recent accomplishments include endowing the Center for Global Christianity and Mission upon its 20th anniversary and new funding for student scholarships and academic programs.

COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE and COMPASSION:

- BUSTH's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion offers webinars on timely inclusion efforts, such as “[Increasing Participation of Students of Underrepresented Backgrounds](#).”
- The 2021-22 [Lowell Lectures](#) are dedicated to cross-advocacy and intersectionality in racial justice efforts. This fall, Dr. Kwok Pui Lan advocated for broader understandings of political theology and greater awareness of anti-Asian sentiment and violence. A diverse panel response fostered rich conversation.
- Work continues to improve accessibility, sustainability, and responsible investing. BUSTH is the first certified Green School at BU and active in the Green Seminary Initiative.

Learn more at bu.edu/sth/.

—With faith and gratitude, G. Sujin Pak, Dean

CC YOUNG SENIOR LIVING

SERVING SENIORS SINCE 1922

CC Young is celebrating its centennial year in 2022! When you think about it, in terms of creation, 100 years is the blink of an eye. But in terms of an organization, *one hundred years* represents lifetimes...and so many changes in our world. In the last 100 years, we've been through 18 Presidents and multiple wars. We've seen innovation in production and technology. We even went to the moon. Similarly, from our perspective, senior living at CC Young has evolved considerably since its humble beginnings 100 years ago.

Around 1917, Rev. Christopher Conley Young met one of his parishioners at Tyler Street Methodist Church after Sunday's service. Penniless, with no resources, she asked for his help. From there he had the vision to provide a place where similar women could spend their remaining days safely. He died before his dream came true. But with the help of many who followed behind him and with the support of the Methodist conference, Rev. Young's vision became a reality. Today, approximately 450 residents call CC Young's 20-acre campus "home." The organization has expanded to provide all levels of care from Independent Living to end of life hospice care.

These last 100 years have been significant - and the projected changes coming in the next 100 years will be dynamic, as well. Consider that there were 15 million Baby Boomers as US citizens in 1960. We have 60 million Baby Boomers currently with more than 100 million projected by 2030! This group of retiring adults is changing senior living so that a "vacation mentality" is the lifestyle. The industry is changing to include amenities, wellness offerings, elevated dining, upgraded furnishings, and multiple floorplan options. And opportunities for continuing education will be prominent.

In the years to come, specialists project the use of robotics to provide food service, housekeeping, and more. Medical professionals will monitor seniors in their homes via cameras in "real" time. Artificial intelligence will play a key role - initiating care and providing realistic social engagement for isolated and lonely seniors.

Today, CC Young is already embracing technology and responding to changing market demands. Our internal TV channels allow us to broadcast programming to all apartments. We have a regular weekly news show, anchored and run by residents, to keep all residents up to date. Thankfully, we also have broadcast platforms which enable us to quickly communicate with residents, resident families and staff. This tool was key during the ever-changing days of COVID-19. Our Life Enrichment team used iPads and Zoom to help families connect when in-person visitations were not possible. On campus, we offer technology classes for our residents teaching them to use their tablets and smart phones. Our team and clinic physicians already use Telemed Services and our nursing team communicates staffing assignments, therapy schedules, and upcoming activities via a "White Board" system in each room. Beyond the centennial, 2022 will focus on customer service and hospitality to enhance the resident and guest experience. Our next Independent Living property, a 140-apartment building called The Terraces, is planned for ground-breaking in late 2023.

One new and notable offering since our last report: The CC Young hospice general inpatient unit (GIP) was opened late-2021 in The Vista, our state-of-the-art building for skilled nursing and assisted living. With Hospice GIP:

- Hospice patients and their families will find comfort in the extra layers of clinical, psychosocial, and spiritual support in this high-acuity, comfort-focused setting.
- CC Young has assembled an expert interdisciplinary team to care for patients whose symptoms can no longer be managed at home, who have medically complex needs, or who have experienced a sudden decline and need round-the-clock care.
- Each private room has its own bathroom, television, fully reclining chair, and fully adjustable bed. The inpatient wing is a serene, tranquil oasis with multiple family gathering areas, children's area, private conference rooms, as well as a meditation chapel on The Vista's second floor.
- Families may even utilize overnight accommodations to remain by their loved one's side during this crucial time.

We have many to thank for the last 100 years. But we must first thank the man whose vision started it all. Without Rev. Young's vision and the support of the United Methodist North Texas Conference, none of this would have happened.

We are CC Young, celebrating 100 years – and looking forward to the next 100!

MORE ABOUT CC YOUNG

Celebrating its 100th year in 2022, CC Young Senior Living is nestled in the heart of East Dallas on a lush 20-acre campus at White Rock Lake. We're a forward-thinking, non-profit community offering a continuum of care with a long history of excellence. Known for stellar services, CC Young holds a 5-Star Quality Rating from the Centers of Medicare Services in skilled nursing care, home health, and hospice. CC Young provides opportunities for Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Support, Long-Term Care, Respite Care, Short- and Long-Term Rehabilitation, Aquatics and Outpatient Therapy, Dialysis, and Hospice General Inpatient services. Our Community Services Program offers Home Healthcare, Hospice, and Private Duty Solutions on our campus and in 13 counties throughout north Texas. The Vista's opening in 2020 launched a new era of healthcare for residents and surrounding community members. Additionally, The Point & Pavilion, located in the heart of our campus, offers creative, educational, recreational, fitness, and spiritual opportunities for our residents and the general public. To schedule a tour or learn more, call 214-258-4000 or visit www.ccyoung.org.

DALLAS BETHLEHEM CENTER (DBC)

Dallas Bethlehem Center's (DBC's) purpose of "Community First" is clearer than ever: promote stronger families, better lives, and thriving communities in South Dallas. Located in the geographical and spiritual heart of 75215, DBC – a national mission institution affiliated with United Methodist Women (d/b/a United Women in Faith) – has served the South Dallas community for over 75 years. DBC's partners include members from local United Women in Faith units, as well as United Methodist churches throughout the North Texas Annual Conference.

A summary of some of our 2021 program highlights include the following:

- **Thursday Food Pantry:** Demand for our weekly drive-up food distribution program continues to grow and we served 12,000+ individuals in 2021. More than 400,000 pounds of food were prepared by our dedicated team of volunteers and staff. Staple goods, along with proteins, come through Crossroads Community Services. The Lovers Lane UMC Food Ministry provided 120 bags of fresh produce weekly.
- **Friday Meal Service:** Neighbors are invited to take home a hot-from-the-oven casserole each Friday. Our Chef Stephanie Allen created 1,200+ hearty casseroles.
- **Thanksgiving Program:** Dozens of volunteers gathered to prepare and distribute more than 450 individual Thanksgiving meals. COVID restrictions prevented gathering as a community, but neighbors were treated to music and dance performances as they drove by to pick up meals.
- **Christmas Angel Tree Program:** Christmas gifts were provided to 306 children with generous donations from many United Women in Faith local units, United Methodist congregations, and other individuals and groups. The University Park UMC family provided over half of the gifts to our children.
- **Diabetes Program:** DBC, in partnership with UT Southwestern and Parkland Hospital Clinics, launched a groundbreaking culinary medicine study on diabetes in November 2021. DBC serves as the final point of contact in providing food from Crossroads Community Services to study participants.
- **ChildCareGroup Development Center:** The Early Head Start Program is offered in our building for infants and toddlers (ages 0-3).
- **Warren UMC:** Is one of the oldest African American Churches located in South Dallas. Church members are currently holding weekly worship services in our building while their church facility is being repaired.

Dallas Bethlehem Center (DBC) continues to respond to the community in a time of crisis and is committed to being a trusted, positive, reliable presence in the South Dallas community. The mission of Dallas Bethlehem Center is to empower the South Dallas community to improve lives through education and connected solutions. We are extremely proud of DBC and that we continue to receive the monetary and volunteer support from the United Women in Faith, United Methodist churches, individuals, and groups who have faith in our team to produce excellence and service to the community. Learn more at dallasbethlehemcenter.org or contact Dr. Fred A. Jones, Executive Director of Dallas Bethlehem Center, fred.jones@dallasbethlehemcenter.org

–Dr. Fred A. Jones, Executive Director

DREW UNIVERSITY THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

In spring and fall of 2021, Drew Theological School began returning to its Madison, New Jersey, campus for some classes, meetings, and worship. As with many churches, in person events were held in spaces equipped for live-streaming or Zoom participation. The shift to remote learning during COVID-19 pandemic thus significantly expanded our online course offerings and accessible community events. Now, a number of students in Drew’s masters programs will progress through their programs in U.S. and global locations far from New Jersey. This year, we welcomed 150 new students, again the largest class in a decade, and have a current enrollment of 376 students.

Drew cultivates pastors, preachers, deacons, activists, teachers, and thought leaders who are taking their place as the next generation of faith leaders and change agents. Diversity is a hallmark of our student body, including theological, vocational, age, and especially racial and national diversity both international--Asian, African, and South American and U.S.--black, white, Latinx, and Asian American--students. Our student body is truly global, with 35% of students from 21 different countries. For the first time in its history, Drew has an African student association, initiated by Drew Theological School students from 14 African countries, that is already contributing richly to the Drew community both on campus and online. We have welcomed new faculty in Latinx ministries and world Christianity. We have also seen an increase in United Methodist students particularly interested in the school’s Gospel-inspired traditions of social justice advocacy and widely inclusive ministry. We are proud that many United Methodist Global Fellows have recently chosen to continue their journey in ministry at Drew. Our UMC graduates are serving in Greater New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, and New York conferences as well as conferences across the country.

The faculty is committed to continuing to develop the curriculum in ways that take seriously the wide range of lived experience and calls to ministry of the students that gather in our global classrooms. All degree programs at the Theological School include interdisciplinary courses that demand out-of-the-box thinking, apprenticeship training that addresses real-world issues, and modes of learning that promote adaptability and innovation. Our MDiv and MATM degrees include a required gateway year, vocational pathways, and experiential learning that develops and deepens adaptive leadership skills. The curriculum features a team-designed and taught interdisciplinary sequence of core courses reflecting the integration of the theological disciplines and practices characteristic of the life of faith. The faculty have also articulated shared values that are infused across the teaching and learning at Drew: a commitment to anti-racism; gender and sexual-identity equality; eco-sustainability and environmental justice; and interfaith understanding and cooperation. Learn more at drew.edu/theological-school/.

–Melanie Johnson-DeBaufre, Interim Dean

DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL

Edgardo Colón-Emeric, the Irene and William McCutchen Associate Professor of Theology and Reconciliation and director of the Center for Reconciliation, began his two-year term as the dean of Duke Divinity School on July 1. Colón-Emeric earned both his M.Div. and Ph.D. from Duke and has been a member of the faculty since 2008. He has served as the director for the Hispanic House of Studies and as the director for the Center for Reconciliation (CFR). An ordained elder in the North Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, he directs the Central American Methodist Course of Study and the Peru Theological Initiative and serves on the United Methodist Committee on Faith and Order and on both national and international Methodist-Catholic dialogues. Recognizing that he is entering the dean's office at a pivotal time for the school, Colón-Emeric stated his commitment to keep the Divinity School heading in a life-giving direction: "The world needs the church, and the church needs the theologically grounded, intellectually vibrant, and socially innovative pastors and leaders that we train. From the heart of Duke University, we cultivate wisdom that is joyfully orthodox, Christ-centered, Spirit-led, and irrevocably anti-racist for the sake of the church in its mission for the life of the world." He is the first Latino dean of the school.

A new partnership with North Carolina Wesleyan College will enable qualified undergraduates to take master's level courses at Duke Divinity School beginning in 2022. The Duke Accelerated Pastoral Formation Program offers select juniors and seniors the option to begin coursework toward Duke's Hybrid M.Div. or Master of Arts in Christian Practice (M.A.) degree programs while completing their baccalaureate degree. Funded by the support of the Kern Family Foundation, the Accelerated Program will help students lower educational debt incurred in the preparation for ministry process and accelerate their timeline to engaging the field of ministry. In the spring the school launched the Asian House of Studies, a formational community that will support Asian and Asian-American students; build a network of Asian and Asian-American students, alumni, and church leaders; and provide resources for Asian theological studies. Asian House of Studies is under the leadership of Sangwoo Kim, a consulting professor and senior director of the Methodist House of Studies, and Jung Choi, a consulting professor and senior director of Wesleyan Formation Initiatives.

Three new certificates were approved this year, and all can be earned as part of the residential M.Div., Hybrid M.Div., M.T.S., and M.A. degree programs. The Certificate in Methodist/Wesleyan Studies is aimed at pan-Methodist/Wesleyan students who want to engage in robust and intentional training in Wesleyan theology and spiritual practice in preparation for leadership positions in Methodist and Wesleyan organizations and churches, such as the United Methodist Church, AME Church, AME Zion Church, and Korean Methodist Church. In the Certificate in Latinx Studies, students will practice and hone skills for ministry while becoming part of a learning community that is committed to Hispanic/Latinx communities and seeks to learn from Hispanic/Latinx traditions and cultures. The Certificate in Worship is designed to prepare Duke Divinity students to engage in practical formation and theoretical reflection on the worship of God in Christian congregations.

In January, the school announced 12 full-tuition fellowships to support incoming residential Master of Divinity degree program students who pursue a certificate in Black Church Studies or Latinx Studies. In addition to providing full-tuition scholarships, the [Black Church Studies and Latinx Studies Fellowships](#) provide vocationally specific formation and mentoring opportunities for the fellows and up to \$24,000 in stipend support and internship opportunities through the Office of Field Education. The fellowships begin in the fall of 2022.

The Office of Wesleyan Engagement announced the "Rediscovering the Heart of Methodism" project. This project is a missional initiative of the Divinity School with the support of the Kern Family Foundation. It seeks to nurture innovative leadership within the Wesleyan tradition as a constructive and hope-filled response to a turbulent ecclesial landscape.

Supported by a gift from the Duke Endowment, the school launched To Heal the Wounded Soul, a project to strengthen Wesleyan pastors in the Carolinas who are Black, Indigenous, or people of color, including from the

AME, AME Zion, CME, and UMC churches. Led by the Office of Black Church Studies and the Clergy Health Initiative To Heal the Wounded Soul will develop peer networks, support groups, and retreats to address the specific mental, emotional, and spiritual needs of this community.

This academic year Duke Divinity School welcomed the largest incoming class in the school's history, with 259 new students from 31 different states and five other countries. Enrollment in the flagship M.Div. degree program jumped to 133 students, up from approximately 110 students during each of the previous four years. The growth was heavily driven by the first cohort of 52 Hybrid M.Div. students. The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) welcomed 36 students, the Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) gained 33, and the M.A. saw 17 new students. The Master of Theology (Th.M.) enrolled 12 students, and the Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) enrolled seven new students. The Certificate in Theology and Health Care welcomed five residential students to campus and a large first cohort of 14 students in the hybrid version of the program. Across all degree programs at the Divinity School, 32 percent of the incoming class identified as a race or ethnicity other than white. Black students made up 18 percent of all students; Latinx students, six percent; Asian students, two percent; and American Indian students, two percent. Women made up 47 percent of incoming students across all programs.

Three new faculty members joined the faculty in 2021. Polly Ha is an Associate Professor of the History of Christianity whose work focuses on the history of Christianity and the construction of diverse confessional and ecclesiastical traditions in the Reformation and post-Reformation world. Ronald K. Rittgers is the Duke Divinity School Chair in Lutheran Studies and Professor of the History of Christianity, and his research interests include the religious, intellectual, social, and cultural history of medieval and early modern/Reformation Europe, focusing especially on the history of theology and devotion. Daniel Castelo, William Kellon Quick Professor of Theology and Methodist Studies, taught intensive Wesleyan theology courses in Mexico, Honduras, and Brazil, and then took a teaching post at a Mexican seminary for three years. He has been an active participant in the Central American Methodist Course of Study program and recently has served as a doctoral mentor for the Hispanic Theological Initiative.

Learn more at <https://divinity.duke.edu>.

—Edgardo Colón-Emeric, Dean of Duke Divinity School

LYDIA PATTERSON INSTITUTE (LPI)

It is my distinct honor to submit my last report to your annual conference. After 37 years of service to The United Methodist Church and the most wonderful ministry of The United Methodist Church, Lydia Patterson Institute, I will be retiring effective May 31, 2022. On October 1, 1984, I set foot on the campus of La Lydia for the very first time, planning to serve for a very short while. That short while turned to 37 years. It took one chapel service and to see the dedication and sacrifices of the students for me to give up a life in the business world to answer God's call to a completely different one. One of investing in lives in place of investing in monetary benefits. After 37 years, and without doubt, I would accept the challenge again. I have dedicated these 37 years to the futures of the students with the same love and passion as the first day. It is my hope that I have honored God's calling and made a difference in the life of the students and the church. With bitter-sweet feelings, I wish to thank the Bishops and members of this conference for the support extended throughout my journey.

The past two years have been a test of faith and endurance at Lydia Patterson. We may have not seen the faces of our friends and supporters as we wished, but we have seen the face of God throughout the time of the pandemic. We can say that no member of our administration, faculty, or staff lost their job, and no student was left behind without an education. We have moved back and forth from in-person teaching to on-line learning more times that I can recall, but the work was successfully accomplished. LPI has an amazing administration, faculty, and staff unlike any other.

During these tumultuous times, we built a soccer practice field, renovated the gymnasium, and added numerous extra activities for students to return to. We are in the process of renovating our chapel and replacing all the technology equipment, as well as adding a 6th grade, making our school a grades 6 to 12 institution. We have ended the school years with the same enthusiasm, if not more, among our student body. In the past two years, amid a pandemic, all our graduated seniors are in college today.

With the support of our United Methodist churches, friends, and supporters, we have provided more scholarships for the students to keep them in school. The effect of the pandemic has been most devastating among our students and parents. For a long time, the border was closed to non-essentials, so parents could not meet with teachers, pay for their tuition, or simply visit with the students. Becoming creative became essential as we introduced parents to zoom and credit cards. Providing our students, parents, and our community with a site for COVID vaccines was our contribution to fight the pandemic.

I am honored that the Dr. Socorro de Anda Permanent Scholarship Endowment Fund has been established to provide scholarships for the LPI students, indefinitely. From the bottom of my heart, I wish to thank all those that contributed. Our students deserve it.

Going forward, Lydia Patterson is alive and vibrant. All left of this report is to thank all my friends of this conference and the number of Bishops that I have worked under. I offer my deep appreciation for walking with me, hand in hand, throughout my journey. Together, we have changed thousands of lives and formed many disciples of Jesus Christ. In the midst of the critical decisions facing the church, I would ask that you continue to support this ministry whose only purpose is to change the lives of the students. I would ask that whatever the direction of the church, that you see Lydia Patterson as, not only a bridge between two countries and two cities, but a bridge that connects every Methodist in ministry.

Learn more at lpi-elpaso.org.

—In God's name, I bid farewell. Socorro de Anda, President

METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME (MCH)

Greetings from Methodist Children's Home (MCH) and the more than 10,000 children, youth, and families we have served this year. Thank you for your continued friendship through the North Texas Annual Conference and for your support of our vision to empower all we serve to experience life to the fullest.

I invite each of you to visit our website at MCH.org. There you can download stories, identify resources, view a transparent listing of our financial resources and services delivered, find out how to refer a child for placement, or learn more about a call to join our ministry.

Your support provides the resources needed to offer the care, programs, and talented individuals needed to positively impact the lives of those we serve through residential care on the Waco campus and Boys Ranch and through 13 MCH Family Outreach offices, including DFW.

We are now in our 132nd year serving children, youth, and families. Here are a few highlights of the past year:

- **We launched the “Together We Flourish” initiative** designed to maximize and steward our resources for ministry through collective impact, generosity, and support in order to achieve the MCH vision and mission in a greater way. In MCH Family Outreach office locations we invested organizational dollars in local food banks and ministries feeding youth or families in the community. This initiative will guide us as we seek out collaborations with other organizations and strengthen the cohesion between our ministry programs.

- **Plans are underway to expand our ministry further** by adding a fourteenth MCH Family Outreach office in the Permian Basin area of West Texas. We have completed thorough feasibility studies and have already begun investing in this region through Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) trainings. We look forward to further serving children, youth, and families of these communities.
- **The Outdoor Education program expanded** beyond just providing engaging activities for our youth. Focusing on nurturing a culture of learning, the program provides opportunities for groups outside of MCH to receive training and learning through recreation from MCH staff.
- **We opened four new state-of-the-art homes** on the Waco campus through the Building Hope capital campaign. These homes, situated around the Harrell Memorial Chapel, include the Tim and Susan Brown Home, the Good Shepherd Home, the Legacy Home, and the Willie Mae Lee and John Marshall Tyler Home.
- **Through a partnership with One Heart Project**, MCH youth in the residential and aftercare programs are receiving holistic, evidenced-based mentoring. This partnership aligns with initiatives outlined in our strategic plan to develop collaborations and create a robust mentoring program.
- **We supported many MCH alumni** through our Advanced Education, After Care Services, and Independent Living programs as they pursued higher education or entered the workforce. We are proud of these young men and women who showed perseverance during a challenging year marked by school and work closures and other challenges of the pandemic.
- **Youth in residential care and day students enjoyed a summer** full of camps, field trips, community service, and personal enrichment. Summer is a great time for MCH youth to grow, serve and enjoy special events.
- **The MCH Family Outreach offices** in Dallas, Tyler and Corpus Christi relocated to new, spacious facilities to accommodate the growth of community-based programs. The new offices utilize collaborative workspaces and include “huddle rooms” for private calls or meetings, open-floor concepts and playrooms.
- **The MCH Bulldogs six-man football team** enjoyed a strong season that saw them play in the state championship game of the Texas Christian Athletic Fellowship.
- **The generosity of wonderful churches and donors** allowed the Harrell Memorial Chapel on the Waco campus to receive much-needed updates and restoration. In addition, an outdoor worship space and prayer labyrinth was built adjacent to the chapel. This renovation and the addition of the labyrinth further enhances an already vibrant spiritual development program for our residents.

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. The following from the North Texas Annual Conference serve on the MCH Board of Directors:

Mrs. Amy Barley, Celina, TX

Mr. Tommy Dodson, Richardson, TX

Rev. Marie Mitchell, Cedar Hill, TX

Mr. Daniel Moore, Dallas, TX

We are committed to utilizing every gift and talent God has blessed this ministry with to make an even greater impact in the lives of those who need our services. May God continue to bless MCH and the ministries of the North Texas Annual Conference.

—Trey Oakley, President and CEO

PERKINS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

Perkins School of Theology celebrates our vital connections with the North Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.

- Fifty-two students affiliated with the North Texas Annual Conference are enrolled at Perkins, including: 25 Master of Divinity students, 11 Master of Theological Studies students, 9 Doctor of Ministry students, 4 Master of Arts of Ministry students, 2 non-major students, and 1 Master of Theology student.
- Ten Perkins students were placed as interns within the North Texas Annual Conference during the 2021-22 academic year.
- During the 2021-22 academic year, 14 students from the North Texas Annual Conference received funding from the PACE (Perkins Annual Conference Endowment) grant, with the average overall financial aid award per student totaling \$1,804.50.

Enrollment Update

Enrollment at Perkins for the 2021-22 academic year totaled 318 students. The hybrid Houston-Galveston Extension Program, in its fourth year of providing a combination of online and residential classes leading to the M.Div. and M.A.M. degrees, totaled 104 students during the 2021-22 academic year.

Institutional Highlights

- **Based upon feedback from the SMU community** during the fall 2021 semester, Dr. Craig Hill, Dean of Perkins School of Theology, received a five-year extension on his contract. Faculty and staff respondents expressed appreciation for Dean Hill's leadership, and his decanal peers value the collegiality and insights he brings to their deliberations – most recently with regards to workload procedures.
- **Bridwell Library was named the recipient** of the collections of the recently closed World Methodist Council Museum in Lake Junaluska, N.C. This acquisition brings one of the world's largest collections of historical items related to John Wesley, founder of Methodism, to an institution that counts among its faculty two world-renown Wesley Scholars in Drs. Ted Campbell and Rebekah Miles.
- **In February 2022, Perkins received a \$2.7 million grant** from the Eula Mae and John Baugh Foundation to fund scholarship for students in the school's Baptist House of Studies. Approximately 10 students will be admitted annually during the three-year grant period as a cohort of Baugh Scholars, with funding to cover the full costs of tuition and fees for the duration of each student's degree program.
- **The Association of Theological Schools/The Commission on Accrediting announced** in February 2022 that it has approved Perkins' application to offer Doctor of Ministry coursework at Houston Methodist Hospital as part of the school's Houston-Galveston program.
- **In May 2021, Perkins faculty approved a proposal to launch** of the Black/Africana Church Studies Program, to be directed by Dr. Tamara Lewis. The BACS program will offer a range of opportunities and activities designed to enrich the educational, cultural, and communal experiences of Black students at Perkins School of Theology and the Graduate Program in Religious Studies (GPRS) as well as the broader SMU community.
- **The 2022 Bolin Family Scholarship Luncheon took place** on March 17, with funds raised from the event designated entirely to scholarships for the Black/Africa Church Studies program and its students.
- **A strategic reimagining of Hispanic education** is currently underway. A Task Force on Latinx/Hispanic Ministries is co-chaired by Bishop Cynthia Harvey and Dr. Hugo Magallanes, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at Perkins; also included in this group are Hispanic leaders, Perkins students, three additional United Methodist bishops and the General Secretary of the United Methodist General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.
- **Dr. Rebekah Miles is chairing Perkins' Curriculum Review Committee.** This group is seeking student, faculty, and alumni feedback as it shapes the programmatic course of study for Perkins students.

- **Perkins has engaged with Direct Development**, a strategic marketing and student recruitment firm, to enhance the school's digital marketing strategy surrounding student recruitment. Specifically, the objectives of this initiative are to attract more prospects to the Perkins website, generate more inquiries from these prospects, convert more prospects to applicants, and generate more enrolled students.
- **Bridwell Library reopened in August 2021** following two years of extensive renovations. One of eight libraries on the SMU campus, Bridwell was built in 1951 and underwent renovations twice before, in 1972 and in 1989. The latest \$6.1 million renovation began in May 2019.
- **A new course in Digitally Mediated Ministry**, launched during the pandemic, has become part of Perkins' academic curriculum. As part of this effort, a new Digitally Mediated Ministries Lab opened in January that allows students to acquire proficiency in digital media.
- **Five Community Worship services from Perkins Chapel** are scheduled to be live-streamed as a way to broaden the audience outreach and further connect Perkins with its Houston-Galveston program and the school's alumni around the world.
- **In January 2022, Perkins launched a new Certification in Practical Ministry** designed for church staff, laity and students looking to enhance their practical skills and knowledge. Students will complete five graduate-level, two-hour noncredit courses: three required courses — Engaging Theology, Engaging the Bible, and either Adaptive Leadership or, for those seeking UM certification, United Methodist Studies – as well as two courses in a chosen area of specialization.
- **Nancy Seay and Lisa Tichenor, both of Dallas, were honored** as 2021 recipients of the Woodrow B. Seals Laity Award during a virtual reception. The award is presented annually to a layperson in the United States who embodies the Christian faith and commitment of service to Christ in the church, community and world as exemplified by Judge Woodrow B. Seals.
- **Dr. Evelyn Parker**, who received her Master of Religious Education degree from Perkins in 1991, was selected the 2021 **Perkins Distinguished Alumna award** recipient. She will be honored along with the 2020 recipients – **Rev. Don Underwood** and **Rev. Dr. Sidney G. Hall** – at an on-campus reception in November 2022. To nominate alumni/ae for the 2022 award, visit smu.edu/perkins/AlumniFriends/DistinguishedAlum.
- **We mourn the passing of Rev. Dr. William J. “Billy” Abraham**, Professor *Emeritus* of Wesley Studies at Perkins, who died suddenly on October 7, 2021. Dr. Abraham joined the Perkins faculty in 1985 and was the Albert Cook Outler Professor of Wesley Studies from 1995 until his retirement in 2021.
- **Ten churches within a 350-mile radius of Dallas** were selected for the initial Testimony HQ cohort, a Lilly Endowment-funded initiative at Perkins to develop thriving congregations through the practice of testimony and community engagement.

The highlights listed above are reflective of the vibrant engagement of Perkins faculty, staff, and students. Perkins School of Theology is committed to those called to serve so that they might be empowered to lead. Our mission is to equip persons for faithful leadership and Christian ministry in a changing church and society; to educate those seeking a deeper understanding of the Christian faith; and to strengthen the church, academy, and world through service, scholarship, and advocacy. We thank our many colleagues, friends, and alumni/ae in the North Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church for your generous support, including referrals of prospective students. Learn more at smu.edu/Perkins.

—Grace and peace, Craig C. Hill, D.Phil and Leighton K. Farrell, Endowed Dean

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 are celebrating our 126th anniversary this year 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 and we have dedicated our new programs to serving vulnerable women, young children and families in need. We still 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 our Parenting with a Purpose program to serve over 4000 parents and children each year, offering free diapers, formula and counseling to help keep families strong.

My Mariposa Home, our 18-month residential and outreach program for survivors of trafficking, sexual and domestic violence, is in its third year and going strong. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have opened several new programs for young women, including our Supervised Independent Living residential program for young women aging out of foster care and a short-term homeless shelter for young adults.

What makes our programs unique is our ability to serve women using a trauma informed care model and all of our programs can serve women who are pregnant or have a young child under three years old. This commitment to women and families started with our founder, Madame Volino, when she first sought help from Travis Methodist Church in San Antonio and changed her life from a brothel owner to a sanctuary for women and young children in need. During all these years, we are so grateful to the Methodist churches and congregations for their support and we continue to strive to do God's work with your support and assistance.

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 Mission Advancement Team at (210) 696-2410 or at mission.advancement@provplace.org. Also, please visit our website at provplace.org to learn more about these special ministries and to hear first-hand stories from those we have served.

—Respectfully, Dr. Judith Bell, President and CEO

SAINT PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY



Educating tomorrow's leaders by offering on-campus, online, and hybrid learning courses at a FLEXible schedule, Saint Paul School of Theology is a seminary of The United Methodist Church committed to the formation of people for innovative, creative ministry. Grounded in the academic study of faith and ministry, theology is practiced in a traditional classroom and a contextual curriculum.

As the global pandemic continues to bring challenges to our daily lives, Saint Paul School of Theology began the 2021-2022 academic year, again offering students an option to attend courses via Zoom or on-campus while maintaining safety protocols. Our weekly chapel service continues to be available online, allowing staff and students to come together as one institution where all are invited to create a sacred atmosphere from wherever they are. In addition to faculty and staff serving as chapel speakers, we were blessed to have alumni and special guest speakers Rev. Winter Hamilton of Manchester UMC, Rev. Delesslyn Kennebrew, Rev. Dr. Carol Cook Moore, and more. Chapel recordings are available on the Saint Paul YouTube channel for those who cannot join live.

Saint Paul staff and faculty continue to contribute to the academy, church, and society. This year, we have had many faculty and staff changes. After many years of tremendous service to students and the Seminary, Dr. James Brandt and Dr. Hal Knight announced retirement plans effective at the end of the 2021-2022 academic year. In addition, Dr. Jeanne Hoeft will step down from her role as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean at the end of the academic year, but will continue as faculty. New additions to the Seminary family include Dr. Joshua Bartholomew,

Assistant Professor of Ethics, Church and Society; Dr. Tiffany Nagel Monroe, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Campus; and Rabbi Michael Zedek, Rabbi-in-Residence.

The faculty of Saint Paul School of Theology maintains high standards of scholarship, research, publication, and engagement. Over the past year, their many activities and publications have been so numerous that space permits only the sharing of selected highlights:

- **Dr. Nancy Howell**, Professor of Theology and Philosophy of Religion and Oubri A. Poppele Professor of Health and Welfare Ministries, was re-elected to a second term on the Executive Committee of the International Society for Science and Religion. She also had an article published in a South African journal. With more than a decade of service, she serves on the Broader Social Impacts Committee of the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian.
- **Dr. Casey Sigmon**, Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship and Director of Contextual Education, was invited to be a writer for “Lent Another Way,” an e-course, with The Plural Guild and The Many, and she offered the convocation address for Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in Fall 2021. She also applied for and received a grant from the Wabash Center for Teaching to support my project entitled: “Resisting the Plagiarized Pulpit: Helping Students and the Professor to Find trust their voice through Artistic Instructional Design.”
- **This January, Dr. Joshua Bartholomew**, Assistant Professor of Ethics, Church and Society, was the guest speaker at a Kansas City event, “Black Theology and the Black Panthers: A Conversation with Dr. Joshua Bartholomew.” In addition, he was recently interviewed by Climate Central for the article, “*A MORAL IMPERATIVE*: Monastic sisters in rural Midwest make faith-based case for climate action.”

Saint Paul welcomed 45 new students for the 2021-2022 academic year. New student enrollment for the Fall semester increased by 44 percent (34 new students), with an overall increase for the year of 73 percent. With the COVID-19 pandemic still in our midst, prospective students previewed the Saint Paul community and curriculum via online visits. Students joined in community worship, attended classes, and participated in online discussions with current students to discern if Saint Paul was indeed their choice for theological education. Enrollment remained strong for the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree program with promising growth in our newly designed Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS) and Master of Arts in Christian Ministry (MACM) programs.

In September, Saint Paul held the 2021 Harrington Lecture online featuring Dr. Eboo Patel. His lecture, “WE NEED TO BUILD: Field Notes for Diverse Democracy,” expanded knowledge and built skills, helping people become the kind of leaders our diverse democracy needs. In the Spring Semester, Saint Paul Evangelical Society, led by Dr. Hal Knight, hosted a forum given by Dr. Amos Yong, Professor of Theology and Mission, and Dean of the School of Mission and Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary, on “THE HOLY SPIRIT AND PEOPLE OF OTHER FAITHS: Relational Christian Witness in the 2020s.” Later in the semester, the Evangelical Society hosted a lecture featuring Dr. Joy Moore, Professor of Biblical Preaching and Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Academic Dean at Luther Seminary. And for the first time, on May 13, Saint Paul held a hybrid commencement celebration via Zoom, allowing graduates to come together from both the Kansas and Oklahoma Campuses with attendees viewing from around the country. We honored the 2022 Distinguished Graduate Award Winner and Commencement Speaker Dr. Stan Copeland during the ceremony.

For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, Saint Paul Course of Study (COS) School educated 228 individual students, 49 of which were new students, with approximately 550 registrations and offering a total of 50 courses. Serving 32 Conferences, including 94 Districts, 121 Full Time and 106 Part-Time Licensed Local Pastors comprised these registrations. Saint Paul Course of Study School welcomed new Regional Director Dr. Lucas Endicott. Dr. Endicott has been serving as Associate Director for the Office of Mission, Service, and Justice at the Missouri Annual Conference and lecturing at Central Methodist University. Due to the continuing pandemic, the school has continued

its course offerings in both asynchronous and synchronous online formats. Utilizing this online format, we reached students in 24 states. Plans include an increase in the number of hybrid course offerings. This fiscal year has also ushered in the new ability of online registration completed by the student and access to their student account through Populi as used by Seminary students. All our students share the same benefits by integrating Course of Study School into Populi, making them a more integrated part of the Saint Paul experience.

Saint Paul Board of Trustees added two new members to their ranks: Ms. Debra “Debbie” Buzard, Director of Outreach Ministry at First United Methodist Church of Kearney; and Rev. Martin “Tino” Herrera, Congregational Care Pastor at UM Church of the Resurrection. Through a Board initiative related to diversity and inclusion, the Saint Paul Board of Trustees has devoted a significant portion of the last year’s meetings to church leaders with experience and expertise in creating more diverse and inclusive communities and organizations. Aiding Saint Paul’s trustees in better understanding these issues, the Board hosted the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Boswell in April 2021. Dr. Boswell, Senior Pastor of Myers Park Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, described the anti-racism work he has led in that community. The City of Charlotte awarded Dr. Boswell its Martin Luther King, Jr. Medallion for his work. In July 2021, Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II of Kansas City shared his perspective on the racial and social justice issues confronting our nation and the efforts he and his colleagues in the House of Representatives hope to undertake in response. With the Board’s assistance, led by Board Chair Rev. Dr. Tex Sample, the seminary focuses on its mission. Our trustees continuously enhance and evaluate the strategic plans to guide us into the future.

As we have happily reported in years past, Saint Paul is financially sound and operates with a balanced budget. These last years’ changes have established a solid financial foundation for years of sustainability. As always, we continue to be grateful for donations from the community that provide technology, scholarships, and evolving academic programs to students. Our significant investments in technology have allowed us to maintain a hybrid educational delivery model providing a safe learning environment during the continuing pandemic.

Our aim has always been to utilize technology as a conduit to bring faculty and students together regardless of whether they are on-campus or joining remotely through Zoom. We took a hard look at the distance learning landscape during the pandemic to see how we could substantially enhance the classroom experience. After significant testing, we opted to replace our distance-learning classroom technology with Neat’s offerings, including technology still in development. All our classrooms began upgrades in Fall 2021 with offerings from Neat. Each smaller classroom added a 65-inch neat.board, a self-contained screen that functions as a full Zoom room, as well as an electronic whiteboard. Anything written or drawn on these boards is transmitted through Zoom to the screens in the classroom and remote Zoom participants. This content can also be saved and emailed to all participants. We implemented neat.bar in other classrooms that connect to our classrooms’ existing screens. We are currently implementing neat.bar pros, just released at the end of 2021, in each of our large classrooms. At Saint Paul School of Theology, we have always tried to be pioneers with distance-learning technologies. We are very early in the lifecycle of this stimulating and groundbreaking technology. We are thrilled to partner with Neat and Zoom in revolutionizing the classroom experience.

Saint Paul School of Theology is blessed to be your partner in ministry and help those seeking to discover more and answer the call. We are grateful for your support of our students and our seminary. May we continue to live into the call of Jesus Christ to be faithful witnesses for healing in these unsettled times and for generations to come.

President Neil Blair, Saint Paul trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, and students thank you for your prayers and support.

Learn more about Saint Paul School of Theology, *Where Theology Meets Life*, at spst.edu.

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY (SMU)

Southern Methodist University (SMU) has served as a nonsectarian institution of higher learning since its founding in 1911 by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South and the citizens of Dallas. Our mission is to expand knowledge through research and teaching and to serve as an igniter and facilitator of the growth in Dallas and the broader North Texas region. With continued Methodist representation on our Board of Trustees and by welcoming students of all faiths, SMU is reaching a higher level of accomplishment and global recognition in our second century of shaping world changers. Consistent with the University's appreciation of our Wesleyan heritage, SMU voluntarily submits this report to the North Texas Annual Conference.

COVID-19

As the pandemic persisted into a second year, SMU continued to maintain a healthy campus while returning to fully in-person classes and regular activities in the fall of 2021. The University continues to strongly encourage and provide the COVID-19 vaccine – including the booster – to the campus community and employees' spouses and dependents through the Dr. Bob Smith Health Center. Options for no-cost COVID-19 testing are also available for students, faculty, and staff on and off campus through SMU health partners and other providers.

Students, faculty and staff

With this return to a more traditional semester, SMU welcomed the largest and most academically qualified cohort in our history in fall 2021. The 1,572 students who make up the Class of 2025 have the highest grade-point average of any incoming class on record – and just as importantly, they are bringing enriching perspectives from 45 states and 28 countries. They are also our most diverse first-year class. Nearly one-third are from ethnically diverse backgrounds, and 126 are the first in their family to attend a university.

As the diversity on our campus increases, so, too, do the important conversations and commitments to strengthen our welcoming community. To that end, SMU has made great progress on the Black Unity Forum's action plan. Chief Diversity Officer Maria Dixon Hall – the University's first – has been working with diversity officers from across the campus and staff in Academic Affairs and Human Resources to help support new protocols for hiring and advancing all employees across well-defined career paths.

Rankings

SMU continues to receive high rankings and recognitions among prestigious reviewers including:

- Top 20 percent best national universities by *U.S. News & World Report* (2022). Also cited as Best Value School and Top Performer on Social Mobility.
- Top 12 percent (No. 94 out of 800) of U.S. public and private universities by the *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* (2022).
- One of the nation's best for undergraduate education by *The Princeton Review's* "The Best 387 Colleges" and among its "2022 Best Colleges: Region by Region" and "2022 Best College Cities" lists.
- Top 5 percent best nationwide colleges and top 3 percent best Texas colleges by College Factual (2022). Also, SMU alumni ranked among the top 5 percent in pay for graduates across a range of fields.
- SMU's Perkins Chapel at No. 16 out of 35 of the nation's most beautiful college churches and chapels by College Rank.
- "Higher research activity" as classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Capital campaign and funding

Building on our history of excellence, SMU embarked on a multiyear \$1.5 billion campaign to attract and support outstanding students and faculty, to explore new fields and cutting-edge technologies, and to positively impact Dallas and the world beyond. *SMU Ignited: Boldly Shaping Tomorrow* kicked off in September 2021 with \$654 million and ended the calendar year with commitments of more than \$700 million.

In fiscal year 2021, SMU received nearly \$30 million in external funding for domestic and global research. Current funding agencies include the National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Defense, and Toyota USA Foundation.

Research and graduate education

SMU continues moving toward our goal of becoming a research one (R1) institution in the Carnegie Classification system, which will elevate our national rankings and reputation. In December, the University broke ground on the new Frances Anne Moody Hall that will house SMU's eighth degree-granting school, the Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies. Backed by a \$100 million gift from the Moody Foundation – the largest gift in SMU's history – the graduate school brings doctoral and master's degrees from four schools under one institutional umbrella and supports over 75 Ph.D. students with competitive fellowships.

The University also announced an \$11.5 million investment and collaboration with NVIDIA to strengthen SMU's artificial intelligence infrastructure. The partnership dramatically expands our supercomputing system and provides an enhanced ability for our researchers to aid in myriad critically important studies.

Perkins School of Theology

As its \$6 million renovation wrapped up, the Bridwell Library became the fortunate recipient of the Wesleyan collections from the World Methodist Museum. Among the treasured artifacts are John Wesley letters and his travel pulpit.

This year, our Perkins School of Theology received a \$2.7 million three-year grant, primarily for student scholarships, from the Eula Mae and John Baugh Foundation for the Baptist House of Studies. Restoration is nearing completion on a 1927 Skinner organ for the Perkins Chapel, a \$2 million project initiated by a \$1 million gift from Gay and William Solomon in honor of Vin and Caren Prothro. This rare instrument is expected to be installed in fall 2022 and will serve as a capstone to the chapel's recent renovation.

These highlights are representative of exciting knowledge creation and transformative funding that allows SMU to continue building, growing and shaping the future. SMU remains grateful for the enduring work of our Perkins School of Theology in the instruction and training of clergy for all Wesleyan traditions and other denominations. We ask for your prayers and continued support as we strive to further our mission to make a positive impact on the world around us. Learn more at [smu.edu](https://www.smu.edu).

–Warm regards, R. Gerald Turner, President, Southern Methodist University

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

In 2021, Southwestern University remained focused on providing a world-class, in-person educational experience while actively planning for the future. The Tactical Planning Task Force, which included student, faculty, staff, alumni, and trustee representatives, reviewed over 200 proposed initiatives to develop the new 2021–2026 Tactical Plan, ultimately selecting 36 to be implemented over the next five years. The plan, which commenced on July 1, is an exciting vision for the University's institutional priorities: offering the highest level of a liberal arts education for our students; embracing equity, inclusion, and diversity; and envisioning a superb living and learning environment.

In August, we welcomed 355 first-year students and 49 transfer students for a total enrollment of 1,504. Approximately 93 percent of the incoming class was in the top half of their high school class, and 28 percent were in the top 10 percent. For the past several years, the University has welcomed increasingly diverse incoming classes, including students of different races and ethnicities as well as students from outside Texas. Fall 2021 was no exception, with 37 percent of first-year students identifying as underrepresented and 15 percent arriving from outside of Texas. For the second year in a row, over 25 percent of the student population identified as Latino/Latina or Hispanic.

Our 2021 accolades include being named the #1 liberal arts college in Texas by four prestigious publications and ranking organizations: *U.S. News and World Report*, *Washington Monthly*, Plexuss College Rankings, and Niche.com. The University was also recognized for its affordability, being ranked the #2 Best Value National Liberal Arts College in Texas by *U.S. News and World Report* and the #2 Best Value Small, Private College in the Southwest by *Money* magazine. *The Princeton Review* ranked Southwestern the #1 Best Private School in Texas for Making an Impact and the #2 Best Private School in Texas for Internships.

Our talented and committed scholar-teachers celebrated a number of successes in 2021. Eight faculty members were awarded Sam Taylor Fellowships from the United Methodist General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Emily Niemeyer (chemistry) is serving as principal investigator for a \$1.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation to help the University attract, retain, and graduate students with high financial need who are majoring in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. Helene Meyers (English) published her book *Movie-Made Jews: An American Tradition*, and Rico Self (communication studies) received the 2021 Gerald R. Miller Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award from the National Communication Association (NCA). Raquel Moreira (communication studies) also was recognized by the NCA for her book *Bitches Unleashed: Performance and Embodied Politics in Favela Funk*, which won the 2021 Bonnie Ritter Outstanding Feminist Book Award from the NCA's Feminist and Gender Studies Division.

Our students continued to succeed as well. Thirty-one students were inducted into Southwestern's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. Anna Teekell '21 and Alli Ziehm '23 were awarded scholarships from the Texas United Methodist College Association. Three members of the class of 2023—Eugenia Agobe, John Guerrero, and Jack O'Neil—received prestigious Sumners Scholarships. Antonio Esparza '22 was named a Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact, a Boston-based nonprofit organization working to advance the public purposes of higher education. Sarah Shearin '21 used her Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship funding to participate in the Hanyang University International Summer School program in Seoul, South Korea.

Twenty-four students participated in 10 different Summer Collaborative Opportunities and Experiences (SCOPE) as part of a student-faculty collaborative research program. For the 21st consecutive year, the King Creativity Fund supported significant, innovative, and visionary student projects across the disciplines.

In athletics, Southwestern finished second for the SCAC President's Trophy for the fourth time in the last five years. The Pirates garnered 133 all-conference selections, including 44 first-team selections, 48 second-team selections, 23 third-team selections, and 18 honorable mention selections. In addition, Southwestern claimed SCAC Elite 19 winners, two SCAC Newcomer of the Year awards, and 11 All-SCAC freshman-team selections. The Pirates received two SCAC Coach of the Year awards and seven SCAC Athlete of the Year awards. Women's tennis won its first SCAC Championship in program history. The Pirates earned five All-America honors in 2021 and 11 All-Region selections. Three programs finished their seasons nationally ranked and earned NCAA Tournament bids, and two players earned individual NCAA Tournament berths. Five Southwestern student-athletes won Scholar All-America awards, and Southwestern earned seven national team academic awards.

In 2022, Southwestern hosted Ruth J. Simmons, president of Prairie View A&M University, as the guest speaker for the Roy and Margaret Shilling Lecture. The University's annual speaker series on free speech and civil discourse featured a number of distinguished presenters, including Jason Riley, a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute and columnist for the *Wall Street Journal*; Mikki Kendall, author and diversity consultant; and John Baugh, professor of anthropology and linguistics and director of the African and African American Studies Program at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. The 22nd annual Research and Creative Works Symposium took place online April 22, 2021, and showcased undergraduate research, innovation, and imagination. Southwestern celebrated both the class of 2020 and the class of 2021 in dual commencement ceremonies at Birkelbach Field in Georgetown in May 2021, with corporate executive, lawyer, Army Airborne veteran, philanthropist, and musician Paula Boggs as the keynote speaker.

Ratification of Trustees

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.” Conference confirmation of “trustees at large” is no longer required by the By-Laws.

The following names are submitted to the North Texas Conference for election:

- **Ms. K. Elizabeth Yeager** nominated by the Board of Trustees for re-election to a three-year term concluding 2025
- **Ms. Pam Slaughter Bush** nominated by the Board of Trustees for re-election to a two-year term concluding 2024

Conclusion

I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to visit Southwestern and experience, in person, our vibrant intellectual community. Learn more at southwestern.edu.

–Respectfully yours, Laura E. Skandera Trombley, President

TEXAS METHODIST FOUNDATION (TMF)

Another year of COVID has provided great opportunity for improvement and innovation amid a landscape of grief and loss. To fully support and encourage the church leaders in this time, TMF expanded ministries, strengthened relationships with those we serve, and invested in innovation.

Carol Montgomery, TMF VP of Area Staff and Senior Area Representative for the North Texas Conference, is the primary contact and bridge between congregations (clergy and laity) and TMF. As a partner in ministry, she connects members of the North Texas Conference to relevant resources unique to their goals for missional growth within 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 \$83.6 million at the end of 2021.
- Churches and agencies, not including individuals, within the North Texas Conference had \$39.3 million invested in the Methodist Loan Fund.

Throughout Texas and New Mexico:

- **As of December 31, 2021, total assets** under management by TMF were \$734.9 million.
- **Methodist Loan Fund investments** ended the year at \$273 million, and our loan portfolio at \$288 million.
- **Total gifts to TMF’s ministries** equaled \$1,070,113.51. This includes gifts to Leadership Ministry, Grants, and TMF’s undesignated endowment.
- **Total gifts to TMF for the benefit of others** was nearly \$1.3 million. This includes all planned giving (Endowments, Charitable Gift Annuities, Trusts, Donor Advised Funds).
- **In 2021, the TMF Grants Ministry funded approximately \$2.8 million in support of 104 grant awards** to churches and nonprofits. Of that total, TMF granted \$2.3 million from its restricted permanent endowment funds, and the remainder from its operating budget. Also, TMF’s Grants Committee awarded over \$73,000 in emergency relief grants from a temporary COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund. The Grants Committee of the TMF Board of Directors determines distribution decisions for discretionary funds.

- In 2021 the TMF Executive Committee approved special board-designated distributions. These funds were used to help churches and other qualified nonprofits after Winter Storm Uri in February 2021 as well as those still struggling with the COVID-19 pandemic. **The TMF Board granted \$386,750 to 80 organizations** through this initiative.
- **TMF's Leadership Ministry works to equip leaders for deep change through facilitating conversations of courage, learning, and innovation.** Some of these conversations take the form of on-going peer groups and others as stand-alone conversations around an adaptive issue. These peer relationships offer fresh perspectives, renew their sense of calling, and embolden them for courageous leadership. During the past year, TMF's cohorts incorporated both online and on-site gatherings, as the world began to open again. As every church is facing the challenges and opportunities offered with online ministry, TMF's Leadership Ministry launched a learning project to explore what online space makes possible for spiritual formation. **During 2021, Leadership Ministry also launched its Igniting Imagination podcast, hosted by Lisa Greenwood, and its Courageous Congregations Collaborative (C3) initiative, directed by Blair Thompson-White. Conversations with leaders at every level of the church have reinforced the need for the church to exercise five adaptive muscles in order to be fit, agile and ready for where God is leading.** Those muscles are grieving well, discerning purpose, walking alongside, distributing power, and expanding imagination. Learn more about Leadership Ministry at tmf-fdn.org/leadership-ministry.
- Fueled by the desire to encourage and support, the TMF team of Area Representatives has continued to remain steadfast and loyal to those they serve. As walk-beside partners in ministry, **the Area Representative team equips and empowers faith communities as they live into their God-appointed mission.** Though grounded by the pandemic, the eight representatives, who normally travel Texas and New Mexico, making over 2500 visits, embraced flexibility and found a way to pivot. A pivot leading to the nurturing of deeper relationships and the provision of much needed resources and services. All within the virtual space. By providing financial best practices, cultivating legacy generosity plans, and inspiring cultures of generosity, the improvement work flourished. Churches who desired to nurture purpose and innovation leaned on the process of discernment guided by this question, "What difference is God calling us to make in this time and in this place?" Engaging both informal conversation and contracted services church leadership used Holy Conversations (4-6 months with a team of 7-9) and Holy Excavations (half-day workshop with 20-25 people).

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:

- **Mr. Jim Adams**, Layperson, 3-year term (Dallas)
- **Dr. Will Green**, Layperson 3-year term (Dallas)

TMF Board members previously elected by the North Texas Conference include:

- **Mr. Larry Haynes**, Layperson, currently serving through Annual Conference 2022 (Coppell)
- **Mrs. Gail Utter**, Layperson, currently serving through Annual Conference 2022 (Sherman)
- **Rev. Richie Butler**, Clergy, currently serving through 2023 (Dallas)
- **Rev. Jeff Lust**, Clergy, currently serving through 2023 (McKinney)
- **Mr. Kelvin Walker**, Layperson, currently serving through 2023 (Dallas)
- **Ms. Julie Yarbrough**, Layperson, currently serving through 2023 (Dallas)
- **Rev. Katherine Glaze Lyle**, Clergy, currently serving through 2024 (Dallas)
- **Dr. Andrew Stoker**, Clergy, currently serving through 2024 (Dallas)

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

- **Mrs. Patricia M. Deal**, Layperson, Senior Member (Wichita Falls)

- **Mr. Robert Dupuy**, Layperson, Senior Member (Dallas)
- **Bishop Mike McKee**, Clergy, Senior Member (Plano)
- **Rev. Dr. Clayton Oliphint**, Clergy, Senior Member (Richardson)
- **Mrs. Kay Yeager**, Layperson, Senior Member (Wichita Falls)

Learn more at tmf-fdn.org.

–Tom Locke, President

TEXAS UNITED METHODIST COLLEGE ASSOCIATION (TUMCA)

The Texas United Methodist College Association exists to advocate for our Texas United Methodist college students attending one of the six United Methodist institutions of higher learning in Texas. Gifts received from our Annual Conference partners are passed along to deserving students through the Texas Methodist Scholarship Program. During the 2021-22 year, we awarded over \$200,000 in scholarship support through this program to students at Huston-Tillotson University, McMurry University, Texas Wesleyan University, Southern Methodist University, Southwestern University and Wiley College. These scholarships are given on the basis of financial need and often-times make the difference in a student attending college and persisting to graduation. The disruption caused by the pandemic has put even greater financial pressure on our United Methodist colleges and, especially, their students. This has made the Texas Methodist Scholarship Program all the more critically important.

The students receiving support through the Texas Methodist Scholarship Program represent a wide range of vocational interests. Attending United Methodist institutions, they have the opportunity to develop their faith and find a career path leading to a life of service and contribution to the greater good. It is our hope that in supporting our United Methodist students at our own institutions that they will contribute to the growth of the Church, whether that be as an ordained minister, in another church-related role or as active laity. By encouraging their exploration of faith, we know that some will enter the ministry – whether that be a direct path out of college to seminary or as second-career ministers, which is increasingly the norm.

On behalf of the Texas Methodist Scholarship recipients, we would like to express our appreciation to the North Texas Conference for your continued generous support of this vitally important program. To learn more about the Texas Methodist Scholarship Program and the Texas United Methodist College Association, please visit tumca.net.

–Jim Lewis, President, Texas United Methodist College Association

UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY DAYTON, OHIO

For the past 150 years, United Theological Seminary has educated men and women for Christian ministry within the historic traditions of the United Brethren, Evangelical United Brethren and United Methodist churches. On October 11, 1871, United Theological Seminary, then Union Biblical Seminary, held its first classes in Dayton, Ohio. From a starting class of 11 students, the seminary has grown to 488 students in its most recent academic year,* representing 39 denominations, 11 countries, and 39 states. Today's seminary serves a diverse student body that is 53 percent African American.**

On October 10, 2021, the seminary celebrated its 150th anniversary and burned the mortgage on its current campus facilities, freeing up \$400,000 annually to support student scholarships.

In 2021, United received a grant of \$1 million from Lilly Endowment Inc.'s Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative to expand the seminary's Houses of Study, which offer specialized master's tracks to equip students for the unique ministry needs of the communities, movements, and denominations they serve. The seminary has introduced six Houses of Study, currently enrolling for 2022-23:

- **Fresh Expressions**, directed by Dr. Michael Beck
- **Mosaix**, in partnership with Mosaix Global Network and directed by Rev. Chip Freed
- **Black United Methodist**, directed by Dr. Vance Ross
- **Hispanic**, 100 percent in Spanish for Spanish-speaking leaders, directed by Dr. Jorge Ochoa
- **Global Pentecostal**, directed by Dr. Mark Chironna
- **Global Wesleyan**, directed by Rev. Gregory Stover

Because United believes so passionately in this initiative, the seminary has dedicated additional resources to offer half-tuition scholarships for inaugural students in its Houses of Study programs.

United also introduced the Academic Dean's Scholarship, which provides 50 percent tuition for the duration of a master's degree program, and the Presidential Scholarship, awarding up to \$5,000 per year to new students.

In honor of United's 150th anniversary year, a generous donor gifted \$2 million to help graduating students reduce their educational debt. Each graduate in the 2021-22 academic year will receive up to \$20,000 toward student debt from theological and previous academic studies.

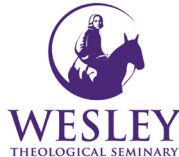
As United looks forward to the next 150 years with gratitude and anticipation, the seminary remains committed to the preparation of faithful and fruitful Christian leaders to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Learn more at united.edu.

* Student data represent 2020-2021 headcount enrollment.

** Figure represents those who responded.

—Dr. Kent Millard, President

WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (WTS)



Some days, it seems that we, and the religious, civic, and educational institutions we love, stand peering into the fog of an unknown future as questions resound: What does our collective future look like, and who will lead it? In the midst of these questions, Wesley remains committed to supporting pastors and churches and to preparing graduates to lead innovative ministries grounded in God's mercy and justice. We stand ready to accompany you on the path to which God is calling you.

Creating new models of education that respond to students' needs

Building on Wesley's strengths and responding to student needs, Wesley is pleased to announce two pathways for master's level students beginning in Fall 2022. For students who reside on or near campus, classes will continue to be offered **each week on campus** during daytime and evening periods. For students needing to remain in their own contexts, Wesley will offer a hybrid pathway that invites students to campus for a **one-week intensive immersion** each semester, with the remaining coursework being held online. Learn more about how you can be part of the Wesley community and the Washington, DC experience through these pathways at wesleyseminary.edu/mdiv/.

These course pathways also support our FlexMA, a degree program built to provide robust learning and theological formation for busy individuals that integrate faith, life, and professional experience with the flexibility needed to customize content and accommodate hectic schedules. Whether preparing for bi-vocational ministry in congregational and institutional settings, going deeper in one's own spiritual journey, or integrating faith and theology into an existing career or "third career" post-retirement, wherever God is calling, the FlexMA will help you prepare to respond fully. Learn more at wesleyseminary.edu/flexma/.

Research projects support congregational community engagement and envision future ministry

Four grants from the Lilly Endowment Inc, totaling \$5.25 million, undergird Wesley's research into and support of congregational thriving and innovation.

- **A new five-year project through the Wesley Innovation Hub** will have two main foci: a one-year Design Fellowship to equip young adult leaders and the Wesley Design Lab, featuring both in-person and online curricula, training, and other resources for congregational innovation. Young adults, ages 23-29 years, are invited to apply for the Design Fellowship, which will provide an \$8,000 stipend, community formation, spiritual direction, graduate-level courses in design thinking for ministry and hands-on experience leading innovation in congregations. Wesley will also be seeking creative persons of faith to be "Innovators in Residence" at Wesley and partner churches who have interesting challenges or opportunities for young adult ministry. To learn more: wesleyseminary.edu/wesley-innovation-hub/.
- **A second new grant will undergird** Wesley's move toward comprehensive theological education for the whole church. Wesley will strengthen its existing excellent master's and doctoral programs while also expanding a suite of pre-degree, post-degree (continuing education), and non-degree courses to meet the current and emerging needs of spiritual leaders in their context.
- **Now in its second year of The Source Collaborative**, Wesley continues to work with congregations in adjacent UMC annual conferences to identify markers of thriving and pursue them. Congregations and coaches interested in joining the 2023 cohort should apply by Sept. 1, 2022 via innovation@wesleyseminary.edu.
- **The [Religious Workforce Project](https://religiousworkforce.com/), run by the Lewis Center for Church Leadership**, studies religious work in congregations across several denominations to understand current and future needs. Learn about emerging data at <https://religiousworkforce.com/>.

Using research and partnerships to reach and equip the next generation of ministers

Wesley is ready to work with you as we make theological education more accessible and relevant to the realities of ministry today. Wesley offers an 81-hour Master of Divinity, a 36-hour Master of Arts, and a 60-hour Master of Theological Studies, any of which can be focused on specializations in public theology, urban ministry, arts and theology, missional church, children and youth ministry and advocacy, or African American church leadership. Courses are available in person, online, and in intensive hybrid formats. Info at wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/try-a-class-3.

Wesley provides \$2 million annually in scholarships via regular merit awards, ranging from 25 Percent to 100 percent tuition with stipends, including **full-tuition scholarships** for qualified applicants recommended by WTS alumni, campus ministers, or Christian service ministries; **Next Call in Ministry scholarships** for students working in a non-ministry setting for at least 10 years; and **Generación Latinx Scholarships** for emerging Latinx leaders for ministries within and beyond the church.

Take your ministry to the next level

The Certificate for Children and Youth Ministry and Advocacy (CYMA) is a non-residential certificate completed in 12 - 15 months via online classes and up to two residential sessions (wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/cyama-3). **The Certificate in Faith and Public Life** explores the foundations of public theology, religious freedom, and civil discourse (wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/public-life/).

Wesley's premiere Doctor of Ministry programs includes three new 2022 tracks: Ministry in a Digital Age; Justice, Compassion, and Witness in a Turbulent World (Cambridge, UK); and a program focused on Latinx ministry.

In 2023, we will again see popular DMin tracks: the Cambridge UK track, Military and CPE Chaplains, Global Church Leadership program, Church Leadership Excellence and a ground-breaking track on Trauma. Visit wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry/.

Enrich your congregational outreach and explore new dimensions of ministry

The Lewis Center for Church Leadership conducts leading edge research for the local church. The Lewis Center's Leading Ideas e-newsletter and Leading Ideas Talk podcast is the go-to source for over 20,000 people in ministry each week. Subscribe at churchleadership.com/category/leading-ideas/.

The **Community Engagement Institute** embraces a vibrant vision to be the premier center for churches and faith-based organization engaging their communities. **The innovative online Health Minister Certificate Program** prepares congregations for public health work in their parishes. Contact: Dr. Tom Pruski, tpruski@wesleyseminary.edu.

The Center for Public Theology equips pastors, seminarians, people of faith, and the media to create spaces for civil dialogue at the intersection of religion and politics. Visit wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/.

The Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion works with students, religious communities, artists, and scholars exploring the intersection of the arts and theology. Visit luceartsandreligion.org.

Stay connected

Contact us at (202) 885-8659 or admissions@wesleyseminary.edu and join the Wesley Community online via www.facebook.com/wesleyseminary on Instagram @wesleyseminary, on Twitter @WesTheoSem, or sign up for our electronic newsletter.

—Rev. Dr. David McAllister-Wilson, President, Wesley Theological Seminary

WESLEY-RANKIN COMMUNITY CENTER (WRCC)

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 sit with a grieving mother and begin educational classes in her backyard. Just like Hattie knew then, we know that our neighbors have great potential, but face incredible obstacles. So, we innovate and build bridges to provide equity to the residents of West Dallas. This year, Wesley-Rankin celebrates 120 years of service, 85+ which have been in the West Dallas community. Here's a look at our work in the last year.

The Why Behind Our Mission

- According to the most recent U.S. News and World Report High School Scorecard, only 10 percent of students attending the feeder high school of L.G. Pinkston graduate ready for college.
- 2020-21 STAAR data from the Pinkston feeder pattern reports 23 percent of 6th-8th graders are reading on grade level.
- According to the American Community Survey the average median income of the 75212 Zip Code is \$36,000. The average income of a person age 65+ and older is \$21,000.

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 many students take advantage of their services. Our enrollment is at capacity with 88 students (meeting safety requirements in

COVID-19), a waitlist of 40. The Scholars program, in partnership with the June Shelton School, is currently tutoring 30 students with learning differences. These 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. Wesley-Rankin has three supervisors on staff who are fully trained and certified, and the agency is currently looking to serve this program in schools.

Beakers, Base Ten and the Beat (B3X) Summer Camp

Wesley-Rankin looks forward to returning to an in-person camp this year after being virtual the last two years. The seven-week STEAM camp connects learning in a classroom with hands on experience.

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. 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 gentleman to better the world.”

Aspiring Professionals

This program is Wesley-Rankin’s latest initiative designed to increase the living wage for families in West Dallas. Serving as a high school apprenticeship, the model is grounded in technical skills in auto repair and business technology, soft skills training, financial literacy and student stipends and parent education.

Adult Academy and Leadership Council

Adult parenting classes continue at Wesley-Rankin in topics as computer basics, nutrition, and self-care. The Leadership Council is a group of parent advocates who hold local schools accountable to the best education for their children.

Casa Feliz Senior Citizen Program

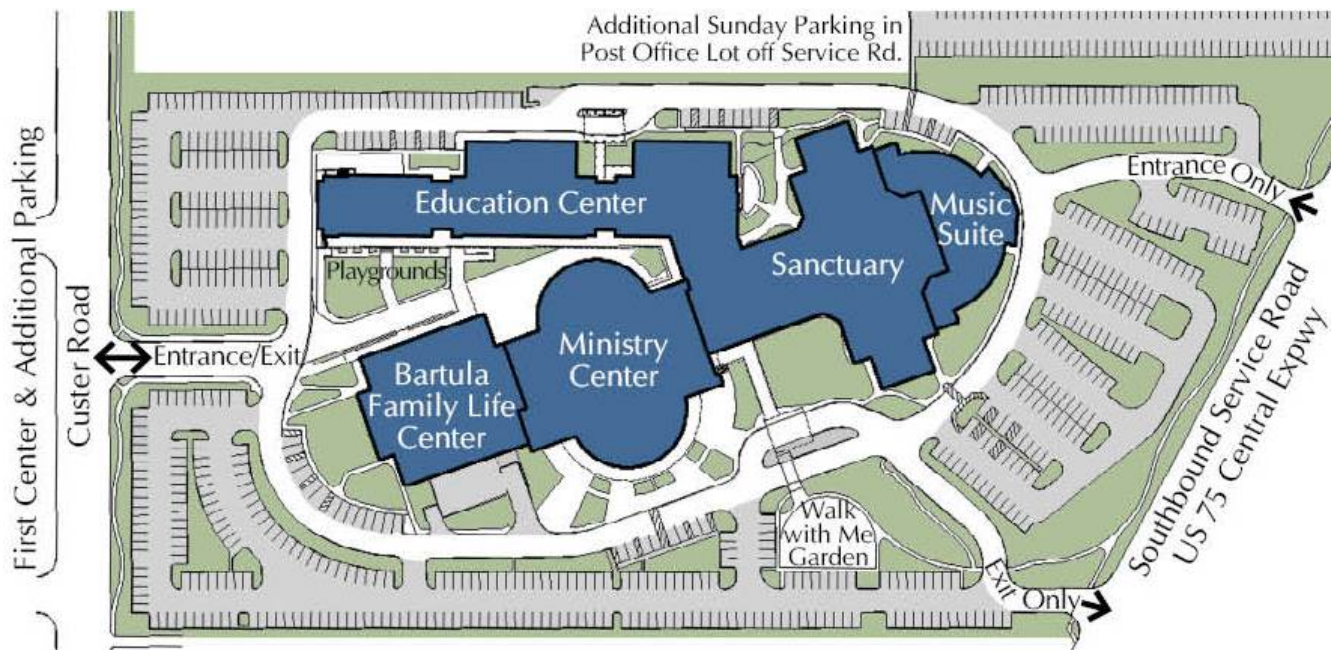
The senior citizen health program encourages strength and balance through exercising and nutritious meals, creates social networks and reduces isolationism, and promotes cognitive health and chronic disease management. The seniors celebrate nearly every holiday and birthday with dances, DJs, and special guests such as instrumentalists and break dancers. The seniors are preparing for their fourth **Senior Citizen Summer Camp** this year! The program also includes a Home Bound Program of 10-12 seniors who are regularly visited by the staff team and senior friends.

Although the years 2019-2020 were challenging years for Wesley-Rankin, the Center continues to set and meet goals post-COVID. Wesley-Rankin is a finalist in United Ways Social Innovation Accelerator program, earning additional funding and visibility. The Center has partnered with Ethos Equity to provide DEI training to staff and added a racial and social justice statement to its Employee Handbook. Learn more at wesleyrankin.org.

—Shellie Ross, Executive Director

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH RICHARDSON

PARKING AND BUILDINGS



Parking lots surround the church's campus, as shown on the map.

Handicapped accessible and walking impaired parking spaces are near the buildings.
Guest parking is adjacent to the Walk with Me Garden.

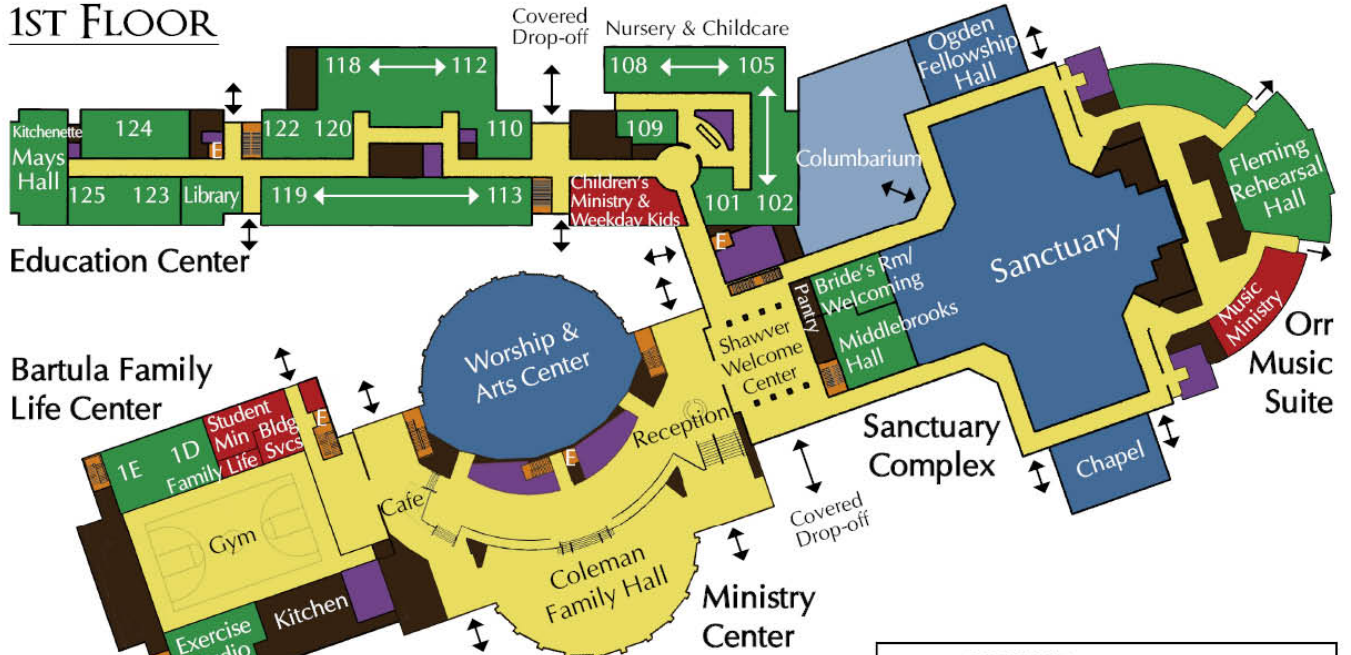
Additional parking:

Across Custer Road, to the west side of campus (shuttle service provided)
South of campus in the retail lot (Sundays only)
North of campus in the post office lot (Sunday mornings only)

Covered drop-offs are at the north side of the Education Center and the south side of the Sanctuary Complex.

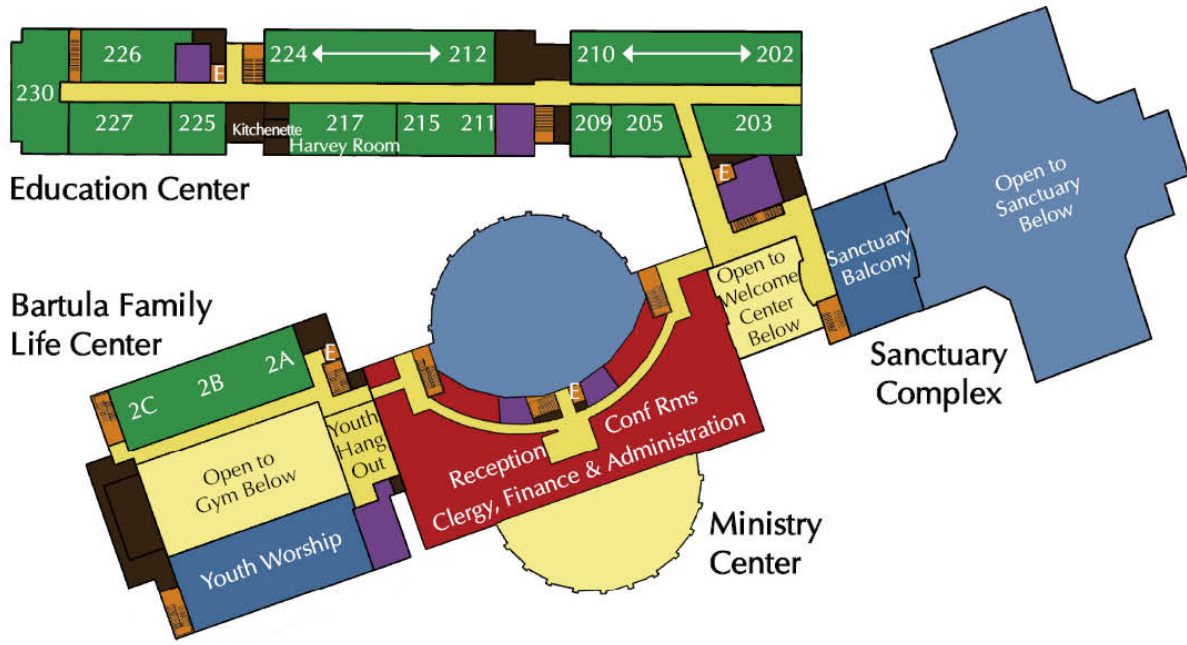
https://www.fumcr.com/campus_site-plan

1ST FLOOR



LEGEND	
	Entrances & Common Areas
	Worship Areas
	Classrooms
	Offices
	Restrooms
	Stairs & Elevators

2ND FLOOR



https://www.fumcr.com/campus_floor-plans



2022 NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE JOURNAL *ORDER FORM*

The conference *Journal* will be available on the conference website, ntcumc.org/ac2022 in September in FULL COLOR in the 8 ½ x 11 size.

If you wish to have a full bound copy of the *2022 NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE JOURNAL*, it will be available for purchase at \$30 each to those who pre-order and pre-pay for their copies and will only be printed in BLACK AND WHITE, no color, 8 ½ x 11 size.

If you do not need a printed copy of the entire *Journal*, but would like a bound copy of the *2022 CONFERENCE PERSONNEL DIRECTORY* (consisting of the clergy directory, the lay member directory, the appointment pages, and the roster of conference agencies) will also be available for purchase at \$5 each to those who pre-order and pre-pay for their copies.

Please use the form below to indicate how many books you wish to purchase and calculate the total cost of your order. **PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY THE ORDER.**

_____ # of printed black and white *2022 North Texas Conference Journal(s)* at \$30 each

_____ # of printed black and white *2022 North Texas Conference Directory(s)* at \$5 each

_____ **Total cost of order**

Name: _____

Shipping Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Please make your check payable to “North Texas Conference” and write “2022 Journal” in the memo line. Mail your order to North Texas Conference Journal Order, P.O. Box 866128, Plano, TX 75086-6128 **BY AUGUST 1, 2022.**

****Online ordering will be available at ntcumc.org/ac2022 through August 1.****

If you have questions, please contact Shirley Miller at miller@ntcumc.org or 972-526-5008.

North Texas Conference United Women in Faith
presents
Mission u 2022



Who Can We Be Together?

Building Communities of Hope and Joy

We are so excited to invite you to join us for this year's Mission u study! Our examination of *Who Can We Be Together*, a biblical exploration of Luke 13 written by Candace Simpson, will bring participants deeper into Jesus' teachings to explore what it means to be in community. As the author notes, "For followers of Christ 2,000 years later, it's important for us to sit with the range of emotions we have in response to these words. It's not easy to build and sustain communities, especially when there are forces that drain us, exhaust us, and even push us to act uncharacteristically. And yet, we are called to act on the most ethical principles of our faith so we can witness the kin-dom of God on earth."

The goal of this study is to inspire a global community of justice-oriented believers to challenge damaging theologies and create healthy rituals for abundant living.

This year, there are two different options for the adult study:

Virtual Session: Tuesday Evenings - 06.28.22 - 07.26.22

In-Person Session: Thursday, 07.14.22 - Saturday, 07.16.22 @ First UMC-Plano

Registration will begin mid-May and will be linked from the North Texas Conference United Women in Faith website: umwnorthtexas.org

Study books are available for purchase (\$10 plus shipping) at:
umwmissionresources.org



United
Women
in Faith