L. REPORTS

OUR VISION

We are the people of The United Methodist Church.

We believe in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Global United Methodist Church Statement:

Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world

Creating new places for new people and revitalizing existing congregations

Engaging in ministry with the poor

Combating the diseases of poverty by improving health globally

"Do this and you shall live!"

The Themes of The Pacific Northwest Conference:

Leadership

Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world

Church Growth

Engaging people in new and revitalized faith communities

Missions

Feeding people physically and spiritually in our neighborhoods and around the world

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OFFICE OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

UNLEARNING TO LEARN

March 2020, Washington – Almost as soon as Governor Inslee ordered a statewide community lockdown due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the majority of Churches and Faith Communities came to an abrupt realization that they were not ready nor equipped to respond effectively to such a scenario.

Because buildings were ordered closed and any form of public gatherings banned, Churches and faith communities needed a way to gather and worship every Sunday using the only alternative mode of connection available at that time – an online worship setting. Just as the world was moving to an online/virtual world, this meant we as people of faith needed to adjust and go through a steep learning curve as well. A very steep learning curve.

Pre-COVID-19, there were very few online worship settings that proved themselves successful. These were mostly large and mega-churches who invested heavily in technology, staff and a whole new way of thinking, operating and living outside of the traditional setting of faith communities. A soon as COVID-19 hit, it was clear the size of a church did not matter. The question that really mattered now was, "How do we worship and do ministry remotely?"

As one of the mainline denominations, United Methodists all over the world expect to gather weekly for Sunday morning worship, coffee hour, small group studies, community events, outreach activities, camps and retreats. Not gathering physically as a community of faith is very counter intuitive to our church history and culture. Theologically, we are called to live and thrive by being present with one another in prayer, worship, fellowship and ministry to others as well. Trying to learn this new way of being a faith community, while being physically apart, does not fit with our traditional understanding of a Church. The idea of not worshiping or meeting in a building does not sit well with many lifelong United Methodists.

As the list of what we cannot do continued to grow, a second list of what churches needed to do was significantly growing as well. So many questions came to light. Questions like; What happens to Sunday worship? What about our bible studies? How do we minister to our shut-ins and vulnerable members?

Then there's the technical side of the challenge. What type of video are we equipped to produce? What social media platform should we use? Do we have the appropriate bandwidth? What about those who do not have access to the internet? How do we access the production hardware and software we need? What about staffing? What is the weekly workflow we need to produce and deliver a meaningful weekly worship setting? Who knows how to do this? Where can we get help?

THE CHURCH IS NOT A BUILDING

As soon as the pandemic hit the state of Washington, PNW leadership and staff took the responsibility to meticulously track the implications of such an unprecedented crisis. We quickly responded by assessing and deploying our office to work online from home. We allowed building access to only necessary personnel (payroll and building maintenance) and very strict procedures and guidelines. As for this writing, the PNW Conference Office remains closed until further announcement.

In no time, Bishop Elaine Stanovsky organized the Episcopal Area Crisis Management Team (CMT), where key staff and personnel gathered weekly to receive, review and compare reports from the states of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. The CMT is tasked with tracking and understanding data related to reported cases, deaths, Executive Orders from each respective state and the Federal Government and agencies as well. This team also took the challenge of interpreting these guidelines that eventually led to the crafting of the *Reimagining Life Together* document. This comprehensive plan outlines numerous ways local churches are to behave during this global pandemic.

"Reimagining Life Together is a living document subject to change as new information is received about the virus and the best practices to mitigate its spread. We will periodically update this document with modest changes in the interest of perfecting this work. Pastoral leaders will be notified if and when significant changes are made. In both cases, the front page of the document will provide information noting the date of the latest revision."

As they become available, additional resources will be posted below to support local church and other ministry leadership teams as they engage in the process of reimagining ministry and congregational life."

DO THIS...

On March 24, 2020, Bishop Elaine sent out the following as her Bishop's COVID-19 Notice #3 to all United Methodists in the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area.

We know that this crisis will create hardships for local churches.

Church budgets will be strained as people are laid off from their jobs, struggle to buy food and pay rent, and watch their retirement savings plummet. Your conference leaders are planning for reduced income in local churches and at the conference level. My priorities, as we make adjustments are:

- 1. Lighten the burden on local churches. (Distressed, not merely stressed churches)
- 2. Protect income security of clergy and staff. (No action from CT required)
- 3. Relieve financial strain among the most vulnerable. (Action required)

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This Episcopal Notice triggered several conversations among conference leaders and staff that led to the following actions for the PNW Connectional Table:

- 1. Lighten the burden on local churches. (De-stress, distressed churches) by
 - Redirecting Office of Connectional Ministry broadly focused Ministry Funds
 - Meetings and events costs savings from cancelled and virtual meetings
 - Changing or cancelling programmatic/connectional expenses

Conference Staff have redirected their efforts and resources in order to provide in-kind services to local churches. The following is a partial list:

- Episcopal Directives and Guidance
- Area wide (Interstate) Crisis Management Team
- Web resource page for COVID-19
- Subsidized Zoom Accounts
- Assistance with online worship and communications
- Financial coaching
- Online giving resources
- Easter Worship Resource
- Weekly Webinars
- Clergy/Congregational Transitions Guidance
- Lay Leadership Trainings
- Apportionment Holiday
- 2. Protect income security of local church clergy and staff.
 - a. Wespath Rebates
 - b. PNW Board of Pensions
 POSSIBLE AVENUES OF SUPPORT
 - Health insurance holiday
 - Clergy Salary Aid
 - Equitable Salary

3. "FUND FOR FAMILIES"

Financial support of ministries with the most vulnerable.

This fund aims to support a local church, cluster/group of churches or specialized ministries engaged in responding to crises caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. A matching-grant approach is encouraged but may not apply to all situations. However, districts are expected to invite individuals, groups and local churches to give and promote the "FUND FOR FAMILIES" project.

*Update/report on the FFF is available through the IV Team report.

As United Methodism continues to struggle with what the 'new normal' is, I cannot help but view this as a season of learning and recalibrating. Leading to March 2020, the global chatter among United Methodists was that a significant change is com-

ing – a change that is feared by most, yet one that many have also fought and hoped for. Nobody in the church could have predicted that an extremely rare virus would challenge us much further than we have imagined or prepared for.

I believe God is moving us towards a new normal that none of us has yet seen. Because if we as a church do not take this opportunity to change and recalibrate itself, John Wesley's fear may come to reality.

John Wesley wrote his "Thoughts Upon Methodism":

"I am not afraid that the people called Methodists should ever cease to exist either in Europe or America. But I am afraid lest they should only exist as a dead sect, having the form of religion without the power. And this undoubtedly will be the case unless they hold fast both the doctrine, spirit, and discipline with which they first set out."

The future of our church isn't anymore just a question about being inclusive or exclusive, progressive or conservative but on how we follow and share Jesus Christ in new ways that allow God's grace, peace, hope and love to be made manifest through our words, actions and witness. Amen.

Rev. David Valera Executive Director, Office of Connectional Ministries L-6 REPORTS 2020 PNWAC

ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

The conference year 2019 – 2020 began as a rather busy one for the Pacific Northwest Conference of The United Methodist Church (PNWUMC) archives. Shortly after the 2019 annual conference session, the PNWUMC archives located in the library of the University of Puget Sound were removed from campus and relocated to the West Archives at The Bridge in Tacoma. The university was scheduled to perform an extensive remodel of the basement area of its library, where our archives were held, beginning in July, thus necessitating the move. Thanks to conference staff Brant Henshaw and *Rev. David Valera* for heading up that moving project!

Actions taken at the 2019 annual conference led our commission to ask the General Commission on Archives and History (GCAH) what would need to happen to our archives, should our annual conference decide to leave The United Methodist Church. In essence, the question was who owns the archives—The United Methodist Church, or the annual conference?

Fred Day, the Executive Director of the GCAH responded that the disaffiliation plan, adopted in St. Louis in 2019, and currently in effect, says the records held by a local church that leaves the denomination go with the church. He goes on to state that, by extension, since there is no mention of a process of disaffiliation at the annual conference level in *The Book of Discipline* or the disaffiliation plan, our PNW archives would stay with the annual conference should it decide to leave the denomination.

In April of 2019, UMC national archivist Dale Patterson travelled to Washington State to visit and evaluate three of our conference archive sites. Brant Henshaw, *David Valera*, and I met with Dale at the University of Puget Sound and The Bridge sites in Tacoma, and *David* and I met with Dale at the Central Church site in Richland. Dale later sent an extensive site visit report with observations and suggestions. The commission reviewed the report at its fall meeting in October, 2019, and will continue to work with it to make both short and long term changes.

Throughout the year the archives have continued to answer questions and provide information to people doing research, for family histories and for academic purposes. Archive material has been donated to/received by the archives. And, although we will not be meeting for annual conference this year, the commission will still produce certificates honoring Alvin E. Aosved, Alvin T. Carlson, Paul A. Felver, William E. Gordon, II, Ronald L. Hines, Robert E. Rector, John W. Reinmuth, David W. Sharrard, William D. Smith, and James E. Thuirer for the 50th anniversary of their ordination as Elder in The United Methodist Church; Wilfred L. Johnson, Justin I. Morrill, and Robert C. Ward for the 60th anniversary of their ordination as Elder; and M. Wesley Arms for the 70th anniversary of his ordination as Elder. These certificates will be mailed to them this summer.

The official records and archives of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church are located at the Pacific Northwest Conference Office, at The Bridge in Tacoma, Washington, and at Central Church, in Richland, Washington.

Rev. William M. Bryan, Jr. Chair, PNWUMC Commission on Archives and History L-8 REPORTS 2020 PNWAC

CAMPING BOARD OF STEWARDS

Vision: Camping and Retreat Ministries in the PNW Conference will be at the forefront of renewing spiritual life and camps will become integral to the youth and family ministry of our churches.

What an incredible year it has been in the life of our camps as well as in our church community as a whole. The Camping Board of Stewards began the season with a renewed focus on the education and health of our board and the growth and health of each of our camps. Many of our board members attended a Thriving Boards conference, which has helped us to better understand our roles and given us tools to effectively support our camping ministries. Each of our camps was poised to have a successful year serving youth, families, churches and their communities on the beautiful grounds they are blessed to oversee.

Like most ministries, we needed to quickly shift and adapt with the onset of COVID-19. This year we are especially grateful for a conference that supports our camps and camping ministry. With the support of the conference office, we applied for and received a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) grant which will help us to sustain staff



who are essential for maintaining our properties and being ready to welcome people back once it is safe. Our camp directors have found creative ways to continue to engage with people such as virtual campfires, making and distributing cloth masks, on-line day camps and social media posts. They have been encouraged, uplifted and sustained by the financial and emotional support they have received from camp supporters and have made some new connections in this difficult time.

Here are a few highlights from each camp:

Lazy F - <u>lazyfcamp.org</u>

David Burfeind took a much needed sabbatical following the completion of the new Dining Hall and returned ready to serve. If you have not visited Lazy F lately, you will be amazed when you do!

Twinlow Camp - twinlow.org

Kristen Moon served her second year as Program Director and has done a tremendous job with keeping her staff engaged and serving the community.

Ocean Park Camp - opretreat.org

This year Brandon Scheer is officially joined by his wife Carole as a co-director. This energetic team has kept OP going despite the damage harsh beach winters can do. The new zip line is up and they are hoping to be able to host groups who can use it soon!

Camp Indianola - campindianola.org

In January *Colin Cushman* began as the site director for Camp Indianola. Things have definitely started differently than expected, and Colin's dedication and leadership is especially appreciated at this time.

Our executive director, Alan Rogstad spent much of his time in 2019 supporting Camp Indianola during the interim without a director, and has spent much time in 2020 working with the directors to navigate COVID-19 related issues. Zoom meetings have become a regular part of how the team works together to keep camping and retreat ministries on the forefront of spiritual transformation.

Thank you to all of you who work and volunteer for our camps, including those who serve on CBS. Contact any of our four camps or visit our website www.pnw-camps.org to see how you can get involved. We thank you for your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service for camping and retreat ministries.

Sandi Miller Chair of Camping Board of Stewards

CAMPING BOARD OF STEWARDS 2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT ADDENDUM

AUGUST 2020

Like all ministries in the PNW Conference, COVID-19 has deeply impacted our camps. Starting mid-March, virtually all retreats, events, and programs, including our traditional summer camps have been cancelled in the wake of the pandemic. It seemed like overnight we faced the closure of our sites, the furloughing of staff, and the most difficult part, telling campers and families there would be no summer camp in 2020. Additionally, the financial reality of lost income and funds to maintain our camps, meeting fixed expenses, and most importantly, sustain our staff, became apparent.

The Camping Board of Stewards acted quickly and identified these 5 priorities:

- Reduce expenses
- Facilitate increased giving
- Continue to compensate our Directors and keep key staff teams intact
- Develop comprehensive reopening plans
- Find new ways to carry out our mission in a changing world

I am pleased to report that we have accomplished or made significant progress on each of these priorities.

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Updates for each of our camps:

Lazy F - Volunteers have taken advantage of the down time to undertake many projects including the renovation of the old dining hall. Most notably, the old kitchen has been turned into new meeting spaces. Plans are underway to serve local families and schools as we adjust to virtual learning this fall.

Twinlow - Under Phase II guidelines, Twinlow has continued to host individual families and personal retreats. The craft cabin has been completely renovated with help from NOMADS and other volunteers.

Ocean Park - Since the beginning of the pandemic, Ocean Park has served as a quarantine site for Pacific County. We have hosted several families recovering from COVID-19 as well as serving as a shelter for those displaced by the pandemic. Additionally, NOMADS and volunteers have taken advantage of the down time to tend to some much-needed projects.

Indianola - We are grateful for local churches, especially Redeemer, Kingston, that have been caring for the staff of Indianola by providing meals and other support. As the camp closest to the population center of Seattle, Indianola is our camp that is perhaps most impacted by the pandemic.

Since entering Phase II of the Reimagine Life Together Plan, each of our camps has been hosting families and personal retreats. As we enter Phase III and IV, we will continue to host appropriately larger retreat groups and events. As we move into fall, we are seeking to partner with school districts and agencies to offer our camps to augment the virtual learning environment.

Sadly, it is a reality that many camps nationwide may not survive these difficult times. We are truly thankful for the outpouring of support from our donors, churches, and volunteers. To all those who have answered the call to help our camps through this challenging time, we thank you. You are a true blessing!

Peace and Grace,

Alan Rogstad, Executive Director PNW Camp and Retreat Ministries

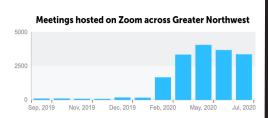
COMMUNICATIONS

With the encouragement of *Bishop Elaine JW Stanovsky*, and the support of the Directors of Connectional Ministries serving the three conferences of the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area, communication has been an area of regular collaboration and smart shared resourcing. While these practices were underway well before COVID-19 entered our shared vocabulary, they have been critical in helping us to respond to the challenges posed by this pandemic. As our conference and area seek to communicate with and resource local churches simultaneously having essential conversations about race in the U.S., working closely with others is critical in managing the work with appropriate sensitivity and grace.

As is undoubtedly the case for so many of our local church pastors and media teams, the past few months have been a blur. Even with some experience and technical know-how, I have had to adapt, learn, and re-learn skills to meet new emerging challenges and opportunities to resource local churches.

One example has been our area-wide adoption and use of Zoom. We first started to use Zoom back in 2017, replacing two other better-known video-conferencing platforms because of its relative ease of use. Over the years that followed, while many conference meetings continued to take place in-person, it was common to have a couple of people Zoom-ing in to avoid the expense and time of travel, among other reasons.

In January, we had 29 active Zoom users on our Greater NW platform hosting 170 meetings for 970 participants and a total of 65,193 minutes. If you had asked me at the time, I would have said that this was amazing, understanding that these numbers also represent savings in meeting expenses



and valuable time clergy and lay leaders weren't needing to spend in travel.

Over the last month, we had 232 active Zoom users hosting 3,231 meetings for 26,692 participants and a total of 1,571,480 minutes. That's over 1.5 million minutes spent by United Methodists in the Northwest connecting for worship, Bible study, essential church meetings, digital potlucks, pastoral check-ins, and participating in online communion.

While the closure of our buildings due to COVID-19 also drove Zoom's rapid adoption, I am grateful for colleagues like *Rev. Davie Valera* and Brant Henshaw who quickly recognized the opportunity to resource local churches as it was presented to them. Offering Zoom at a low subsidized rate when many churches were highly anxious about finances made a big difference guiding unfamiliar churches toward a solution that has served many well.

I am also thankful for Teri Tobey's efforts sharing the many opportunities to get

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local churches signed up and informed in how to best use the platform.

In mid-March, COVID-19 transformed our region and churches were forced to begin livestreaming their services. With most of our staff connected to local congregations in some form, it quickly came to light that there was an emergent need for our local churches to have the CCLI Streaming License in addition to the CCLI Basic License, which we already provided through a Group License that began in 2015. The CCLI Streaming License provides permissions for organizations to livestream copyrighted content within the CCLI catalog.

We quickly made the decision to begin a CCLI Streaming Group License and it is now in effect for every church and camp in the PNW and AK thanks in no small part to the extra efforts of our Regional Media Center Manager, Ian McKnight. Ian also has helped us all to better understand the challenges of copyright in this new digital space. There were 16 churches that already had this license who were absorbed into the group. CCLI provides us with a blanket discount on both of our Group Licenses.

The months ahead are likely to bring many additional opportunities for us to grow in our communications-related skills. In addition to whatever challenges 2020 next throws at us, local churches are already contemplating how they might bring their digital learnings back with them when it is once again reasonable and safe to return to in-person worship. In local church consultations, I ask leaders to consider what they would need to support a hybrid in-person/digital approach to worship. How can they bridge the gap between those worshiping in the sanctuary and those who may choose to join them remotely for health or other reasons? Can that remote attendance be participatory, and what other opportunities might emerge for churches now that the digital curtain is open?

At each level of the church, we need to wrestle with similar questions. At this moment that has forced us quite dramatically outside of the box, in hope, I see great potential for a Church that leans into its connectional aspirations. Innovative communication tools and technology are a necessity now but offer much promise for our future as well.

Patrick Scriven
Director of Communications, Young People's Ministries

CHURCH AND SOCIETY

You have been told, human one, what is good and what the Lord requires from you: to do justice, embrace faithful love, and walk humbly with your God.

- Micah 6:8 CEB

The work of the General Board of Church and Society of The United Methodist Church is to advocate the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the church and society. As Christians, we are called to bring healing, justice, and love to our broken hurting world. Our Social Principles guide us as United Methodists to speak out on societal concerns and work toward a society that provides justice for all. The PNW Conference Board of Church and Society (CBCS) seeks to provide resources for biblically based social justice to our local congregations, as well as connect them with the resources of the General Board.

At last year's Annual Conference, our Peace with Justice Coordinator, *Rev. Dave Wright*, presented Peace with Justice Awards to First United Methodist Church of Olympia to sponsor refugee educational scholarships; to The Well for their Turning Guns into Garden Tools project; to Island Time Activities for their program working with people with intellectual and physical disabilities. The MLK award was awarded to *Rev. Paul Jeffrey*.

Also at last year's Annual Conference, the board brought Heather White, Professor of Religion and Gender/Queer studies at the University of Puget Sound, to come speak about the history of inclusion of LGBTQ persons, and the relationship of the faith community.

The board accepted the Bishop's affirmation that CBCS is the natural connection for the Annual Conference with the Faith Action Network (FAN). Pursuant to this, CBCS has nominated *Rev. Lee Carney Hartman* to serve as a member of the FAN Governing Board and has urged congregations to join in justice advocacy through FAN.

CBCS has sent two young clergy to the annual Young Adult Clergy Forums in Washington, DC for many years but, unfortunately the spaces were filled when our representatives applied this year. We plan to have next year's applications submitted earlier.

CBCS continues to seek to be a two-way link between the General Board and the local churches in the PNW. We are working to find ways to accomplish this. Along with our Facebook page and web page linked from the PNWUMC page, we encourage all local churches to have a social justice advocate or church and society focal point, per ¶252.2 in the 2016 Book of Discipline.

I would like to thank the members of the board for your faithful work toward justice!

Ann Mayer

Chair, PNW Conference Board of Church and Society

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DISASTER RESPONSE PROGRAM

2019 was a year of change for the PNW Disaster Preparedness and Response missions. Dana and Kathy Bryson took on the Conference's Disaster Response Coordinator role in early Spring. There was a significant increase in Early Response Team (ERT) deployments as well as an increase in new ERT members. A revitalized emphasis was put on the Connecting Neighbors program with the qualification of more trainers and additional church presentations. The Disaster Response team expanded its involvement and support with our UMC counterparts and other partners in mission.

Typhoon Yutu Project Coordinator and Response

Led team recruitment/coordination, logistics and FEMA Region 9 interface as the National Project Coordinator (Kathy) for Super Typhoon Yutu/Saipan relief efforts on behalf of the Cal-Pac Conference. To date, 12 PNW ERT members served on Saipan missions for a total of 960 volunteer hours. These missions will carry forward until the end of April 2020.

Idaho County Spring Flood Response

PNW ERT members staffed the local response center and performed 24 client intakes. As a result, the PNW Disaster Response organization was invited back by the Idaho County Disaster Response manager to assess the families for further needs. A combined ERT including members from PNW, OR-ID and Mountain Sky Conferences returned to the Kamiah and Sites areas serving several families with home clean out and mold spray. We also applied for, were awarded and eventually closed out a \$10,000 UMCOR "Solidarity Grant" to help with the relief efforts.

Oklahoma Flood Response

Led a combined PNW/OR-ID Conference ERT to Tahlequah, Ok for flood relief in the Fort Gibson area. Worked through a local disaster response center coordinating work scope for the combined team plus a Mountain Sky Conference ERT congruently in the area. Served nine families through assessments, debris haul, clean-outs and mold spray.

Port Orchard Tornado Response

At the request of Kitsap County the PNW Disaster Response team stood up and staffed the Community Recovery Center to reach out to survivors, volunteers and other resources. Early Response Team members developed volunteer, resource and un-met needs data bases, while also aligning immediate needs with resources. The team coordinated several major neighborhood debris removal projects with corporate partners. They were also active in implementing and supporting a disaster recovery Un-Met Needs Table with other resource providers as an informal Long Term Recovery Group. A \$10,000 UMCOR "Solidarity Grant" provided funding for initial response efforts and subsequent relief support. From this effort 118 case management contacts were developed which resulted in engagement on 50 man-

aged cases served through community partners including the PNW Conference.

Woosley Fire Relief

Sifted ashes and hauled debris with a Cal-Pac ERT in early March for a family home destroyed by the Woosely Fire in Los Angeles County.

Western Jurisdiction Disaster Academy

Represented as the PNW Disaster Response Coordinators during the 2019 Western Jurisdiction Disaster Academy held in Scottsdale, AZ. Taught 12 combined classroom hours of advanced ERT classes. Eight participants from PNW also qualified as Connecting Neighbors trainers.

April Greater Northwest Vitality Summit

Contributed to innovative ideas for future church development through group participation and program presentations.

3rd Annual ERT Spring Training

Qualified 14 participants for the ERT program at the Lazy F Camp and Retreat Center including trainees from the PNW and OR-ID Conferences. An UMCOR trainer certified Dana Bryson and Larry Johnson (OR-ID Conference Disaster Response coordinator) as ERT trainers.



A video slideshow has been produced showcasing some of the amazing work done by faithful teams from the PNW. Watch online at:

animoto.com/play/hOzVLWnj2tO8j2xMZsVfbw

PNW 2019 Annual Conference

Represented the PNW disaster preparedness and relief missions for three days at the Annual Conference including showcasing the two-stall shower trailer. Led the Sunday offering ask for contributions in support of the Saipan mission.

Connecting Neighbors Training

Developed a re-energized approach to disaster preparedness with Terry Reddick taking on the Connecting Neighbors Program Manager role. Terry is bringing together Connecting Neighbors instructors with local churches and organizations in developing and spreading this readiness program. Tying in with September's National Preparedness Month, held a training in Kennewick including a pre-training session for the new program trainers.

FEMA-sponsored Hostile Event Preparedness for the Communities of Faith webinar

Participated in this timely webinar along with facilitating participation by Kennewick First UMC clergy, safety committee and several local emergency preparedness pro-

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fessionals viewing the webinar at emergency response center in Pasco.

ERT "Rapid Response" Trailer

Awarded an UMCOR grant and purchased a small light-duty ERT tool trailer and now stored at the Benton County Fire District #4 secured lot. The acquisition was based on recent ERT experiences in the Okanogan and Idaho Counties demonstrating the need for a more maneuverable, easily-towed tool trailer.

Conference and Partner Interactions

Taking active leadership roles with external partners such as FEMA Regions 9 and 10 (Region 9 through CalPac Conference and Saipan), Washington Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (partner meetings and conference calls), Idaho Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (Idaho Co floods), Inland Northwest VOAD (Idaho Co floods), WA State Emergency Management Division and Washington State Counties (Port Orchard tornado), Idaho State Emergency Management (Idaho Co flood response). Participated in several nation-wide UMCOR conference calls regarding UMC disaster responses (mid-west flooding, Florida relief, Bahamas). Actively participated in Western Jurisdiction Disaster Response program planning for the March 2019 Disaster Academy and future 2021 Academy to be hosted by the Cal-Nevada Conference.

ERT Fall Basic Training

Qualified 12 new ERT members during the Edmonds UMC training from a group of multi-faith and organizational participants.

UMCOR Disaster Response Coordinator Academy

Held in St. Simeon, Georgia, both Dana and Kathy took the "New Conference Disaster Response Coordinator" training track along with participating in the general training throughout the week. This venue provides opportunities for training and coordination with UMCOR and other Conference Disaster Response Coordinators nationally.

WaVOAD 2020 Elected Board Position

Kathy was elected secretary for the 2020 Washington State Volunteers Active in Disaster organization. She'll be representing the PNW Disaster Response mission along with supporting the organization through monthly meetings held in various Washington State locations.

PNW Disaster Response Mission Mapping

Developed a Google Maps global mapping showing a click-on type of disaster and the location of past, current and planned PNW disaster response missions. This map can be viewed on the PNW UMVIM page at: facebook.com/umvim.pnwumc

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

The Conference Board of Global Ministries is a program committee, the Mission 'arm' of our conference. The Board consists of representatives from many areas of activity. Mission is what helps our churches to grow and reach out to others, often in coordination with the other conferences in our Greater NW Episcopal Area. We are the United Methodist Church in action!

All programming and spending is done with the question: "How does this educate, enable, and empower the local church to be in mission?"

In addition to the programming, our budget provides money from apportionments to support: Justice for our Neighbors, Tacoma Community House and Atlantic Street Center.

CONFERENCE SECRETARY OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Marilyn Reid

My role in the Annual Conference included the following for 2019.

- 1. Interpret the programs, emphases, plans and policies of the General Board of Global Ministries to the Annual conference.
 - Attended the Western Conference Mission Secretary of Global Ministries at Alton L. Collins Conference & Retreat Center Oct. 31- Nov.2, 2019. Invited Angela Reed to attend as one of the speakers for the event.
 - Join us for Mission Dinner as we connect neighbors in need and missionary works together with three conferences together
- 2. Create Advance Promotion and fundraising strategies
 - Contributed information for Funding Ministry and Mission Outreach for 2019 booklet with 16 missionaries and 2 Global Mission Fellows.
 - 2019 PNW tools will be using the Mission Anywhere2gether! More promotion for the coming year.
- 3. Promote Covenant Relationships and Itineration of Missionaries
 - Katherine Parker in March, June August 2019
 - Last itineration for Paul Jeffrey April 28- June 3, 2019
 - Desiree and Osias Segura-Guzman- June 7- August 4, 2019
 - Hesed Lim new missionary to Africa June 10- 18, 2019
 - Carmen Scheuerman December 5 to January 11, 2020. The family participated at Christmas Institute at Lazy- F from December 26-30.
 - Fernando Matsimbe will be itinerating August 30 September 4, 2020.

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MISSION U REPORT TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Carol Mariano, Asst. Dean

Mission u was held July 12-15, on the campus of Central Washington University as has been the pattern for several years. Study themes included, "Women United for Change," led by Glory Dharmaraj from the Women's Division and Annette Funk; and "What about Our Money," led by Sara Culp from the Northwest United Methodist Foundation. The spiritual growth study on "Mark and Radical Discpleship," met in three different classes with leaders *Katherine Parker*, UM missionary in Nepal; Evelyn Eberle, from the General Board of Global Ministries; and K Bramstedt. A youth study on the gospel of Mark was co-led by Amanda Hutchinson and Abby Niehaus. There were 122 participants in total. Cost of the event was \$47,000. A deficit of \$1000 in income was covered from UMW reserves. Considering the continuing problem of failure to meet expenses, the Mission u team decided to seek another location for next year.

Mission u 2020 will be held at Yakima: Wesley UMC, July 23-26, coordinating with the Wesley UMC for the closing worship on Sunday. Participants will make their own arrangements to stay in hotels in Yakima.

Mission u continues to address social issues with relevant and timely information to help people engage with missional needs in our communities and around the world, to provide women and men with knowledge and resources to work for change.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women continues to be a strong partner with the CBGM, sharing mission and ministry through common programming and collaborative approaches in specific areas such as mission education and immigration work.

UNITED METHODIST VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION - UMVIM

Cheryl Reagan, coordinator

The Volunteers in Mission program works closely with the Disaster Response Team in organizing teams to assist wherever needed.

In 2019, the PNW Conference sent out 20 UMVIM teams made up of 236 team members who served in 10 countries and 10 US states.

All volunteer teams organized by local churches are encouraged to register with UMVIM for a variety of reasons, including the ability for the national team to provide evacuation assistance If needed, as happened during 2019!

GLOBAL MISSIONS FELLOWS PROGRAM

Teri Tobey, coordinator

The Global Mission Fellows Program is a 2-year mission service opportunity of the General Board of Global Ministries for young adult PNW CBGMs, ages 20-30, to work in social justice ministries. The program is organized into geographic "Affiliates" led by "Affiliate Coordinators" who are involved in recruiting, interviewing, selecting, assigning, supporting and evaluating the fellows. In our case, the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference is the affiliate entity and Teri Tobey is the designated Affiliate Coordinator. The goal is to maintain at least four fellows and four placements with two new fellows each year in order to provide mutual support in a cohort. We are to include placements in immigration related ministries in Western and Central Washington. Our affiliate currently has one fellow placed at Tacoma Community House and one fellow place at Northwest Immigrant Rights Program in Seattle. We also hope to support new conversations about development of young-adult leadership development opportunities across the Greater Northwest Area.

JAMAA LETU ORPHANAGES/ HOPE FOR THE CHILDREN OF AFRICA

Eric Sparkman & Rev. Bruce Smith, Co-Chairs

The Bishop's task force continues to consider the deep issues of our extended family in the Democratic Republic of Congo and what the best way forward for us might be.

We would like to thank the many who continue to contribute to the ministry of the orphanages. Your gifts through collecting coins in the "Jars for Jamaa Letu", sponsorship of orphans, and education scholarships are transforming lives.

We invite you to join us in prayer for the ministry of the task force as we continue to seek a way forward for all of those whose lives we have touched through this ministry of the Annual Conference.

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HISPANIC/LATINX MINISTRY

In 2020, our beloved United Methodist Church had been constantly learning to re-invent itself in the middle of COVID-19, as we continue preserving the health of our communities. All the while, Hispanic/Latinx ministries in the PNW Conference are finding new vitality, hope and commitment to continue making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We appreciate the support with the National Plan for Hispanic Latino Ministries, and we are ready to move forward.

TIMELINE SUMMARY OF EVENTS/PROGRAMS/PROJECTS FROM MARCH-JULY 2020

Leadership Development

Webinars: Staff Pastor Parish Committee, Wesleyan Quadrilateral, Three Simple Rules. The Hispanic/Latinx community participated in the Bishop's Webinars also providing Worship and Liturgical resources in Spanish and the Conference Director of Hispanic/Latinx Ministry participated as a panelist in two webinars lead by *Bishop Elaine Stanovsky*. We participated in the webinar lead by MARCHA caucus about the CARES ACT. We participated also in the Webinar lead by UMCOM about ZOOM for Ministers.

We continue providing resources to our local churches and leaders on our social media platforms in topics such as: gender, reconciliation, spiritual gifts, working together as a body, lay roles, domestic violence, and more, which has led to stronger leadership in the local congregations.

I coordinated the COSS for the PNW students for their online sections of Spring and fall 2020. I provided support and information for Hispanic/Latinx Pastors of Oregon/Idaho interested to initiate their formation throughout the COSS.

Advocacy

We continue providing resources in advocacy for our growing immigrant community. We had a meeting with Justice for our Neighbors (JFON) to discuss programs and ideas that we can work on in partnership.

I participated in the Seven Rivers District weekly zoom meetings and I served in the District Board of ordained Ministry. I participated in the Board of Congregational Development as a resource for Hispanic/Latinx new churches start and leadership recruitment.

Support for Ministry

I helped to coordinate the response from the PNW Conference to the most vulnerable communities during COVID-19. Thanks to our initiative of our Conference our churches received: gift cards, bags of groceries, baby supplies, masks, and electronic equipment to strengthen their social media presence.

At the present time we are working with "La Casa Hogar" and Wesley UMC in Yakima to provide back to school supplies for Hispanic/Latinx children. Thanks for all the support from *Rev. Shane Moore* for helping me in this direction in order for us to continue providing resources for our growing Hispanic/Latinx Community in the Yakima Valley.

A group of Pastors worked through the Facebook page "Pastoral Cibernetica" to provide worship and liturgical resources for our churches. GBOD has been helping us with this project as well.

The Hispanic/Latinx churches across the Greater Northwest Area received a resource in Spanish to Celebrate Pentecost: "Celebremos Pentecostes", led by Pastor *Joel Rodriguez*.

I participated with a message of greetings in: "El Canto de Pentecostes" (The Song of Pentecost), which was a resource led by MARCHA Caucus to celebrate Pentecost in our Spanish-speaking congregations.

We granted seed money to First UMC of Wenatchee for their English as a Second Language program helping the growing Hispanic/Latinx community in their community.

Communications

In February, we started a weekly Zoom meeting with all the Hispanic/Latinx Leaders from the GNW (PNW and Oregon-Idaho). In the month of June, we decided to have this Zoom meeting every two weeks. The participation has been awesome. This is the time where we pray together, hear about our needs and struggles and also strengthen our connection by providing information from the different groups, committees, boards and the Cabinet.

I provided translation to Spanish for all of *Bishop Elaine Stanovsky's* Pastoral letters and we dedicated time to keep the Hispanic/Latinx Leadership informed. We usually dedicate time to discuss the letters in our bi-weekly leadership meetings.

I provided support for the Youth Ministry reviewing the Annual conference application that was translated to Spanish.

Key Learnings and Aspirations for 2021

Conference support and the National Plan resources and funds we are receiving are crucial and important to continue strengthening the Latino Ministry in the Pacific Northwest.

We need to be better connected to church planting in the Hispanic/Latinx community.

We need to incorporate within our ministry more Young and Young Adult Leaders.

We need to be more proactive to discover new places and spaces for Hispanic/Latinx Ministries. L-22 REPORTS 2020 PNWAC

We need more participation of our Hispanic/Latinx leaders in conference-level leadership and ministry.

We need to evaluate the criteria and the process for selecting and recruiting Hispanic/Latinx Pastoral Leadership.

We need to continue our efforts to integrate the Hispanic/Latinx Ministry from across the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area. In order to continue strengthening our connection, the Hispanic/Latinx Leaders that meet on Wednesday have already discussed that it would be very positive to have a District Superintendent available from the Oregon-Idaho Conference to meet with us during our by weekly meetings. We want to give thanks to *Rev. David Valera* and *Rev. Joanne Coleman-Campbell* for always being available to participate in our meetings. This means a lot for us. Thank you very much!

Aspirations for 2021

To Coordinate a Multicultural Webinar Event that will help English speaking congregations interested to begin ministries with Hispanic/Latinx in their communities.

To explore with our camping ministries the possibility of sponsoring Spanglish Camp. This is an event from the California-Pacific Conference for young people ages 14 – 25 dedicated to the exploration and celebration of Hispanic/Latino culture in the United States. This program takes place in a camp setting, with participants engaging in fellowship through meals and gathering, learning through leadership workshops, competing in sport activities, and worshiping in a cross-cultural setting.

To continue providing Leadership Formation Webinars every two month for our leaders and communities:

- September 2020: Homiletics (How to prepare a Sermon)
- November 2020: Leadership, How to develop a Vision and Mission Statement

To create an online platform to coach and mentor our leaders.

I want to give thanks for all your support and dedication for our Hispanic/Latinx Ministry during this year. It has been a blessing for me and my family as we continue providing leadership in this beloved Conference. I am happy looking at the future of our ministry together. If you have a good idea or program you want to share or if you need any resource for Hispanic/Latinx Ministry in your community, please contact me at cesantos@pnwumc.org. I will be more that happy to work with you.

Muchas bendiciones!

Rev. Cruz Edwin Santos Director of Hispanic/Latinx Ministry

LAITY

The PNW Conference Board of Laity has continued to meet through 2019 and into February 2020 via Zoom. As Conference Lay Leader, I attended the Western Jurisdiction Summit in Los Angeles and the Annual Association of Conference Lay Leaders in Nashville in 2020. While there, I was elected as the President of the Association through the Annual Meeting in 2022.

The Greater Northwest Conference and Associate Conference Lay Leaders held the first GNW Boards of Laity conference in Des Moines, Washington bringing together 18 key lay leaders from Alaska, Washington, Oregon and Idaho. While there we created three initiatives for GNW lay leaders which included:

- 1. Continue to build and strengthen the network among Lay Leaders in the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area through zoom meetings and a future conference.
- 2. Reinvigorate and revise Lay Leadership Development for Lay Leaders and Laity.
- 3. Provide training and skills for supporting laity in congregational and mission settings.

This conference was met with enthusiastic participation and positive evaluation; most notably the opportunity to meet and share with one another.

Then the world changed with the COVID-19 pandemic and the decision to temporarily close churches and shelter at home. While our goals continue, there has been a significant effort to build the network of district church lay leaders. Two districts, SeaTac and Puget Sound, have brought their lay leader contact information up to date and have begun holding Zoom meetings for their district. Seven Rivers will be adding several district lay leaders to cover their large geographical area. The GNW Boards of Laity network has decided to meet quarterly via Zoom and have identified teams to address each of the three goals.

As a result of the pandemic, a clearly identified need arose to address the stress, loss and grief of the virus and isolation. Realizing that Lay Leaders are in a position of recognizing and providing support to members of congregations, mission fields and their pastors as stress levels arise, a team involving Conference Lay Leaders, Disaster Response Team and New Circuit Riders is designing a zoom training that can be shared among all three Conferences. This training was provided during the summer and a recording is available online (bit.ly/stress-loss-grief).

On a broader level, Angelina Goldwell, Associate Conference Lay Leader and I have been staying connected with other Conference Lay Leaders on a Jurisdictional Level, meeting 2-3 times a year through Zoom. There are plans in the works to create a Jurisdictional Lay Leader Conference when we can again safely gather.

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On the national and international level and working with the Board of Discipleship a website room has been established to gather the stories of outstanding acts of compassion by laity during this pandemic. It is important to share the stories and recognize the work of laity.

Our work continues.

Respectfully,

Nancy Tam Davis PNW Conference Lay Leader

NORTHWEST UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION

Help, I think I have become 6 again! Never since those early days have I had to answer so many questions with, I DON'T KNOW! But the fact is that I don't know when things will return to normal, or when schools will start, or our churches reopen. I don't know when we can travel safely again or when I can do one of my favorite things, eat in a restaurant! The list goes on and on. However, in this cloud of confusion, there are a few things I very clearly know and would love to share with you.

The Foundation is strong, viable, well led, and ready for whatever the new normal becomes. We closed 2019 with more than \$71 million under management. We provided ongoing investment and planned giving services to nearly 200 of our churches and agencies last year. We closed the year having earned a return greater than 20% on our flagship Diversified Moderate investment Portfolio and our new Social Values Choice Fund earned more than 21%. We made and continue to make literally thousands of contacts with those we currently serve and others who we would love to serve during the year.

In 2019, the Foundation stepped boldly into offering resources in different ways including online workshops and webinars. We will continue this work in an effort to deliver resources and expertise in a fashion that best suits the needs of those we serve. We continue to make our staff more accessible and better equipped for the changing times. We have a new accountant who is finally showing our financial software who is the boss. Her name is Heidi Smith and she comes from a diverse background of both for-profit and not-for-profit corporations.

The Foundation has weathered the storm of Covid-19 without layoffs or the need for reduced work schedules. Like many of you, we saw our assets under management plummet by as much as 22% during the worst (so far) of the economic downturn and, as of this report, are pleased to report a loss of just 5.58% for the year to date. We have functioned without any disruption in distributions to our churches and without needing to liquidate investment positions that we would prefer to keep. Wespath our investment partner is keeping us informed and guiding us expertly during this period of new unknowns.

So, we are viable, responsible, nimble to change, a resource to those who use our services, and ready to serve you. For more information please visit our website at: www.nwumf.org.

Please feel free to contact us. We exist to serve you.

Respectfully,

Tom Wilson Executive Director L-26 REPORTS 2020 PNWAC

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

"Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world."

Mission Giving: Through Pledge to Mission and other channels of giving, United Methodist Women (UMW) supports over 150 programs in 100 countries and over 130 missions in the United States. In 2019, the conference raised \$81,175.89 for Pledge to Mission. PNW Conference UMW units raised additional funds for local projects and missions.

The UMW Endowment Fund: Thanks to generous donors, the fund has grown to over \$83,000 in 20 years and continues to be a "Legacy of Love." The interest is used for scholarships and special grants.

Mission Agencies: The Atlantic Street Center in Seattle and Tacoma Community House are the two national mission institutes in the Pacific Northwest. Both receive support from United Methodist Women throughout the conference. The Tacoma Community House officially dedicated their new building on October 24, 2019 with conference team leaders attending the celebration.



The Conference UMW Annual Meeting: The annual meeting was held at Wenatchee 1st UMC October 11-12, 2019 with the theme "Be the Apple of God's Eye!" Keynote speakers were *Rev. Brian Diggs*, UMCOR West Director, and *Rev. Joanne Coleman Campbell*, Seven Rivers Missional District Superintendent.

Rev. John Coleman Campbell led Bible study. This event included leadership development for district officers, a Memorial Service honoring previous leaders, celebration of achievements by local units, recognition of retiring officers, a business meeting to approve the annual budget and to elect and install new officers, and educational classes. The conference gave the 2019 Racial Justice Award to Kay Shaben for her social action at the Tacoma Community House and Tacoma Detention Center.

Legislative Advocacy and Social Action: Each year at the Annual Conference Meeting delegates vote for Social Action priorities. This year, Climate Justice ranked first with Immigration Justice second followed by School to Prison Pipeline, Economic Justice/Wealth Inequality, and Material/Child Health. UMW promoted action in Washington through INTERFAITH ADVOCACY DAY in Olympia on February 4 (cancelled by snow) and in Idaho through the IDAHO LEGISLATIVE EVENT in Boise on February 14. At both events participants learned about important bills and had opportunities to talk with their senators and representatives.

Mission u: This cooperative venture of UMW and the Conference Board of Global Ministries was held at Central Washington University July 12-15 to provide mission studies for men, women, and youth. The theme for 2019 was "Learning Together for the Transformation of the World."

Meeting and Events: The Conference Executive Team met four times for business and planning. Members participated in the UMW Reading Program with books that inspire action in five categories (Education for Mission, Nurturing for Community, Leadership Development, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth). The team also supported an orphan at Jamaa Letu. The Conference Spiritual Retreat "Sisterhood of Grace" was March 22-24 at Lazy F with spiritual leader *Rev. Joyce O'Conner-Magee*. District Missional Districts held leadership development in the spring and Annual Meetings in September.

Quilts for Children at Risk: UMW units brought baby quilts to the Annual Conference for display. These were divided among the 5 districts for distribution to children at risk. In 2019 units donated 432 quilts.

From the President: As president of UMW, I am proud of the talented and dedicated women in the Conference who fulfill the Purpose and live the Vision of UMW. UMW is an inspiring opportunity.

Ja net' W. Crouse, crousejw@crouses.com

For more information on UMW PNW Conference explore pnwumc.org/umw

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YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRIES

As I reflect on the state of young people's ministries in the Pacific Northwest Conference, I consider what was accomplished in 2019 and what has changed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Early in 2019, I shared resources with churches to help youth and young adults understand and process their feelings about what happened at the 2019 General Conference. The Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCOYM) Team planned and held the Convo youth retreat at the University of Puget Sound. I supported one of our youth Falisha Hola as she was a speaker at the National Gathering of young people in St. Louis, sharing her story of faith walking with her and cheering her on (You can watch it here: bit.ly/HolaFaithStory). In the fall, both the CCOYM and the Young Adult teams gathered and planned for their ministry areas.

As winter turned to spring with it came unique challenges to ministry as we faced the new reality of the COVID-19 outbreak. I supported the district and conference youth teams in making important decisions to move from in-person gatherings to Zoom meetings. I worked together with them as events had to be reimagined and postponed as the outbreak began. Each week starting in the spring, I began hosting a gathering for those working with youth and children on Zoom, space for fellowship, sharing ideas, praying for each other and asking questions. This has been a beneficial and life-giving time for the youth workers that have gathered. I also consulted with those exploring new ideas to talk through applying our safe sanctuary best practices in this digital world and choosing how to connect with youth and maintain a safe environment.

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

The CCOYM team is a group of youth and adult volunteers from all across the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference. Members represent youth on other boards and committees of the Annual Conference, share information about district and conference youth events, and plan a conference-wide youth event called Convo. This year, the team met in person per usual in the fall before moving to Zoom during the COVID-19 outbreak. We brainstormed games and activities that were engaging for youth on digital meetings and shared those ideas with youth workers.

One of the things we do as a team is plan a youth event called Convo. Convo is the largest youth retreat of the year for our Annual Conference. Hundreds of youth and adult youth workers gather for three days of music, prayer, fun, learning, and growth. The Convo chairs and the team worked hard throughout the year to plan Convo 2019. Convo 2019 was held during Memorial Day weekend and the theme was "The Journey." We selected Dr. Leroy Barber as our speaker that year. He helped us explore how we navigate the great journey of life, especially as we work through times of uncertainty and trouble. We will explore how God's love and faith keep us steadfast and give us hope even during the storms and trials of life. We were

planning ahead to Convo 2020, our theme was planned to be "The Wild" and we had chosen Rev. Shalom Agtarap of Tacoma First UMC as our keynote. Convo has been postponed to 2021 due to safety concerns related to the COVID19 outbreak.

We do all of this to establish a culture within our community of youth working to help fulfill the mission of The United Methodist Church, to make disciples of Jesus Christ, and to empower young people to change the world they live in. Thank you for your support of youth in local churches and around the Conference.

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

This year the Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries (YAM) has been working on a refresh of the team's goals. They have been exploring how it can best serve the young adults in our Conference and support the local churches in ministry with young adults. YAM surveyed young adults around the Conference, discovering that those they spoke with were most interested in building community among young adult leaders, and in increasing young adult involvement and understanding of what is going on in our Conference and in the greater Methodist movement. At our meetings, we received reports from those young adults active in the jurisdiction and other Methodist conversations including reports on the WJ Fresh United Methodism Summit.

The YAM team is working on district-level collaboration and service work. Each young adult at the meeting is reaching out to other young adults in their district to create a service project. Each project will both serve the community and help build relationships between the young adults.

Excited by the legislation at Annual Conference 2019 that increased the number of youth and young adult representing each district to a potential 26 youth and 26 young adults, the YAM team began working on educational tools to best prepare young adults and youth to understand their role at Annual Conference gatherings.

Respectfully submitted by,

Teri Tobey Program Associate for Young People's Ministries L-30 REPORTS 2020 PNWAC

OUTSIDE INSTITUTION REPORTS

AFRICA UNIVERSITY

In 2019, Africa University's story was one of resourcefulness, investment, and ministry growth.

Thank you, Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, the Cabinet, and the dedicated lay and clergy leaders who nurture vitality across the Pacific Northwest Conference. The Africa University community is grateful to you for all that you do to sustain the United Methodist connection and global mission.

The Pacific Northwest Conference graciously maintained a 100 percent investment of the asking to the Africa University Fund (AUF) apportionment in 2019. Through its engagement and support, the Pacific Northwest Conference is helping Africa University to educate leaders who think for themselves, are contextually relevant, and have a passion to serve.

Since opening in 1992, Africa University has trained more than 9,000 graduates who lead and serve across sub-Saharan Africa. These young people are equipped to be ethical, responsible and responsive leaders who discern their calling and serve their communities with great energy and creativity. Thank you, Pacific Northwest United Methodists, for being a source of hope that leads to transformed lives and communities.

Institutional Update:

- Africa University maintains an annual enrollment of around 2,800 students, with 25-30 African nations represented in the student body each year.
- The university's three colleges operate as centers for teaching, research, innovation, community engagement. Learning and the testing of ideas impart crucial skills that help communities to feed themselves, remain healthy, be at peace and move steadily towards a sustainable future. By embracing new technology, Africa University leads as the only university in Zimbabwe accredited to offer online degree programs.
- Students, faculty, and alumni contribute solutions to Africa's current challenges with interventions that include graduate programs in migrant and refugee protection, articulated by refugee students, as well as doctoral level training for military chaplains in Africa.
- Africa University is increasing the use of solar energy with the support of
 the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church. A
 residence hall for women and a new wing of the student union building—
 gifted to the university by the Dallas, Texas-based Highland Park United
 Methodist Church—will be the first solar-powered facilities on the campus.

Africa University affirms its commitment to The United Methodist Church, its

Cross and Flame, and the denomination's global mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Thank you for your love and generosity, Pacific Northwest Conference. By giving freely and consistently, you ensure that the promises of God come to life for more people and in new places. Through your faithfulness, you invite and encourage new partners to join in the mission and change the world.

Together with you, Africa University continues to celebrate God's amazing grace. Thanks to your ongoing stewardship of God's blessings, the congregations of the Pacific Northwest Conference have helped Africa University to go beyond what some thought was possible. "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God." Luke 18:27 NKJV

Submitted by:

James H. Salley
Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement
Africa University Development Office
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Pacific Northwest Annual Conference

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Dear Colleagues in Ministry:

I am grateful to have one last opportunity to thank you for your moral, prayerful, and material support of the Boston University School of Theology (BUSTH), and also to highlight the promising future of the School as a new Dean joins our stellar faculty, staff, and students in summer 2020 to carry on the mission of the School in partnership with all of you.

BREAKING NEWS:

- Students: We continue to increase and celebrate diversity in our student body, creating opportunities for in-depth exchanges and a rich community life.
- Faculty: We welcomed two faculty this year: Filipe Maia as Assistant Professor of Theology, and Luis Menéndez-Antuña as Assistant Professor of New Testament. Both are extraordinary teachers who delight in working with students.
- Scholarships: We continue to offer free tuition to UMC registered candidates for ordained ministry, and to build student scholarships and housing as key priorities. BUSTH also offers leadership fellowships to support students in ethnic, gender, and sexuality studies: Raíces Latinas, Sacred Worth, Howard Thurman, Indigenous Studies, Korean Studies, Women in Leadership, and African Studies.
- Two new Programs: Faith and Ecological Justice (FEJ) and Raíces Latinas Program in Theology, Leadership, and Research (RL). FEJ leads programs to build ecological awareness, theological research, church collaborations, and community activism in ecological justice. RL sponsors programs to expand Latin American and Latinx theological study and research, and to enhance the leadership of students, young people, and leaders in Latino/Latina communities.
- Online Lifelong Learning: We have launched an exciting new program, offering online mini-courses, workshops, and reading groups for professional and spiritual enrichment.
- Theology and the Arts Initiatives: Exhibits highlight sacred spaces in Boston; wilderness photography; a 1619 visual lament of 400+ years of slavery; voices and faces of Colombia; and paintings of a gay man struggling with the church.
- **Campaign:** Our BUSTH development campaign concluded with the raising of \$29.4 million to support students, faculty, and vital programs.
- Website and Viewbook: Check out our new BUSTH website (<u>www.bu.edu/sth</u>) and Viewbook.

PARTNERING FOR MINISTRY AND TRANSFORMATION:

Creative Callings: In partnership with local churches, we seek to create "a culture of call."

- **Engagement with the UMC:** Many of our students are delegates, volunteers, and singers in General Conference 2020.
- Continuing Scholar Program: BUSTH courses are open to alums and local clergy for small lifelong learning fees.
- Doctor of Ministry: The DMin in Transformational Leadership flourishes with lively student cohorts that are broadly ecumenical, culturally diverse, and global. The model **Boston University** School of Theology includes intensives, online courses, and faculty mentoring.



- Religion and Conflict Transformation Clinic: The Clinic provides internships in local churches and organizations that foster just peacebuilding.
- Travel seminars: Immersion journeys open worlds to students in the borderlands of Arizona and Mexico, Cuba, Peru, Israel-Palestine, Civil Rights landmarks, and centers for ecological-spiritual renewal.
- Ecumenical partnerships: We now have four denominational Communities of Learning: Wesleyan/Methodist, Episcopal/Anglican, United Church of Christ, and Unitarian Universalist.
- Partnership with Hebrew College: Together we are able to enrich interreligious learning through joint courses and public events, and also co-sponsor The Journal of Interreligious Studies and the State of Formation for emerging leaders.

TAKING ACTION GLOBALLY AND LOCALLY:

- Campus action: Work to improve accessibility and sustainability. BUSTH is the first certified Green School in BU and is active in the Green Seminary Initiative. We have also been named as one of the "Seminaries that Change the World."
- Internships in global service and peacemaking: Students participate in apprenticeship ministries across the world.

COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE:

Faculty and students have been active in UMCOR efforts to support victims of hurricanes and fires, and in collaborative services to support people suffering the consequences of immigration practices, disability inequities, or

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racial violence.

• In Town Hall meetings, the community has deep conversations on issues that divide, seeking to develop capacities for relating across difference and to create a community based on the dignity of all.

BUSTH looks to the future. We celebrate transformational leaders of the United Methodist Church, who love with their whole hearts and follow Jesus Christ with their whole lives. Your legacy and witness give us hope and courage for the future.

Blessings and gratitude,

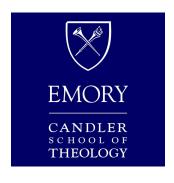
Mary Elizaboth Moore

Mary Elizabeth Moore, Dean

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Since our founding in 1914, Candler School of Theology at Emory University has educated more than 10,000 students, shaping thoughtful, principled, and courageous leaders who are dedicated to transforming the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

This is especially important to note amid the current shifts in our denomination. It is an honor and a privilege for Candler to be one of 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church. Yet true to the Methodist tradition of ecumenical openness, Candler has enthusiastically welcomed the entire Wesleyan family to our community for generations. Faculty, staff, and students from the AME Church, the AMEZ Church, the CME Church, Free Methodists, Nazarenes, and others have worked, worshiped, learned, and prayed alongside United Methodists, and have been a vital part of



shaping Candler and our mission. This diversity has been a wonderful gift and a rich blessing. As we move forward, we will continue to invite and welcome those from all expressions of the Wesleyan tradition. Indeed, we will continue to welcome all those who follow Jesus Christ.

This year, Candler has continued to strengthen our deep commitment to alleviating student debt and promoting financial literacy. In 2018-2019, we awarded \$6.3 million in financial aid, with 100 percent of master of divinity (MDiv) students receiving support and financial coaching. In fall 2019, we announced a major expansion of our financial aid program to include full-tuition scholarships for all MDiv students who are certified candidates for ordained ministry in The United Methodist Church, and new merit scholarships covering 75% of tuition for qualifying MDiv students who identify as pan-Wesleyan, and those pursuing chaplaincy through Candler's new chaplaincy concentration. In addition, all incoming students in the master of divinity, master of theological studies, and master of religious leadership programs will receive awards covering at least 50% of tuition.

This year also saw the launch of two pilot "formation communities," off-campus student housing that focuses on intentional living and spiritual formation. Students from multiple degree programs applied to take part in these pilot groups. At the start of the year, the housemates created a "rule of life" to guide their days together, emphasizing prayer, fellowship, and celebration. A house chaplain—a Candler faculty member or church leader—supports them and shares in the journey. The ten students who took part this year describe feeling a richer sense of community and deeper connections to God and one another in the midst of their busy lives. It is clear that this fulfills a need for our seminarians, and we eagerly anticipate the program's growth in the coming years.

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Candler's student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful, with an enrollment of 470 from 12 countries and 38 states, with 40 percent people of color (U.S.) and a median age of 27 among MDivs. Students represent 42 denominations, with 45% of all students and 50% of MDivs coming from the Methodist family.

We offer six single degrees and ten dual degrees pairing theology with bioethics, business, international development, law, public health, and social work. Our Doctor of Ministry degree is 90 percent online, so students can remain in their places of ministry while completing their degrees.

Candler draws strength and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of educating faithful and creative leaders for the church's ministries throughout the world depends upon your prayers, partnership, and support. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. We invite you to visit us in person or online at <u>candler.emory.edu</u>.

Jan Love Mary Lee Hardin Willard Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics Candler School of Theology

CLAREMONT SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Now, more than ever, CST values its connection to The United Methodist Church and particularly to the conferences of the Western Jurisdiction. As I write this report, we are together facing a global pandemic, and I am grateful for your continued support of our students, alumni/ae, faculty, and mission.

Since 1885, we have existed to prepare students to become agents of transformation and healing in the world, and our alumni/ae are evidence of this mission. Every day, I see them serving local communities through compassionate and prophetic teaching, preaching, chaplaincy, and non-profit work. The world hungers for this kind of religious leadership, and I am grateful for innovative, effective, and restorative ways our alumni/ae have responded to the pandemic.



Five years ago, CST developed a strategic plan based on three goals: promoting transformative education, engaging local and global communities, and achieving long-term institutional stability.

I am proud to say, CST's *sacred transformative theological education* will continue **no matter what COVID-19 or shifting CDC guidelines** demand. For nearly a decade our faculty have been teaching in online and hybrid formats, and right now they are preparing to teach their Fall 2020 courses as online courses, hybrid courses, or traditional face-to-face courses. We are ready to continue providing the progressive, innovative, and life-transforming theological education you have come to expect from CST *this* **Fall 2020!**

To ensure reaching *long-term institutional sustainability*, we continue our work with **Willamette University** in Salem, Oregon. In May 2019, we entered into an affiliation agreement, thus moving us another step closer. Last fall, we were welcomed graciously by Willamette University and the city of Salem with ceremony and ritual, and we offered courses in both Salem and Claremont for the 2019-20 academic year. To link the two campuses, we set up synchronous classrooms with state-of-the-art technology so that students 800 miles apart could learn simultaneously from a single professor.

Further, we are very excited to have been the recipient of a \$30,000 Wabash Grant that allows faculty from CST and Willamette to collaborate on the three-year project to study strategies that enable dialogue across difference on campus and in the community. We also welcomed Heather Hawkins as our Director of Admissions and Enrollment Services in Salem, Oregon—our first life-long Oregonian staff person! And several of our seasoned faculty and staff members also relocated. By affiliating with Willamette, we retain both our connection to The United Methodist Church and our reputation as an excellent theological school with renowned programs.

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CST's 2019-20 Fall enrollment remained strong and this May we celebrated the graduation of our largest class in history, albeit virtually. As in years past, this class represented much diversity, confirming CST's commitment to minoritized and marginalized communities. This year, our youngest enrolled student is 21, and our oldest is 75, with an average age of 41. Our student body is 32% Methodist, 44% other Christian, 16% non-Christian traditions, 2% non-religious, and 6% unaffiliated/undeclared. And more than 50% of our students identify as people of color (15% black/African American, 11% Asian, 15% international/non-resident, 6% Hispanic, 7% Pacific islander/native Hawaiian, 1% Native American, 2% two or more races, along with 4% undeclared, and 39% white).

In a world rife with division, fear, and confusion, our students, professors, and alumni/ae are agents of healing who model peace with justice. CST is made up of people who are *engaging local and global communities* on a variety of issues, and this year, while they have pivoted their approach, their innovative spirits prevail. Certainly, we could not do this critical work without the conferences of the Western Jurisdiction.

As much as the pandemic has wreaked havoc on the world, 2019 held some significant achievements for CST that serve to further our three goals.

With the help of alumnus and Board of Trustees member Steve Horswill-Johnston, a beautiful and inspiring short film about the spirit of CST, our preparedness for a changing world, and our move to Salem launched. The film is powerful and energizing, and I believe has even galvanized our board of trustees, staff, and faculty to continue our sacred work together. (Find the film on our YouTube channel – youtu. be/3htCI-enE A.)

We partnered with the Performance Enhancement Group of Houston, Texas, to conduct a comprehensive alumni/ae, students, and friends survey. In the initial stages of the study, we formed focus groups of alumni/ae and friends to actually develop the survey instrument. Then, over the course of several weeks, we heard from more than 400 of our constituents. Today, we are beginning to share the results and engaging alumni/ae and friends in the strategic use of the results to build and strengthen relationships across the Western Jurisdiction. (Watch your inbox and our social media platforms for infographics and ways to connect.)

With the help of our Advancement and Communications staff, two former CST librarians, and several dedicated student workers, we have created a memory book titled CST: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow. While not a complete history of CST, the book shares snippets of the school dating back to 1885 and includes links to some of CST's video and film archives. Most importantly, it encourages readers to interact with its pages by adding their own memories and mementos. (Visit our website (cst.edu) to order your copy.)

Thank you again for supporting Claremont School of Theology, and please stay connected through our monthly newsletters, our website, and our social media

channels. Together, we are CST.

Blessings and good health,

Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan President and Professor of Hebrew Bible L-40 REPORTS 2020 PNWAC

DUKE UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL

Dean L. Gregory Jones, Dean of the Divinity School and Ruth W. and A. Morris Williams Jr. Distinguished Professor of Theology and Christian Ministry, had his term as dean extended for a full five years through 2023.

The Duke Endowment awarded Duke Divinity School a \$12 million grant in support of DDS's three core priorities and traditions: Thriving communities enlivened by healthy congregations and gifted pastors, embodied wisdom through rigorous intellectual vitality, and creative institutions that inspire imaginative and transformative leadership including the Thriving Communities Fellowship program, which will provide 52 new full-tuition scholarships over the next four years.



Duke Divinity School launched the Duke Divinity:

Black Pastoral Leadership Collaboration which will draw on original research in Black church traditions and historical examples of effective Black church leadership to train and build networks of effective leaders for the Black church of today and the future. The collaboration will be led by the Rev. David Emmanuel Goatley, research professor of theology and Black church studies and director of the Office of Black Church Studies at Duke Divinity School.

In 2019, Duke Divinity School welcomed 215 new students from 33 different states and seven other countries, including Canada, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Zimbabwe. The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) and Master of Arts in Christian Practice (M.A.C.P.) degree programs received record enrollments of 35 students and 22 students respectively. The Master of Theology (Th.M., 14 students), Doctor of Ministry (D.Min., 20 students), and Doctor of Theology (Th.D., 4 students) all had strong enrollment. The D.Min. program was named the top online program by TheBestSchools.org. Duke Divinity's new Certificate in Theology and Health Care will enroll 8 students, all of whom are fellows with the Theology, Medicine, and Culture (T.M.C.) Initiative at the school. The M.T.S. program also includes 8 students who are T.M.C. fellows, for a record year of 16 total fellows. The M.Div. degree program gained 110 new students, with minority students comprising more than 32 percent of the incoming M.Div. class, and Black students comprising 18 percent of the incoming M.Div. class. Female students made up 44 percent of incoming M.Div. students, while males were 56 percent. There were 24 denominations represented in the M.Div. entering class, with 42 percent affiliated with The United Methodist Church.

Two new faculty members, Brent Strawn and Brett McCarty, joined the DDS faculty in July 2019. Strawn, Professor of Old Testament, is an ordained elder in the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. Strawn has a secondary appointment as a Professor of Law at Duke University School of Law. Prior to joining

the Duke faculty, Strawn taught at Candler School of Theology at Emory University for eighteen years.

McCarty, Assistant Research Professor of Theological Ethics, is a theological ethicist whose work centers on questions of faithful action within health care. He is associate director of the Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative at Duke Divinity School, and he holds a joint appointment in the School of Medicine's Department of Population Health Sciences.

Randy Maddox, William Kellon Quick Professor of Wesleyan and Methodist Studies, general editor of the Wesley Works Editorial Project, and elder in the Dakotas Conference, retires at the end of the 2019-2020 academic year.

United Methodist faculty member Brittany Wilson received tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor.

Tito Madrazo joined the administrative leadership of the Divinity School as Senior Strategist for the Hispanic House of Studies. He will also serve as a consulting faculty member.

The Hispanic-Latino/a Preaching Initiative is currently in its fifth year of providing high quality theological education to current and aspiring Hispanic-Latino/a ministers. 21 students from multiple denominations are taking courses with us this year.

The Duke Endowment has also awarded Duke Divinity School a grant of \$5.5 million over five years to cultivate meaning and purpose across diverse professional schools at Duke. The Lilly Endowment has also awarded grants to Duke Divinity School to coordinate initiatives on "Thriving in Ministry" and "Thriving Congregations" across the United States.

Duke Divinity School has a partnership with Huntingdon College and Virginia Wesleyan University to create streamlined admissions process and private campus events in order to better equip students from those institutions with a calling to serve the church. In an effort to expand access for quality theological formation to students, pastors, and lay leaders in the Nashville Episcopal Area, DDS is also partnering with the Turner Center at Martin Methodist College to offer theological training for innovative and entrepreneurial ministries.

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SAINT PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Saint Paul School of Theology, a seminary of the United Methodist Church, is committed to the formation of people for innovative, creative ministry. We are one institution with campuses in Kansas and Oklahoma. During the 2019-2020 academic year, the seminary enrollment in master and doctoral degree programs increased by 11%.

Saint Paul School of Theology began the 2019-2020 academic year with the addition of Dr. Casey Sigmon in her new role as Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship, and Director of Contextual Education. Dr. Sigmon has also made innovative changes to the weekly worship service as Chapel Coordinator. Saint Paul also welcomed Dr. Anne Walker as the new Executive Director of the Oklahoma Campus.

With the addition of Dr. Walker to Saint Paul came a new webinar offering titled, "Explore Calling: A Guide to Helping Others Answer the Call." Offered complimentary, the webinar provides a resource for anyone looking to nurture a culture of call



in their congregation; including meeting one-on-one with congregations looking to reach out to their community. Dr. Walker also launched the Vision OK Advisory Committee to serve the purpose of gaining support for and assisting in the development of the Oklahoma Campus. Similarly new this year, Dr. Melissa Pearce along with Dr. Walker hosted Listening Sessions to learn more about the challenges pastoral leaders face and dream together about how theological education might meet the changing demands of their ministry.

This March, Saint Paul marked its 60th anniversary with a celebration featuring keynote speaker Past President Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr. honoring 60+ years of theological education. Students, alumni, faculty, and the entire Saint Paul community came together for dinner, reminiscing and looking towards the future. During the celebration, Rev. Dr. Lois V. Glory-Neal was recognized as the 2020 Distinguished Graduate Award winner. In 1989, Rev. Dr. Glory-Neal of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference became the first Native American woman to be ordained elder. She became the first Native American district superintendent in 1992. Saint Paul also presented Ms. Sally Firestone with the Board Lifetime Achievement award for her years of service.

Saint Paul's staff and faculty continue to contribute to the academy, church, and society. Dr. Anne Walker worked along with co-writer Dori Grinenko Baker on Tru Colors, a guide for assisting young adults in exploring ministry as a career. Tru Colors, from Discipleship Ministry, was published in March 2020. Dr. Casey Sigmon wrote the sermon "The Fruit of Self-Control" in the published book, Preaching to Teach: Inspire People to Think and Act. Additionally, as part of the 2019 Lec-

tionary Commentaries on the website workingpreacher.org, Dr. Sigmon and Dr. Israel Kamudzandu contributed commentaries. In addition, Dr. Sigmon recently published "Homiletical Possibilities and Challenges in Colossians" in The Review & Expositor journal from November 2019.

In September 2019, Saint Paul Board of Trustees added four new members to their ranks: alumna Rev. Jennifer Ahrens-Sims of St. Stephen's UMC, Mrs. Dana Aldridge of SS&C Technologies, Mrs. Linda Shipman with Dairy Famers of America Inc., and alumnus Rev. David Wiggs with Boston Avenue UMC. In addition, earlier in the year faculty emeritus Rev. Dr. Tex Sample became Board Chair. Saint Paul is financially sound and is operating with a balanced budget. The changes made throughout the past few years have established a solid financial foundation for years of sustainability. With the Board's assistance, the seminary continues to focus on its mission and works to continuously enhance and evaluate the strategic plans in place to guide us into the future.

Saint Paul held several events and forums this year beginning with hosting an Overland Park Chamber of Commerce Wednesday Wake-up where Overland Park business members and community leaders started their day on the Kansas Campus with coffee, networking, and learning more about the seminary's mission. In November, Saint Paul was the host location for the Metro Organization for Racial and Economic Equity (MORE2) Faith and Democracy Prayer Breakfast. MORE2 and Church of the Resurrection are partnering with Saint Paul in the recently launched Doctor of Ministry focus, "Spiritual Leadership in Unsettled Times." Throughout the year, students on both campuses participated in educational forums with discussions on a myriad of topics such as, "Sustaining Pastoral Leadership Through Personal Wellness", "Transgender Day of Remembrance", and "The Enneagram and Your Spiritual Growth." Saint Paul was blessed to have many alumni return to lead worship in the weekly chapel services. Rev. Shannon Hancock, alumna and Director of Admissions, brought the message on the Kansas Campus during the MLK Jr Worship Celebration while alumnus Rev. Bryan Lampkins preached on the Oklahoma Campus. This past January, Saint Paul was proud to host the United Methodist Theological Field Educators Meeting on the Kansas Campus. This year's theme was "Vicissitude: Navigating Call and Mission as Contextual Educators in 2020. In April, the Evangelical Society hosted a lecture featuring Dr. Kimberly Alexander, author of Pentecostal Healing: Models of Theology and Practice and co-author of Women in Leadership: A Pentecostal Perspective and What Women Want: Pentecostal Women Ministers Speak for Themselves.

Honoring Saint Paul's longstanding commitment to praxis learning and ministry, part of the 2019-2020 curriculum included practicums which are workshop-style seminars that teach ministry skills. For Spring 2020 FOCUS Week, Alumnus Rev. Dr. Emanuel Cleaver III, Senior Pastor of St. James UMC, taught the course Urban Church in the 21st century which explores the Urban Church and its context in relation to ministerial practices and theological understandings.

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For the 2019-2020 fiscal year, Saint Paul Course of Study (COS) School educated 265 individual students with a total registration of 650 classes; offering a total of 53 courses located in Leawood, KS; Hays, KS; Oklahoma City, OK; Columbia, MO; and Springfield, MO. Saint Paul is in the second year of offering a hybrid (online and on-campus) schedule for six courses during the Winter term. Plans to increase the number of hybrid course offerings are in development. Saint Paul launched a part-time, accelerated pilot COS satellite program (PML) in Columbia, MO in 2018 and added a second track in 2019. Comprised of nine courses in practical theology, this COS option is designed specifically for part-time local pastors or certified lay ministers entering ministry following completion of the Missouri Conference Licensing School. The PML satellite program is a collaborative program of Saint Paul Course of Study Regional School with the Missouri Conference. Since September 2018, COS has offered six courses and enrolled 30 individual students in the PML satellite program.

Saint Paul School of Theology is blessed to be in ministry in the name of Jesus Christ and to help others respond to God's call. We are a seminary that offers classes and experiences to folks from many denominations and faith walks. Our work as faculty and staff is to provide excellence in theological and practical education for ALL persons called and capable to attend. Remember: "Where two or more are gathered" Christ is there with us.

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

UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

For nearly 150 years, United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH, has been preparing faithful, fruitful leaders to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Students

In the Fall 2019 semester, United equipped 459 women and men for leadership in the Church, including 272 masters' students and 187 doctoral students. An ecumenical community of many denominations, races and nationalities, United welcomed students from 11 countries, 42 states, and 37 denominations, with the student body comprised of 49% African American, 42% Caucasian, and 10% ethnic/racial minorities. The Seminary prepared 165 Course of Study students and served 36 students through the Hispanic Christian Academy, a 3-year Spanish online course of ministry program for Hispanic/Latino lay pastors and leaders. Altogether, approxi-



mately 660 students followed God's call through United Theological Seminary.

Alumni/ae

United graduates are making an impact in their communities as they spread the Good News.

- 88% of alumni/ae are currently employed in or retired from ministry³
- 70% serve in local parishes⁴
- Rev. Dr. Brad Kalajainen (DMin '99) received the 2019 Effective Ministry Award for his transformative leadership of Cornerstone UMC in Grand Rapids, MI.
- Rev. Dr. James Bushfield (MDiv '79, DMin '92) received the 2019 Distinguished Alumnus Award for his leadership and ministry in the Indiana Conference of The UMC.
- Rev. Dr. Sandra Coley (DMin '14) received the Outstanding Doctor of Ministry Award for her advocacy of organ donation among African American communities.

New at United

United introduced a 36-hour Master of Arts (MA) degree, designed for those who wish to earn a degree while completing the requirements for Advanced Course of Study in pursuit of ordination in The United Methodist Church. The MA program is available fully online, on-campus or in a combination.

United continues to offer innovative learning through its Live Interactive Virtual

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Education (LIVE) environment introduced in 2018. In the first year, 59 students participated in LIVE courses, connecting with classmates on campus in Dayton, OH, and across the country by attending classes in real-time via simultaneous webcast.

Becoming Debt-Free

United remains committed to becoming debt-free by the seminary's 150th anniversary on October 11, 2021. Thanks to the support of generous donors, United has received more than \$2.5 million toward its goal of raising \$4 million to "burn the mortgage." Becoming debt-free as an institution will enable United to focus on generating income for scholarships that lighten the load of student debt for seminarians.

In Romans 10:14, St. Paul writes: "How shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? AND HOW SHALL THEY HEAR WITHOUT A PREACHER?" For 150 years, United has been preparing faithful and fruitful Christian preachers and leaders who proclaim the Good News of God's unconditional love which has come to us in Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God!

Dr. Kent Millard President

- Data represents Fall 2019 headcount enrollment, unless otherwise specified.
- 2 Data represents unduplicated headcount enrollment in the 2018-19 academic year.
- 3 United Theological Seminary 2019 Alumni/ae Survey, sent in April 2019 to alumni/ae who graduated with a degree or certificate from United in years ranging from the 1940s to 2018, for whom the seminary had email contact information. Data collected represents a 25% response rate (520 respondents) of the 2,043 alumni/ae contacted.
- 4 Or if retired, were serving in this capacity at time of retirement. United Theological Seminary 2019 Alumni/ae Survey.



NEW LEADERSHIP

NEW

PLACES

NEW

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



The Greater Northwest Area



The Greater Northwest is the largest geographic episcopal area in the United States, comprising United Methodists in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, and small parts of Montana and Canada as well. Our landscapes extend from breathtaking shorelines to the expanse of the high desert.

Our communities are ethnically, socially and theologically diverse. We are bonded by our Christian faith expressed in Wesleyan theology, and we seek to embody 'love in action.' To do so, we must step out faithfully in new and innovative ways.

Letter from the Bishop

September 14, 2020

Dear Members of the Annual Conferences:

This year has proven to be a challenge unlike any in prior memory. The COVID-19 pandemic, systemic racism, and climate change have become vital points of intersection between the church and its communities, demanding new ways of loving our neighbors across our vast geographical context.

The purpose of The United Methodist Church is "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Today, transforming the world must embody repentance, reconciliation, justice, compassion, and grace. As the bishop of 440 churches in four northwestern states, I know that many of our churches urgently need renewal and long for the tools to engage these pressing issues through a theological lens. We also need new expressions of Wesleyan theology that look and feel different from our current ministries, led from perspectives that are not common among our leaders today.

The Innovation Vitality Team (IV Team) of the Greater Northwest Area is doing this work with us and through us to address these needs. In under two years, the IV Team, led by three directors, has identified a theory of change that offers a coherent and comprehensive approach to congregational vitality and new ministry development. While the work is high-risk, the IV Team demonstrates a disciplined commitment to learn from errors, adapt and improve its systems of assessment, recruitment, supervision, and accountability. The IV Team change theory embodies the practices we value in the Greater Northwest Area — inclusion, innovation, and multiplication.

Our three annual conferences collaborate to do this work, pooling resources to fund a strong, diverse staff; resource identified planters/innovators; and commence new and vitality projects in strategic ways. As you read this new 2020 IV Team Annual Report, I hope you feel the hope that I feel for our area and denomination. God is at work in new ways among us. Join me in celebrating the work and in praying for renewal of the church and its influence in society, such that Wesleyan Christians are catalysts for health, reconciliation and renewal in all the parched places in our world today.

Thank you for your commitment to vitality across the bounds of our annual conferences and beyond.

With gratitude and hope,

Elaine JW Stanovsky Resident Bishop Greater Northwest Area of The United Methodist Church

OUR CHANGE THEORY

THRIVING CONGREGATIONS WILL HAVE AT THEIR CORE **THREE** PRACTICES:

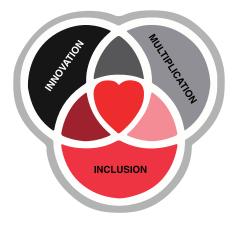






Vitality is present when diversity of perspective sparks new thinking, and new thinking begets ministry in context, and ministry in context involves community, and together, all work toward liberation and wholeness. In other words, "Practical Divinity".

(2016 United Methodist Book of Discipline, Paragraph 102, page 56)



INCLUSION

ATTUNED TO the social, political, racial, and economic context for ministry.

SKILLED IN confronting power, privilege, biases and -isms within the church and society.

EQUITY-FOCUSED, seeking difference as opportunity.

CULTURALLY HUMBLE and resilient for the work of justice.



Ms. Kristina Gonzalez
Director of Innovation
for an Inclusive
Church

How do we know when we are included? I have asked this question multiple times as the IV Team conducted (pre-pandemic) district trainings throughout the GNW Area. 'I am heard,' 'I am respected,' 'I am welcomed for who I am,' are some of the answers I received. All of us know when we are included; likewise, we know when we are not.

Those of us who adhere to Wesleyan theology as practical – as the practice of Christ in the world – must voice a healthy social critic of The UMC as a 94% white denomination – not because of who is present, but because of who is absent. Other measures, if we had them, would highlight other differences absent from our worship, leadership and ministries.

We are incomplete. The work of inclusion is in recognizing our incompleteness and its sources, and being intentional about becoming complete - becoming the community of dignity and justice that represents and serves all of God's people.

INCLUSION

of the United Methodist Church in America (laity and clergy) is white.

The work of inclusion is in recognizing our incompleteness and being intentional about becoming complete.

I celebrate the increased diversity in leadership that you will read about throughout this report. It has been my privilege to work with many of the churches receiving leaders of color, and to consult with and support the cabinet in its intentional work of intercultural competency, confronting racism and illuminating anti-blackness.

I particularly celebrate a movement to fulfilling a promise made in 1997 by the PNW Conference to launch three new African American churches. Too long in coming, I celebrate the launch of:

Acts on Stage with Rev. Michelle Lang-Raymond, and

Yesler Terrace Redevelopment Exploration with Rev. Dr. Troy Lynn Carr

Both pastors are well-connected in Black community in Seattle, and bring the prophetic voice embedded in the Black church tradition and culture. Both leaders place high value on mentoring younger leaders into disciples of Jesus Christ in the Wesleyan tradition.

These pastors stand on the shoulders of lay and clergy leaders who pressed for new expressions of Black church years ago. Though the

INCLUSION

list is incomplete, we lift the perseverance of Mrs. Phyllis Ferguson, former Lay Leader of PNW Conference; Mr. Elbert Moore; Rev. Dr. Steve Baber; Rev. Edsel Goldsen; Rev. Cecilia Comer; Rev. Golden Neal among others who joined the effort over the years.

The IV Team does not do this work alone. The lay/clergy boards in each conference vet and review the projects shepherded by the IV Team, and the district superintendents are the chief missional strategists in their districts. Funders, district superintendents and IV Team are represented on the Collaboration Table, the body that supports and learns from the pastors leading our experimental HUBS: Rev. Shalom Agtarap in Tacoma and Dr. Daymond Glenn in Portland. We celebrate the work of Dr. Glenn who, through the Cultural Soul Project, has intersected with thousands of Portlanders in the first engagements bringing critical social analysis to race and culture and seeding a new faith community. And we celebrate the work of Rev. Agtarap as she negotiates the intersecting cultures of haves and have nots, so prevalent in scripture and in the location of the HUB in downtown Tacoma. We celebrate the risks and benefits of our investment in these locations and leaders.



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INNOVATION



Rev. Dr. Leroy Barber Director of Innovation for an Engaged Church

MODIFIED behavior and practices.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

NEW LEADERSHIP and new ways of leading in a post-Christian context.

CULTURE SHIFT within communities of faith and within our wider communities.

Innovation happens at the intersection of difference. ""

The GNW UMC should be commended for its continued stance in support of LGBTO+ clergy and lay leaders. However, it is time for an equally robust stance on white supremacy and the engagement of people of color. This will only come from the realization that similar forces are at work to oppress women, people who identify as queer, and people of color within the system.

There are several indicators for how we are all collaborating for a new vital church — one that empowers younger, queer, and people of color to innovate and co-create and help shift us from the status quo. For starters, consider these stats:

INNOVATION

61%

of the 37 projects supported across the Greater Northwest Area are New Projects.

(A New Project is a stand-alone new church or new campus-multisite project, led by an identified planter/innovator).

14

The number of projects that are Vitality Projects, existing churches where an identified planter/innovator is appointed to foster vitality and new movement.

58%

of supported projects are led by leaders of color

"There is a new expression of Methodism that is coming, has been coming, is here, and is also on its way."



MULTIPLICATION



Rev. Dr. William Gibson Director of Innovation for a New Church

REESTABLISH a culture of intentional multiplication, reflecting the origins of our Methodist movement.

FOSTER DISCIPLES that foster disciples.

IDENTIFY LEADERS that identify and develop leaders.

SPARK MINISTRIES that spark ministries.

CREATE NEW PLACES with new people that create new places with new people.

The practice of multiplication, in our change theory as a whole, focuses on scalability and sustainability. We speak about this in the work of fostering disciples, identifying leaders, sparking new ministries, and creating new places with new people.

Of course, all of this must reflect the origins of the Methodist movement as a whole, where a culture of intentional multiplication swept across a young America. Yet, somehow we have lost the rhythm over the decades since officially becoming The United Methodist Church. Inadvertently, we traded intentional multiplication for the false hope of attractional strategies, in an American consumer culture that doesn't know the difference.

Fast forward from the late 50s and the 60s, culture has shifted faster than the church has been able to adapt. We have been in a slow decline ever since

MULTIPLICATION

How do you change culture? It starts with how you talk about it — how you imagine a new vision of what can be. Almost all of us are tired of hearing the narrative of decline I just spoke of, the least of all me. And so, an opening has given way to a new narrative, changing the way we talk about who we are, what we can do, and what can be. It's one that has begun to embrace abundance, while slowly loosening our grip on scarcity.

"Multiplication is the natural byproduct of inclusion and innovation at work."

Are we there yet? No, we are not. Nevertheless, over the course of the last few years there has been a shift in the way we talk about growth and the hope of change. We are slowly shifting from going to church to actually rediscovering what it means to be church; to engage with our neighbors in new and collaborative ways. In the work of culture shift, that is progress.

planters/innovators in six new cohorts launched for 2020, which focus on social enterprise and financial sustainability of both new and vitality projects.

leaders trained to date in the last four cohorts of Multiplying Ministries, of which 91 are pastors serving existing local churches

To equip pastors/innovators to navigate culture shift within our local churches and to re-embrace our Wesleyan rhythm of multiplication, we have continued our Multiplying Ministries cohorts, first piloted in 2016. These have helped position multiplication of new places across our conferences from places like Bend, Oregon, to Olympia and Marysville, Washington, and all the way to Squamish, British Columbia. In the process, new conversations have ignited about ministry opportunities. In fact, we see new movement in a number of exciting areas. For all this movement, and more, we give thanks.

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COVID-19 RESPONSE

COVID-19 has changed life for so many people. We have all had to find ways to adapt and adjust to this new normal. Here are just a few ways our churches have responded and continued to be faithful to our mission during this most trying time.



"We saw 'Everybody Eats' grow this past year, and watched people come out of the woodwork to donate to COVID Care

150 employees who had lost income received grocery gift cards

\$15,000 was raised and distributed so quickly in a 50,000 population community."

- Twin Falls FUMC

In the midst of a pandemic, the IV Team has pivoted our ability to resource over 40 new and vitality projects, while developing new platforms, processes, and trainings that are accessible to all of our 425 churches across the Greater Northwest Area.

This has included Leroy Barber and Jess Bielman shifting our recruiting effort to online workshops, led by a number of national voices

BLACK LIVES MATTER

Our colonizing roots are being recognized, released, and reconciled. And we still have a long way to go in a church that values inclusivity. Systemic racism still exists in an institution that is 94% white. It is an uphill battle, but we are on the path. Here is one partnership we're excited about:

Rev. Osagyefo Uhuru Sekou, a noted activist, theologian, author, documentary filmmaker, and musician, has been partnering with Valley & Mountain for the last three years. Sekou has aligned with John Helmiere and leaders at Valley & Mountain during the protests at CHOP (Capitol Hill Occupied Protest). The effort was to conduct multiple training sessions for Militant Non-Violent Civil Disobedience Training in Capitol Hill. Led by Rev. Sekou, hundreds of people were trained over two separate weeks.

Deeply involved in the Black Lives Matter movement, and based in Memphis, Tennessee, Rev. Sekou, has served a visiting scholar at Stanford University's Martin Luther King Education and Research Institute. A prophetic voice and a global activist, Sekou's new love for Seattle opened an unexpected opportunity to serve on staff at Valley & Mountain.

In this upcoming year, he will lead efforts to establish a training center, serve on the pastoral team, and continue his Ph.D. studies. This new and timely partnership expands the area-wide effort to elevate black voices and leaders of color, an effort embraced by Helmiere.

UNITED METHODISTS STAND AGAINST RACISM

UMC.org/EndRacism



What gives us hope?

We have experienced hope in watching our planters/innovators excel in community engagement and collaboration that is far different than the traditional ministry rhythms of the past. Taking the work of intercultural competency seriously, and building on faith-based community organizing strategies and asset-based community development, new people are being invited into a co-creating movement.

This is how the church is being reimagined in innovative ways:

- Through the work of Jefferson Chao in Beaverton, Oregon, where a new vision is offering a new reality for the church and its neighborhood.
- Through the continued enthusiasm and innovation of Kate Kilroy, who was set loose by Jenny Smith to fulfill the first step of a bold vision out of Marysville UMC to be "better together."
- In the strong leadership of Pat Simpson and the leaders of University Temple in Seattle, who have reprioritized their neighborhood over their building.
- The creativity and determination of Karlene and Josh Clark, who have continued to lead Wesley UMC of Eugene, Oregon into a "Bold New Season."
- The expansive movement of Great Spirit UMC and the passion of native leaders, led by Allen Buck.
- Through First UMC of Canada, which has given space for new communities of faith to emerge.
- The humble leadership of Norman Feliciano, who continues to cultivate multiplication in Squamish, BC.
- Through the innovative pivot of Joel Rodriguez and the development of a new ministry platform that is widening the voice of Hispanic Ministries from Sunnyside, WA, across our entire area.

What gives us hope?

- The leadership of Heather Sparkman and Steamboat Island Fellowship, supported by the collaboration of the South Sound United Methodist Cooperative led by First UMC of Olympia.
- The bold creativity of Sunia Gibbs as she and other leaders from
- The Groves Church reimagine equitable space and place in the Sunnyside building of Portland.
- Through the leadership of John Helmiere and Neal Sharpe of Valley & Mountain and the work to establish a second Collaboratory in the Ravenna neighborhood, developing new
- Collaboratory in the Ravenna neighborhood, developing new partnerships in the process.
- In the passion, compassion, and innovation of Buddy Gharring in Twin Falls, Idaho, as he and leaders give shape to the hopes and dreams of a collective vision in their neighborhood.
- Through its community engagement initiatives in the midst of a pandemic, we have witnessed the innovation of Steve Michaels and North Community Church, which multiplied out of Community UMC in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.
- In thousands of people gathered in the first two special events of The Cultural Soul Project, led by Dr. Daymond Glenn, in Portland.
- In Gerardo Guzman and the leaders of El Dios Viviente, as they tend their neighbors in the midst of a pandemic.
- In the mobilization of new leaders of color in 10 different projects across the Greater Northwest.

With gratitude,



"Inclusion has been a big deal here in Twin Falls. We have seen the queer community feeling seen, heard, loved, and known by our faith community, and found creative ways to heal religious woundings and advocate for the LGBTQ+ community in particular.

Just the other day I was interviewing a friend for a sermon, and she brought up that her neighbors a few doors down were sharing about how loved they felt, as gay men and part of the local drag scene, to have a congregation speaking words of love to them, including LGBTQ+ folks in our leadership team and all aspects of our faith community, and advocating publicly for the LGBTQ+ community."

Buddy Gharring
Twin Falls UMC

Rural Church Engagement Initiative

Under the supervision of four District Superintendents — Karen Hernandez and John Tucker (Oregon-Idaho) and Joanne Coleman Campbell and Gregg Sealey (Pacific Northwest) — the Rural Church Engagement Initiative (RCEI) continued to get traction. Coordinated by Lynn Egli, the RCEI began in 2019 made up of 13 churches that span from the Sage and Crater Lake Districts of Oregon-Idaho and the Seven Rivers and Inland Districts of the Pacific Northwest.

In 2020, when communities of faith from the Alaska Conference were added, 20 additional churches were poised and ready for the new RCEI cohorts. However, the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted the initiative, leading to the decision to postpose all cohort engagement for the remainder of the year. We hope to reengage this good work in 2021.

District One Day Trainings

The IV Team has also worked closely with District Superintendents across the Greater Northwest Area to bring together One Day District trainings, based on the Ordinary Revival events from 2018. These events elevated the IV Team's change theory of Inclusion, Innovation, and Multiplication. Each training was designed to challenge church leaders to reimagine how they engage their communities in ways that shifted from ministry "to" and "for" toward cocreating "with" their neighbors.

New Planter/Innovator Intranet

In September of 2020, the IV Team is rolling out a new intranet platform for all planters/innovators and the projects they lead. Positioned as a "one stop shop" for all things related to resourcing their work, the new intranet will allow for more efficient ways of reporting, sharing ideas and learnings, collegial connection, administration, wider connection with the entire IV Team and their District Superintendent, along with other stakeholders. This new tool will feature an online dashboard for each planter/innovator, which will contain all things related to their efforts.

New Online Learning Platform

Coming in the fall of 2020 is a new online learning platform where IV Team resources will be available to all planters/innovators, pastors, and lay leaders from across the Greater Northwest Area. Designed to provide specific and in-depth course training, the online platform, which is powered by Teachable, also scales the efforts of the IV Team to provide appropriate resources for our 440 churches in three annual conferences.



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2021 BUDGET

ACTIVITY	ALASKA	OR-ID	PNW	TOTAL COMBINED
INCOME				
AC Apportioned Funds		50,000.00	243,000.00	293,000.00
For Personnel		30,000.00	345,000.00	375,000.00
				-
OR-ID CDT Fund Drawdown		1,036,832.00		1,036,832.00
				-
Rural Church Engagement Initiative			40,000.00	40,000.00
Askings		20,000.00		20,000.00
Invested Earnings		62,600.00		62,600.00
Other Income	150,000.00			150,000.00
Closed Church Sale Income		350,000.00	1,390,550.00	1,740,550.00
TOTAL INCOME	180,000.00	1,519,432.00	2,018,550.00	3,717,982.00
EXPENSES				
Personnel	28,000.00	390,382.00	345,000.00	763,382.00
Program	2,000.00	215,000.00	243,000.00	460,000.00
Rural Church Engagement Initiative			40,000.00	40,000.00
				-
Projects	150,000.00	914,050.00	1,390,550.00	2,454,600.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	180,000.00	1,519,432.00	2,018,550.00	3,717,982.00
TOTAL INCOME AND EXPENSES	-	-	-	-

NOTE: The 2021 budget above comes from different sources across three annual conferences, which do not always align in where the money is derived. Please use the explanations below and on the following page to assist in this translation.

AC Apportioned Funds — These are apportioned funds from the annual conferences that are designated for Congregational Development and stewarded by the appropriate boards/committees. For Oregon-Idaho Conference, the \$50,000 is stewarded by the Congregational Development Team. For the Pacific Northwest Conference, the \$243,000 is stewarded by the Board of Congregational Development.

For Personnel — These funds are designated for personnel from the annual conference budgets.

OR-ID CDT Fund Drawdown — In the Oregon-Idaho Conference, the CDT (Congregational Development Team) budget covers staff, programming, and projects, all from the same pocket of money. In the Pacific Northwest, programming is covered by apportioned funds, while projects are covered by the Congregational Development Fund and the Trustees (from closed church sales). This OR-ID CDT Fund Drawdown represents the CDT's portion of support for congregational vitality.

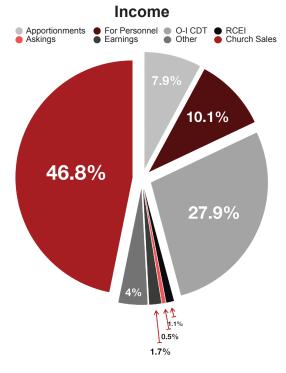
Rural Church Engagement Initiative (RCEI) — These funds are designated from the Pacific Northwest Conference Board of Trustees in support of this area-wide initiative.

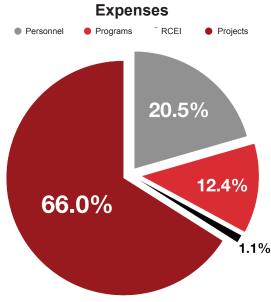
Askings — These funds are "non-budget program support" from local churches in the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference, who are asked to support the work of congregational development. They are different from apportionments.

Invested Earnings — Theses funds are investment earnings from designated funds in Oregon-Idaho that are a part of the work of the CDT.

Other Income (changed from "Event income") — These funds come from the Alaska Conference Legacy Fund Endowment, which supports the work of a new project in Anchorage, Alaska.

Closed Church Sale Income — These funds come from the sale of closed local church properties. In the Oregon-Idaho Conference, these funds are divided into three separate funds: CDT, District Church Extension Societies, and Trustees. The CDT portion is used for congregational vitality that is connected directly to the IV Team's work. In the Pacific Northwest Conference, all the proceeds from the sale of closed church properties go to the Trustees for the use of congregational vitality, which is stewarded by the Trustees and the Board of Congregational Development.





36 IV TEAM PROJECTS

Planter/Innovator	Project	Conference
Murray Crookes Daymond Glenn Allen Buck Zaida Huereca Eilidh Lowery Sunia Gibbs Erika Spaet Josh Clark Buddy Gharring Karen Ward Nicholle Ortiz	All Nations The Cultural Soul Project (HUB) Great Spirit UMC Salem Hispanic SE Portland Parish Sunnyside PDX Storydwelling Bold New Season/Wesley UMC Twin Falls UMC Beloved Community PDX	AK O-I O-I O-I O-I O-I O-I O-I
& Forrest Nameniuk	Tabor Heights UMC	O-I
Andru & Regina Morgan Jefferson Chao Jon Umdenstock Jorge Rodriguez	Parkrose UMC Beaverton First UMC New Meadows UMC/NW Abby Las Naciones Inglesia/Hillsboro UMC	O-I O-I O-I
Jeff & Eilidh Lowery Shalom Agtarap Jim Davis (interim) Neal Sharpe Joel Rodriguez Katy Shedlock Steve Michael Thomas Yang	Sellwood Faith Community Tacoma First (HUB) Redeemer UMC Valley & Mountain: Ravenna Sunnyside Hispanic Creator's Table North Community Church Seattle Progressive	O-I PNW PNW PNW PNW PNW
Zach Taylor Heather Sparkman Kate Kilroy Norman Feliciano Alexa Eisenbarth Bing Canlas Gerardo Guzman Alex & Sally Perez Alex & Sally Perez Danielle Elliott	Asian American Church Haven Fellowship Steamboat Island Fellowship Better Together Squamish Fellowship Orting UMC First UMC of Canada El Dios Viviente God's New Generation East God's New Generation West Seattle Creative Communities	PNW
Michelle Lang-Raymond Coté Soerens Troy Lynn Carr	Acts On Stage (HUB) South Park Neighborhood Church Yesler Neighborhood New Project	PNW PNW PNW

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"When we come to the table, we're inviting God to change us, to work on us, to make us more the people that we are intended to be, that we can be in the fullness of God's grace."

Bishop Elaine JW Stanovsky

STAFF

Rev. Dr. William D. Gibson

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While love of neighbor may be a common value, the ways in which we express that love must

change with the times, with the needs, with the history of Christian 'mission', and with a growing understanding of how the church may be in partnership with what God has been doing already outside of the church walls.

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