The Office of Connectional Ministries (OCM) is tasked with providing conference program coordination, alignment, and resourcing. It is involved in the areas of strategic conference leadership, faith community development, mission and compassion, and communications. OCM staff are strategically deployed and support conference organizations, boards, agencies, and task groups that support and empower local churches. The OCM seeks to serve God’s mission through the global, ecumenical, and connectional system of The United Methodist Church.

Around two decades ago, The United Methodist Church (through its Book of Discipline) started a radical shift in its annual conference structure, from a Council on Ministries model to the current Connectional Ministries workflow.

As time revealed, this table proved difficult to populate with not only the appropriate persons and voices in leadership but also with the new and emerging groups and communities that needed to be represented. Every time the Council on Ministries met, there would be at least 50 members and staff who were present. One can only imagine the number of internal processes and steps this group needed to take to arrive at a common consensus or action. Sometimes the decision-making process was likened to steering a large ship that was slow to maneuver and took a long time before any significant movement or action could be taken.

Another piece missing from the Council on Ministries model was the adequate link to local churches and faith communities of the annual conference. Local churches felt distanced from “the conference” and therefore developed an ever-growing disconnect with conference leadership and processes.

The change in The Book of Discipline (2000, ¶607) was designed to help move the conference program decision-making practice out of what was a “top-down model” into a more strategic, nimble, and connectional process.

I share this bit of UMC trivia as a reminder of how we, as a conference, today, continue to take seriously the involvement of conference staff, boards, agencies, task groups and caucuses in the life and ministry of the “front line” expressions of God’s love in action – the local church.
We who serve in the Office of Connectional Ministries view our primary goal is to support the ministries and leaders of the connection that empowers faith communities. The old paradigm thinking of a local church existing to serve the conference is just what it is – an old paradigm.

Today, whenever OCM staff receive a question or request for assistance from a lay member or pastoral leader of a congregation of 12 or 120, we try our best to take these ideas or concerns with utmost care and importance. Experience tells us that the very same question or concern could also be faced by another congregation, and it’s only a matter of time before another congregation(s) start asking us the same question or concern.

As you read the reports of OCM staff, I invite you to notice the numerous cross-connections and contact points between conference staff and conference boards and agencies, and how the OCM staff provides support to the life and ministry of our local churches and faith communities. I am very blessed with this opportunity to supervise and work with these amazing executives and staff of the conference. Although we said goodbye to Rachel Permann last year, this year, we welcome my new Assistant and addition to our team, Kathryn Hogg. Mabuhay!

Hybrid Is Here To Stay

Ever since the COVID-19 pandemic, much of the work and ministries of our conference boards and agencies have been limited to online connections and expressions. So, last year I asked myself these questions “Is providing a hybrid (online and in-person) channel and resource only necessary during this season of the pandemic? Are there significant learnings we should be picking up and developing for future events and gatherings?”

I am convinced that for most of our conference meetings and events, a hybrid option should become a standard option. As the world carefully moves back to in-person gatherings and events, we should continue to amplify key learnings during the pandemic. Here are a few examples:

1. Most folks/churches now have resources to connect online.
2. There is a wide ability to use Zoom, MS Teams, and other platforms.
3. Language translation has allowed more inclusive events.
4. Closed captioning has helped those who need them.
5. Less travel = Less carbon footprint.
6. Less cost than traveling to be in person.
However, I do want to name that being physically together in the same space and time zone IS still something many of us long for and need, especially after not gathering as a conference in session for almost three years. There is a different energy and spirit when saints gather to experience, learn, worship, break bread, pray or even advocate for a cause. There is power in the act of gathering. (Acts 2:42)

Boards And Agencies, Post Pandemic?

I want to highlight our United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) and Disaster Response Teams (DRTs) that used to be ready to deploy at a moment’s notice but have gone dormant (not their choice) during the pandemic and are now beginning to pick up on limited in-person/hybrid trainings, deployments, and events. We hope that even if in-person trainings are now carefully offered, the online option (hybrid) to these events would remain an option.

Virtual Volunteers in Mission exposure trips (national and international) have become a solution for folks who want to learn and involve themselves in the life and ministry of the connectional UMC. Although folks have not been able to travel physically, these types of virtual events have allowed those who would not normally get involved in the experience to participate. I believe this is not merely a temporary solution but will eventually become an added option, specially for those who are not able to physically travel.

Annual Conference Session

Because the Annual Conference Session is one of the biggest events the OCM supports, I often get the question, “Do you see us ever gathering again as an annual conference session, just like before the pandemic?”

I often reply with a careful ‘Yes, but…’

And whatever ideas or theories I have following my ‘Yes, but…’ statement continues to evolve and change. However, I believe that the pandemic has forever changed the way the UMC (or any denomination for that matter) will hold its annual conference or other large participation event, like General Conference.

I have been interviewing leaders from other annual conferences, specifically those who have already convened their sessions in person, and they too attest that however they gathered as an annual conference in 2019, was a far cry from how their most recent gathering took shape. AC Sessions will never be the same again.

For AC Session 2022, we have put more days between key events. Because we are still in a virtual space, care must be given to the length of time we spend online. Studies show that the longer folks are online, the less engaged they are with virtual events. The idea is to put enough time between gatherings like Laity Session, Clergy Session, and others so that participants can continue to be engaged. The week of the conference is bookended by a Greater Northwest Area-wide Opening Session on the 19th and Closing Session on the 23rd of June. One of the highlights of this year’s Closing Session will be the retirement celebration of Bishop Elaine JW Stanovsky, as this will be her last year to preside over the annual conferences of the Greater Northwest.
Connectional
As a director of connectional ministries, I am involved in several levels of decision-making bodies. Simply put, I attend a lot of meetings. Here’s a list of the groups and people I meet and work with:

Western Jurisdiction:
- WJ Executive Team
- Mission Cabinet
- Directors of Connectional Ministries (Chair)
- WJ Work group (2021)
- WJ Communicators (as needed)

Greater Northwest
- Bishop, Area Staff & DCMs (Meets every Monday)
- Area Cabinet (Regular weekly and monthly meetings)
- PNW Cabinet (Meets weekly)
- Area Disaster Response Team (Meets weekly)
- Area Disaster Response Coordinator – (Weekly meeting with Jim Truitt)
- Regional Media Center – Special Projects and events like Area Worship Resources, Jason Moore training event, Virtual Choirs, etc.

Pacific Northwest
- Annual Conference Session Planning Team
- Connectional Table
- Council on Finance and Administration
- Board of Global Ministries
- Board of Church and Society
- Board of Congregational Development
- Camping (Staff meetings)
- Disaster Response (PNW Disaster Response Coordinators)
- Communications (Video Production)
- Creation Care Ministries
- Task Force on Discipleship
- Justice for our Neighbors
- Certified Lay Ministries Project
- Christmas Institute

District & Superintendents
- District Trainings and Events
- Disaster Response (Documentation and Field Reporting)
- Media Crisis & Communications
- Immigration for Pastors

Local Churches/Faith Communities
- Online Ministries and Resourcing for Local Churches
• **Grants:** 95+ Local Churches and 4 Camps (2021)
• **Trainings and Consultations:** 35+ Churches & Faith Communities
• Resourcing for Lay Members of the Conference
• Guest Preaching at local churches
• Confirmation Classes (speaker)

**Denominational Concerns:**
• Boy Scouts of America
• Disaffiliation
• General Conference 2024

**OCM Staff**
• Rev. Cruz Edwin Santos
• Rev. Kathy Neary
• Rev. Sheila Miranda
• Patrick Scriven
• Teri Tobey
• Kathy Hogg
• Ian McKnight
• Tyrone Olds

**Specialized Volunteers: Thank YOU!**
• Jim Truitt (GNW Disaster Response Ministries Coordinator)
• Kathy and Dana Bryson (PNW DRC)
• Rev. Pam Osborne (AC Sessions)
• Rev. Alissa Bertsch (AC Worship, Lead)
• Rev. Justin White (AC Worship)
• Rev. Debbie Camphouse Sperry (AC Worship)
• Nadine Miyahara (Financial Management and Excel guru)
• Edwin Santos Jr. (Tech, Special Project lead)
• Joshua Santos (Tech Support)

Respectfully submitted,

*Rev. David Valera*

*Executive Director of Connectional Ministries, PNW Conference*
BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Board of Congregational Development (BOCD) oversees the seeding of new faith communities and support for vitality in existing congregations. It works with the Greater Northwest (GNW) Appointive Cabinet and the Innovation Vitality Team, each tending to critical parts of this work.

The funding for this work comes from several sources – some from apportioned giving but most from legacy funds transferred by the Board of Trustees from the sale of closed properties. BOCD holds special responsibility for seeing that these legacy funds are invested in faith expressions that might resonate with new people, younger people and more diverse people to continue a Wesleyan expression of Christianity.

Your Board of Congregational Development is new, having its first meeting in March 2022. We want you to know that we are excited about this work and take the responsibility of doing it on your behalf seriously. The board is composed of Rev. Kathy Hartgraves, Chair, Rev. Byron Harris, Nadine Miyahara, Tom Wilson, Rev. John Go, John Townsend, and Rev. John Helmiere. Rev. Kathleen Weber is the cabinet liaison. Our work is informed by the Innovation Vitality Team, the conference treasurer, and a representative of the PNW Office of Connectional Ministries. We ask for your prayers as we live into this work.

In the last few months, we have been excited to fund two multiplication projects and one new start.

- **Valley and Mountain UMC (V&M)** has been a shining star in the work of new faith community development for several years. Under the direction of Rev. John Helmiere, the staff and laity of V&M ‘co-create’ space for ‘deep listening,’ ‘creative liberation,’ and ‘radical hospitality’ to ‘reflect God’s radically inclusive love.’ John started this work in 2010 as a self-proclaimed Minister of Listening, resulting in a Christian community that is deeply relational and engaged in Gospel-oriented justice. In July 2022, John will go on leave; Rev. Osagyefo Sekou will assume the role of senior pastor of Valley & Mountain. Rev. Sekou has worked with V&M for four years, spending the last year as a theologian in residence. Rev. Sekou was trained at the historic Highlander Center as a teenager and has 25 years of experience in pastoral ministry. He is a professional musician and proven organizer, training in tactics and theory of Militant Nonviolent Civil Disobedience, launched out of his participation in protests following the death of Mr. Michael Brown at the hands of police in Ferguson, Missouri. BOCD has funded V&M for expansion based on principles of equity and Gospel-centered liberation. We are excited to join God in what God is doing in Seattle and beyond through this prophetic ministry.
  
  **Allocation:** $334,000 a year for three years.

- **First UMC of Canada** has been multiplying steadily since its founding as Samahan UMC in 2007. Initially, Rev. Norman Feliciano was appointed to expand First UMC of Canada, pastored then by Rev. Querubin (Bing) Canlas, into Squamish, a community whose workforce is largely immigrant generation and significantly Filipino heritage. Pastor Norman developed a ministry there but found that as persons
migrated to other areas of the Greater Vancouver B.C. area, they longed to worship closer to home. First UMC of Canada now includes four different campuses: Burnaby, Fraser Valley, Squamish, and Vancouver. Rev. Feliciano was appointed as senior pastor in 2021. Staffing is critical for continued vibrancy and sustainability with one pastor and four sites. Many of the leaders are already identified and will do bi-vocational pastoral work. We are excited to see this ministry continue to flourish. **Allocation:** $455,000 over 5 years.

- **The Latinx Ministry at Mt. Vernon UMC** has been nurtured by Pastor Zulma Tifre since 2013. First as a lay missioner of the National Plan for Hispanic/Latinx Ministry and soon as a licensed local pastor, Pastor Tifre works with immigrant families in and around Mt. Vernon to support them in their faith journey and to connect compassion and justice to the work of The United Methodist Church. Pastor Tifre worked without compensation for years but is now eligible to be appointed as pastor. While working as a Lay Missioner, Pastor Tifre held fast to her dream of becoming a pastor and did the requisite work through the Latinx Course of Study to prepare for this moment. Pastor Tifre will move into pastor status on a half-time basis, partially funded through Mt. Vernon UMC and the BOCD. But even as she begins this ministry as a newly recognized ‘pastora,’ she and her district superintendent will be working to identify the appropriate timeframe to expand her ministry. BOCD has signaled its willingness to expand this ministry beyond half-time when the time is right. Por favor, oren por Pastora Tifre y sus ministerio entro las hermanas y hermanos latinx en Mt. Vernon. Gracias.

**Initial Allocation:** $180,000 over 5 years.

BOCD works closely with Kristina Gonzalez, GNW Executive Director for Innovation and Vitality, and Rev. Dr. Leroy Barber, GNW Director of Innovation for an Engaged Church, as we review innovation projects in our care. We look forward to getting to know the planters and plants better and building supportive and symbiotic relationships to benefit the entire conference.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rev. Kathy Hartgraves, Chair*

*Rev. John Go*

Rev. Byron Harris

*Rev. John Helmiere*

Nadine Miyahara

John Townsend

Tom Wilson

*Rev. Kathleen Weber, DS*
The vision of Hispanic/Latinx Ministry in the Pacific Northwest is to be a church called to be united and diverse in God’s love that changes lives and transforms communities.

**Respect**
We recognize the inherent value and dignity of all God’s creation and all people.

**Justice**
We strive to live into the equality of God’s provision in a world where every need is met.

**Love**
Inspired by the compassion and grace of our God, we seek to joyfully embrace and serve with all people.

**Community**
We commit to live with our neighbors united in loyalty, family, solidarity, and inclusivity.

**Mission**
To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The COVID-19 pandemic taught us new ways to be a church and serve our communities as we continue preserving the health of our communities.

**Summary of events/programs/projects**
- Providing support and workshops for the online presence of our churches
- Workshop and resources for Ministry with Children: “Un lugar en la mesa para la niñez” by Rev. Juan Gattinoni and GBGM
- Leading the design team for our Immigration Round Table
- Providing resources and support for CWJFON
- Participating in a Virtual Border Trip with Arizona JFON
- Lay Servant Basic Course in Spanish for 3 Hispanic/Latinx Churches in OR-ID Annual Conference
- Coordinating and providing support to our GNW Disaster Response Team
- Providing support and resources for the GNW Disaster Response Diversity Task Force
- Provided Leadership support to district superintendents, leading the charge conferences of Hispanic/Latinx congregations
- Coordinating and providing support to our students of the COSS
- Providing online resources to celebrate the Hispanic Heritage Month
- Producing our quarterly newsletter
- Providing support and leadership for Puget-Sound Missional District in a strategic plan for H/L Ministry in Skagit County
- Providing support and leadership for Sea-Tac District in a strategic plan for H/L Ministry in University Gathering for our first H/L progressive church in the USA
• Providing support and leadership to our cabinet with consultations with Hispanic/Latinx Pastors
• Providing resources for our BOOM and DBOM
• To continue providing support and resources for our multicultural ministry at Yakima Valley
• Providing leadership and resources in the design team of our 2022 local church leadership training for laity in the GNW. Leading the workshop with the Spanish speaking participants
• Providing leadership and resources for our 2022 GNW Ethnic Clergy Retreat
• Providing support and help to our churches applying for the RELC Grant
• Providing coaching and mentoring services
• Leading and coordinating the production of our Hispanic/Latinx Ministry video for our 2021 and 2022 AC
• Participating in the PNW Connectional Table
• Participating in the BOTH/AND Event (workshop about hybrid worship experience)
• Staff related to Faith Action Network
• Providing leadership and resources to the OR-ID leaders to develop a strategic plan for the Hispanic/Latinx ministry
• Providing leadership in the GNW Residence in Ministry retreat
• Providing leadership to the construction of our new building in Everett
• Providing leadership and resources to the PNW Board of Congregational Development
• Providing resources to the “Love Beyond Borders” learning curriculum with the Cathedral of the Rockies in Boise, Idaho
• Providing resources and leadership to the OR-ID CORR

Aspirations for 2022-2023
• To coordinate with CWJFON on a round table in the fall of 2022
• To coordinate a webinar about how to embrace multiculturalism in the local church
• To continue providing leadership formation webinars for our leaders and communities
• To continue providing coaching, mentoring and translation services for our connection
• To create a Spanglish online event

Key Learning
• National Plan and conference resources and funds that we are receiving are crucial to continue strengthening the Latinx ministry in our episcopal area
• We need to be better connected to every church planting in the Latinx community
We need to incorporate more young and young adult leaders into our ministry
We need to be more proactive in discovering new places for Latinx ministry
We need more participation of our Latinx community at the conference level
We need to evaluate the criteria and the process to select and recruit Latinx Pastoral leadership
We need to continue our efforts to integrate the Latinx from the GNW

Central Washington Justice for our Neighbors

CWJFON welcomes immigrants by providing free immigration legal services to low-income immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers. We also engage in advocacy for immigrant justice, promote pro-immigrant policy change and offer education to the public. We actively provide support services through accompaniments, Know Your Rights (KYR) training for impacted communities and employers, and support immigrant community gatherings to strategically develop methodologies for change to positively impact our immigrant communities. It is through these various educational opportunities and trainings that we are able to support the freedom for affected communities to live in peace with the knowledge of their rights, how best to assert those rights and to connect them to organizations that can step in to support their needs when called upon. We work closely with immigrant youth to ensure intergenerational knowledge sharing and capacity building. For example, currently, 1/3 of our board of directors are immigrant youth of varied status. We are lucky to have them as part of our leadership team and are grateful to them for leading us with their knowledge and experience.

Programs We Currently Offer

- Pro-bono legal services to low-income immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers.
- Accompaniment services
- Know your rights presentations
- Educational presentations to the public
- Work with coalition partners to address state and local policy changes by meeting with elected officials, law enforcement and collaborate with trusted partner organizations on legislative work to support these policy changes for more information.

Spread The Word

Tell your friends and family about your immigrant neighbors, friends and family! Teach people to learn more about what our families endure when trying to simply be part of our communities. There’s no better way to make an impact than to become an active advocate yourself. Join now and make an impact! For information: info@cwjfon.org

¡Muchas bendiciones!

Rev. Cruz Edwin Santos
Director of Hispanic/Latinx Ministry, PNW Conference
TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT

My primary work involves helping the district superintendents with resourcing our small congregations. District superintendents contact me when a small church needs help discerning its next steps for ministry. I usually visit the congregation to consult with them, but occasionally I only consult with the pastor.

In 2021, I worked with 22 churches in the Pacific Northwest Conference and four churches in the Oregon-Idaho Conference. Of these, seven closed, and the rest chose different paths for their immediate future.

A developing option for small churches is to become a lay-led congregation. Lay-led congregations do not receive an appointed or assigned pastor but usually designate a three-person leadership team to replace the functions of a pastor. Lay-led congregations remain official United Methodist congregations. We currently have seven lay-led congregations in the Crest to Coast District, and five lay-led congregations in the Inland and Seven Rivers Districts. I have been resourcing the Crest to Coast churches, and Sheila Miranda has been supporting the Inland and Seven Rivers churches.

District Superintendent Kathleen Weber organized the Twin Harbors sub-district into a cohort that shares some ministries, and I helped with that process.

I also serve as a conference staff person for the board of laity; specifically, I have been helping with the board’s development of a conference committee on lay ministries, which will design and oversee the Certified Lay Ministries programs.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Kathy Neary
Transitional Ministry Developer
COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

The past year of ministry, a second spent navigating the COVID-19 pandemic, was challenging and filled with opportunity. It was challenging for many reasons, which are likely quite familiar to most. Even as we have made great strides to adapt to necessary restrictions and find new ways to connect, we still long for the return of some of what we all might call “normal.”

The year also provided many opportunities to serve, especially as more local churches resolved to invest in longer-term solutions to offer online ministry options, including worship and bible studies. The staff of our Office of Connectional Ministries (OCM), and our Regional Media Center (RMC), continued to ask how they could redirect resources to assist and encourage churches in this work. We did this through training, financial assistance, and direct resourcing through numerous consultations by phone, Zoom, and in person.

In April of 2021, our Regional Media Center contracted with Jason Moore to offer his popular BOTH/AND Hybrid Worship Training at no cost to members from the Alaska, Oregon-Idaho, and Pacific Northwest Conferences. Over 300 pastors, staff and lay volunteers registered to participate in the webinar and a follow-up conversation a few weeks later. Moore made a case for hybrid worship, offering several tips for churches implementing it.

In November, we were one of the first conferences to host Moore’s next training – BOTH/AND: To Be Continued – which encouraged churches to support hybrid efforts beyond any pandemic necessity. The training also offered practical tips to help churches iterate toward engaging online members better.

Shortly after our annual conference session last June, we launched a new grant opportunity to support local churches investing in technology necessary for hybrid worship. The PNW Conference directed $100k to the program, prioritizing access for funding to churches worshipping under 75 members. Funded by resources approved by the PNW Connectional Table, this project benefited from the encouragement and direction of PNW Conference Treasurer Brant Henshaw and Executive Director of Connectional Ministries, David Valera.

Throughout the summer, our connectional ministries office convened a small grant team weekly to review applications, ask and answer questions about plans and equipment, and approve just short of 100 requests from churches and ministries across all five conference districts.

In August, the Alaska Conference joined the effort by adding resources and new team members. This provided a fantastic opportunity for the newly enlarged team to live into the commitment each conference made as they gathered in June to begin working together in anticipation of Alaska becoming a Mission District of the PNW.
The hybrid worship training and the granting process opened doors to new opportunities to directly resource local churches. This involved OCM staff taking questions over the phone about licensing, Zoom visioning conversations with local church teams about next tech steps, in-person visits to churches to consult on equipment recommendations and more. All these opportunities have been odd blessings of our pandemic times. Some churches have felt empowered to make digital investments that will expand their reach, especially for those who can maintain them as the pandemic resides.

Early in December, we announced that the Regional Media Center (RMC) would once again financially support a subsidy for local church Zoom licenses across the Greater Northwest Area. We have over 360 paid users on our shared account, including conference staff and local churches in every district across the three conferences of the Greater Northwest (GNW) Area. PNW OCM communications staff have supported GNW local churches in onboarding new users, troubleshooting issues as they have arisen, and working with GNW Area treasurers to facilitate the billing process.

While Zoom has become a go-to platform for meetings, we can also see in the data that its use increases corresponding to the waves of coronavirus; this was especially evident as the Delta and Omicron variants disrupted in-person activities. Over the past year, licensed users have hosted over 30,000 Zoom meetings and 280 webinars. The most active local church on our account hosted over 600 Zoom meetings last year!

Our PNW OCM staff also had the opportunity to help to provide technological and communications support for the three annual conference sessions held last June by the Alaska, Oregon-Idaho and Pacific Northwest conferences. We were blessed to have the hospitality of Des Moines UMC, its staff, and Pastor Pam Osborne in providing a place for plenary and worship. Kent UMC and its staff welcomed us for an outdoor celebration of commissioning and ordination.

Moving much of our annual conference sessions online significantly increases the amount of communications-related work that needs to happen before and during the sessions. As a conference, we are gifted to have staff members like Ian McKnight, Tyrone Olds, Teri Tobey, and David Valera. They have many skills that benefit the necessary shifts these times require. The addition of a small cadre of volunteers like Joshua and Edwin Santos, Karen Biggers, and intern Melissa Bortnick helped ease the strain upon the staff team.

We continue to invest in partnerships across the GNW Area in communications. This starts each week with a meeting of the three conference communicators (myself; Kristen Caldwell, OR-ID; Jim Doepken, AK) and produces a weekly shared email and regular collaboration on storytelling, sharing appointment announcements, and hosting online events. As one example, we recently supported a Zoom-based training for local church lay
leadership that included trainers and participants from each conference. This built upon a similar offering in 2021 that included Alaska and the PNW Conferences.

Since summer, I’ve been convening the Greater Northwest’s COVID-19 Response Team as the US wrestled with a pandemic that seemingly wouldn’t end. It has been challenging but meaningful work. We have aspired to provide careful recommendations to empower local churches and other ministries to move forward at a pace that works for them. Most every week, this has involved editing and writing work for a newsletter in addition to monitoring and attempting to keep up to date on a constantly evolving situation. Because of the previously mentioned GNW collaboration, my communications colleague in Oregon-Idaho has similarly supported weekly meetings of our disaster response teams.

While much of our ministries with young people reside in the portfolio of my colleague, Teri Tobey, I continue to work with the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. The board took some steps toward returning to normal operating this year, completing its usual budgeting process with the campus ministries under their care. Though several members have persevered well beyond their original commitments, a new chair (Willie Deuel) and a new member (Kathy Hartgraves) brought new energy. The team continues to benefit from the steady work provided by its secretary, Cody Natland.

Like many, I am looking forward to opportunities to reconnect that feel more familiar. Even though we now know that General Conference won’t meet till 2024, it is expected that some of the jurisdictional gatherings will take place this year.

At the same time, we should take with us some of the lessons and skills learned over the past two years. As we consider the possibility of more in-person meetings in the conference office as the year progresses, we’ll be investing in improving equipment, so hybrid participation is centered more than it has been in the past.

Several projects have needed to be set aside over the past few years as we adjusted to life in the pandemic. In hope, I expect the year ahead will provide opportunities to return to and begin new communications work to better support our connectional ministries.

Patrick Scriven
Director of Communications, PNW Conference
YOUNG PEOPLE’S MINISTRIES

The Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCOYM) team consists of youth and adult volunteers from across the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference selected to be on this volunteer team. They represent youth on wider boards and committees of the Annual Conference, share information about district and conference youth events, and typically plan a conference-wide youth event called Convo. Unfortunately, in 2021 it was not safe to gather youth from various areas around the state in person, and the youth preferred not to hold a virtual gathering. The team hopes that we will be able to make progress in this area as the cases continue to drop to relaunch a team and organize conference-wide youth events in the 2022-2023 school year.

Starting in 2020, we began offering a digital space for those working with youth and children on Zoom each week, this continued in 2021. This provided space for fellowship, sharing ideas, praying for each other, and asking questions. This digital meeting has been a beneficial and life-giving time for the youth workers. I also consulted with those exploring new ideas and talked through considerations as the in-person gatherings began to resume.

After exploring more district focused service with young adults in 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic impacted lives and communities the Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries (YAM) struggled to find young adults who were willing to step into leadership on the team and therefore did not meet in 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri Tobey
Program Associate for Young People’s Ministries
ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

The conference year 2021 – 2022 has again been a quiet one for the Pacific Northwest United Methodist Church archives. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic closures and restrictions, there has been little activity throughout the year. A few inquiries have been able to be researched. Archive material has been donated to/received by the archives through the mail. The commission has not met during the year.

Although we will not be meeting for annual conference this year, the commission will still produce certificates honoring Keith Hackett, W. Scott Huff, Gregory K. Jackson, Howard D. Jones, John E. Maxwell, and Douglas R. McLemore for the 50th anniversary of their ordination as an elder in The United Methodist Church; and David Braun, Dewey A. Knowles, Donald D. Lange, Thomas R. Martin, Richard H. Overman, John J. Shaffer, and Robert M. Yamashita for the 60th anniversary of their ordination as an elder. These certificates will be mailed to them.

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

Rev. William M. Bryan, Jr.
Chair, PNW Commission on Archives and History
CAMPING BOARD OF STEWARDS

What We Do
As the United Methodist Camp and Retreat Ministries of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference, our mission is to be sanctuaries of Christian hospitality, renewal and learning within God’s natural world. Sanctuaries that celebrate diversity, inspire love and service, and fulfill our unique partnership with local churches in nurturing disciples and spiritual leaders.

For young campers, camp is a place where faith and deep relationships come alive, perhaps for the first time. For people of all ages, camp is a place where they can ask questions, engage deeper with their faith, and find a place to belong. A camp experience can be an attractive and easy first step into the church community, and over 70% of pastors and church leaders report they received their calling at camp.

Camp connects people to other people and the natural environment in powerful ways. Camp inspires people to care. Camps do this by providing programs, spaces, and time that allow people to push back the noise of everyday life. Sharing meals together, talking about deeper things or whatever is the topic that brought you there, or just having fun is the order of the day.

Our Camps
Here are just a few things happening and to look forward to at our four camps of the Pacific Northwest Conference:

Indianola
This last summer, Indianola launched a successful Outdoor Adventure Camp that capitalized on some rarely used space and provided a safer environment for campers. Indianola’s Site Advisory Team has been exploring the history of the Doe-Kag-Wats and engaging in conversations with the Suquamish tribe about returning their sacred land.

Lazy F
In response to a community need for childcare and adapting to provide safe experiences, Lazy F launched a very successful Day Camp that quickly filled and is on track to fill again this year. Lazy F was awarded a grant to work on remodeling the old dining hall and continues to focus on how to pay off the new dining hall.

Ocean Park
The New Zip Line and Activity Tower is ready for action! Many cabins have been remodeled and have a fresh coat of paint. Ocean Park was awarded a grant to address some of its maintenance needs.
Twinlow

The camp finally was able to get a new boat for use during summer camps and will be focusing on improving their waterfront. They are planning to add a student Mental Health Resource Staff to the team this year as they continue to improve how they support the camp staff and campers.

Our Leaders

We are so appreciative of our directors for their continued faith and commitment to their ministry. It’s their strength and resiliency over the last few years that gives hope for the future. Our Executive Director, Alan Rogstad, has virtually supported them as a team and has gone back to visiting camps once it was safe to do so. The pandemic, however, has also taken its toll on our staff. To control costs, we cut staffing to bare bones, and they are stressed about remaining financially viable while reimagining how their ministries will look in the future.

Brandon and Carole Scheer, who served at Ocean Park for eight years now, are moving on to a camp that will be closer to their extended family. We are thankful for their years of service and are fortunate to have found an interim director who began on April 1st to get the camp through the summer season as we search for the next Director for Ocean Park.

Call to Action

Here are some of the ways that you can support Camping and Retreat Ministries:

Your prayers – Pray for rejuvenation and peace for our camp leaders, staff and volunteers. Pray for clarity and vision of God’s purpose for these sacred spaces and the service they can provide to the church, their local communities and beyond.

Your presence – Come to camp! Come with your church, attend a retreat, or come as a family or individual. Check out all the great improvements the camps have made and spend time renewing your soul in the sacred space of camp.

Your gifts – You can give to the Camping Board of Stewards or directly to the camp of your choice. You should be seeing a letter from Alan Rogstad soon about how your church can support camp. We are asking congregations to support a Camp Sunday in 2022.

Your service – Consider volunteering at a summer camp – it has been hard to find enough volunteers to support camps the way we would like to. If working with kids isn’t your thing, consider if you could lead or join a workgroup to assist with maintenance needs at one of our camps.

On behalf of the board of directors, staff, and our campers, thank you for your support of Camping and Retreat Ministries.

Sandi Miller
Chairperson, Camping Board of Stewards
ETHNIC MINISTRIES REPORT

I am happy to report on behalf of the Commission on Ethnic Ministry of the Pacific Northwest Conference. I was elected as chair of the COEM midway through the conference year. The COEM successfully supported and created vital ministries, and it was well on its way into programming amid the second year of the pandemic when I became the chair. Below are the projects for this past conference year.

Christmas Institute 2021

The Christmas Institute is a thriving ministry of the conference, comprised of Filipino-American and Filipino-Canadian youth and young adult campers. The institute once again was able to meet virtually. The COEM was able to provide significant funding for the gathering.

Ethnic Minister’s Retreat 2022

The minister’s retreat met for the first time since March 2020, which was the onset of the pandemic. The retreat was held virtually. The PNW COEM extended the invitation to the Greater Northwest Area. The ethnic ministers could reconnect and make new connections during the one-day event. The COEM provided significant funding for the event and was able to provide swag gift bags to all the active ethnic ministers in the Greater Northwest as an expression of mutual care and compassion.

Youth Innovation Project

The COEM hired Pastor Yvonne Agduyeng as the PNW Youth Innovation Project Manager. The Youth Innovation Project was a central focus of COEM just as the pandemic hit. Pastor Agduyeng and her team structured a way to move this event online. Lots of hard work, recruitment of talented speakers, and recruitment of participants were done in preparation for the event. However, COVID got in the way of this modified approach, and we had to postpone the event. The work is not lost as the commission intends to move forward with the revised structure.

Rev. Dr. Troy Lynn Carr
Chair, PNW Commission on Ethnic Ministry
Greetings from Cashmere, where the sun is shining and the orchards are blooming! Our team has had a very busy year since my last report to the Annual Conference in 2021.

Remote work has become our “new normal” during the COVID-19 pandemic, but make no mistake, we are itching to get together again! We’ve rejoiced whenever lower rates of community transmission have made in-person meetings possible. We’ve also given thanks for the technology that allows us to connect from a distance when that’s the safer option. We will continue to meet people where they are by making online, and in-person services available as case rates allow.

In September 2021, our organization changed its name to Faith Foundation Northwest because we recognize that our future is both diverse and inclusive:

- Diverse because denominational politics are creating complexity around what it means to be a United Methodist, while cultural shifts drive new expressions of what it means to be a church. We look forward to the ongoing discovery of the many ways to express faithfulness.

- Inclusive because, no matter how the faith communities in our area choose to identify themselves, we will continue to serve alongside all of them.

While our name has changed, our mission hasn't. You can think of it as a new coat of paint: it’s briefly inconvenient, and then afterward, it looks beautiful and more welcoming. It preserves the structure’s useful life, but it doesn’t change what’s inside. We will continue to serve the Greater Northwest Area with the best service and attention we can offer.

Our board of directors continues to be deeply engaged in the work of the Foundation, and I could not be more thankful. We welcomed William Gibson to the board in March of 2022. We want to thank Rev. Dan Wilson-Fey and Rev. Peter Perry, who are rolling off our board of directors as they retire, for their years of service with our organization.

We closed 2021 with a historic high of over $90 Million in assets under management to benefit churches, camps, and agencies in our episcopal area! As I write this report in mid-March of 2022, despite recent deposits in excess of $3 Million, our assets under management have decreased to $87.6 Million due to a market correction driven by several factors, including geopolitical uncertainty. As long-term investors, our strategy stays the same through both bear and bull markets, and this spring is no exception. Whether the markets are up or down by the time we meet in June, I’m confident in saying that the Foundation’s financial position is stronger than it’s ever been. It’s an honor to steward long-term monies that benefit faith communities.

What follows is a summary of the services we offer. Many provided free of charge. If any of these services could benefit your church, call us at (800) 488-4179 or send an email to staff@faith.foundation. We exist to support your ministry and are always ready to serve!

Tom Wilson, Executive Director
Services Offered By Faith Foundation Northwest

Financial Management: our faith guides our decisions and leads us to **socially responsible and ethically sound funds** that reflect the values of our team and the ministries we work with. In partnership with Wespath, we manage endowments, long-term investments and reserve funds on behalf of churches, camps, conferences, and agencies. The average amount that each portfolio has earned annually, net of fees, over the past three years is as follows.

- Diversified Conservative: **8.86%**
- Diversified Moderate: **9.66%**
- Diversified Aggressive: **11.63%**
- Social Values Plus Conservative: **9.40%**
- Social Values Plus Moderate: **11.11%**
- Social Values Plus Aggressive: **11.68%**

These figures are as of February 28th, 2022. Please visit [http://www.faith.foundation/investments](http://www.faith.foundation/investments) for the most up-to-date return data.

We also steward short- to medium-term funds and rainy-day funds in our Stable Value Portfolio, which is designed for liquidity rather than long-term growth. Over the past three years, its annual returns, net of fees, were 2.75% in 2019, 1.93% in 2020, and 0.65% in 2021.

**Loans:** We help churches fulfill their missions by offering low-hassle loans for capital improvements and new construction. Our interest rates are set at the WSJ Prime rate plus 0.5%, and there are no origination fees. Interest paid on church loans goes back into our faith community, supporting churches that have invested rainy day funds in our Stable Value Portfolio.

**Endowment Consultation:** We share and inspire stories of generosity and are committed to the lasting legacy of our clients and their congregations. Our staff brings 50+ years of combined experience to the table when we assist with endowment policies, procedures, and promotion. **We do this free of charge.**

**Stock Gift Program:** We accept, liquidate, and pass-through gifts of stock on behalf of faith communities, making tax-wise giving accessible for all donors. **We do this free of charge.**

**Planned Giving Education:** We help guide people of faith in preparing a plan to provide for the ministries they love. We teach workshops, create materials, and work one-on-one with major donors upon request. **We do this free of charge.**
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?”

Our work is focused into two main areas: Disaster Response, which will include Connecting Neighbors, Emergency Response and UM Volunteers in Mission; and Mission Involvement, Leadership and Training, including the work of the Conference Mission Secretary, Hispanic Ministries, Global Mission Fellows, and our collaboration with UMW such as Mission u. In addition to the programming, our budget provides money from apportionments to support: Justice for our Neighbors, Tacoma Community House and Atlantic Street Center:

PNW Conference Disaster Response, 2021 Accomplishments - Dana & Kathy Bryson

Response Coordinator Highlights

With the closure of UMCOR’s Depot West, the need for regional disaster relief supplies became more urgent. We developed a growing list of PNW churches evaluating potential roles as area storage centers. Many of these churches played an important part in producing, staging and distributing disaster supplies to survivors during the flooding and fires of 2020. We worked with multiple churches to help them in mission by assembling hygiene and cleaning kits. These kits were added to the now seven church-based PNW Disaster Response “Regional Storage Centers.”

- Developed COVID-19 deployment protocol for ERTs in conjunction with current Federal, Washington State, county and local guidance and following the GNW Episcopal Area guidelines.
- Supported the GNW “November Disaster Response Sunday” by hosting the first entirely virtual Early Response Team basic training to all three Conferences to help kick start mission activities.
- Active participation in the Washington Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (WaVOAD) as the organization’s secretary and incoming Vice-President beginning 2022.
- Kathy Bryson served as the Co-Chair of the PNW Conference Board of Global Ministries.
- Worked with UMCOR to develop and pilot virtual versions of the Connecting Neighbors and ERT trainings.
- Taught two virtual ERT classes: a virtual ERT Renewal class (re-qualifying ten people) and the first ERT Basic class since November 2019 (qualifying 19 participants). Both trainings were open to GNW participants.
2021 Wildfire Season

Lessons learned from the 2020 fires helped us prepare for another difficult season. We worked with churches across the conference to build fan filter kits and specialized soot sponge kits paired with UMCOR cleaning kits. As the wildfires came through, these supplies were distributed by church volunteers to families in the areas of Central and Eastern Washington.

Western Washington Flood Response

- Served a week with the Whatcom County Emergency Operations Center representing the PNWUMC Disaster Response, UMCOR and WaVOAD. This also allowed an opportunity to meet and work with local churches, other volunteer organizations, and community representatives.
- Worked with several churches near the flood-affected counties to fund, build, stage and distribute “PNW Cleaning Kits.” Forty kits were assembled by Marysville UMC, of which 22 kits were delivered to the Lynden UMC in flood-impacted Whatcom County; 18 kits went to the American Red Cross via Mt Vernon UMC.
- Funded food and toiletry purchases through the UMC Chilliwack-Abbotsford Fellowship (BC, Canada), supporting congregants sheltering about 34 displaced farmworkers in the Chilliwack area.
- Deployed experienced Early Response Team members for damage assessments in the unincorporated areas to support the Whatcom County Emergency Management Division. They visited about 60 sites in 3.5 days.
- Requested and was granted $10K UMCOR Solidary to support flood relief efforts.
- Attended daily status meetings hosted by WaVOAD with Federal, State and local agency participants and acted as the WaVOAD point of contact for information flow to the Whatcom County Emergency Manager.
- Worked with Marysville UMC and Mt Vernon UMC to create 20 additional cleaning kits due to a request by the Lynden UMC pastor. Kits supplies are being funded through the UMCOR Solidarity Grant.
- Facilitated discussion between PNW Relief Supply Coordinator Kevin Hamilton and Mt Vernon UMC pastor Christopher Gudger-Raines which resulted in the newest relief supply storage site at the church to store UMCOR and conference relief supplies.

Long Term Recovery

Blue Mountain Region (January 2020 floods)

- Participated and funded survivor needs through the weekly Unmet Needs Roundtable that included closing about 580 cases that spanned multiple counties in both Washington and Oregon.
- Performed a damage assessment for a vulnerable family on the Umatilla Reservation at the request of the Blue Mountain Region Long Term Recovery Group.
Okanogan County (September 2020 wildfires)

- Completed the $10,000 Palmer Fire UMCOR Solidarity Grant by helping provide 14 people with safe and warm shelters for the winter, kicked off the OCLTRG case management process. It also provided UMCOR cleaning buckets, UMCOR hygiene kits, UMCOR school kits, and PNW sifter kits to survivors. The grant closure report was submitted, and UMCOR has formally closed the grant.

- Completed the $10,000 Underserved Survivor AmeriCares Grant by distributing gift cards and supplies to support survivors falling through the cracks in formal support programs due to English as a second language and other complicating factors. To date, over 300 people have been helped through these programs supported by the PNW Hispanic Ministries, Okanogan UMC, Wenatchee First UMC, and Pateros UMC.

- The $100,000 Wildfire Response UMCOR Recovery Grant currently supports the OCLTRG volunteer management program. Recent volunteer activities involved homes and support buildings constructed by Amish and Habitat for Humanity volunteers. A more significant push for volunteer re-build projects will occur in the spring and summer. UMVIMs have been requested to plan in support of this activity. Grant and PNW Disaster Relief funds are being applied through the OCLTRG Un-Met Needs Roundtable.

Pine Creek Community Restoration (September 2020 wildfire)

- Providing overall long-term recovery and case management guidance to serve the 84 referred families from Malden and Pine City. To date, these efforts have supported the closing of 61 cases.

- Coordinated and participated in a second UMCOR Disaster Case Manager training for three additional people to take on survivor case management

- Completed the $10,000 Babb Fire UMCOR Solidarity Grant. The grant initiated the Pine Creek LTRG case management process by supporting six case managers and providing them with UMCOR case management training. It also provided UMCOR cleaning buckets and PNW sifter kits to survivors.

- Participated and funded survivor needs through weekly meetings of the Unmet Needs Roundtable.

Other Highlights

- Repair and re-tooling of ERT trailer #1 was completed thanks to ERT member Tom Osborne. Tom spent over 40 hours of his volunteer time for needed repair, re-organization and replacing needed supplies to outfit the trailer for both ERT and UMVIM rebuild missions. Tom will continue to manage this trailer that is staged from the parking lot of the Des Moines Conference Office.

- Renewed the agreement to store the ERT tool and shower trailers with the Benton County Fire District #4, located in West Richland.
Mission u 2021 - Carol Mariano, Dean

Mission u was held remotely via Zoom July 29-31, 2021, with the theme, “There’s Far More Here Than Meets the Eye.”

We had 85 adult participants, two youth and one child. There were ten leaders, bringing the total number of participants to 98.

The event ran smoothly thanks to extensive planning by the leadership and wonderful tech support from the PNW Conference office staff, plus several willing UMW co-hosts. Some people were involved by Zoom who might not have been able to come to an in-person Mission u. Still, most of the evaluators said they would prefer to meet in person, and we hope that can happen next year in Yakima when we plan on meeting at Wesley UMC, July 22-24. Even if we meet in person, many hope that we can continue to offer an online option.

The adult class leaders, Joanne Coleman Campbell, Donna Farrell, Angela Reed and Nica Sy, did a great job on their presentations, “Finding Peace in an Anxious World” and “Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools,” drawing on their personal experience to bring the studies alive for all. The only drawback was that the classes had different Zoom addresses, and it took extra time for some to reconnect with the correct class address. Even though the youth and children’s classes were small, the leaders faithfully presented the material and felt that it made a difference in the lives they touched. Abby Niehaus was the study leader for the youth with Marilyn Reid. Lyn Rush and Golden Neal taught the children’s class.

We were able to incorporate an excellent short video made by Dana and Kathy Bryson on Disaster Preparedness for the PNW Conference.

The music was enhanced by videos made by the National Office of UMW featuring Amanda Powell. Additional music videos were presented by Jenny Partch and by the John Go family.

Conference Mission Secretary Of Global Ministries - Marilyn Sanchez Reid

2021 was a difficult year for everyone, as COVID-19 was in full swing. The United Methodist Board of Global Ministries set up a schedule of virtual events to help us connect and learn more about the missionaries during this time of pandemic. Their itinerations in person were canceled, but they are still at work and in mission. The transition from a full schedule of in-person itineration assignments to the #stillinmission virtual itineration series was a challenging yet fruitful endeavor. Some of our local churches with covenant relationships with the missionaries attended their virtual itineration. I helped as a moderator and attended more than 35 virtual itineration zoom events.

Travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic are likely to remain in place until very late 2022 or early 2023 for many countries. Once again, we are presented with the challenge of assisting our missionaries, and their supporting churches to connect in meaningful ways virtually. At this point, all missionaries scheduled to itinerate in 2022 will do so virtually. This will be their only opportunity to itinerate for the next three years or so.
They are available for invitation during your worship services to tell their stories during children’s moments, or you can ask them to read the scriptures.

**Great news:** We now have new missionary advocates for the Western Jurisdiction. Let us welcome Dan and Courtney Randal.

Howard Parker, the father of Katherine Parker, will be assisting and helping me with itineration when it happens in person. They will be in the Pacific Northwest during winter and back in California during summer. He attended the CSGM meetings while I was out of the country.

The General Board for Global Ministries is also proud to announce their newly re-designed giving websites. Global Ministries is taking advantage of new technology to enhance your digital experience with the future in mind. This enables everyone to leverage the most current tools to make engaging in mission effective and carry the message forward.

Whether you can support through a “**covenant relationship,**” donations for their projects, your prayers and your help support Christ’s work around the world. Thanks again for all you do to connect the church in mission! Global Ministries is grateful, and missionaries are grateful for what you do to make sure missionaries are supported at the highest level and have what they need to continue serving and working in such a difficult time.

**Hispanic Ministry Report - Lourdes Tifre, Committee Chair**

2021 was another challenging year, the second year dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and other social issues in the Hispanic community at the national level. Still, our commitment to serve and minister to the community gave us the strength and desire to keep going with the work that God has commanded us to do.

With the leadership of **Cruz Edwin Santos**, director of Hispanic/Latinx Ministry, we have regular monthly meetings, where we exchange ideas and created strategies for ministering and serving the community, discuss different issues as they arise, and found resources available around Skagit Valley.

We participated in a series of different leadership development workshops, especially how to handle and maneuver online Zoom church services, Bible studies and keeping in contact with people participating in ministries. Some of our members participated in the Virtual Border Trip with Arizona Justice for Our Neighbors (JFON). Many Latinx/Ministry members are continuing with their higher education study goals.

Again in 2021, we provided financial and pastoral care in the community by distributing gift cards and helping with monthly bills and different urgent needs in many families. Families in our ministries are still affected by the COVID-19 situation; it could be job or health-related.

We connected with different agencies and other faith organizations to help provide better service to our community. The Washington State Health Department provided some workshops in English and Spanish about the importance of vaccines and clarified some of the myths and misinformation about the vaccine.
Once again, providing significantly needed pastoral care. This is vital for our communities and people who want to maintain their sense of cultural identity. It’s great to offer a safe place to share their stories and struggles as an immigrant community.

We are excited to announce that very soon, we will re-open our Latinx/Hispanic ministry in Everett, with the opening of our brand new building that will house the Spanish Church – La Palabra Viviente/Living Word that had been under construction. This place will be the only United Methodist presence in the Everett area, so we are very happy and looking forward to serving the surrounding community with a very high Latino population.

- Looking forward to 2022, we are hoping to:
  - To coordinate with CWJFON a round table in fall 2022.
  - To coordinate a webinar about how to embrace Multiculturalism in the local church.
  - To continue providing leadership formation webinars for our leaders and communities.
  - To continue providing coaching, mentoring and translation services for our connection.
  - To create a Spanglish online event.
  - We need to be better connected to every church planting in the Latinx community.
  - We need to incorporate more young and young adult leaders into our ministry.
  - Leadership Retreat
  - Youth Retreat

The vision of Hispanic/Latinx Ministry in the Pacific Northwest is to be a church called to be united and diverse in God’s love that changes lives and transforms communities.
BOARD OF LAITY

Our second year of the COVID-19 pandemic saw many churches closed for another year, meeting only online yet continuing to grow in mission, ministry, fellowship and purpose. This has created new challenges and opportunities for lay leaders of the churches, districts and conferences.

There has been continued cooperation among the Greater Northwest Area. We have created a strong link between the three conference lay leaders, from exploring lay leadership training to a shared laity session for conference. Central to this intent to work together is also honoring the significant cultural differences. We are not the same, and we work together with a deep respect for one another.

Another area of cooperation and collaboration has been with the Mountain Sky Conference sharing training opportunities across episcopal areas. Now, laity can take advantage of training offered in any areas included in MS and GNW Episcopal areas.

We have rejuvenated laity training and created a Laity Leadership Development arm of the Board of Laity. More than ever, laity is needed to step up into greater leadership roles in the church, the district, the conference, and the wider church. John Townsend, Inland District Lay Leader, has accepted the interim responsibility of leading this team and promoting the path to Lay Servant Minister and Certified Lay Minister. Watch for developments in this area.

We continue to build learning and networking opportunities for laity across the annual conference. Of note is the SeaTac Missional District led by Andy O’Donnell, which has continued a monthly zoom gathering for church lay leaders for two years now. While this began with the SeaTac District, it has broadened to inviting others across the conference to participate. They started with networking and now have moved to a training one month and networking the next. The result is a much stronger relationship between church lay leaders with an openness to sharing concerns and ideas.

The 2021 Laity Session featured Micheal Pope, California-Nevada Conference Lay Leader. The laity session was held before the conference and at a time that did not conflict with the clergy session. As we had no business to discuss, this session was open to others.

In 2022 we see the startup of the Laity Leadership Development Team encouraging open learning and more laity entering the path to lay servant ministries and certified lay ministers. The foundation is being built for a scholarship fund for laity learning. We will see increased collaboration at the conference, district, and local church levels. We will continue to lift the laity’s voice and support the leadership role of laity. And, at our 2022 laity session, we will hold an election for a new Associate Conference Lay Leader. As Angelina Goldwell has been a gift from God in her role with the Board of Laity, we heartily wish her well in her path ahead.

Nancy Tam Davis

PNW Conference Lay Leader
THE 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 giving channels, UMW supports over 226 programs in 34 countries, with 121 missions in the United States. In 2021 the conference raised $78,625.99 for Pledge to Mission. Conference UMW units raised additional funds for local projects and missions.

The UMW Endowment Fund
Established in 1997, the total fund balance is now $117,580.20 (principal balance $86,421.73 plus interest), thanks to generous donors. The interest is used for scholarships and special grants. Since January 2019, funds have been invested in a Diversified Moderate Portfolio. This is a unique program among UMW conferences.

Mission Agencies
The Atlantic Street Center in Seattle and Tacoma Community House are the two national mission institutes in the Pacific Northwest. Both received support from United Methodist Women throughout the conference.

The Conference UMW Annual Meeting
The annual meeting was held by Zoom Saturday, October 16, with the theme “All Things Bright and Beautiful.” Elizabeth Chun Hye Lee, Connectional Office from National United Methodist Women, gave the keynote speech on “Caring for God’s Creation.” This event included recognition of retiring officers, a business meeting to approve the annual budget and elect and install new officers, a Memorial Remembrance honoring leaders who passed, and a celebration of achievements by local units. The conference gave the 2021 Racial Justice Award to Irene Murrow for her social action with Fairwood United Methodist Women. Tyrone Olds and Ian Patrick McKnight from the PNW Office of Connectional Ministries provided outstanding technical support.

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, Economic Justice/Wealth Inequality third, and Mass Incarceration/School to Prison Pipeline fourth. UMW promoted action in Washington through Interfaith Advocacy Day by Zoom on February 11 and through the Idaho Legislative Event by Zoom on January 10 and on February 7. At both events, participants learned about important bills and had opportunities to communicate with their senators and representatives.
Mission u
This cooperative venture of UMW and the Conference Board of Global Ministries was held by Zoom July 29-31 to provide mission studies for men, women, and youth. The 2021 theme was “There’s Far More Here Than Meets the Eye.” The Spirituality Study “Finding Peace in an Anxious World” was taught by Joanne Coleman Campbell, the Issues Study “Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools” by Donna Farrell, Nica Sy, and Angela Reed. The youth study “Becoming Peacemakers” was taught by Jay Godfrey and the children’s study “Responding Violence” by Sue Raymond.

Meeting and Events
The Conference Executive Team met four times by Zoom for business and planning. Members participated in the UMW Reading Program by meeting weekly to discuss books selected from five categories (Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth). The team also supported an orphan at Jamaa Letu. The Conference Spiritual Retreat “What We Need Is Here,” featuring the book by L. Rogers Owen, was held March 19-20 by Zoom with spiritual leader Brenda Tutor. The total number of participants was 75. District Missional Districts held Annual Meetings in September by Zoom.

Quilts for Children at Risk
UMW units sent over 750 quilts to the Texas borders, over 200 to Nome Community Center, and more to other shelters.

From the President: As president of UMW, I am proud of the talented and dedicated women in the Conference. They fulfill the purpose and live the vision of UMW, especially during a challenging year that required Zoom for meetings.

Ja ne’t W. Crouse
President, PNW United Methodist Women
VITALITY COMMISSION

The Vitality Commission began its work in January 2022, after being formed by Bishop Elaine Stanovsky in response to legislation passed at the 2021 Annual Conference sessions across the Greater Northwest Area. We began with nine members that reflected the diversity of the area and satisfied the demographic requests of the originating legislation. Two members have since left the team for unrelated reasons. We also have a staff liaison from each conference.

Our goal is to do serious, grounded work with integrity to the legislation’s goals and offer proposals seeking an optimal approach to supporting innovation and vitality – whether in a new church start or an existing congregation – that is flexible, contextual, responsive, and accessible.

To honor the legislation’s hope that we would organize and do our work with decolonial and anti-racist aspirations, we initially chose to not elect a chairperson and have instead rotated the group leadership. Dr. Daymond Glenn has since taken on a leadership role. We also gave much space at our initial meetings to hear where each other was coming from and to name the harms felt in our recent life and ministry experiences related to the Vitality Commission’s work. This work of building trust took time but was necessary to our purpose.

We divided our work into three teams that are:

1. Researching roles and responsibilities by examining existing training and support documentation.
2. Reviewing project processes and workflows by seeking interviews with current and former IV planters, innovators, staff, and conference committee members.
3. Exploring the institutional and legal requirements for merging existing conference-level governing bodies into a single Greater Northwest Vitality Council.

After our organizing meetings, we learned of expressed concern over the transition out of the Team Leader from the Innovation and Vitality team and questions and confusion by the innovators and planters as to their future. The Vitality Commission names it is a listening and recommending body that welcomes feedback from innovators and planters along the above work team lines.

Given our involvement of fewer than four months as of this writing, the obvious care and careful sensitivity needed during this season of transition, and per the flexibility granted by enabling 2021 legislation, the Vitality Commission requests an additional year to draft the enabling legislation for the formation of the Greater Northwest Vitality Council for consideration by the 2023 Annual Conference sessions. Over the next year, quarterly
reports and recommendations will be made available to the bishop, cabinet, and conference-level governance bodies to keep pace with our progress and actions that don’t have to wait for conference sessions.

Respectfully submitted,

2022–2023 Vitality Commission Team Members

- Mark Galang
- Daymond Glenn
- Wongee Job
- Cynthia MacLeod
- Skylar Marston-Bihl
- Elizabeth Ripley
- Jeremy Smith

Staff Liaisons

- Laurie Day
- Rhondalei Gabuat
- Carlo Rapanut
OUTSIDE INSTITUTION REPORTS

AFRICA UNIVERSITY

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

This year, The United Methodist Church marks 30 years of vibrant, transformative ministry through Africa University. Thank you, Pacific Northwest Conference, for your faithfulness and generosity in bringing the dream of Africa University to life.

From the first conversations in 1984 to formal approval at the General Conference in 1988, the planting of Africa University required vision, faith, and bold action in the face of predictions that it could never succeed. Africa University found advocates and friends in the Pacific Northwest Conference and across the denomination. The “Dream is Alive” was the rallying cry in March 1992 as 40 students from six African countries attended the first lectures in repurposed farm buildings.

In celebrating its 30th anniversary, Africa University is honoring the past and looking to the future, while remaining true to its mission as the cornerstone ministry for United Methodist-related leadership development in Africa.

Africa University’s journey from day one to the present is a shared story of being salt and light. Africa University is also part of the Pacific Northwest Conference’s story—of restoring hope, equipping, and sending forth young leaders to shape an abundant life for themselves and for the communities they serve.

Much like the year that preceded it, 2021 affirmed that God’s grace is sufficient in all circumstances. In January 2021, the students, faculty, and staff grappled with the sudden death of Africa University Vice Chancellor, Dr. Munashe Furusa. As the year unfolded, the COVID-19 pandemic claimed more lives, continued to restrict travel, and damaged livelihoods. Unable to be together on campus, the students, faculty, and staff grieved, pivoted, supported, and encouraged each other, and persevered.

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

Effective online-only teaching, learning and student assessment: About 99 percent of students participated in online learning. Enrollment held steady at 3,060 students and more than 500 graduates from 24 African countries were awarded degrees in July 2021.

The installation of AU’s fifth Chancellor: Bishop Gaspar João Domingos of the Western Angola Episcopal Area was elected Chancellor following the death of Bishop John K. Yambasu of Sierra Leone.

Research and community service

AU researchers received US$2 million in funding for regional initiatives to eradicate malaria, tuberculosis and other communicable diseases.

AU’s students and graduates led, and showed their love of neighbor, with initiatives to feed hungry families, care for the environment, and improve the quality of life of legally
blind parents and their children.

AU received the 2021 Jairos Jiri Humanitarian Award from the Government of Zimbabwe in recognition of its pandemic impact mitigation efforts.

Africa University is grateful to the Pacific Northwest Conference for investing 86.79 percent of the asking to the Africa University Fund (AUF) in 2021. Thank you to the 250+ churches and new faith communities in the Pacific Northwest Conference for graciously helping to ensure access to a life-changing educational experience for the students at Africa University, most of whom are unable to fund a college education on their own!

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

James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement
Africa University Development Office

Thank You.
Your faithful giving offers new growth for Africa’s future.


Pacific Northwest Annual Conference
I am profoundly grateful for your partnership, prayers, and support in these challenging times. A year like 2021 makes even more relevant BUSTH’s historic and ongoing commitments to peace and justice in cultivating transformational leaders. We remain hopeful and vigilant in our continued partnership with you.

BREAKING NEWS

Return to Campus: Faculty, administrators, and library returned to in-person instruction and work in Fall 2021, with many events reaching hybrid audiences. Strict COVID-19 precautions continue to ensure the safety of students, faculty, and administrators.

Students: Our Fall 2021 entering class was among our most diverse, with 108 new students enrolling in September.

Faculty: In September we celebrated the appointment of Cristian De La Rosa as Associate Dean for Students and Community Life. Prof. Shelly Rambo leads the Lilly funded project on “Trauma-Responsive Congregations,” and two faculty members—Profs. Dana Robert and Wesley Wildman—were each honored with festschrifts. Prof. Jonathan Calvillo’s book The Saints of Santa Ana received the HTI Book Award, and Prof. Choi Hee An published A Postcolonial Leadership. BUSTH is conducting faculty searches with anticipation of welcoming new faculty in the fall.

Launch of a New Online Degree: BUSTH’s first fully online master’s degree—the Master of Religion and Public Leadership (MARPL)—is currently enrolling students for its first cohort in fall 2022. MARPL seeks students who wish to be prepared for leadership roles that creatively engage the challenges of public life.

Peale Foundation Grant: Prof. Steven Sandage and his research team were awarded a $2.19 million, five-year grant by the Norman Vincent Peale Foundation for a project that fosters a network of communities for relational care and support to spiritual leaders and therapists to offer resources to reduce trauma risk and vocational burnout and foster flourishing.

Scholarships: We continue to offer free tuition to UMC-registered candidates for ordained ministry and leadership fellowships that support students in ethnic, gender, and sexuality studies. New funds include the Sacred Worth Scholarship Fund and the Dean Thurman & Bishop Easterling Fellowship Fund.

Online Lifelong Learning: BUSTH offers online workshops for professional and spiritual enrichment of religious leaders. Recent workshops include “Practices of Grief in a Time of Pandemic” and “Reflecting with Howard Thurman.” To learn more, visit bu.edu/sth/oll.

Development: Recent accomplishments include endowing the Center for Global Christianity and Mission upon its 20th anniversary and new funding for student scholarships and academic programs.
COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE and COMPASSION

BUSTH’s Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion offers webinars on timely inclusion efforts, such as “Increasing Participation of Students of Underrepresented Backgrounds.” The 2021-22 Lowell Lectures are dedicated to cross-advocacy and intersectionality in racial justice efforts. This fall, Dr. Kwok Pui Lan advocated for broader understandings of political theology and greater awareness of anti-Asian sentiment and violence. A diverse panel response fostered rich conversation.

Work continues to improve accessibility, sustainability, and responsible investing. BUSTH is the first certified Green School at BU and active in the Green Seminary Initiative.

With faith and gratitude,

G. Sujin Pak, Dean
Since 1914, Candler School of Theology at Emory University has lived into our mission, educating faithful and creative leaders for the church's ministries throughout the world. This year, as we leaned into this critical work and continued to adapt to a world changed by the coronavirus pandemic, we imagined new possibilities for students who are called by God to pursue serious theological study and preparation for ministry. For some, opening avenues to graduate theological education requires moving financial obstacles, and for others, geography or family responsibilities may be the barriers. Candler is committed to assisting students in removing these barriers and opening new pathways to ministry.

An official seminary of The United Methodist Church, Candler holds true to the Methodist value of ecumenical openness, enthusiastically welcoming students from 43 denominations, with 45% of MDiv students coming from the Wesleyan tradition. Our student body reflects the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful, with an enrollment of 466 from 16 countries and 38 states, 45% persons of color (U.S.), and a median age of 28 among MDivs. This diversity is a blessing, enriching our students and our larger community and providing a “learning laboratory” for ministry in the 21st century—ministry that reaches across difference, works to resolve injustice, and embodies Christ's love in and among us.

Candler offers six single degrees (MDiv, MTS, MRL MRPL, ThM, DMin) and ten dual degrees. Our DMin is 90% online, so students can remain in their places of ministry while earning their degrees. Its high 87% completion rate illustrates both the quality of our students and Candler's commitment to their success. This year, we increased online offerings in other degrees as well. Now students can complete the Master of Religion and Public Life completely online; the Master of Religious Leadership with concentrations in Youth Ministry, Justice, Peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation, or Wesleyan Leadership and Heritage in a hybrid format; and MDiv students can complete core classes online. Plus, our new Remote Teaching Parish (RTP) program allows MDiv students who have jobs in ecclesial settings far from our Atlanta campus to take core classes online and complete their contextual education requirements at their place of ministry, participating in mentor-led online groups with other RTP students.

Alleviating student debt through generous financial aid is a top priority. In 2020-2021, we awarded more than $6.8 million in financial aid, with 100% of MDiv and 98.5% of all students receiving support. All MDiv students who are certified candidates for ordained ministry in the UMC receive full-tuition scholarships, and all MDiv, MTS, MRL, and ThM students who are enrolled part-time or more receive a scholarship covering at least 50% of tuition for the length of their program.

Hundreds of laity and theology students alike have joined in classes and events offered through The Candler Foundry, our innovative program to make theological education
accessible to all. Through short and semester-length courses taught by Candler faculty, videos and discussion guides to spark conversation in groups or one-on-one, and online panel discussions, those who want to delve more deeply into theology and the Bible have the chance to do just that. View the latest offerings at candlerfoundry.emory.edu.

Associate Dean of Methodist Studies the Rev. Dr. Anne Burkholder will retire from Candler at the end of the 2021-22 academic year. We are grateful to God for her energetic and skillful leadership in this vital area as she strengthened the connection between our students and conferences throughout the UMC, mentoring them as they discerned their call and navigated the ordination process.

Candler’s ability to fulfill our mission to provide the church with the faithful and creative leaders it needs depends upon your prayers, partnership, and support. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this essential ministry in the life of our denomination. We invite you to visit us online at candler.emory.edu.

Jan Love
Mary Lee Hardin Willard Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics
Candler School of Theology, Emory University
Every year as I write this report, I am afforded the opportunity to reflect deeply upon the previous year and to feel a sincere sense of gratitude for the ways so many people have shown up (and continue to show up) for Claremont School of Theology. It is easy to get caught up in the day-to-day business of leading the School, but this project reminds me that we are not alone.

For more than 135 years, CST has existed to prepare students to become agents of transformation, healing, and renovation in the world, and that mission continues in large part because of the support of the people, congregations, and witness of the Western Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church.

As you well know, the school has struggled financially and has sought to relocate to Salem, Oregon, to keep the mission alive. On January 4, 2022, that avenue to sustainability was closed by the Los Angeles Superior Court which ruled that CST is required to sell its property to The Claremont Colleges, Inc. Since our litigation with TCC began in 2015, our aim has been to receive a fair, reasonable, and equitable price for the Claremont campus so that we can continue to carry out our mission to serve current and future theological students.

Since that January decision, CST and TCC have engaged in a process of negotiation, but unfortunately, those efforts have not yet borne fruit. Consequently, on March 4, 2022, CST filed an appeal to the January decision. We will follow the appeal process while we consider arbitration, a separate process that is afforded to us by the 1957 agreement with the Colleges. If we decide to go into arbitration, know that the arbiter will not be bound by the previous court decisions; however, their decision, whatever it may be, will be final.

In the meantime, the business of running the school goes on. Seven years ago, CST developed a strategic plan to support the mission of the school and to honor the work of generations of faithful people. The plan was based on three goals: promoting transformative education, engaging local and global communities, and achieving long-term institutional stability.

Transformative Theological Education

In the last year, under the leadership of alumnus Steve Horswill-Johnston, Executive Vice President for Operations, Communications & Advancement (COO), CST launched a campaign to promote CST’s brand of transformative theological education, and it is working. The world hungers for the kind of theologians who come out of CST, and our
Admissions team is receiving dozens of new inquiries each week. Incoming students are not concerned with CST’s struggles but with CST’s renowned, progressive theological education.

Further, through the last two years of 100% online education due to the pandemic, our faculty and staff have continued to care holistically for our current students while providing truly transformative and life-giving educational experiences. Knowing firsthand the capacity for rigorous, engaging, and community-building online options, in early March our faculty developed and approved a 100% online MDiv program. While this modality does not satisfy the UMC requirements for ordination, it certainly opens the doors for second-career students who cannot quit working and move their family for in-residence education.

Engage Local and Global Communities

In this area, CST is unmatched. We continue to draw students from a wide variety of backgrounds — making CST one of the, if not the, most diverse theological schools in the country. In 2021, we graduated 91 students, 61% of whom identified as people of color. These numbers not only reflect our commitment to ending systemic racism, but also our deeply-felt responsibility to making theological education accessible. The national average for traditionally underrepresented racial/ethnic groups for masters degree-seeking students in humanities is about 15%, while only about 10% of students in doctoral programs are people of color. We are profoundly humbled to walk alongside these students and honored to receive the gifts they bring to CST.

Our current enrollment is 238, 67% of whom are students of color and 42% of whom do not identify as male. By degree program, we have 93 MDiv students, 76 PhD students, 57 DMin students, 7 MTS students, and 5 MA students representing Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Unitarian Universalist, and other faith traditions.

Further, our faculty continue to innovate and expand our academic offerings. For example, in addition to the new Global Contextual Theologies PhD program developed with Chang Jung Christian University in Taiwan last year, a new joint MDiv program with CJCU was approved just a few months ago! We currently have 8 students in that PhD program and are looking forward to more new students this fall.

Finally, we developed an Anti-Racism Task Force last year with the mission to initiate anti-racist policies across the CST community. The team is composed of staff and faculty members and is working on a multi-pronged approach that would include the strengthening of academic programming; faculty and staff hiring; coaching, mentoring, and support of students, especially students of color; increasing scholarships for African-American students; and continuing the funding of the Coloring Mental Health Collective. With the intention to more clearly signal CST’s commitment to equity and justice (with diversity and inclusion), CST’s Committee on Diversity and Inclusion’s name was changed to the Equity, Diversity, Justice, and Inclusion Committee (EDJI-Com). In the coming year, EDJI-Com hopes to announce initiatives that contribute to the call for personal, interpersonal, and institutional change to dismantle anti-blackness and racism at CST and beyond.
Long-Term Institutional Sustainability

Since the January court decision, CST’s leadership continues to seek viable and innovative solutions to the problem of financial sustainability. Since merging with Willamette University is no longer an option, and since we will likely be forced to sell some or all of our Claremont campus, we are developing a number of options for what we are internally calling “Claremont 2.0.”

As always, we are committed to the mission and vision of the school, and we want you to know that we have maintained our own accreditation and academic systems. Further, we are committed to remaining in Southern California, the home of our largest number of residential students, all of our business operations, the Office of the President, the Office of Advancement and Communications, the Office of the Dean and Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Student Services.

Certainly, we could not do this critical work without the generosity and grace of the conferences of the Western Jurisdiction. I ask you to continue to pray for the School and its leadership; to promote CST in your churches, communities, and among your friends; and to consider becoming a donor to CST’s annual fund. Your commitment to the School is the best way to see it thrive. Together, we are CST.

Blessings and good health,

Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan
President and Professor of Hebrew Bible

P.S. The following pages offer an update on our faculty and staff who tirelessly support the School and its students.

Faculty Updates

Professor Duane Bidwell was published in *The Sage Handbook of Constructionist Practices*, an edited volume, with a chapter titled “Social Construction, Practical Theology, and the Practices of Religious Communities.” Dr. Bidwell also appeared on the Japanese program “Carving the Divine TV” with Yujiro Seki in an episode titled “Religious Multiplicity: Can We Be Buddhist and Christian at the Same Time?”

Professor Philip Clayton co-edited a book titled *The New Possible: Visions of Our World Beyond Crisis*. The book offers twenty-eight unique visions of what can be, if instead of choosing to go back to normal, we choose to go forward to something far better. Learn more at [https://thenewpossible.org/](https://thenewpossible.org/)

Professor Andrew Dreitcer was featured in the short film titled “On the Path: Meditation, Spirituality, and the Dark Night of the Soul” where he defined “dark night.” The film was created by Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, Dr. Matthew S. Goodman.

Professor Roland Faber had a new book published this past March titled *Divine Appearance-
Professor Namjoong Kim wrote a chapter titled “Preaching from the Perspective of Asian American Theology” for the edited volume Preaching the Manifold Grace of God: Theologies of Preaching in the Early Twenty-First Century Volume 2, as well as “Worship after the Covid-19 Pandemic Crisis in Korean Contexts” for the Institute for Biblical Preaching in Seoul.

President and Professor Jeffrey Kuan co-edited From Malaysia to the Ends of the Earth: Southeast Asian and Diasporic Contributions to Biblical and Theological Studies with a number of other Malaysian theologians and biblical scholars.

Dean of Faculty and Professor Sheryl Kujawa-Holbrook was inducted as a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society for her original contributions to historical scholarship and was also elected by the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church to serve as the sixth Editor of Anglican and Episcopal History Journal.

Professor Frank Rogers wrote several journal articles, including “Searching for Beauty: Art in the Midst of the Ugly” for Insights, “Compassion-Based Spiritual Direction: Internal Family Systems as a Resource for Spiritual Companions” for Presence: An International Journal of Spiritual Direction, and “Faithful Presence within the Abyss: Seven Days of Devotions” for The Upper Room Disciplines 2020: Weavings Honorary Edition. He was also featured in a podcast with Claire Mckeever-Burgett of Upper Room’s Academy for Spiritual Formation, titled “Holy and Healing: Conversations with Academy Leaders in the Time of Pandemic.” Finally, not to be deterred by a global pandemic, Dr. Rogers led five workshops on Compassion in the last half of 2020.

Prolific writer and Professor Marvin Sweeney’s publications include a number of chapters in edited volumes, such as “The Distinctive Roles of the Prophets” in The Oxford Handbook of the Historical Books, “The Book of the Twelve and Kingship” in The Book of the Twelve: Composition, Reception, and Interpretation, “Reading Isaiah after the Shoah” in The Oxford Handbook of Isaiah, “Why Moses was Barred from the Land of Israel: A Reassessment of Numbers 20 In Literary Context” in Seeking Wisdom’s Depths and Torah’s Heights: Essays in Honor of Samuel E. Balentine, and “Eli, A High Priest Thrown Under the Wheels of the Ox Cart” in Characters and Characterization in Samuel and Kings. Additionally, Dr. Sweeney spoke at a Symposium on Asian Biblical Theology at Chang Jung Christian University in Taiwan.

Staff Updates
Long-time librarian Koala Jones said goodbye after thirty-one years of service. CST honored her with the President’s Distinguished Service award for her lifetime commitment to CST and its students. Koala began serving CST just before the presidency of Bob Edgar and worked in every area of the library during her tenure.
Max Wedel, Elizabeth Strowbridge, and Karen Gonzalez makeup our Admissions team. Max came to CST with a decade of Admissions experience and serves as our Senior Director of Admissions and Enrollment Services. Elizabeth was recently promoted to Associate Director of Admissions, and Karen serves as an Admissions Counselor/Recruiter.

CST also welcomed back several alums to leadership roles. Rev. Steve Horswill-Johnston, ’89, serves as Executive Vice President for Operations, Communications, and Advancement; Rev. Alecia Glaize, ’87, serves as Interim Associate Dean of Students; and Dr. Vicki Wiltse, ’99, ’10, and ’12, serves as both our Thesis Secretary for PhD Students and our Writing Tutor. Further rounding out our new staff, Ana Tamayo serves as our Coordinator of Student Support Services and Accessibility and Disability, as well as our Designated School Official, and doctoral student Jieun Yun serves as our Housing Coordinator.

Finally, CST had several internal promotions. Alumna Dr. Kendra Fredrickson-Laouini, ’13 and ’20, now serves as Assistant Dean for Academic Success and Adjunct Professor while continuing in her role as Director of Communications. Montassar Laouini was promoted to Director of Facilities, Physical Plant and Campus Housing; doctoral student Taehoon Lee serves as our Information Technology Manager; Dmitri Potemkin was promoted to Director for Donor Stewardship and Database Administration; and Sansu Woodmancy’s title is now Registrar and Director of Student Support Services.
DISABILITY MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

The Disability Ministries Committee (DMC), a ministry partner of the General Commission on Religion and Race, does not receive apportioned funds from the Church. We rely on gifts from United Methodist General Agencies and organizations, annual conferences, congregations, and individuals to continue this important work.

Some of the things we did in 2021 included:

- Awarded 4 Accessibility grants to help fund ADA parking improvements at a local church, restroom modifications for a mission-education urban church, ramps and accessible restrooms for a college/ conference meeting space in The Philippines, and ramp improvements for a soup kitchen ministry.
- Compiled and sent 6 newsletters/resource updates to over 2000 individuals and organization each time, adding a Mental Health newsletter that alternates with the existing Disability Connections newsletter.
- Provided resources through an up-to-date and accessible DMC website (https://umcdmc.org/) and via social media, recording over 35,000 engagements.
- Initiated fundraising strategies to increase our base of support and insure viability into the future.
- Welcomed our first Central Conference member to the DMC.
- Began a cross cultural disability ministry focus group with initial members representing Korea, The Philippines, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Hispanic ministries near the Mexican border.
- Responded to disability-related queries from throughout the denomination regarding accessibility, advocacy, and resource needs, including churches that wrote to claim their Disability-friendly and Accessible Church badge.
- Solicited, oriented, and incorporated 4 new volunteer Resource Persons to supplement and leverage the work of DMC members.
- Strengthened partnerships across the General church, including providing feedback to Discipleship Ministries on a proposed revision of the Safe Sanctuaries materials.

With your continued support, the future looks bright, and the possibilities are many. With your help, we see a church where people with disabilities will find a true place of belonging where their gifts and graces are welcomed and put to God’s good use to bring the Kingdom of God a little closer.

In Jesus’ Name,

Rev. Debbie Hills
Chairperson, Disability Ministries Committee of The United Methodist Church
DREW UNIVERSITY THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

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

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

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

Melanie Johnson-DeBaufre
Interim Dean
GBHEM seeks to promote innovative and experiential opportunities for transformative learning, higher education, and ministry formation worldwide. The agency works with key partners, churches, and institutions in Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, and Eurasia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and North America to offer connectional, contextual, and collaborative programs to support the Church, the Academy, and the world. Among its various activities, GBHEM is responsible for two initiatives approved by General Conference: The Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development (MGEFLD) – which includes the Grants and Scholarships Program (GRASP) – and the Central Conference Theological Education Fund (CCTEF). The agency also maintains Regional Hubs for Leadership, Education and Development (LEAD Hubs) in various locations around the world, has helped create and support the International Association of Methodist Schools, Colleges, and Universities (IAMSCU), and works with regional education associations on five continents. GBHEM is currently partnering with general agencies and other organizations to support important projects on COVID-19 vaccine equity, mindfulness and wellbeing, net-zero emissions, human rights, and the promotion of a culture of generosity throughout the United Methodist worldwide connection.

In 1972, The United Methodist Church reaffirmed its support of the 11 historically black colleges and universities related to the denomination by creating the Black College Fund and this year we celebrate its 50th Anniversary. Support for the Black College Fund supports the education of world-changing leaders by investing in the hopes and dreams of students from around the world. Continued support for the Black College Fund renews the vision for the next generation of transformational leaders.

We celebrate GBHEM awarding more than 2,250 students a total of $4,084,979 in scholarships in 2021. These future leaders range from first year freshmen to doctorate level students across the denomination. We are grateful for the support received in recognizing United Methodist Student Day, World Communion Sunday, and Native American Sunday which helps fund a portion of our scholarships. The remaining funds for these awards come from gifts, annuities, and endowments GBHEM has invested and administered for decades.

Worldwide Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (WIDEA) is a strategic focus area for GBHEM to align its work with the mission and ministry of congregations and constituents around the world. This renewed commitment includes advanced staff development in intercultural competency, active listening, and a deeper understanding of and appreciation for difference so relevant programs and services may be developed, offered, and implemented more equitably and effectively.

GBHEM remains committed to building and sustaining collaborative cross-conference networks that foster collegiality and guide credentialing for ordained and licensed ministry. We have partnered with conference leaders to clarify the role of those in ministry while assisting in the interpretation and application of relevant paragraphs within The Book of Discipline. We have supported the work of recruiting, guiding, and credentialing candidates and clergy through the development of Passage - a comprehensive registry resource - as well as a virtual onboarding module for new district and conference board members.
Hundreds of years before amazon.com, John Wesley stuffed the saddlebags of circuit riders with books of theology and biblical interpretation—selling them to fund the movement while spreading it literally. GBHEM continues this innovative spirit by leveraging social enterprise opportunities and creative partnerships as a way of reducing its reliance on apportionments while continuing to focus on delivering the very best services, products, and programs to United Methodist constituents around the world.

The same spirit of service and leadership that first inspired John Wesley lives on in each of us. Today, GBHEM looks confidently to the future taking bold and creative action, remaining good stewards, and continuing to support The United Methodist Church in innovative and meaningful ways.

Greg Bergquist

*General Secretary, GBHEM*
SAINT PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

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

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

Saint Paul staff and faculty continue to contribute to the academy, church, and society. This year, we have had many faculty and staff changes. After many years of tremendous service to students and the Seminary, Dr. James Brandt and Dr. Hal Knight announced retirement plans effective at the end of the 2021-2022 academic year. In addition, Dr. Jeanne Hoeft will step down from her role as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean at the end of the academic year but will continue as faculty. New additions to the Seminary family include Dr. Joshua Bartholomew, Assistant Professor of Ethics, Church and Society; Dr. Tiffany Nagel Monroe, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Campus; and Rabbi Michael Zedek, Rabbi-in-Residence.

- Dr. Nancy Howell, Professor of Theology and Philosophy of Religion and Oubri A. Poppele Professor of Health and Welfare Ministries, was re-elected to a second term on the Executive Committee of the International Society for Science and Religion. She also had an article published in a South African journal. With more than a decade of service, she serves on the Broader Social Impacts Committee of the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian.

- Dr. Casey Sigmon, Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship and Director of Contextual Education, was invited to be a writer for “Lent Another Way,” an e-course, with The Plural Guild and The Many, and she offered the convocation address for Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in Fall 2021. She also applied for and received a grant from the Wabash Center for Teaching to support my project entitled: “Resisting the Plagiarized Pulpit: Helping Students and the Professor to Find their voice through Artistic Instructional Design.”

- This January, Dr. Joshua Bartholomew, Assistant Professor of Ethics, Church and Society, was the guest speaker at a Kansas City event, “Black Theology and the
Black Panthers: A Conversation with Dr. Joshua Bartholomew.” In addition, he was recently interviewed by Climate Central for the article “‘A moral imperative’: Monastic sisters in rural Midwest make faith-based case for climate action.”

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

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

For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, Saint Paul Course of Study (COS) School educated 228 individual students, 49 of which were new students, with approximately 550 registrations and offering a total of 50 courses. Serving 32 Conferences, including 94 Districts, 121 Full Time and 106 Part-Time Licensed Local Pastors comprised these registrations. Saint Paul Course of Study School welcomed new Regional Director Dr. Lucas Endicott. Dr. Endicott has been serving as Associate Director for the Office of Mission, Service, and Justice at the Missouri Annual Conference and lecturing at Central Methodist University. Due to the continuing pandemic, the school has continued its course offerings in both asynchronous and synchronous online formats. Utilizing this online format, we reached students in 24 states. Plans include an increase in the number of hybrid course offerings. This fiscal year has also ushered in the new ability of online registration completed by the student and access to their student account through Populi as used by Seminary students. All our students share the same benefits by integrating Course of Study School into Populi, making them a more integrated part of the Saint Paul experience.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dr. Kent Millard, President

* Student data represent 2020-2021 headcount enrollment.** Figure represents those who responded.
Some days, it seems that we, and the religious, civic, and educational institutions we love, stand peering into the fog of an unknown future as questions resound: What does our collective future look like, and who will lead it? In the midst of these questions, Wesley remains committed to supporting pastors and churches and to preparing graduates to lead innovative ministries grounded in God’s mercy and justice. We stand ready to accompany you on the path to which God is calling you.

Creating new models of education that respond to students’ needs

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

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

Research projects support congregational community engagement and envision future ministry

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

• A new five-year project through the Wesley Innovation Hub will have two main foci: a one-year Design Fellowship to equip young adult leaders and the Wesley Design Lab, featuring both in-person and online curricula, training, and other resources for congregational innovation. Young adults ages 23–29 years are invited to apply for the Design Fellowship, which will provide an $8,000 stipend, community formation, spiritual direction, graduate-level courses in design thinking for ministry and hands-on experience leading innovation in congregations. Wesley will also be seeking creative persons of faith to be “Innovators in Residence” at Wesley and partner churches who have interesting challenges or opportunities for young adult ministry. To learn more: wesleyseminary.edu/wesley-innovation-hub/
• A second new grant will undergird Wesley’s move toward comprehensive theological education for the whole church. Wesley will strengthen its existing excellent master’s and doctoral programs while also expanding a suite of pre-degree, post-degree (continuing education), and non-degree courses to meet the current and emerging needs of spiritual leaders in their context.

• Now in its second year of The Source Collaborative, Wesley continues to work with congregations in adjacent UMC annual conferences to identify markers of thriving and pursue them. Congregations and coaches interested in joining the 2023 cohort should apply by Sept. 1, 2022 via innovation@wesleyseminary.edu.

• The Religious Workforce Project, run by the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, studies religious work in congregations across several denominations to understand current and future needs. Learn about emerging data at religiousworkforce.com/.

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

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

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

Wesley’s premiere Doctor of Ministry programs includes three new 2022 tracks: Ministry in a Digital Age; Justice, Compassion, and Witness in a Turbulent World (Cambridge, UK); and a program focused on Latinx ministry. In 2023, we will again see popular DMin tracks: the Cambridge UK track, Military and CPE Chaplains, Global Church Leadership program, Church Leadership Excellence and a ground-breaking track on Trauma. Visit wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry/.
Enrich your congregational outreach and explore new dimensions of ministry

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

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

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

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

Stay connected

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

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