Texas United Methodist Historical Society Newsletter

Winter, 2019 Vol. 10 #3
Wm. C. Hardt, editor

TUMHS 2019
“The Ties that Bind: Texas United Methodist Connections”
Annual Meeting of the Texas United Methodist Historical Society
Fort Worth and Arlington, Texas  April 5-6, 2019

Friday, April 5, 2019
Central Texas Conference Center, 3200 E. Rosedale, Fort Worth, Texas

8:45 a.m.    TUMHS Board Meeting
10:30 a.m.   Registration begins
12:30 p.m.   Welcome, Introductions, and Opening Devotions
1:00 p.m.    “The College on the Hill” - Elizabeth Urban Alexander, Ph.D., and Brenda Taylor Matthews, Ph.D.
2:00 p.m.    Walking Tour – Jean Traster
             • Texas Wesleyan University Administration Building (1902)
             • Polytechnic Methodist Episcopal Church, South (1903)
             • Texas Wesleyan University Archives (1890)
             • Cornerstone Garden (established 2001)
3:30 p.m.    Refreshment Break
4:00 p.m.    “A Particular Ministry: The Texas Methodist Student Movement”
             - Rev. Robert C. Monk, Ph.D.
5:00 p.m.  Activity – Texas United Methodist Team Trivia!

6:00 p.m.  Banquet

7:00 p.m.  AV Presentation: “Texas Methodist Togetherness” - Tim Binkley

7:15 p.m.  “The King’s Messenger—a Methodist Publication to Women for Women, 1896 to 1923” – Jane Lenz Elder

Saturday, April 6, 2019
Central Texas Conference Archives Center, 2201 E. Park Row, Arlington

8:30 a.m.  Tour of Central Texas Conference Archives Center – Calvin Scott

9:00 a.m.  Devotions  Location: Aldersgate UMC / Misión Esperanza fellowship hall

9:30 a.m.  TUMHS Annual Business Meeting

10:30 a.m.  Break

10:45 a.m.  Resume TUMHS Annual Business Meeting

Noon  Adjourn and Farewell until next year

Presenters:

Brenda Taylor Matthews, Ph.D., is professor of modern American history and holds the A.M. Pate Chair of History at Texas Wesleyan University. Her primary area of research deals with the Works Progress Administration (WPA) of the New Deal era. She is the co-author of The College on the Hill (2015).

Elizabeth Urban Alexander, Ph.D., is professor emerita of history at Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth. She is the author of Notorious Woman: The Celebrated Case of Myra Clark Gaines (2001) and co-author of The College on the Hill (2015).

For 127 years, the "college on the hill," known since 1988 as Texas Wesleyan University, has remained in its historic location on the bluff above the Trinity River, the oldest continuously operating institution of higher education in North Texas. The school has weathered Depression, war, and financial strain, and with the support of its donors, trustees, alumni, and faculty, continues to provide its students with the opportunity to pursue individual excellence and develop civic responsibility in a "smaller, smarter" environment.
Rev. Robert C. Monk, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of religion and former chair of the Division of Humanities at McMurry University, Abilene, Texas. Before joining the McMurry College faculty, he served as director of the Wesley Foundation at Texas A&M University (1954-1958) and as associate director of the Texas Methodist Student Movement (1961-1964). He is the author of John Wesley, His Puritan Heritage (1966), Exploring Religious Meaning (1980), Exploring Christianity (1984), and was part of the writing team that produced The Methodist Excitement in Texas (1984).

Jane Lenz Elder is a reference librarian at Bridwell Library, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. She holds graduate degrees in theology, history, and library science and is the author of several books and articles ranging from Golden Age Hollywood to 19th century American Southwest, to Mrs. Virginia K. Johnson and her endeavors to improve the lives of women in Progressive Era Texas. During her sophomore and junior years at SMU, Jane lived in Virginia Hall, named for Mrs. Johnson in recognition of her efforts to further Methodist women’s education in Texas by raising money to build safe, affordable dormitories for them. The King’s Messenger, about which Jane will speak, is the publication through which Mrs. Johnson was able to work her fundraising magic and raise awareness about issues impacting the health, education, and spiritual welfare of women and their families.

Housing Information

Here is the list of possible hotels for the TUMHS meeting here in Ft. Worth/Arlington. All are located between Cooper and Matlock Streets in Arlington, and just off I 20 East. As in the past, registrants make their own reservations.

Holiday Inn Express and Suites  
1721 Pleasant Place, Arlington  
817-784-8750

Quality Inn  
121 E. I 20, Arlington  
817-467-3535

Hilton Garden Inn  
521 I 20 East, Arlington  
817-557-8233

Courtyard by Marriott  
71 Highlander Blvd, Arlington  
371-465-5599

La Quinta Inn and Suites  
400 Scots Legacy Dr., Arlington  
817-467-7756
Register Now!

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY SO WE CAN HAVE AN ACCURATE COUNT.

To register, please print this page, fill in the blanks, enclose a check made out to TUMHS and mail to

Cindy Martin
Northwest Texas Conference Service Center and Archives at
1401 Avenue M, Lubbock, Texas. 79401
806-762-0201
archives@nwtxconf.org

NAME ____________________________________________

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEE__________________________

ADDRESS______________________________________

CONTACT INFORMATION__________________________
(PHONE AND EMAIL)

CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING LEVELS:

$95     (Includes annual dues) ______________________

$75 ____________________

$25 Banquet only______________________________
Historic Images

Louis Sherwood, University Archivist. West Library, Texas Wesleyan University, has graciously provided historic images from the library’s Special Collections.
On March 20, 2019 Lydia Patterson Institute will receive its formal dedication as a recognized historic site of the United Methodist Church. The dedication will occur at 5:00 p.m. A dinner will follow.

Readers of this Newsletter are familiar with LPI because of the warm hospitality extended to our Society last year when we met in El Paso. I can say with great confidence how inspired we all were to learn how Dr. De Anda, the trustees, faculty, and generous donors are making an impact not just in El Paso/Juarez but throughout the denomination. For over a century LPI has been transforming lives and is now receiving recognition from the UMC.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Rosa Chavez at 915-533-8286

r.chavez@lpi-elp.org
Walter Vernon Essay Award

Bob Monk has announced that the deadline for submission of entries in the Walter Vernon Essay Award has been changed to March 1. The award is presented to undergraduate or graduate students who submit a paper on some aspect of Texas Methodist History. For more information contact Dr. Monk

Rev. Dr. Robert Monk
3232 Heritage Lane
Abilene, TX 79606
325-692-3623; 325-201-3137 (cell); remonk9@gmail.com

Historic Church Pictures

Each issue of the Newsletter has the image of a historic Texas Methodist church to identify. Here is the one from the previous issue.

Many of you identified this church as Moody Memorial UMC in Galveston. The history of Methodism in Galveston is full of fascinating twists and turns. The history involves almost all of the strains of Texas Methodist History---all the ethnic groups, the MECS, MEC, and EUB denominations, missions to immigrants, a Wesley House, a port missionary, Methodist philanthropy, social justice campaigns, etc. Pick any aspect of Texas Methodist history and Galveston played an interesting role.
Galveston Methodist history is also a story of destruction and rebuilding.

In its earliest days Galveston Methodism was part of a circuit with Houston served by Abel Stevens and T. O. Summers who had a hard time in both cities. Incidentally, both of them also left Texas quickly and became famous later. Unlike some of the earlier churches in Texas both were relatively young cities and had attracted a rough lot of adventurers, fortune seekers, and shady characters—plus a few pious souls looking to enhance the spiritual state of their communities. The situation looked so bleak that Summers took an extended leave to travel back to the United States to solicit funds for Methodist efforts in the two cities. One important donation led to the establishment of Ryland Chapel in Galveston.

Methodism’s role in Galveston improved in the 1840s as the city consolidated its position as an important port and David Ayres moved there from Centre Hill when Centre Hill lost the county seat election to Bellville. Ayres was the financial agent for the Advocate and kept the paper going through rough years. By the eve to the Civil War Galveston was the premier port in Texas and boasted two Methodist newspapers (English and German).

The hurricane of 1900 killed so many people that two MECS churches (St. John’s and St. James) were consolidated into a new church under leadership of Seth Ward, the first native born Texan to be elected bishop. That church was known as First Methodist Church from 1906 until a decision was made to relocate rather than renovate the old building. Mrs. Libbie Shearn Moody remembered her church in her will, and when the church as relocated, it was renamed in her honor. The first service in the new building pictured here occurred in February, 1964.

Here is the next church for you to identify
News from Bridwell

TUMHS Vice president Tim Binkley has informed us of the following at Bridwell Library, Perkins School of Theology, SMU.

The Perkins Movie

Perkins School of Theology, The Great Hall

Monday, February 18, from 12pm—1pm

Perkins Staff Council Lunch & Learn

Come celebrate the 70th anniversary of the groundbreaking of the Perkins Quadrangle!

Join us for a special showing of “In God’s Service,” a short film documenting the 1949-1951 construction and dedication of the original quadrangle buildings. Archivist Tim Binkley of Bridwell Library and film curators Jeremy Spracklin and Scott Martin of the G. William Jones Film and Video Collection at Hamon Library will introduce the film.

Circa 1950 attire is appropriate but not required.

Please bring a lunch. Beverages and popcorn will be provided.

R.S.V.P: https://bridwell.libcal.com/event/5072799

Contact Michelle Ried for more information, 214-768-3483 or mried@smu.edu

Membership Information

We do not send annual membership renewal statements. Our not doing so means that many of us neglect to send our annual dues. If you can’t remember the last time you sent dues, it’s probably time to send them again. Please print this page and send your dues and gifts to
Cindy Martin
Northwest Texas Conference Service Center and Archives
1401 Avenue M
Lubbock, Texas. 79401

Name(s)____________________________________________ ___________________
Address_____________________________________________________________
Email___________________________telephone___________________________
Annual dues $20________
(If you wish, you may join at the lifetime dues rate of $300)

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