

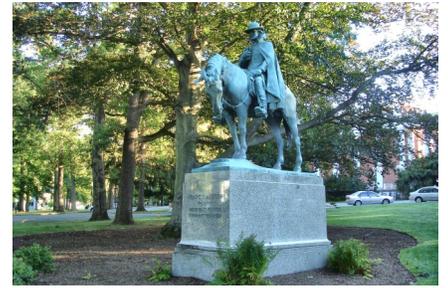
# Western Circuit Rider

Newsletter of the Western Jurisdiction

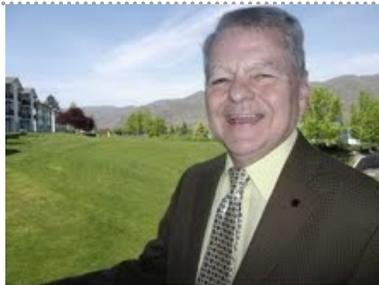
Commission on Archives and History

March—April 2014

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## Promoting the Ministry of Memory



President's Corner 3-19-2014

Let me celebrate the leadership of our General Secretary, Bob Williams! After 8½ years we have grown a lot. If I celebrate only the Ministry of Memory Award, two leaders from the Western Jurisdiction have received the Ministry of Memory Award: Dick Seiber, died 6-19-2013 and Lila Hill. Bob helped the remembrance be. Thanks, Bob! Glad you are still our leader!

Bob needs our help with the evaluation of the General Commission on Archives and History. Note the page from Bob Williams in the Winter 2014 Historian's Digest. Use email now! He has a deadline of March 28, 2014.

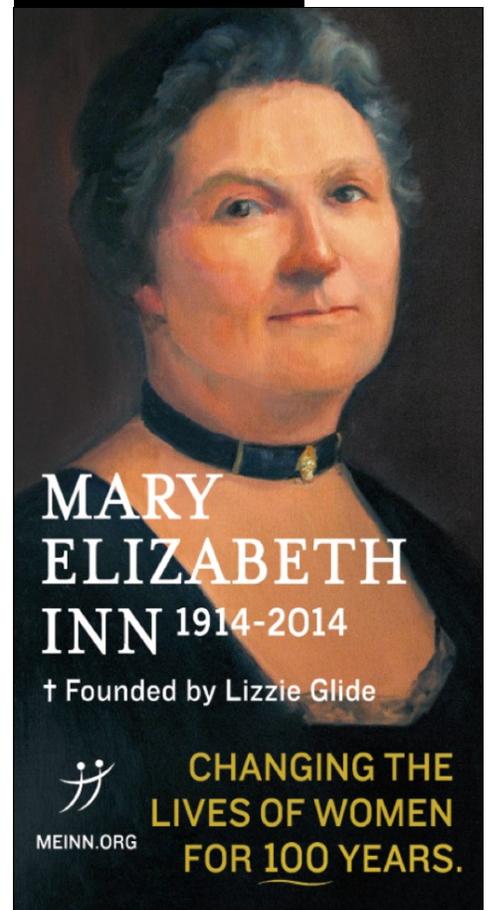
The South Carolina Conferences HS and CAH, are hosting the 2014 HSUMC Annual Meeting, Tuesday – Thursday, June 24-26, 2014 on the campus of historic Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Looks like an excellent event. Since we don't have our WJ event this Spring, why not register with them?

Missing our event and you,

Jim W. President WJ UM CAH



**Centennial  
In  
San Francisco**



Established to provide safe housing and supportive services to women in need; a part of the Caring Connection of Institutional... continued next page

**Mary Elizabeth Inn....continued from page 1:**

Ministries of The United Methodist Church. See their web page for more details on its 100 years of tradition: [www.meinn.org](http://www.meinn.org) Fall events include:

Thursday, **October 2**, Open House and Reception at their historic building

Friday, **October 3**, Centennial Gala and Fundraiser at the Mark Hopkins San Francisco

Saturday, **October 4**, Celebration Service at Jones Memorial United Methodist Church

Submitted by Lyle Johnston (Arizona):

Harold Byrn  
March 27, 1923-January 8, 2014

A native Oklahoman, his family moved to Arizona when he was three. A high school, Arizona State University and Perkins School of Theology graduate, he also served during World War II in the U. S. Army.

He was an active ministerial member of the Desert Southwest Conference (1953-1988). He served on the Archives and History commission (1986-2002) when he retired as Conference Historian. His project was getting the conference history, "A Dream Unfolding," co-written during the 1990s and published in 1999. He attended many Western Jurisdiction A & H meetings and helped host the 1994 Phoenix WJ A& H meeting.

His favorite story from the conference history was from the 1945 Arizona District superintendent's report when asked, "How has your ministry been enhanced this past year?" One minister answered, "Had a baby!"

Survived by his bride of 63 years, Ethyl, a brother, David (Diana), and three children: son, David (Carolyn), daughter, Lael (Forrest) Seitz and son, Karl (Frances) and five grandchildren, his memorial service was held at First UMC, Phoenix, February 15.



Lila Hill receiving the Ministry of Memory Award from President Dan Swinson at the Historical Society meeting in Madison, New Jersey September 14, 2013. This award is given yearly to recognize outstanding service in archives and history at all levels. She transcribed 2500 microfilmed pages of photocopied, handwritten letters to and from the Oregon Mission, as well as many years of service for the Oregon-Idaho Conference, WJ and General Commission. Congratulations from all of us, Lila! And Thanks!

**Coming in the Next Issue:**

- ◆ More information
- ◆ More submissions by our fellow readers
- ◆ Important information of some sort.

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## Historical Dictionary of Methodism, Third Edition, Is Now Available

A Third Edition of Scarecrow Press, Historical Dictionary of Methodism was published in November. Chuck Yrigoyen and Sue Warrick again are the co-editors as they were for the first and second editions. The new edition has about a hundred new articles, a thorough revision of previous articles, and a number of new photographs. It is not inexpensive, but might make a good addition to a church library or an expensive gift for a friend interested in Methodism's history. It is quite possible that a less expensive paperback edition will be forthcoming in a year or two. Submitted by Chuck Yrigoyen

Here's another installment of interesting named churches:

Rather than have a long list of churches in this issue, I have taken the shorter group of these two conferences:

### **In the Alaska Conference:**

Chugiak - established 1953 - in Chugiak - a community 20 miles northeast of Anchorage and the name means "place of many places." It is a "suburb" of Anchorage.

St. Peter the Fisherman - established ca. 1951 - in Ninilchik. The community is 100 miles southwest of Anchorage on the Kenai Peninsula. By road it is 188 miles! The town is named from a Den-aian Athabascan word: "lodge is built place." Russian colonists arrived there in 1847.

### **In the Yellowstone Conference:**

Ten Sleep - established in 1902 - in Ten Sleep Wyoming. The town was named because it is an American Indian rest stop because it was ten days travel or "ten sleeps" from Fort Laramie (southeast) and from the Yellowstone National Park (west-northwest). Located in north central Wyoming, it is about 60 miles west of Buffalo.

and

Christ's Mission - established 1893 - in Babb, MT. is a small community on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in north Montana. The town was named for Cyrus Babb, the chief surveyor of the U. S. Reclamation Service's St. Mary's Irrigation Canal.

Further information on the above communities can be found on Wikipedia.com.

Regards, Lyle Johnston

## Tacoma Community House

In 1907 a group from the Home Missionary Board of the Methodist Church appointed a committee to investigate and organize mission work in Tacoma. They decided that area children needed a place for instruction and entertainment and so this was established in 1910.

The first participants were immigrants from Italy and Scandinavia. Kindergartens, scout troops, sewing and dance lessons, along with classes in English and citizenship were features.

Now the focus continues with services for immigrants, refugees, youth and job assistance. More information at the web site:

<https://www.tacomacommunityhouse.org/>

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***We are missing your***

***story here!***

***Maybe next issue?***

## **Glendale First United Methodist Church Historical News**

“For Whom The Bell Tolls” -Most of us remember this poem written by John Donne. It goes on to state, 'No man is an Island...' We at GFUMC each are 'a part of the main.' Each Committee member shares their faith by being active on a church committee. Each sharing ideas, combining and putting forth the effort materializing into smooth running church programs. For whom does GFUMC bell toll each Sunday morning? It tolls for YOU and ALL that hear or even do not hear it ringing. It tolls for GOD our father gathering us together to sing messages and hear the word of GOD.

The cherished bell in GFUMC bell tower is a dear relic. A true historical relic coming from the bell tower of the first, 'Little White Methodist Church' built for downtown Glendale in 1897. The real first church was really an “open door” built of thatched roof opening on all sides for all to come and worship God some 120 years ago. Older than the City of Glendale. Soon membership grew to the point of needing to sell the Little White Church in order to build a more suitable brick church. A member of the church kept the bell safe until the present church could be built in 1929. Thus a “Ring of Bells” or even “peal of bells” hung at full circle ringing, allowing the bell to swing freely. Ringing, 'Unto the church, I do You call.'

Planning has already taken place for GFUMC celebration of this church's 120 years, this year 2014. A hard working committee plans for special historical events to take place each month. A video of past collection historical pictures held in our archives were used. UMM added the first kick-off on October 11, 2013 with the 120th year committee involved. Pictures of past historical records, church buildings, Centennial Year events, UMW annual Christmas Tea, supporting UMOM and other charities, in the video with more to be added for later viewing celebration month. UMMen added in December a beautiful float built and decorated by members and Historical Committee. This church float entered into City of Glendale Christmas parade themed Jesus birth with banners stating “And the Children Learned about Baby Jesus and The True Meaning of Christmas.” With 120 years serving Glendale, banner near the manger scene. Adding attraction was supplied by member of church furnishing miniature horses and carts, each having a banner. An awesome float, a surprise winning award from City for everyone's combined efforts.

Each of us at GFUMC will be ringing full circle the bell in commemoration of the church's 120th year. Our goals, mission, and vision are in place embracing, readying and preparing for future years growth. Continuing contributing to the community and serving this wonderful historical church of God. We too are making history come alive from our preservation of historical writings, material, pictures, and video's, while making a difference. Yes, in being a 'part of the main' while serving God. Our antique bell continues to 'peal out,' 'ring in full circle' gathering in members and new members each Sunday morning.

Erma Garling; Chair, Historical Committee GFUMC

January 31, 2014 Pastor Rev. Kim Gladding

## Methodists in Utah

The first Methodist to enter the present state of Utah preceded Brigham Young by over 20 years.

Jedediah Strong Smith (January 6, 1799 – May 27, 1831) was a Methodist whose family was taught by Methodist Circuit Rider preachers. Smith was known as a hunter, trapper, fur trader, trailblazer, author, cartographer, and explorer. He was known as the first documented explorer to traverse Utah from east to west and from north to south, trips he made in 1822 and 1823.

The first Methodist churches in Utah were founded in Corinne (of the Golden Stake fame) and Salt Lake City in 1870, and Tooele in 1871. Corinne put up a building in 1870 and the First Methodist Church in Salt Lake completed a building in 1871.

The attached photo is of a plaque at the recently dedicated "This Is the Place Faith Garden" in Salt Lake City.

Rev. Steve Goodier, Metro District Superintendent

Director of Communications, Rocky Mountain Conference

Denver Metro District, 6110 Greenwood Village Blvd. Greenwood Village, CO 80111

## Methodist Church



Original First Methodist Episcopal Church



Jedediah Strong Smith

Jedediah Strong Smith (January 6, 1799 – May 27, 1831) was a Methodist whose family was taught by Methodist Circuit Rider preachers. Smith is known as a hunter, trapper, fur trader, trailblazer, author, cartographer, and explorer. He is known as the first documented explorer to traverse Utah from east to west and from north to south, trips he made in 1825 and 1826.

The first Methodist churches in Utah were founded in Corinne, Ogden and Salt Lake City in 1870, and Tooele in 1871. Corinne put up a building in 1870 and the First Methodist Church in Salt Lake completed a building in 1871.