

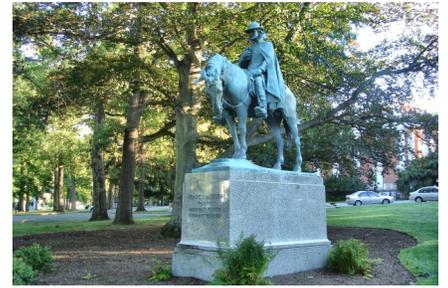
Western Circuit Rider

Newsletter of the Western Jurisdiction

Commission on Archives and History

July—August 2015

Volume 20, Issue Number 4



Promoting the Ministry of Memory

THOUGHTS FROM A PRESIDENT

Darrell T. Weist

Happy Summer everyone. I hope that your summer so far has been a good one for you. This summer has been great for Diane and me. In late June and early July, we spent a week at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon. We saw the 9 plays that they were presenting that week. We then flew to Washington D. C. to the Smithsonian Folk Festival which this year featured Peru. It was a time of Peruvian music, arts and crafts, cooking and stories.



In late August, Diane and I will be flying to Great Britain and then taking the train to Edinburgh for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. We then will take the train back down to London to see as many plays as we can fit into our schedule.

Why we do spend our vacation doing this? Well it is simple! We like stories whether they are read or acted. We like the stimulus of hearing and seeing other views of life. We like to be informed, inspired and stimulated which is the goal of any good story.

At the recent General Commission on Archives and History meeting I was fascinated by the way Fred Day, our General Secretary related how he explained the work of the Commission to a German audience. He told the Congregation that we work as gatherers, collectors, preservers and storytellers. It was the last category which caught my attention even though the other three are vital – storytellers.

I think we are doing our job best when we can take some of the material that comes to us in our Conference Archives and turn that material into stories. Stories that will inform, inspire and stimulate our congregations.

We need to find ways to tell the stories of the heroes and heroines of faith that worked and are working in our various conferences. This often is not easy in the day and age when often print sources are not available. So I would encourage you to look at other ways to get stories published like the Internet or Wikipedia. If your conference has an Electronic Newsletter maybe they would be willing to create a page for an occasional story. Of course there is always email.

So start looking for those stories we need to tell. After they are written please share them with us and the world.

New Newsletter Editors Will Continue the Tradition

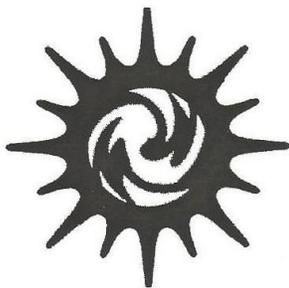
Don and Shirley Knepp from Salem, Oregon will be doing future issues of the Western Circuit Rider. They are looking for articles that would be of interest to those of us in the WJ states. Their emails are: Shirley Manning Knepp = smkmikie@comcast.net (503) 949-1180 and Don's is = kneppd@comcast.net at (503) 949-0911.

The newsletter is meant to keep each conference informed about what is going on and to learn from each other. Let's keep the tradition alive.

I am pleased to have been a part of this ministry of memory. I continue on as your vice president and host of the 2017 meeting in Anchorage.

Larry Hayden

Having a record is wonderful, isn't it? Most of the WCR readers are or have been employed in the records management business. We can all give thanks to the people who made this possible: The people along the Nile River who grew papyrus which was made into paper, the Phoenicians who helped establish a standardized alphabet, the creation of inks that would stand the test of time, the scribes who wrote down words and illustrations used by the royalty and priesthoods, the creation of the printing press by Johannes Gutenberg making books more accessible to the masses, the creation of the fonts by Aldus Monutius necessary for the press to print the pages small enough for people to hold (previously the manuscripts had to be rested on lecterns). From there, refinements have continued to be made up to today when we have digital forms of records. Can I hear an amen?!



In a previous issue of the WCR I attached the WJ Bylaws which I found out later was missing the officer of Treasurer. Please add it to your copy. Sorry.

Coming in the Next Issue:

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

Retiring Newsletter editor:

Larry Hayden

lhaydennjuno@gmail.com





Portland General Conference is still looking for volunteers from the Western Jurisdiction. Check out the website at www.gc2016pdx.org

Methodist History, April 2015, Volume LIII, Number 3 has been published and is available by subscription or on-line at www.gcah.org.

Contents for this issue include: Triangular Integration in a Black Denomination: James Sission, African Methodism, and the Indian Mission Annual Conference; Vision and Persistence; The Genesis of the First Wesley Foundation; From Rib to Robe: Women's Ordination in The United Methodist Church; The African and Caribbean Origins of Methodism in the Bahamas; book review (*Capture These Indians for the Lord: Indians, Methodists, and Oklahomans, 1844-1939* by Tash Smith); and minutes of the 2014 annual meeting of the Historical Society of the United Methodist Church.

Some quotes provided by our previous treasurer, Al Wright:

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitos come close.

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited, until you try to sit in their pews.

Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

Some minds are like concrete – thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

Peace starts with a smile.

The private letters of John Adams, Madison, Jefferson, Hamilton and Washington show that it was always history they turned to for examples and illustrations and morals for their commentaries.



2019 in the Yellowstone Conference

David Burt (david@yacumc.org) indicated an interest in holding the Western Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History meeting sometime in 2019, probably in Billings in June. President DarEll will be coordinating the meeting after the 2017 meeting in Anchorage wraps up. Stay tuned.



Rev. Israel I. Alvaran, D. Min. has been visiting annual conferences in the Western Jurisdiction recently and as the Western Regional Organizer based out of San Francisco has been making people aware of the Reconciling Ministries Network. Information can be found at www.rmnetwork.org. He was asked by me to write an article about the history of the group which may appear in a future issue of WCR.

Here's another piece of Methodist history:

At the 1871 Western Conference of the ME Church, South, the Rev. J. E. Treadwell was appointed to Montana. "After walking twelve miles from Deer Lodge [MT.] over a rough mountain road on a gloomy November day, Rev. J. E. Treadwell found himself at Yam Hill, a popular and prosperous mining camp on one of the tributaries of Gold Creek. Hungry, weary, foot-sore, and despondent, he entered the principle store, which was a log building, and introduced himself to the proprietor, announcing that he wished to preach in the camp that night.

The merchant, a generous man, received him kindly and opened some excellent canned fruit (miners generally have the best), upon which, with crackers and other choice articles, the preacher was invited to dine. [The merchant] then said to him, 'You stay here and make yourself at home. We are glad to have you visit our camp. I will go and get a place for you to speak in, and see that it is made ready and that everybody knows about it. You will have a good house.' Then he departed. "With such a reception the preacher was at perfect ease, lay down to rest his

weary limbs, and dropped into a deep sleep. From he was aroused by a great noise and commotion outside, when, to his surprise and chagrin he saw his host apparently the leading actor in a rough-and-tumble street fight. He wondered into what kind of hands he had fallen. The time approached for service to begin, but his friend returned not, though he learned that preparations were being made for the service all the same. "At the hour appointed he went to the building designated and found it to be a large saloon and gambling hall, though there was not a bottle, neither a card or a billiard, in sight. It was brilliantly lighted, comfortably seated, and the seats were filled with intelligent-looking people. There was perfect order. He gave out and sang an old familiar hymn, prayed, read a chapter and stood up to read his sermon, when the missing man entered and never removed his eyes from him until the sermon was through.

"Treadwell was no mean preacher and the surroundings seemed to inspire him. He preached a soul-stirring sermon. His own heart was warmed, and tears flowed freely from many eyes. His friend, the merchant, now arose and said, they must do something for 'the parson,' asked for his hat, passed it around, 'and' said Treadwell as he related the incident, 'I never was more surprised. The hat came back full of money, and I was exceedingly happy, for I was

completely broke and did not know what I was going to do. It contained sixty or seventy-five dollars."

E. J. Stanley, "The Life of Rev. L. B. Stateler, (Nashville: Smith & Lamar, 1907; 1916), 221-222.

Submitted by Lyle Johnston, Jackson, Missouri

Circuit Riding in Colorado - 1880s

Mulvane, Colorado had a brief existence in the late 1880s. It was located south of Lamar in southeast Colorado. Rev. J. V. Watson was the minister appointed in 1888 to the area.

He wrote in his report this: "Thursday I hitched up my team [of horses]; drove twenty miles northwest into the cedar hills; cut and loaded some cedars; camped overnight at a rousing fire, using pine boughs for bed springs and the sky mostly for covering. I could drive the twenty miles back to Mulvane, the aforesaid city, that Friday night, ready for the then promising city of Springfield, Colorado, about ten miles distance I believe. Here I would [un]load my wood for \$5, and hold services Sunday morning and evening. Taking a collection of \$2.50, I went back to my bachelor quarters in Mulvane, rich in experience and pocketbook, for I would have a major portion of the \$7.50 still intact."

(J. Alton Templin, Allen Breck and Martin Rist, eds., The Methodist, Evangelical, and United Brethren Churches in the Rockies - 1850-1976, Denver: The Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church, 173)

Submitted by Lyle Johnston

Friends, I am on a quest to find bible verses that speak to the need and value of studying or remembering history that we can use to inspire others. I am aware of some of the more obvious ones relating to raising an Ebenezer (Samuel 7: 12) and setting memorial stones (Joshua 4:5-9). I also like Job 8:8-9 ("inquire of bygone generations") and Acts 10:39 ("we are witnesses"). Can anyone provide me with others? Many thanks, Joyce Plyler President South Carolina Conference Historical Society UMC.

Here at GCAH, my personal favorite has become Isaiah 51:1 "Remember the rock from which you were hewn....." We're even developing some graphics around it. Fred Day ([see page 7](#))

Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations; ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee. Deuteronomy 32:7 (KJV)

Jim Young, President
Alabama-West Florida Conference
Historical Society UMC

The one that is on the symbol of our SEJHS: Proverbs 22:28 "Remove not the ancient landmarks.

Roy Howard, Holston

How about Psalm 16 - "We have this goodly heritage.
Lyle Johnston

I can offer - Ezra 5:17 - ...have a search made in the royal archives there in Babylon..."

Bob Williams

Walk about Zion, go all around it, count its towers, consider well its ramparts; go through its citadels that you may tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will be our guide forever.

Psalm 48:12-14

Margaret Mathews

A less direct scripture is

Jeremiah 17: 7 - 8

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

Jerry Eyster

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

donovanjb



"Those who don't study history are doomed to repeat it. Yet those who *do* study history are doomed to stand by helplessly while everyone else repeats it."



Mount Susitna and Fireweed
from Anchorage

“Look to the rock from which you were hewn...”

(Isaiah 51:1, NRSV)



chriswebberphotography.co.uk

The United Methodist Archives and History Center

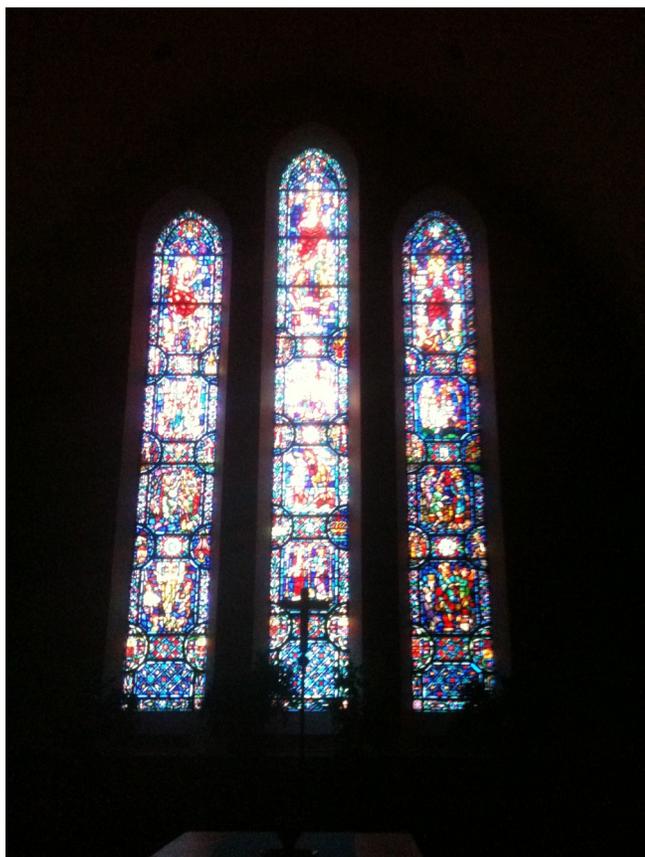
History matters. And the history of America’s most explosively growing church movement matters to all of us. Here at the United Methodist Archives and History Center, learn about how Methodists ministered to a continent, and how they “looked to the rock” through a library full of books, diaries, letters, novels, newspapers, tracts, saddlebags, mugs, plates, staggering statistics, and even one pair of lightning-struck shoes they left behind.

The Center is open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

General Commission on
Archives and History
36 Madison Avenue
P.O. Box 127
Madison, NJ, USA
www.gcah.org



The Drew University Library
36 Madison Avenue
Madison, NJ, USA
www.methodist@drew.edu



Stained Glass windows in the Chapel
at Garrett-Evangelical Seminary

**Brief Summary of the 8th Historical
Convocation in Evanston, Illinois
By Larry Hayden**

The General Commission on Archives and History held its annual meeting at the Garrett-Evangelical Seminary complex near the campus of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois from Saturday, July 18 to Monday, July 20, 2015.

We heard the homily from the Rev. Dr. Amy Valdez Barker who is Executive Secretary of the Connectional Table and a Deacon from the North Georgia Annual Conference, as well as Rev. Fred Day. Rev. Barker recently completed her PhD studies in the field of Christian Formation, drawing heavily on the spirituality of Susannah Wesley and her application of same in family life.



After opening worship with Holy Communion in the Seminary Chapel, three committees broke out into smaller rooms. WJ President DarEll attended the Heritage Landmarks group and Larry Hayden attended the Archives and Library group.

Saturday evening we rode a bus to Navy Pier and went on an “Architectural Chicago River Cruise.”





Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

On Sunday morning people had a chance to worship either at a lakeside early service or join the regular service at Tittle Chapel at the First UMC in Evanston. Some attended both. Commission business continued in the afternoon followed by committee reports.

The General Secretary offered his report. He told about his experience in Germany at the Council of Bishops meeting; then about the top priority for his first year at GS was to develop a communications and branding consultation report to raise the profile of the GCAH everywhere; about how actions at the General Conference in Portland in 2016 may impact the Commission; and is in the process of interviewing candidates for the new position of Communications Director.

At the Portland General Conference he will be able to present a recognition of the Francis Asbury 200th anniversary. The GCAH will also be involved with other presentations including the John Street UMC 250th anniversary, the AME church's 200th anniversary, and some kind of recognition related to the formation of Black Missionary Conferences in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

He indicated that the Commission's staff is one of its greatest treasures. The Methodist

History Journal continues publishing scholarly research and may go to a semi-annual schedule from the current quarterly schedule. The Commission continues to provide awards, grants, scholarships, prizes, and research projects. Rev. Day has experienced extensive travel with connections across the connection. Regarding the Commissions' budget they will be vigilant and tighten the belt for the 2016 calendar year and will strive to be efficient in tough times. Many of these aforementioned constitute his priorities for 2016.

The Archives Report was presented by Dale Patterson. They received sixty-seven accessions last year. The staff processed 129.85 cubic feet of GCAH material along with 4.57 cubic feet of Drew Methodist material. They created or edited five new finding aids. New students were trained in basic conservation skills. They continue to manage digital records. The majority of research requests relate to genealogy research. Researchers come to visit and work in the reading room. Much staff research effort comes from emails sent via the GCAH web site. The report included outreach activities, projects for the coming year, and continuing education of staff.



The Executive Committee presented their report with minutes of the June 2, 2015 conference call discussing budget, hiring staff, committee business, and the denominational restructure plans. The body approved \$1,238,950 for its 2016 budget. At the Portland GC a report will be presented on the Sand Creek Massacre.

The Heritage Sunday theme for 2016 is “Roots, Shoots and Branches” remembering the 200th anniversaries of the African Methodist Episcopal Churches, other African Methodist Churches, and the death of Francis Asbury (1816). Also, attention will be given to the 150th anniversary of the Black Missionary Conferences in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

In the evening there was held in the Hilton Garden Inn the Distinguished Service Banquet. Presiding Bishop Jeremiah Park presented the award to Barbara Ricks Thompson, acting vice president of the African American Methodist Heritage Center.



Monday we were able to hear Jurisdictional/ Central Conference Reports from Europe, Philippines, Africa, Northeastern, South Central, Southeastern, Western, and North Central. These were all published in a handout at the meeting. Available from the GCAH upon request.

The next GCAH meeting will be September 15-18, 2016 on the Campus of Drew University in Madison, New Jersey.



Rev. Fred Day, General Secretary

The 8th Historical Convocation was hosted by the North Central Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History at the Garrett-Evangelical Seminary complex near the campus of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois from Monday, July 20 to Thursday, July 24, 2015. The theme was “Diversity – It’s Complicated.”

The Board of the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church met Monday afternoon. A presentation was made by Larry Hayden, Western Jurisdiction CAH Vice President, about the hosting of the group in Anchorage, Alaska in June 2017. Many ideas were discussed and **the dates chosen were Monday June 26 to Thursday, June 29.** Details will continue to be worked out with all involved. A welcoming and singspiration followed in the Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful.



Choir Director from Trinity UMC,
Mount Prospect, Illinois leading the singspiration



Dr. Johnson



Professor Ron Anderson brought greetings from the Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary administration. Elaine Moy handed out material and spoke of the activities of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (www.gcsrw.org)

After the business meeting, Dr. Priscilla Pope Levison gave her inaugural lecture titled “*Fissures in Chicago Methodism in the Progressive Era (1890-1920)*” to the 61 people attending. This was followed by Dr. M. Rene Johnson of Michigan speaking on the Native American Methodist preachers in the upper Midwest.

A banquet was held at Evanston First UMC (www.faithatfirst.com) with the presentation of the Ministry of Memory and Saddlebag awards. Professor Emeritus Dr. John Baughman of the Indiana Conference (DePauw University) received the ministry of Memory award.



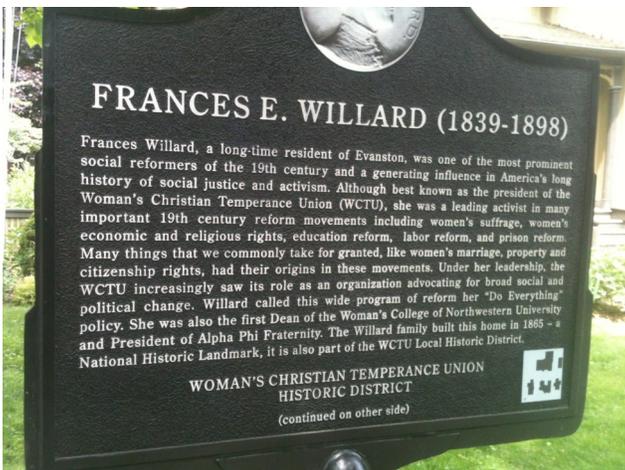
Tash Smith won the Saddlebag award for his book *Capture These Indians for the Lord: Indians, Methodists, and Oklahomans, 1844-1939*.

People were able to tour the church's archive room.



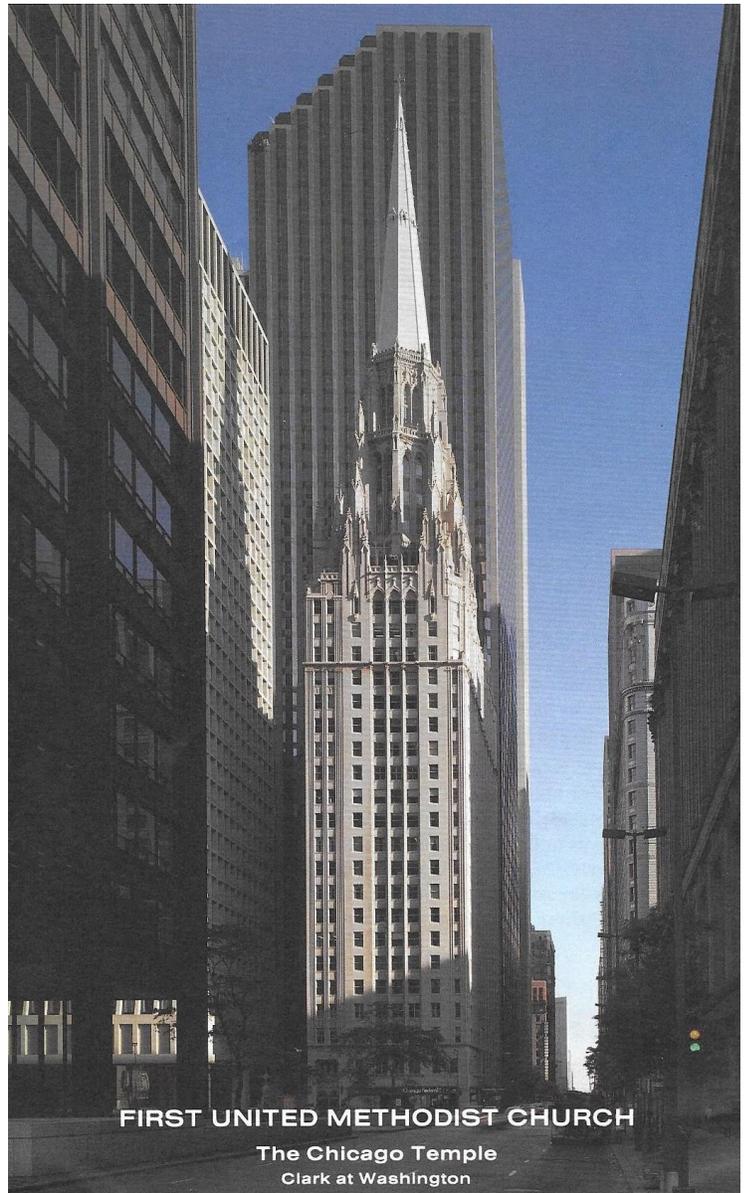
Ted Campbell from Perkins will receive the Distinguished Service Award in 2016.

Wednesday was the tour day, beginning with the Frances Willard House and Museum (www.franceswillardhouse.org) where we heard about the temperance movement.



The buses drove by a number of Methodist churches, the Rosehill Cemetery, and the Bethany Retirement Community Senior Housing building.

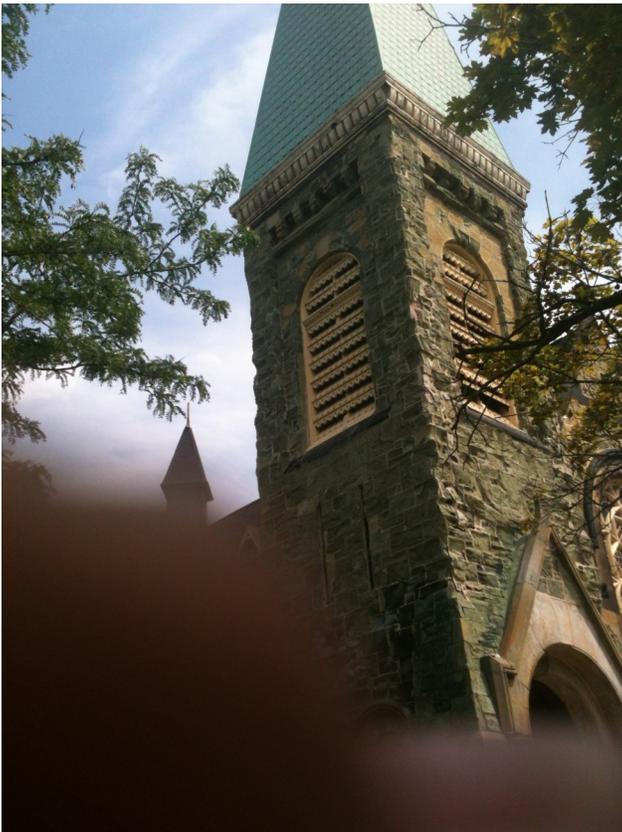
A highlight (pun intended) was a visit to the First UMC, Chicago (the Chicago Temple) (www.chicagotemple.org) which is located on a busy intersection and rises about 30 stories in height. Much of the building is leased out but there are church offices and sanctuary space. We rode an elevator up to the 22nd floor and then walked up a few flights of stairs to the "Chapel in the Sky" about 400 feet above ground level.





Scenes from the Sky Chapel and the Chicago Temple





The meeting closed on Thursday after a lecture by Dr. Jaeyeon Lucy Chung, Director of the United Library at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary entitled “*Diversity in the Ministry of Memory: Archival Implications.*”



The Greenstone UMC was visited with a talk from the pastor; the church is part of the Pullman Neighborhood National Monument and we were exposed to the impact of the railroad industry on the community. Pullman was a planned industrial community for workers at the Pullman Palace Car Company. In 1907 Greenstone became Methodist Episcopal and has a long history of mission to the community. A donation was collected by attendees to assist their programs.

Some people opted for a tour of the Helenor Davisson Historic Site No. 487 in Rensselaer on Friday led by Richard Stowe.

The day concluded with a fine meal at St. Mark UMC and a lecture by Dr. William (Bobby) McClain on the Central Jurisdiction.

The next meeting of the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church will be in Dover, Delaware May 23-26, 2016 in conjunction with the Northeast Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History. Theme will recognize the 100th anniversary of the Course of Study. See the attached Tentative Schedule.



These were the buses we rode on tour day

Joint Meeting
Northeast Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History
Historical Society of The United Methodist Church
May 23-26, 2016

Host organization: Peninsula-Delaware Conference Commission on Archives and History
Host church: Whatcoat UMC, Dover
Hotel: Dover Downs Hotel

Tentative Schedule

Monday, May 23, 2016

Registration desk kept at hotel for early arrivals
1:00 - HSUMC executive committee (at church)
6:30 - NEJCAH executive committee (at church)

Tuesday, May 24

Transportation from hotel to church as needed
Registration desk at church
9:00 opening worship planned by Pen-Del CAH & host church, Bishop Johnson speaking
10:00 Presentation on history of Whatcoat UMC
11:00 report by General Secretary on General Conference, etc.
12:00 lunch at church
1:00 Presentation by Joe DiPaolo on Bishop Levi Scott
3:00 NEJCAH business session
5:00 Dinner at church
6:00 HSUMC presenting Saddlebags Award
HSUMC annual business meeting

Wednesday, May 25

Bus Tour Tentative Plan

- Leave Hotel to drive by historic sites in Dover: The Green, Gov. Bassett's House, Christ Church, Bishop Whatcoat's grave, etc.
- Arrive at Barratt's Chapel for brief morning devotions and tour of Chapel and Museum
- Leave Barratt's to drive past Dover Air Base to Old Union Church south of Odessa, the home church and burial site of Bishop Scott. Old Union is being designated a Conference Historic Site. We will present the marker when we stop there.
- Leave Old Union to drive through historic Odessa, particularly noting underground railroad connections
- Lunch TBA
- Drive to Delaware City to take boat to Ft. Delaware State Park. Tour site with special program arranged by chaplain reenactors.
- Leave Delaware City to drive to Asbury UMC, Smyrna, DE, [Duck Creek] for dinner and short historical presentation on church.
- Return to Dover

Thursday, May 26

Transportation from hotel to church as needed
9:00 Business sessions for NEJCAH and HSUMC as needed.
Opportunity for discussion of General Conference
11:00 Closing worship – planned by NEJCAH
12:00 Lunch at church

Transportation can be arranged to and from Salisbury-Ocean City Airport and New Castle County Airport. Dover is also accessible from Baltimore-Washington and Philadelphia Airports, both of which offer limousine service and car rentals.



Save the Date!!

March 16-18, 2016

What? Evangelical Theological Seminary (ETS) reunion and Evangelical United Brethren Heritage Symposium – Celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the uniting of the Evangelical and United Brethren Churches in 1946.

Who? Alumni and friends of ETS, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, North Central College and everyone interested in learning more about the heritage of the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

Where? The campus of North Central College, Naperville, Illinois, in the buildings that were the original site of ETS.

Why? To explore the theological themes of the EUB Church and to apply insights to the challenges of ministry and mission today. Topics will include pietism, missions, divisive issues, environmental theology, higher education and more.

When? Wednesday, March 16, through noon on Friday, March 18, 2016.

Speakers confirmed are: Dr. James Stein, Dr. Kempton Hewitt, Dr. Robert Harman, Dr. Tim Eberhart, and Dr. James Will. Additional speakers will be added.

Interested... and want to receive information for registration, hotels and draft schedule? To receive full information when it is available in November, please send email address or home address to Rev. Dr. Lynn Pries at Lynn@pries.ws or call at 630.697.1942

This event is hosted by Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and North Central College in cooperation with the Northern Illinois Conference Commission on Archives.

Historical Society of The United Methodist Church Membership Form

Make checks payable to The Historical Society of The United Methodist Church and mail to:

Treasurer,
Historical Society of The United Methodist Church
c/o General Commission on Archives and History
PO Box 127 Madison, NJ 07940

I have enclosed \$ _____ for the membership category checked below in The Historical Society of The United Methodist Church. This is a ___ new/___ renewal membership.

My membership category is:

Receiving Methodist History on-line

___ Member - \$20 for one year

___ Student Member - \$10 for one year

Receiving paper copy of Methodist History

___ Member - \$35 for one year

___ Benefactor - \$100 for one year (\$70 receipt for tax purposes)

___ Life Membership - \$500

Some annual conference historical societies offer discounts on joint memberships. Contact your conference society for more information.

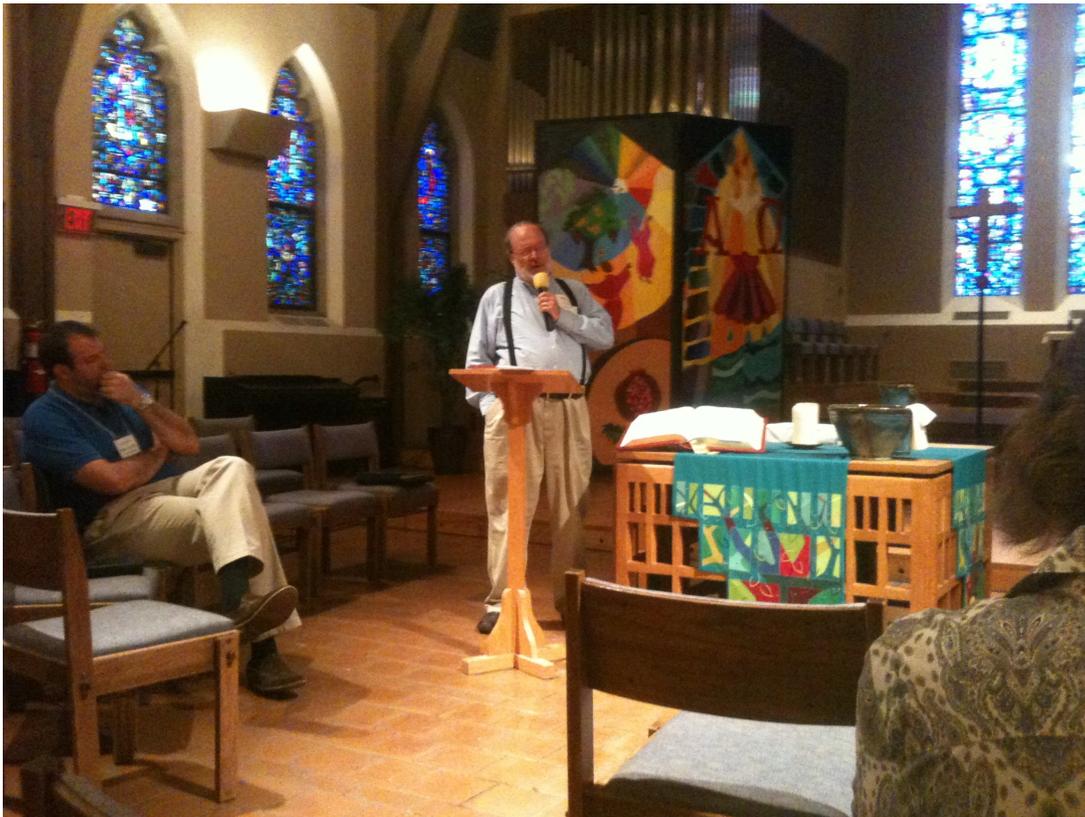
Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Topics of Interest _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____



Congratulations go out to Rev. Dan Swinson for organizing the convocation, coordinating rides, coordinating lunches, arranging rooms and hospitality bags, and many other behind-the-scenes activities.

