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THE OKLAHOMA UNITED METHODIST CONTACT

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Letter from the Director

To the readers of the Contact:
Welcome to the new digital edition of the Contact. This format is designed to bring you all the United Methodist news and information that our readers have come to expect. In addition, we will frequently include links, videos, special features and other tools designed to help you and your local church fulfill the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

For those of you who may not have been familiar with the Contact, it has been the newspaper of the Oklahoma Annual Conference for the last 40 years. We have sought to inform, inspire and tell the stories of what God is doing among the people called Methodists, both in Oklahoma and throughout the world. We have and will continue to focus on local churches, individual witnesses, denominational issues, missional outreaches and the ministries of our Connectional Opportunities.

Your conference Communications Ministry’s vision through this platform is to inform, resource, train and educate. We intend to do this by being in dynamic relationship with all conference and related entities, local churches, individuals, and all those on the mission fields of our communities, state and world.

We recognize that there are some readers who may prefer or require a paper copy of the Contact, which is why this digital copy may be downloaded and printed on any printer. We encourage readers who desire a physical copy to print the Contact at their home, office, local library or any other print service.

We also recognize that there may be people who want to subscribe but don’t know how. To address this, we encourage our readers to share the Contact with their friends and family. We also invite all United Methodists in Oklahoma to subscribe to the Contact for free on the OKUMC website (anyone can unsubscribe at any time).

Our digital presence extends far beyond the Contact. Stay updated on what is happening in the conference through Facebook (facebook.com/okumcommunications), Twitter (twitter.com/ok_umc), Instagram (instagram.com/okumccommunications) and the Conference website (okumc.org). Find stories and videos about conference and connectional ministries to share with your church on our website (www.okumc.org/COresource). Finally, be the first to know about important events and announcements by downloading the free Oklahoma Conference app on iTunes or the Google Play Store (just search OKUMC).

It is our hope and prayer that you will find the new digital format of the Contact convenient, informative, inspirational and useful for your work in spreading the good news of Christ throughout your mission field. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any help in equipping your communications ministry.

With blessings as we journey together in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Joseph Harris
Director Communications Ministry

Connectional Opportunity: Project Transformation

Subscribe to the Contact

Submit a book review to the editor

Send news to editor@okumc.org.
Submission deadline: Jan. 17
Next publication date: Feb. 1
Subscribe online at www.okumc.org.
A Glance Back at 2018

As we move into the promise of a new year, we take a look back on just some of the ways United Methodists have made an impact through our Connectional Ministries in 2018.

Volunteers in Mission

- 70 churches represented
- 131 teams
- 2,553 team members
- 19,748 total days
- 157,984 total hours

Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries

- 47 resident graduates
- One year of sobriety each
- Zero recidivism
- 18,000 volunteer hours

Project Transformation

- 9 church sites
- 536 children served
- 54 college students
- 788 volunteers
- Over 8,200 books read
- Over 40,000 meals served
- 91% of children improved or maintained their reading level

Looking forward in 2019

The Oklahoma Conference and the United Methodist Church are preparing for the challenges that 2019 will bring, including health insurance coverage for the conference and a special called session of General Conference taking place in February.

In an effort to improve financial transparency, the Contact will begin to publish both Apportionment and Connectional Opportunity giving each quarter starting in March. The data will come from the Council on Finance and Administration and the total for each church will be published as a percentage. A reminder will be published in the February issue.
2018 Glance

- 80 foster families
- 149 foster children
- 14 students preparing for Adult Living
- 12 mothers at Pearl’s Hope
- 19 children at Pearl’s Hope

Circle of Care

- 2,406 campers
- 864 adult volunteers at camps
- 30,648.75 camp meals served
- 236 United Methodist churches at camps
- 456 Mobile Day Camp campers
- 16,676 total guests
- 398 total bookings and events
- 85,282 total meals served

Camp and Retreat Ministries

- 665 people helped to keep their homes
- 249,176 pounds of food
- 4,677 families fed
- 422 Bibles given out
- 1,041 guests to chapel
- 48 families connected with a new church home
- 1,262 volunteers
- 6,736 volunteer hours

Restore Hope

Health coverage

In November 2018, the Oklahoma Conference announced an emergency increase of local church contributions for health insurance coverage to prevent insolvency. The two-step increase raises total church contributions from $6,960/year to $10,560/year per full-time clergy person. The cabinet has committed to keeping members informed of the financial position every quarter in 2019. The Board of Pension and Health Benefits is also considering moving to a fully insured plan to reduce the uncertainty in claims costs, however, the proposal would need to be approved by the Annual Conference and would not take effect until 2020 at the earliest. See Q&A here.

General Conference

The Special Session of General Conference will determine how the United Methodist Church will approach human sexuality, namely whether or not openly gay persons can be married in United Methodist congregations or serve as clergy. It will take place Feb. 23-26 in St. Louis, and OKUMC Communications will be present to report on news related to the Oklahoma Delegation. Deep divisions remain among United Methodists who believe the One Church Plan—recommended by the Council of Bishops—either does too much or not enough to address the denomination’s stance on human sexuality. See an overview of the plans here.
OCU honors distinguished alumni, university champions

Oklahoma City University recognized two new recipients of the Bishop Paul W. Milhouse Award during the annual University-Church Relations and Wimberly School of Religion recognition banquet on Dec. 6. The award honors United Methodist laity who have served as a vital bridge between OCU and the church.

Alumnus Ron Norick, chairman of the OCU Board, was honored for his tireless work in connecting OCU to the greater community and for serving as a stalwart supporter of the link between OCU and the United Methodist Church. Norick served as mayor of Oklahoma City from 1988 to 1998 and was the chief architect of the first OKC MAPS project in 1993.

The second award was given to the Lemon family recognizing siblings Larry Lemon, Lynette Lemon Wert and Martha Jean Lemon. Members of the Lemon family have been generous supporters of higher education for many years. In 2009, they established the Martha Jean Lemon endowment to provide scholarship assistance to religion and sacred music students at OCU and seminary students at Saint Paul School of Theology at OCU. The gift also established a distinguished lecture series that brings notable speakers to campus each year.

Also honored at the banquet were two OCU Wimberly School of Religion alumni. Mark Crenshaw was named the Wimberly School of Religion Distinguished Alumnus for 2018. He serves as the director of inter-disciplinary training in the School of Public Health at Georgia State University and is a vocal advocate for persons with disabilities. Brandon Katzir was named the 2018 Rising Star. After graduating from OCU, Katzir went on to earn an MA from OSU and a PhD from Louisiana State University. He now serves as associate professor of English at OCU, specializing in medieval and early modern rhetoric and world literature.

Applications and nominations are now being accepted for the OCU Bishop Scholar Award. The scholarship is awarded to incoming college freshmen who plan to study in the Wimberly School of Religion at OCU and pursue a vocation in United Methodist ministry. Application materials can be found at www.okcu.edu/bishopscholar. The deadline for submission of all materials is Feb. 1. Two to three full tuition awards are given each year, with other students who interview receiving between 60 and 80 percent tuition scholarships.
Reminder: Self-nominations for GC 2020 lay delegates opens Jan. 14

Lay church members who wish to represent the Oklahoma Conference in 2020 are invited to nominate themselves for election as Lay Delegates.

The nomination process will open online beginning Jan. 14. Those wishing to place their names in nomination are asked to complete the Oklahoma Lay Nominee Profile Form by midnight on March 10.

Chuck Stewart, the current Lay Leader for the conference, describes a delegate’s call as helping the church stay focused on the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The Oklahoma Conference will elect seven lay and seven clergy delegates to the 2020 General Conference during the 2019 Annual Conference. An additional seven lay and seven clergy delegates also will be elected to serve as alternates to General Conference and as members of the Jurisdictional Conference.

See the full story at okumc.org.

Photo Correction

In the Dec. 7 story “Blue Christmas honors grief and loss during the holidays,” a photo of the sanctuary at Collinsville-Meadowcreek was credited to the wrong person. The photo was taken by Lexee Schubert.
Bartlesville man: Kidney donation ‘saved my life’

BY ROSANNE MCKEE
REPUBLISHED WITH PERMISSION OF THE
BARTLESVILLE EXAMINER-ENTERPRISE

In this season of giving, a Bartlesville woman has given the ultimate gift—a kidney to a high school friend.

Tari Carbaugh has known Robert Graves and his wife for years. The three graduated from Ponca City High School in 1983. Today, the Graves attend Bartlesville First Church where Carbaugh is pastor of evangelism and discipleship.

Robert Graves became ill three years ago.

“I was getting really, really sick—throwing up, feeling weak,” Graves said. He was sent to a specialist and immediately put on dialysis because he had “little kidney function.”

Carbaugh said she was aware of Graves’ illness almost from the start.

“I knew he was very sick, and it was life threatening. Then I realized he was on dialysis but didn’t really know what that meant,” she said.

Graves started dialysis 2 1/2 years ago, and said it took about a year to be placed on a transplant list. A friend was willing to donate a kidney, and the transplant was scheduled in December 2017. However, the donor’s heart stopped during transplant preparations, and the operation was canceled.

“That’s when Tari said, ‘I can do that,’” Graves said.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Tari Carbaugh and Robert Graves got together recently to celebrate the operation’s success. Courtesy: Tammy Graves.
Kidney donation, cont.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Carbaugh said she started thinking about the possibility of donating a kidney after Graves’ first operation was canceled.

“The thought crossed my mind that I wondered if I might be a match. I mentioned it to my husband in passing. Then at a dinner with some lady friends, of which his wife was in attendance, I asked Tammy how someone became a donor. That was in May 2018. She told me she would e-mail a link to me. I hadn’t received her e-mail, so at the next ladies’ night out, I asked again. This time in a few days she sent me the link.”

Graves said his wife delayed the email because she knew Carbaugh was busy with her daughter’s wedding. She waited until after the wedding to send the link.

Carbaugh said the email sat in her email inbox for a week or two while she considered the idea. She asked her husband and daughters if they had any reservations and they didn’t. So, she completed the online form.

“That same day, I was contacted by Lisa Lawson, the living donor coordinator. She set up an interview and we began testing. A lot of pre-testing goes into donating, with each set of tests becoming a possible way to eliminate a donor candidate, but I kept matching, so they kept testing, interviewing and evaluating me.”

Everything continued to go well, and the day came for Carbaugh to have the surgery.

“Nov. 15 was the day the kidney was donated. I was off work two weeks but was released from the hospital 24 hours after the surgery,” Carbaugh said. “I was back to church three days later and back in yoga class four days after surgery. Just shy of four weeks after surgery, I feel like I’m almost 100 percent ... at full energy and doing all the things I normally do.”

Graves said he began feeling better almost immediately, she said.

“A live donated organ begins working immediately, as compared to an organ harvested from a deceased donor, which can take a little while to start back up. Robert continues to feel great. He has energy he hasn’t had in years. He walks daily. He does household chores, which pleases his wife greatly,” she said.

Going forward, Carbaugh’s single kidney will work at about 75 percent capacity, which she says is plenty.

“My kidney will continue to filter more and more, but even right now, I feel fine. I will always need to make sure medical professionals are aware I have a single kidney, so they don’t prescribe prescriptions which are kidney damaging, but other than that I will be fine.”

Graves is grateful for Carbaugh’s gift.

“It basically saved my life,” Graves said. “There are a lot of people who pass away waiting for a kidney. She’s my heavenly angel. ... She’s just the sweetest person you’ll ever meet.”

Today, Graves is recovering at home.

“I’m basically in quarantine for three months between the doctor’s office and my house. I go out and walk every day wearing my mask to build back my stamina,” Graves said.

A mechanic/welder by trade, Graves worked 14 years at McKissick-Crosby Inc. in Tulsa, first in maintenance and then managing the welding department.

He’s on temporary disability and hopes to be able to be fully recovered in six to nine months.

For those interested in learning more about donating, visit the website where Carbaugh got started — https://livingdonor.sjmc.org/donor.

“At any given time, in the United States, there are about 100,000 people waiting for a kidney transplant,” Carbaugh said. “Their wait can sometimes be five to 10 years. The longer a person waits, the less likelihood of a successful transplant. Some people get so sick waiting that they are removed from the recipient waiting list. Donating a kidney was a pretty easy procedure for me. As I said, I was released from the hospital within 24 hours, back to some of my activities within a week. Back almost completely within two or three weeks. I never took any pain medication after the surgery. I took a few Tylenol, but that’s it,” she said.

Carbaugh summed up her experience.

“I really believe if people knew how to volunteer and how easy the procedure and recovery are, there would be more people who volunteer. And, there would be more people who get to live a more full and healthy life. What an honor and a joy it is to get to do something meaningful with my one wild and wonderful life.”
Moved to PRAISE

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Native United Methodists join March for Indigenous Peoples

BY GINNY UNDERWOOD

On Jan. 18, young adults from The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference (OIMC) will travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in the first annual Indigenous Peoples March to bring awareness to injustices experienced by indigenous people around the world.

“All of creation is connected and when one suffers, we all suffer,” said the Rev. Bryan Tener, director of Connectional Ministries and Programs for the OIMC. He says indigenous voices have been silenced on issues such as access to quality health care, education, and extreme violence against Native women.

“It’s important for the OIMC, as a voice for the church, to stand with all of those who have been disenfranchised, including our own peoples. The Indigenous Peoples March is a powerful way to walk in solidarity and raise the issues that affect our daily lives,” he said.

The Rev. David Wilson, OIMC Conference Superintendent will lead the group from Oklahoma and invites other United Methodists to join them. He says participating in the march reflects the denomination’s commitment to social justice issues.

OIMC supported Native leaders on the Standing Rock Sioux reservation when fighting against the Dakota Access pipeline in 2016. Last year, pastors from OIMC held a vigil praying for immigrant children outside of the Brownsville, Texas detention center. OIMC has also consistently taken a stand against the use of derogatory mascots.

“I am excited that young adults will be present for the March to continue to be a voice for OIMC and The United Methodist Church to show our support for indigenous peoples around the world,” said Wilson.

United Methodists and friends are invited to gather at the General Board of Church and Society building, 100 Maryland Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C. at 7:00 a.m. on Jan. 18. The main demonstration is set to take place starting at the Bureau of Indian Affairs on 1849 C Street NW, Washington, D.C. at 8 a.m. local time.

Throughout the world, indigenous people face challenges in regard to missing and murdered Indigenous women, border control, police brutality, and protecting Indigenous lands. More than 5,000 people are expected to march including groups from Australia, Guatemala, Papua New Guinea, Canada and various Tribal Nations from the United States.
Oklahoma City Community Foundation Awards Grants to 14 United Methodist Churches

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Oklahoma City Community Foundation is helping provide warm meals to homebound elderly citizens this winter by awarding $53,400 in grants to 51 churches and organizations participating in Mobile Meals of Oklahoma County, including 14 United Methodist churches. In addition, $5,000 each was awarded to Edmond Mobile Meals and Meals on Wheels of Norman.

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation has supported central Oklahoma’s Mobile Meals programs since 2008, awarding more than $350,000 over the past decade. According to the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, the need for continued nutrition assistance is vital as Oklahoma’s senior citizen population continues to grow at an unprecedented rate. The organization’s most recent State Plan on Aging reported 19 percent of our state’s population is now over age 60.

“Today, one in five Americans is over the age of 60 with the population expected to nearly double by 2060,” said Cristi Twenter, executive director of Edmond Mobile Meals. “Roughly 17 percent of Oklahoma’s senior population struggles with hunger. Nine percent of those seniors in our state are living in poverty, and 26 percent of Oklahoma seniors live alone. Grant programs to assist Mobile Meals programs are crucial in helping to keep pace with the growing demand for services. We believe no senior in our community should have to make a choice between paying for food, medication and other necessities, which is why we never base service on a client’s ability to pay for meals.”

The United Methodist churches reported their volunteers provide nutritious meals, wellness checks and meaningful contact to more than 500 homebound senior citizens living in central Oklahoma who are unable to prepare their own meals.

“For nearly 50 years, the Oklahoma City Community Foundation has listened to both the needs of our community and to the wishes of our donors, leading us to focus on the health and wellness of senior citizens in the community,” said Nancy B. Anthony, Oklahoma City Community Foundation. “Our local Mobile Meals programs are crucial to seniors in this community, and we’re privileged to have the opportunity to support their work.”

Grants were awarded to the following United Methodist churches that provide meals through Mobile Meals of Oklahoma County:

- Chapel Hill United Methodist Church
- Choctaw-First United Methodist Church
- Church of the Servant
- Cornerstone United Methodist Church
- Crown Heights United Methodist Church
- Grace United Methodist Church
- Mosaic United Methodist Church
- Putnam City United Methodist Church
- Southern Hills United Methodist Church
- St. Luke’s United Methodist Church
- St. Mathews United Methodist Church
- The Christ Experience
- Village United Methodist Church
- Wesley United Methodist Church
The Avedis Foundation and Oklahoma United Methodist Circle of Care, a statewide foster care agency, have announced plans to collaborate on a building project to provide homes for sibling sets in foster care in Pottawatomie County.

The Shawnee-based foundation has approved a grant of $450,000 to Circle of Care, to help advance the agency’s “Legacy of Care” campaign, a $5 million capital campaign to address the needs of sibling sets in foster care amid the state’s severe shortage of foster homes for sibling sets of three or more children. The project will create new, and enhance existing, foster care campuses in Woodward, Elk City, Enid, Alva, and Shawnee.

Contracted by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Circle of Care strives to increase the number of foster parents in Oklahoma. Additionally, the agency places a priority on keeping siblings together while they are in foster care. The Legacy of Care campaign is designed to fund the construction and support of eight large, custom, single-family homes and five clubhouses/activity centers throughout the state to accommodate up to 48 foster children.

The Avedis grant will allow for the construction of two such foster sibling homes, in addition to a clubhouse/activity center in Shawnee. Both homes will be designed to accommodate up to six foster children with trained, certified foster parents. Additionally, the clubhouse will be used for recruiting, training and supporting foster parents from Pottawatomie County and surrounding communities.

“Separating siblings causes unnecessary trauma, hinders visitation and reunification efforts with the biological parents, and prolongs the length of time the children are in state custody,” stated Keith Howard, President/CEO for Circle of Care. “The goal of this project is to keep siblings together while in state custody, and/or to reunite sibling sets who have been separated upon entering state custody. We expect long-term benefits of healthier children, stronger sibling connections and improved relational and academic skills,” he explained.

“We know that siblings, who have experienced abuse or neglect, often share a deep bond,” stated Dr. Kathy Laster, Avedis Foundation President/CEO. “The separation of siblings is a deeply traumatic experience. Avedis Foundation is pleased to have a role in helping these children maintain their family connections and live more stable lives. We are pleased to partner with Circle of Care to bring these needed resources to our community.” Laster added.

Oklahoma United Methodist Circle of Care is a 101 year-old faith-based child welfare agency serving children and youth through three programs. Their Foster Care service recruits, trains and supports volunteer foster parents to care for foster children. Support includes clothing allowance, equipment co-op, support groups and ongoing training and education. For more information about fostering, email Keith Howard at keith.howard@circleofcare.org or call 405-530-2081.
Project Transformation is one of the Connectional Opportunity ministries supported through the generous giving of churches in the Oklahoma Conference.

Based on a model founded in 1998 in the North Texas Conference, Project Transformation Oklahoma launched in 2002 to address three unique challenges with one program: 1) how to meet the academic, physical, social-emotional, and spiritual needs of children from low-income communities, 2) how to provide meaningful ways for college-age young adults to explore ministry opportunities and develop as young principled leaders for the church and the world; and 3) how to help revitalize churches in underserved communities.

Children – College students – Churches. This is a win-win-win formula, and relationships are at the heart of everything Project Transformation does, for it is through relationships that lives are transformed.

The mission of Project Transformation is to engage young adults in purposeful leadership and ministry, support children in holistic development, and connect churches with communities.

Project Transformation’s collaborative model of ministry harnesses the creative energy and leadership of 56 college age young adults, who lead literacy-focused programs for over 500 children in eight Oklahoma communities each summer. The programs are held at United Methodist churches located in the heart of low-income neighborhoods, thereby helping those churches connect in meaningful ways with their communities. Dozens of other churches and organizations throughout Oklahoma partner together to support this work, investing in these young lives with their time and resources.

Learn more about Project Transformation at projecttransformation.org/oklahoma.

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Perkins Receives $1 million Lilly Endowment Grant to strengthen congregational ministries with youth

DALLAS (SMU) - Perkins School of Theology is the recipient of a five-year, $1 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., for an initiative designed to strengthen congregational ministries with youth. Co-directors of the grant are the Rev. Bart Patton, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Education, and Dr. Priscilla Pope-Levison, Associate Dean, Office of External Programs.

Entitled “Reboot: The Congregation as Youth Worker,” the initiative will select and resource a cohort of congregations within a 300-mile radius of Dallas without a paid full-time youth worker. The initial cohort of 18 congregations—the “Starter Cohort”—will undergo a discovery process to determine the viability of ministries with youth in their communities and will be introduced to current innovation models for youth ministries. From this cohort, 12 congregations will be selected as the “Innovation Cohort” to apply for resources provided by the grant to build and sustain an innovative model for congregational ministry with youth.

The final objective is to share the findings, including processes, youth ministry models and stories derived from the cohort congregations and other project participants through public venues including online and print resources, the Perkins School of Youth Ministry, and a Finale Innovation Lab Symposium.

Applications for the Starter Cohort of 18 congregations will be accepted beginning May 8, 2019.

According to Patton, the project’s co-director, the rapidly changing face of youth ministry in both rural and urban congregations was the impetus for this project.

“Youth ministry is at a significant juncture right now,” said the veteran of more than two decades as a youth worker. “We hope this new endeavor will provide new standards and rubrics to help congregations create, implement, sustain, and measure youth ministry. It’s our hope that this fresh work will provide useful resources to congregations as they navigate ministry with adolescents in their communities.”

Shifting the focus from a full-time paid youth worker to a more comprehensive model in which the entire congregation sees itself as the center of ministry with youth is the key to this innovative project, according to Dr. Pope-Levison.

“As we envisioned the possibilities for this grant, we knew we wanted to empower under-resourced congregations in both rural and urban areas who could not rely on the paid youth worker model for youth ministry,” she said.

“When we struck on the idea of centering the congregation itself as the youth worker, we knew we had struck gold. With the generous resources from Lilly Endowment, we want to explore how all congregations – no matter where they are located or what their budget is – can provide robust, transformative youth ministry.”

“The financial and personnel resources that this grant makes possible will lead the way in rebooting youth ministry from the lone ranger approach of the paid youth worker to centering youth ministry as a congregational initiative and endeavor,” she said.

For more information about the initiative, contact Rev. Bart Patton at bartp@smu.edu.
Charis Alive hosts inaugural Combined Christmas Celebration

Charis Alive, an Asian-American multiethnic ministry led by Rev. Victoria Lee, held its inaugural Christmas Celebration on Dec. 15 at Church of the Servant. More than 10 nationalities were represented at the celebration.

“We were blessed to have Edmond-Chinese International UMC, OU Wesley International Ministry, Axe Memorial UMC from Garland, TX, Filipino congregation from MWC, Rev. Chris Tiger from the New Faith Communities, Rev. Marla Lobo, Rev. Carlos Ramirez, and many other ministers and congregation members to join us in this special event.

Bishop Nunn and President Tie King Tai of Sarawak Methodist Conference, Malaysia sent their video greetings along with pastors and missionaries from around the world.” Lee said. “It is our sincere wish to promote unity and continue to facilitate events to impact and bless our community.”

Charis Alive will be hosting the Lunar New Year Celebration on Feb. 17, 3-5 p.m. This free, family-friendly cultural event is opened to the public. There will be food and many fun hands-on activities to showcase the similarities between the Passover and the Lunar New Year.
You can secure a blessed future
ENDOWMENTS ARE THE WAY

What if we could have a master plan for our churches the way commercial businesses and many non-profit organizations do?

What if we could anticipate our needs for ministry, facilities and staff and set aside funds that would earn interest income to support our mission and ministry for the long-term?

The answer is we can—many churches do.

Church endowments provide the income to maintain church buildings, generate funds for mission work or enhance other ministries. A properly structured endowment program can help you secure the financial future of your church. Endowments have provided a major source of funding for many institutions in our society for years.

An endowment fund is made up of money or other financial assets that are donated to charity. The principal is invested, and the resulting income may be used for further investments and supplementary expenditures. Most endowments have guidelines that state how much of each year’s investment income can be spent. When properly managed, endowment funds will generate earnings that can enhance the mission work of the church in the years ahead.

We are dedicated to empowering you to invest your resources to do long-lasting good in the world. Contact David Battles to begin a conversation and Invest in Lasting Good.
**Appointments**

- Guy Ames, from associate at Tulsa-Asbury to retired, effective July 1.
- Pearl Broome, from Springer to not appointed, effective Dec. 31, 2018.
- April Coates, from Ponca City-Albright/Ponca City-Asbury to Perry, effective Jan. 1.
- Edward Cook, from Perry to not appointed, effective Jan. 1.
- Mary Gaudreau Hughes, from OCC Director of Emotional Care to Director of Crisis Care Ministry, effective Nov. 1, 2018.
- Christy Germany, from associate OKC-Chapel Hill to pastor at Watonga, effective Jan. 1.
- Laura Glover, from Lost Creek/Perkins to Medford Area Cooperative Parish, effective Jan. 1.
- Andrew Haire, from Fairview to Vinita, effective Jan. 1.
- Hal Hamilton, from associate at Tulsa-First to transitional leave, effective Feb. 14.
- Ricky Henshaw, to supply at Gene Autry, effective Nov. 15, 2018.
- Jeff Hiller, from Cross Point Camp Site Director to not appointed, effective Dec. 31, 2018.
- Rusty Husted, from Boise City/Felt/Kenton to Fairview, effective Jan. 1.
- Tracey Ivy, from Watonga to Ponca City-Albright/Ponca City-Asbury, effective Jan. 1.
- Randy Little, from Vinita to Boise City/Felt/Kenton, effective Jan. 1.
- Terry Martindale, from not appointed to Perkins, effective Jan. 1.
- Michelle McCarty, from Hunter/Jefferson to Washita County Parish, effective Jan. 1.
- Nathan Mills, from Elgin-First/Elgin-Community to Elgin-First, effective Jan. 1.
- Richard Norman, from Associate Director of VIM/Coordinator of Disaster Response to retired, effective Dec. 31, 2018.
- Stephen Romero, from Tulsa-Asbury to not appointed, effective Jan. 1.

**Save the Date**

- **GBHEM Scholarships for Fall 2019 Open | Jan. 3 – March 7**
  - [www.gbhem.org/loans-and-scholarships/scholarships](http://www.gbhem.org/loans-and-scholarships/scholarships)

- **Ministry Center closed for Martin Luther King Day | Jan. 21**

- **Metro Retired Clergy and Spouse Fellowship Luncheon | Jan. 24**
  - 11:30 a.m. | RSVP Not Required
  - Interurban Restaurant, 1301 East Danforth Rd., Edmond
  - Special guest speaker: Dr. Wayne Lord

- **Minister and Spouse Renewal Event: Holy Spirit Seminar | Feb. 2**
  - McAlester-First | 1501 S. 13th St, McAlester, OK 74501
  - 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. | Child care available
  - Cost: $25 by Jan. 31; CEU certificate available for $20 more
Appointments, cont.

- Jeremy Sanders, from Upward Transitions, Inc. to associate at Tulsa-Asbury, effective Feb. 1.
- Russell Tennant, from Medford to not appointed, effective Jan. 1.
- Mary Truitt, from not appointed to Hunter, effective Jan. 1.
- Donn Turner, from supply to part-time at Wayne, effective Oct. 15, 2018.
- Marilyn Weathers, from Wilson to not appointed, effective Nov. 15, 2018.
- Ron Weathers, from Wilson to not appointed, effective Nov. 15, 2018.

Passages

Rev. Paula Tucker passed away on Dec. 31, 2018. Tucker served Oklahoma churches in Colbert, Grainola, Foraker and Shidler. Services were held in Ada on Jan. 4.

Employment

- Mobile Day Camp Director. Oklahoma United Methodist Camp and Retreat Ministries, 8-month contract. Send resumes or inquiries to campjobs@okumc.org.
- Associate Director of Youth Ministry. Tulsa-Faith, part-time. For details visit www.faithtulsa.org/jobs, or contact Jonathon Garrett at jgarrett@faithtulsa.org to apply.
- Older Adult Ministries Coordinator. Tulsa-Faith, part-time. For details visit www.faithtulsa.org/jobs. Submit resume by email to Rev. James Lambert at jlambert@faithtulsa.org.
- Director of Global Outreach. Tulsa-First, full-time. For details or to apply, contact Connie Cole Jeske at conniecolejeske@fumctulsa.org.
- Director of Music Ministries. Tulsa-Memorial Drive, part-time (about 5 hrs/wk). Send resume to pastor.mdumc@tulsacoxmail.com.
- Administrative Assistant. Tulsa-Memorial Drive, part-time. For details or to apply, email resume to pastor.mdumc@tulsacoxmail.com.
- Summer Ministry Interns. Tulsa-Faith, paid internship from June 1 – July 31. For details and application, visit www.faithtulsa.org/jobs. Submit application by March 17 to leldridge@faithtulsa.org.
- Sound technician. OKC-New Hope, part-time (10-15 hrs/wk). Send resume to Rev. Cali Eck at cali@newhopeokc.org.

Share your event or job opportunity in the Contact.

For consideration, email your listing to editor@okumc.org. Deadline for the February issue is Jan. 17.