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Chuck Stewart to lead Camp Egan

Oklahoma United Methodist Camps has announced Chuck Stewart as the new director of Egan Camp and Retreat Center. Stewart is a certified Lay Servant and has served as the Oklahoma Conference Lay Leader since 2012. He will be taking on the role vacated by Josh Pulver, whose final day was Aug. 31.

Ed Parker, director of camp and retreat ministries, described Stewart as a self-motivated learner and a man with a vision.

“Chuck’s been a true blessing to Egan and to me personally for a long time, so I really can’t think of anybody else that I’m more excited to hand the keys over to than to you,” Pulver said.

“I appreciate that you trust me with so many keys and I hope that in the next year I can figure out what they all go to,” Stewart replied. “Know that the things you did here at Egan have really made a difference in people’s lives.”

Stewart, who was also elected a Lay Delegate to next year’s General and Jurisdictional Conferences, will continue to serve as the OKUMC Lay Leader until another person can be elected during the 2020 Oklahoma Annual Conference.
Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries shared their vision for “Breaking the Generational Cycles of Incarceration” during its annual banquet on Aug. 27.

The evening featured dinner and a silent auction with a presentation by republican Rep. Kris Steele, who served as Oklahoma’s House Speaker from 2011-12. Steele shared about Oklahoma’s history of mass incarceration and encouraged support of the ministry.

“I believe it may be CJAMM’s super power to always believe the best in others,” Steele said. “There’s no such thing as a spare Oklahoman, and we know our communities are at their best when everyone can contribute to the greater good.”

CJAMM Director Kristen Harlin thanked attendees for their contributions to the ministry and shared stories of how New Day Camp, Redemption Church and the Exodus House impacted those they served in a positive way.

One of those impacted was Amber Salazar, a 34-year-old mother currently residing at the Exodus House. Salazar’s mother had gone through the Exodus House program before her, a fact Salazar said gave her hope that life could be about more than survival.

Salazar was incarcerated twice as an adult. The first time she was released, she said she went back into the habits she knew. The second time, she was able to live at the Exodus House.

“I’m able to take my son to church and give my son life instead of teaching him to survive so we can make it,” she said. “I get to break that cycle, and I’m glad I have Exodus House to show me and help me do that. I never would have made it, but I’m doing it now.”

CJAMM founder Dr. Stan Basler presented the Stan Basler Award to Dr. and Mrs. Jim and Jean Key. The Keys played an instrumental role in bringing Kairos, a Christian renewal weekend, into Oklahoma prisons in the mid 1990s. They are also long-time volunteers at New Day Camp.

Upon receiving the award, Jim Key deflected the applause and said he was simply a tool for God’s work in the world.

“If a carpenter made you a beautiful table, you’d want to thank somebody, but would you thank the tools?” he said. “I’m just a hammer, and we thank God, the carpenter, for the work.”

To learn more about CJAMM or to get involved, visit www.cjamm.org.
Disaster Recovery prepares for long-term response with little funding

The Oklahoma United Methodist Contact

The Office of Mission is working to address the needs of Oklahomans affected by the spring weather events that caused near-record flooding across the state.

Rev. Jeremy Basset, director of the Oklahoma Conference Office of Mission, said he anticipates 600-700 disaster recovery cases—enough to need 25-30 case managers—but the grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency only provided enough funding for eight. He compared the figures to the tornadoes in Moore in 2013, which resulted in 800 cases.

“In Moore, we had millions at our disposal, but today the same grant is only offering $350,000,” Basset said. “The only money that will make this happen is money we raise here in Oklahoma.”

One aspect of the funding challenge is that FEMA and the Red Cross are holding back their disaster recovery funds for hurricane and tornado season.

Another aspect is a lower rate of giving from churches to Conference and denominational ministries.

The Conference treasurer’s report from August 2019 states that connectional giving as of July 31 is 4.39 percent behind where collections were at the same time in 2018. Giving to Mission and Ministries, which help fund disaster recovery through the Office of Mission, is lagging behind receipts for apportionments.

Basset said the United Methodist Committee on Relief is facing a similar challenge, describing their giving as “millions off from last year.” He believes uncertainty about the denomination’s future in the wake of General Conference is one of the factors impacting missional giving.

“We’re scrambling to find a way to meet the need,” Basset said. “In spite of the challenges, the office continues to remain committed to long-term recovery. As of July 15, Rev. Becky Pierson was appointed to the Office of Mission as Long-Term Recovery Manager based in Tulsa. She will help oversee the project management, volunteer management and case management work with additional staff appointed as funding becomes available.

“It’s a huge need, but it’s without funding,” Basset said. “All of this affects our ability to help the most vulnerable. It stinks.”

Help Oklahomans work toward recovery by donating to Oklahoma United Methodist Disaster Response.

okumc-reg.brtapp.com/2019DisasterResponseDonationA
Project Transformation helps more than 400 children maintain, improve reading levels

More than 400 students across the state maintained or improved their reading levels over the summer through the collaborative work of Project Transformation.

Project Transformation engages young adults in purposeful leadership and ministry, supports children in holistic development, and connects churches with communities through reading programs and other educational activities.

“I’ve had the opportunity to care for the cutest, sweetest, and most difficult children I have ever known. I’ve cared for team members, when life has thrown its toughest challenges at them, and the people of PT have cared for me, even more than what I felt I deserved at times,” said John Mark Foster, who has served as an AmeriCorps member with PT for four years. “Project Transformation gives me hope for myself, our community, and for the world, and I am so proud and honored to be a part of it.”

This year alone:

- 8 local churches across the state served as Project Transformation sites;
- Dozens of partner churches offered support through financially sponsoring a child or young adult, serving meals, or providing volunteers for the program;
- 47 AmeriCorps Members spent their summer serving as camp leaders;
- 531 volunteers serving 9,855 hours as reading, kitchen, and field trip volunteers;
- More than 38,000 meals were served; and
- More than 13,000 books were read.

Out of all 447 children served, 98 percent maintained their reading levels, and 76 percent improved their reading level.

“As humans, it’s our calling to take care of one another and to lift each other up,” Foster said. “And after four summers of service, I truly think that taking care of one another is what Project Transformation is all about.”

Learn more about Project Transformation at projecttransformation.org/oklahoma.
Native young people speak up at national gathering

BY GINNY UNDERWOOD

A group of Native American young people from the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference raised their voices about Native-themed mascots and other issues important to their communities during the Youth 2019 national gathering.

The quadrennial national event, sponsored by United Methodist Discipleship Ministries, was held in Kansas City, Missouri. Since the city is home of the Kansas City Chiefs football team, leaders from the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference and other Native American communities worked with Youth 2019 planners to create a space to discuss the use of harmful Native mascots and other critical issues.

“We wanted to leverage the gathering in Kansas City to shine a light on pressing Native issues and to create awareness on how young United Methodists can be our ally and support our Native young people,” said the Rev. David Wilson, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference superintendent.

He said until 2012, the denomination’s Book of Resolutions included language that discouraged hosting events in cities with Native American mascots. A new resolution adopted in 2016 did not include the same text.

Three Native youth were selected for a panel on the mascot issue, preserving Native languages and the sacredness of water. The panel was offered four times throughout the July 10-13 event.

Alyssa Underwood, 16, a member of the Comanche Nation and a junior at Classen High School of Advanced Studies in Oklahoma City, shared a video she helped produce that explores how racist mascots and stereotypes affected her as a Native youth.

“You put me in a box to contain me, to absolve your guilt,” Underwood said on the “Know My Truth” video, which has more than 25,000 views through social media. “I am not a character; I am not a mascot. I am human. I have infinite value and worth.”

Read the full story at UMNews.org.
Benefits Symposiums to address new changes in health benefits

The Oklahoma Conference is hosting six Benefits Symposiums across the state to help clergy, laity and spouses unpack the benefit plans that go into effect in 2020.

The symposiums will be held between Oct. 7-11 in Woodward, Lawton, Davis, Oklahoma City, Perry and Tulsa. Participants must register online before Sept. 20.

This year’s symposiums will focus entirely on health benefits, including details relating to cost, coverage and supplements, as well as tips for open enrollment.

“Understanding benefits is difficult for even a seasoned professional,” said Kate Scraper, director of benefits and personnel. “This classroom-style setting will allow for collective learning through the use of real life scenarios, Q&A with HealthFlex reps, and detailed instructions that will make you ready for Annual Election at the end of October.”

The symposiums are scheduled before Annual Election, which is Oct. 30-Nov. 14. Scraper said detailed information about next steps for Annual Election will be provided after the symposium events.

“All of our Benefit Plans will be changing in 2020, as a result of moving our plans to HealthFlex,” Scraper said. “Every person, whether clergy or lay, who participate in the conference health plan should plan to attend so that they can learn about the new programs, the costs, and what benefits are being added.”

Retired Clergy under the age of 65 who are on the conference health plan should plan to attend the session closest to them.

Retirees over the age of 65 will not be eligible for participation in HealthFlex in 2020. Instead, they will have access to Medicare Supplements through Via Benefits. The benefits office will send funding letters with Health Reimbursement Account amounts for eligible retirees to all retirees in late September. Retirees who do not receive funding are still eligible to utilize Via Benefits in order to aid in Medicare Supplement selection.

For those unable to attend, a recording of one of the events will be placed on the benefits website. Though Scraper did not have a specific date of availability, she committed to having it available as quickly as possible. Scraper also said a link for the Alex Tool, an online resource for making the best benefit determination, would be released after the symposiums.

Register for a benefits symposium online at okumc-reg.brtapp.com/2019BenefitsSymposium.
Oklahoma City University will host a guest presentation by an ocean conservationist and shark expert at 7 p.m. Sept. 24. The presentation, “One Ocean, One People,” is free to the public and will be held in the Petree Recital Hall inside the Kirkpatrick Fine Arts Center at N.W. 24th Street and Blackwelder Avenue.

Fabien Cousteau, the first grandson of famous scientist and ocean explorer Jacques-Yves, will be on campus for this year’s Lemon Distinguished Speaker Series. Register to attend or find more information at okcu.edu/cousteau.

Amy Cataldi, dean of the OCU Petree College of Arts and Sciences, said even though Oklahoma is a landlocked state, a focus on water conservation is extremely important and pertinent.

“As a college of arts and sciences, we are uniquely positioned to embrace both of his passions — ocean conservation and film documentary,” Cataldi said.

Cousteau is well known for his study of sharks, having served as an explorer-at-large and program host for National Geographic. In 2006 he produced a CBS documentary in which he built a lifelike 14-foot-long, 1,200-pound shark submarine named “Troy” that allowed him to live among the sharks, showing viewers a rare glimpse of the often-misunderstood creatures. He later spent four years cohosting PBS’s “Ocean Adventures” with his father and his sister.

Since then, as a member of multiple cause-driven and charitable boards, Cousteau has been working with local communities and children worldwide to help restore local water ecosystems. Early in 2016 he founded the Fabien Cousteau Ocean Learning Center to fulfill his dream of creating a vehicle to make a positive change in the world.

His presentation in Oklahoma City is sponsored by OCU, OCU’s Center for Interpersonal Studies through Film and Literature, and Pumps of Oklahoma.
Real Personal Connection
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It’s not just a job for us—it’s a Christian Commitment. This is not a place we merely come and earn a wage. We are deeply devoted to bringing hope to the forgotten and help to those in need.

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DBATTLES@OKUMF.ORG | 800-259-6863 | LASTINGGOOD.ORG
Northern Prairie DS receives Francis E. Willard Award

BY REV. APRIL COATES

The Committee on the Status and Role of Women recognized Rev. Tish Malloy at the 2019 Annual Conference as the 18th recipient of the Francis E. Willard Award.

Named after 19th century Methodist and suffragist Francis E. Willard, the award recognizes and celebrates those individuals who have made a significant contribution to the status and role of women in the Oklahoma Conference of the United Methodist Church.

As part of the District Pastor’s Gathering of the Northern Prairie on Aug. 15, the district recognized Malloy for this award and celebrated her continued advocacy and support of women and men in ministry. Representatives of COSROW, the District Superintendency Committee and the Clergywomen’s Group shared history of the award and the four nominations Rev. Malloy received for the award. Highlights from those nominations included the following comments:

“Tish Malloy has shown great encouragement of female clergy by supporting the development of a new female clergy group within the district. She often opens her home to host these events which allow discussion of pertinent issues facing the church, problems particularly relevant to female clergy, and to create opportunities to build strong bonds on friendship within the clergywomen of the NPD.”

“Tish listens and offers guidance as needed. She is an advocate for women in ministry as is apparent by the many women serving in her district. She is helpful in her encouragement. After sharing with her, one feels the confidence to go forth and fulfill one’s call, even in difficult circumstance. Her gentle persuasive leadership creates a desire to be a better pastor in all circumstances.”

“Whether pastoring a local church, leading a conference ministry, or serving as District Superintendent, she has ministered with grace, passion and compassion. She has been a role model for women in ministry as she has shown that a woman can effectively serve in a variety of ministry roles.”

“Her work ethic, fearless leadership in hard situations, steadfast encouragement, accountability and support make her a commendable pastor and excellent role model. Tish is the kind of leader that makes you want to show up and be better and do better.”

In addition to the conference award, flowers and a tribute video crafted by Tabitha Beckman were presented. Additionally, a donation to Circle of Care was made in Malloy’s name to celebrate her continued advocacy for vulnerable children and families.

Pictured left to right: Rev. April Coates (representative–District Clergywomen’s group); Rev. Emily Robnett (representative–COSROW Chair); Rev. Laura Glover (representative–Chair, District Superintendency Committee); and Francis E. Willard Award recipient Rev. Tish Malloy (District Superintendent–Northern Prairie). Photo by Diane Bull.
OKUMC invited to join celebration as sacred Native American lands are returned to Wyandotte Nation

On behalf of The United Methodist Church, UM Global Ministries is inviting members of the Oklahoma Annual Conference to a ceremony this September during which lands held in trust for 176 years by the agency will be formally returned to the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma.

A rare occurrence in United States history, the event will include local dignitaries and leaders of Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma and the Wyandot Nation of Kansas.

In 1843, the Wyandotte tribe deeded the land to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, forerunner of today’s United Methodist Global Ministries, in order to protect its sanctity when the federal government forced the tribe off their last reservation in the state of Ohio.

“It will be a historic day for the Wyandotte Nation,” said Chief Billy Friend of the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma. “One hundred seventy-six years ago we left the mission church in the Methodists’ hands to take care of it for us until we came back. That time has come.”

“For over 200 years, the people called Methodists have had a unique bond with members of the Wyandotte tribes,” said Thomas Kemper, general secretary of UM Global Ministries, the worldwide mission agency of the denomination. “John Stewart, our first-ever missionary, launched a historic friendship with them in 1816. Since 1843, we have served as stewards of this sacred land and these historic spaces. Now, it is time to return these lands to the Wyandotte people so they can continue the generations-long tradition of honoring our collective heritage.”

“A Remembrance of Our Shared History: The Wyandotte/Wyandot and the People Called Methodists,” presented by UM Global Ministries and The General Commission on Archives and History, will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 1 p.m. The event begins at John Stewart UMC, 130 W Johnson Street, Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351, with a procession to burial grounds and the mission church to follow.

Event information is available at www.umcmission.org/return. The event is free and open to the public. For planning purposes, organizers are requesting attendees to register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/our-shared-history-the-wyandottewyandot-and-the-people-called-methodists-tickets-57543320621.
ALLOT Initiative supports teachers with free supplies

BY AMY NEATHERY

Dozens of public school teachers in El Reno received free books, teaching tools, classroom supplies and other resources through the ALLOT Initiative at El Reno-Wesley.

The ALLOT Initiative, which stands for A Lot of Love for Our Teachers, is an effort to reduce, and hopefully one day eliminate, out-of-pocket classroom expenditures of El Reno Public School teachers.

In addition to hosting annual back-to-school events where teachers can browse through a free store in the church, the initiative also manages a Facebook page where teachers can make special requests and be encouraged by teacher-related memes.

In August 2018, ALLOT helped 43 teachers, 15 of which were first-year teachers prepare for back-to-school. Those teachers obtained supplies and books with a retail value of almost $6,000. This year, ALLOT served an estimated 70 teachers, including 27 first-year teachers, with supplies with a retail value of just under $8,000.

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The ALLOT Initiative free store in El Reno-Wesley. Photo via ALLOT Initiative on Facebook.

Since its launch in October 2016, the store has outgrown its original location and moved to a larger space in El Reno-Wesley. The initiative also received two awards from El Reno Public Schools: the Lamplighter Award in 2017 and the Service Award in 2018.
Ministry in a Minute

The United Methodist Church in Hunter is celebrating its 125 years anniversary on Sept. 15. The church was founded in the home of O. W. Benson in 1894, 13 years before Oklahoma statehood. Pastor Mary Truitt said all are invited to the celebration at 9:30 a.m. and the catered lunch at 11 a.m. “We believe that God can do big things with small packages, and this gives us hope and strength to continue to work together to serve others around us at a time when so many small churches are struggling,” Truitt said.

Duncan-St. Paul recently celebrated “For the Love of Lutie” in honor of Lutie M. McClennen, a long-time member who passed away in March 2018. As part of the celebration, Circle of Care was presented with a check of nearly $224,000 provided for in her will. The church also received a significant donation for maintenance, repairs or new building plans. Pictured: Johnny Rue and David Griffin present a check to Keith Howard, president of Circle of Care. Photo submitted by Jo Ann Pierce.

Leave a Legacy Society

NSO’s Leave a Legacy Society recognizes individuals who have included a special gift to NSO in their will or through a life insurance policy, IRA distribution, or other options.

Since 1920, NSO has been helping people help themselves.

You can help continue this tradition by including NSO in your estate plans now!

What can your gift support?

- Housing for mothers and children
- NSO’s Women Infant and Children (WIC) Clinic
- Low-Cost Dental Clinic
- Rental Assistance

“As we’ve looked back on our lives, we have been unbelievably blessed by those on whose shoulders we stand. To express our gratitude, we also want to bless others as those who have blessed us. We believe that providing a legacy gift to NSO is one of the ways that we can continue to do that.”

Steve and Jane Ford
Leave a Legacy Members

Neighborhood Services Organization
431 SW 11th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73109
405.236.0452 | nsookc.org
Retired clergy and spouses retreat set for Oct. 7-9

BY ANN NEEDHAM BOWER

A fun and relaxing time awaits retirees at the Annual Retired Clergy/Spouse Retreat, set for Oct. 7-9 at Canyon Camp.

The theme for this year’s retreat is “Remembering….” Fellowship, devotions, singing, presentations, stories and “You Shudda Been There” are the top reasons people attend the retreat – not to mention how beautiful Canyon Camp is in October. Retreat Deans for this year are David and Paula Severe.

Dr. Stephen Gunter, Professor Emeritus at Duke Divinity School, will be the main speaker for the retreat. His topic is “A New Look at the Quadrilateral.” Other highlights include music led by Rev. David and Nancy Stewart, an update on retiree pensions by Rev. Brian Bakeman, and a presentation on the situation in the Holy Land by Rev. Darrell Cates.

In addition, attendees will have two opportunities to participate in interest groups: “Drumming” led by David Stewart, “Writing Your Story” led by Carolyn Wall and “What Are You Reading” led by Bob Carlisle. And of course, the stories of “You Shudda Been There.”

The cost for the retreat ranges from $103-$133 per person, depending on the choice of lodging. First-time attendees may deduct $50 from fees. Questions should be directed to the registrar, Dale Wood, at 405-285-9308.

Registrations will not be accepted by phone. Watch for the September 11 issue of “Off Their Rockers” for registration information and a registration form.

Angel Tree
Christmas is a magical time that brings promise and hope to people. Unfortunately, it can be a difficult time for families and children in hard places.

If your church or organization would like to participate in Christmas Angel Tree 2019, please contact Sarah Steffes at 405-215-1400 or sarah.steffes@circleofcare.org.

We look forward to working with you again this year to bring smiles to vulnerable children on Christmas Day!
Mission & Ministry: Campus Ministries

Reaching more young people is something churches talk about all the time, but which often seems just out of our grasp. Most local churches, even large ones, are happy to have ANY sort of stable young adult group.

What if I told you that there is one ministry in the Oklahoma United Methodist Church which consistently draws 390 young adults to worship, 550 young adults to discipleship groups, and over 1400 young adults to gather for food and fellowship, each and every week? Your ears might perk up a bit. You might want to call this church and ask them how they did it. You might assume that whatever they did would never work for you. Or, you might just not believe me.

Well, I assure you this ministry is not made up and these numbers are real. The same ministry led 38 young adults to profess their faith in Jesus Christ last year, and involved over 500 young adults in mission to their community and the world.

Where is this mystery church? Well, as you might have figured out, it is Campus Ministry in the Oklahoma Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. And the good news is that each and every one of you can be a part of it. United Methodists are reaching young people from Norman to Stillwater and from Wilburton to Goodwell. This ministry is enabled by your faithful giving through your local church’s Mission and Ministry funds, as well as your District Apportionments, local church partnerships, and individual support.

To find out more about the impact of Campus Ministry as well as how we distribute funding, please feel free to contact Shannon Rodenberg (shannoncrodenberg@gmail.com) or James Lambert (jlambert@asburytulsa.org) of the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry.

Share about Campus Ministries with your church or discipleship group. Download the featured video and other free resources at www.okumc.org/MissionAndMinistry.

The Contact will feature one of 14 Mission and Ministry ministries every month. A full list of OKUMC ministries is available at okumc.org/MissionAndMinistry.
Join Chris Porter and
New Hope United Methodist Church - Oklahoma City

Holy Land 2020

June 13-25, 2020

To see the itinerary and to register, click the link below:
http://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/hl20061320n58861/
Save the Date

Lay Servant Training:
Northern Prairie | Sept. 13-14
Hennessey-First, 201 S. Cherokee St., Hennessey.
Basic and Advanced Courses available.
Cost: $50 (non-refundable). Includes all materials, Friday dinner and Saturday lunch.
Details on registration flyer.

VIM Team Leader Trainings
Sept. 14 | OKUM Conference Office:
1501 NW 24th St., Oklahoma City;
Nov. 23 | Tulsa-Boston Avenue:
1301 S. Boston Ave., Tulsa
Trainings held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Cost: $50 per person.
Deadline to register is one week prior to event.

Help, Healing and Hope Benefit Concert
featuring Sanctus Real | Sept. 21
6-9 p.m. | Venue 68 at Tulsa-Asbury:
6910 S. 101 E. Ave., Tulsa
Tickets start at $20.
Purchase tickets on Eventbrite or CircleOfCare.org.

Leadership Institute 2019 | Sept. 25-27
Church of the Resurrection:
13720 Roe Ave., Leawood, KS
Limit three participants per congregation.
Pastors leading multiple charges may register one laity per congregation.
Details and registration at li.cor.org.

Lay Servant Training:
Council Oak | Oct. 4-5
Tulsa-Memorial Drive, 7903 E. 15th St., Tulsa
Basic and Advanced Courses offered.
Cost: $10 plus text. Includes snacks, drinks and lunch on Saturday. Details on registration flyer.
Registration must be postmarked by Oct. 1.
Download flyer at www.okumc.org/counciloak.

2019 Benefits Symposium
Oct. 7 | Woodward-First
Oct. 8 | Lawton-Centenary
Oct. 8 | Davis-Pathway
Oct. 9 | OCU Great Hall
Oct. 10 | Perry-First
Oct. 10 | Tulsa-Asbury
Unpack the 2020 Conference health benefits plans
Open to Oklahoma clergy, lay staff and spouses
Must register by Sept. 20
okumc-reg.brtapp.com/2019BenefitsSymposium

Retired Clergy/Spouse Retreat
Oct. 7-9 | Canyon Camp
Cost: $103-133 per person, depending on lodging
First-time attendees save $50
Registration in the Sept. 11 issue of “Off Their Rockers”

Lay Servant Training:
Cross Point Camp | Nov. 22-23
Basic Class and Advanced Courses available.
Cost: $55. Includes curriculum, meals, and lodging.
Register online before Oct. 15.
okumc-reg.brtapp.com/
LakeCountryDistrictLayServantTrainingFall2019.

Passages

Retired elder Harold Brown passed away on Aug. 28. Brown served several churches in the Oklahoma Conference, including Gracemont, Cogar, Ardmore-Asbury, Chickasha-Epworth, Harrah and OKC-Asbury. A memorial service was held at OKC-New Hope on Sept. 3.
Appointments

- Andre Contino, to associate pastor at Moore-First, effective Aug. 15.
- Todd Craig, from Tulsa-Asbury to transitional leave, effective Aug. 31.
- Paul Hamilton, from retired to pastor at Wynnewood-Paoli Charge, effective Aug. 15.
- Donna Hendricks, from Owasso-First to not appointed, effective July 16.
- Michael Long, from supply pastor to licensed local pastor at Council Oak District Office: Tulsa Initiative, effective July 15.
- Cheryl Lunkett, from not appointed to Tipton, effective Sept. 1.
- Sara Pugh Montgomery, from associate at Tulsa-Boston Avenue to maternity leave, effective Aug. 18.
- Ellen Scott, from supply to part-time local pastor at Altus-Highland Heights/Eldorado, effective Sept. 1.
- David Stephenson, from retired elder to withdrawn, effective July 23.
- Ruth Tipps, from Billings to retired, effective Sept. 1.

Employment

- Heartland District Administrator. OKUM Ministry Center, Oklahoma City, full-time. Must be competent in computer operations (including Microsoft Office), database management, accounting systems, collecting and interpreting statistics, and coordinating calendars and events. Send resumes to Kate Scraper at kscraper@okumc.org.
- Director of Student Ministries and Worship. Ulysses-First in Ulysses, Kansas; full-time. Degree preferred; vocal worship leadership required. Email your resume and cover letter to Pastor Todd Guinn at tguinn@greatplainsumc.org.
- Director of Youth and Young Adults Ministry. Poteau-First, full-time. Experience and education preferred. For details or to apply, email Rev. Jim Perkin at pastor@poteaufumc.com.
- Assistant Children’s Director. Edmond-New Covenant, full-time. For details, contact Jay Smith at jsmith@newcov.tv or call 405-562-3200.
- Youth Director. Clinton, part-time. Experience needed. To apply, send resume and references to Rick Robart at rick.robart@yahoo.com.
- Director of Children’s Ministry. Owasso-First, full-time. For details or to apply, email cover letter, resume and references to Rev. Sarah Thornhill at sarahthornhill@fumcowasso.org.
- Director of Youth Ministries. Bixby-First, full-time. Experience preferred. Contact Dan Pulver at dpulver@olp.net.
- Youth Director. Ardmore-Asbury, part-time. For details, contact Pastor Randal Richards at ardmoreasbury@att.net or call 580-504-4881 between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Music Director. Okmulgee-First, part-time. Two services: one with a choir, one with a band. Position could be divided if desired. Please call Rev. Sheri Lashley at 580-210-0013.
- Director of Music Ministry. Moore-New Life, part-time. For details or to apply, contact Betsy Stewart-Dooley at pastor@moorenewlife.org.
- CFO/Controller. Tulsa-Asbury, full-time. For details or to apply, contact Daniel Dennison at ddennison@asburytulsa.org.

Share your event or job opportunity in the Contact.

For consideration, email your listing to editor@okumc.org.
Deadline for the October issue is Sept. 19.