Egan dedicates 2 gifts

A double dedication on April 9 celebrated two newly complete building projects at Egan Camp and Retreat Center.

A smartly designed medical station and a playground for the youngest campers are the culmination of work upgrading the woodsy church campground beside a creek, near Tahlequah.

Special donors and other camp supporters received thank-you gifts that day from Egan manager Josh Pulver. Among those honored were Larry and Joanna Potts and Bob and Karen Williams, for major gifts to the Holliman Medical Station; and Patsi Smith and Jimmy and Kelly Nix, whose contributions made possible the Nix Family Playground.

"A lot of you have helped us, and we are thankful," Pulver told the luncheon audience before guests enjoyed a bird’s-eye view of all the Egan property, watching a video made by drone.

"This kind of ministry cannot happen except for the generosity God has placed in your heart," said Ed Parker, Conference Camps director. "Thank you for your gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We don’t take them for granted. They help us develop leaders out of all these little kids God gives us every year. This is one of the greatest places you can develop a leader."

Attendees moved outdoors to share prayers and Scripture beside each new structure, followed by tours. Also recently added at Egan are porch swings, a cluster of hammocks, and adirondack chairs. The chapel has been remodeled. And the Green Country District United Methodist Men funded the planting of 27 young trees, first replacements for more than 50 dead trees that were removed.

For the Williamses, both experienced in aspects of health care, supporting the Holliman Medical Station "was a no-brainer," said Karen. She is a nurse and educator, and Bob leads in the health administration field. They attend Bixby-First UMC.

Karen was age 12 when she first camped at Egan. She carried an inhaler with her because of asthma, she recalled. As a youth, she annually attended summer church camp — and continued as an adult volunteer until about 2010.

She also admitted to feeling anxious when her son attended camp due to his health conditions.

They clearly were pleased as they explored exam and recovery rooms, waiting area, and rooms to house medical staff at left.

Patsi Nix takes a turn on the slide at the new Nix Family Playground at Egan. With her are, from left, Jimmy and Kelly Nix and camp manager Josh Pulver.

UMW WIND CATCHERS — Above: welcoming members to Oklahoma City are, from left: Oklahoma Conference UMW President Cindy Hull; Yvette Richards, national UMW president; and Beverly Parker, OIMC UMW president. Left: Tanya Case of Duncan holds a bag imprinted with the UMW Quadrennial Meeting logo. Story, page 5.

PULLING TOGETHER — Building committee leaders, foreground, guide a plow as the people ceremoniously dig into a church expansion project for Abiding Harvest UMC, Broken Arrow. Story, page 6.
Davis sanctuary roof collapses in storm

By Chris Schutz

"Apparently, we had a tornado," said Pastor Steve Harshaw, as he looked over what remained of Davis’ First United Methodist Church after a storm the night of April 26.

The storm caused the building’s roof to collapse into the sanctuary. Some of the church’s stained glass windows lay shattered on the ground, while others remained intact.

The church, which was built in the 1940s, has been condemned; the sanctuary is considered a total loss, Rev. Harshaw said.

No one was injured, Harshaw said.

As damage to the church was being surveyed and workers began hauling away debris, Harshaw was considering where to have Sunday’s service.

“We’ve had several offers from other churches,” he said. Other possibilities are to use Davis UMC’s fellowship hall or just to gather on the grounds of the church, he said.

Member Ben Randall rushed over to the church as soon as he saw a message on Facebook that the building had been heavily damaged. He and others went in to rescue the Bible from the altar, along with candelabra and offering plates.

The storm may have come at an opportune time, Randall said. The church had been arranging to expand its facility, and then the storm happened.

“I feel like God has a plan for us. He wants us to do something different,” Randall said.

Heavy equipment moves in April 27 to clear the fallen sanctuary roof and other debris at Davis-First UMC, between the children’s playground and one sanctuary wall.

Better Together Week promotes understanding

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)

“Better Together” served as the theme of a week of activities held on the Oklahoma City University campus April 3-7. It was part of a national movement sponsored by Interfaith Youth Core, a civic group that promotes understanding and service among people of diverse religious and non-religious identities.

This week provided opportunity for the OCU community to celebrate how the variety of gifts and backgrounds represented on campus makes us stronger.

We began on Sunday with the World Religions Expo sponsored by the OCU Wimberly School of Religion. Students partnered with community members from different houses of worship and denominations to provide information about those faith expressions. Guests moved among displays filling the first floor of the Gold Star Building to learn about those beliefs and practices.

A tent on the campus Quad on Monday offered a photo activity. Individuals and groups wrote messages on a white sign bearing the words “… and we are BetterTogether,” then had their photos taken holding the board. Here’s a sampling.

- “I’m a Cards fan and I’m a Braves fan...”;
- “Mexican and Native American...”; and
- “We are future teachers ...” Each concluded with “… and we are BetterTogether.”

Tuesday was the annual Love Not Hate Day. Dinner was provided by Sodexo, and the student musical group OCUpella performed. Free T-shirts could be tie-dyed.

The monthly Wednesday@theWesley meal encouraged conversation on “How can people of different faiths and those with no faith affiliation build a better community together?”

On Thursday, the Religious Pluralism class sponsored the discussion “Islam and Interfaith,” with Ersin Demirici from The Dialogue Institute of Oklahoma City.

Religion major Melaina Riley, a sophomore, organized the week’s events. She is a member and national coach of the Interfaith Youth Core student advisory panel. Better Together Week is one of many ways that OCU models understanding and cooperation as a means to reach out in service to the world.
How can I say thanks?

“Every time I think of you—and I think of you often!—I thank God for your lives of free and open access to God, given by Jesus. The evidence of Christ has been clearly verified in your lives.” (1 Corinthians 1:4, 6; The Message)

Part One

BY BISHOP ROBERT HAYES JR.

If you open the New Testament to Paul’s writings, you will find in each one a joyous note of thanksgiving at the beginning and sometimes also at the conclusion. I marvel at the way he expresses his gladness (and often his concerns) with the work that is being done in those first-century churches. Even though he often is scripting under extreme hardship and persecution, he manages to always sound a note of hope, love, and joy, reminding his readers of the wonder and salvation he has found in Jesus Christ.

• His first letter to the church at Thessalonica is believed to be the oldest of all New Testament literature. Paul says, “We always give thanks to God for all of you.”

• In his second epistle to Timothy he says, “I am grateful to God when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.”

• And, in the scripture quoted for this column, taken from 1 Corinthians, Paul writes, “I thank God for your lives … for the evidence of Christ has been clearly verified in your lives.”

I am so inspired by the way Paul shares his gratitude with all the followers of Jesus that I want to do the same in this column.

Although my retirement Aug. 31 is more than four months away, I know the days will quickly come and go, so I want to begin now expressing my great joy and sincere thanksgiving to all of you who have blessed the lives of Dee and me these last 12 years. I could spend every day writing of my appreciation and still not finish by the time I must leave you.

That’s how overwhelming this experience has been. I dare not wait until the final days to start.

Western Union once reported that, in any given year, several million dollars are spent simply adding “thank you” to telegrams.

Another company’s commercials focus on life moments that are “priceless.”

Consider these words my million-dollar epistle of gratitude to you.

Indeed, what has happened to me among the people called United Methodists these last 12 years is beyond words. I cannot adequately describe the 10,000 experiences Dee and I have shared with you.

You have changed both our lives so much that it seems impossible for us to ever return to “normal” living because recollections of Oklahoma will forever shape our memories.

There was that night of July 16, 2004, in Corpus Christi, Texas, when my name and assignment to Oklahoma was announced near midnight. There were cheers, even some tears, and after the hugs and kisses, the reality sank in of packing boxes and moving north, across the Red River.

I knew few Oklahomans prior to my assignment here. Dee and I really were strangers, and yet you welcomed us as your own.

Thus I maintain that “I wasn’t born in Oklahoma but I got here as fast as I could!”

I’ve tried to give my service to you without reservation. From the very beginning I have felt that my calling and responsibility were to embody “the ministry of presence.”

Put simply, I wanted to be present in your churches — preaching and observing your anniversaries; turning dirt beside you at your ground breakings and adding my prayers to yours in building dedications; attending workshops and meetings; taking part at weddings, baptisms, and, yes, the funerals of loved ones where both life and resurrection are celebrated.

There isn’t a church too small or too large that I haven’t been willing to visit. Especially in those sacred places, I have found not only God there to greet me but also so many of you, people strong in the faith of our ancestors, loyally carrying on the Kingdom business of shaping the next generation of followers.

And foremost in my memory of all those visits: my encounters with children.

Yes, the children! A smile comes to my face each time I open my desk drawer and sift the drawings and caricatures that kids have created for me when I’ve visited their churches.

I believe the children stand out in my mind because, each time I greet those wonderful creations of God, I stoop or kneel to meet their eye level — and in stooping or kneeling I literally am brought to the holy place where our servant God is.

In addition to the children, the youths of our churches and young adults in our Wesley Foundations always will hold special claim on my heart.

At their many summer camps and retreats that I’ve had the privilege to attend, I’ve seen firsthand the good hearts and capable hands of their generation for leading our Church forward.

Hiller named manager for Cross Point Camp

Jeff Hiller began service April 18 as new manager at Cross Point Camp, located in south-central Oklahoma, announced Ed Parker, director of the Conference’s Camp and Retreat Ministries.

A licensed Local Pastor since 2012, Rev. Hiller retired as a professional engineer in 2013, after almost 30 years with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation.

The Hiller family — Jeff, Sharr, and children John and Monica — have been enthusiastic participants in church camping for years, especially at Cross Point. Their home church is Ringling UMC.

Rev. Hiller attended the Cross Point Community Walk to Emmaus in 2002 and has been assistant spiritual director on three Walks. He is serving a second term on the Board of Directors for that group.

Since 2009, he’s served as dean of Tweens camp at Cross Point; he’s volunteered in leadership for numerous other camps, too, at this United Methodist facility beside Lake Texoma. He also attended the Cross Point Community Walk to Emmaus in 2002 and has been assistant spiritual director on three Walks. He is serving a second term on the Board of Directors for that group.

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Photo by Herschel Beard

Bishop Hayes

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BY JOE IOVINO
UNITED METHODIST COMMUNICATIONS

You may not personally attend the denomination’s General Conference, but that does not mean you can’t track all that is happening May 10-20 in Portland, Oregon.

General Conference meets once every four years and is the only entity that speaks officially for The United Methodist Church. Our digital devices — computers, smartphones, and tablets — give us more ways to stay connected with the meeting than ever before.

BOOKMARK THE WEBSITE — Go to www.umc.org, click “General Conference 2016,” and bookmark that page to access the hub for a plethora of resources from the 10-day meeting.

News, blogs, videos, and photos are available from that central location. United Methodist Communications will update this page throughout the General Conference with the latest news as well as daily summaries that share the highlights of each day.

WATCH THE LIVE STREAM — Whenever the conference is in session, GC2016.UMC.org will feature live streaming video.

That’s where you will be able to watch the voting, worship, speeches, and celebrations happening on the floor of the convention center in Portland.

The feed will be available in English, French, and American Sign Language.

The schedule is available online; remember that all times listed are Pacific Time Zone, and you will have to adjust for Central Time in Oklahoma.

GET THE APP — General Conference 2016 offers a mobile device application, available from your app store (Google Play | iTunes).

VOICING THEIR SUPPORT — Saint Paul seminary students and faculty at Oklahoma City University sing “Lift High the Cross” April 19 in a chapel service focused on the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. Hanging above the Communion table, prayer lanterns made by local children will be added to a display about climate issues during the global conference. The Saint Paul community also wrote cards to encourage Oklahoma’s delegates to the meeting. Chapel guest preacher and clergy delegate Joseph Harris called for prayers “to make a difference not only during General Conference but also where we reside and around the world.”

PHOTO BY HOLLY MCCRAY

You can track General Conference news

Some news, videos, photos, and the daily devotionals already are there now, and more will be added and updated throughout General Conference.

FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA —

• UMCGeneralConference on Facebook,
• @UMCGC on Twitter, and
• umcgc on Instagram.

Use the official hashtag, #UMCGC, on any social media platform to join and follow the conversations of United Methodists all over the world. One of the easier ways to follow #UMCGC will be available at GC2016.UMC.org.

TRACK SPECIFIC LEGISLATION — If you are interested in a particular petition or proposal, possibly one submitted by your congregation or annual conference, you can track it on a webpage in the General Conference section of UMC.org.

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TRACK SPECIFIC LEGISLATION — If you are interested in a particular petition or proposal, possibly one submitted by your congregation or annual conference, you can track it on a webpage in the General Conference section of UMC.org.
The top two national leaders of United Methodist Women recently blew away any hazy notions about the organization’s mission.

They made clear why UMW members are wind-catchers when they headlined the Quadrennial Meeting of South Central Jurisdiction United Methodist Women, on April 15-17 in downtown Oklahoma City. Almost 400 people from eight states participated.

The fresh wind of the Spirit clears the vision of UMW, with close to 1 million members, to “stand up, stand out, and speak out” especially for women, children, and youth, said National President Yvette Richards, of Missouri.

This “sisterhood of greatness” is called to be at the front lines in mission and has been doing so for almost 150 years, she noted. “Where does UMW flow? Do you have a globe?”

Among 96 national mission institutions supported by UMW is Neighborhood Services Organization (NSO) in Oklahoma City, with multiple services for disadvantaged people, including housing programs and a state-of-the-art dental clinic. Tours were conducted during the Quadrennial Meeting.

A predecessor church women’s group established NSO in the early 1900s, and continued support includes a recent $15,000 grant from the UMW Call to Prayer donations.

In 1869, church women with only a few pennies committed themselves to help educate others. “We can’t miss a beat; we have a job to do,” Richards declared.

She recently met a 92-year-old member packing personal kits for women in shelter housing. Her volunteer effort sets the standard for mission service by UMWomen of all ages, she insisted.

Harriett Jane Olson, who is national CEO, based in New York City, also expanded on the theme “A Fresh Wind Blowing.”

Wind is ranked from 0 to 12, she said, and 5 quantifies a fresh wind like the disciples experienced on Pentecost. When the Spirit moves, things we thought impossible get done.

“Are you ready to catch the wind?” Olson challenged. “You might have to stretch, to reorient” your efforts to the way the Spirit is blowing.

The UMW National Office has identified specific issues for action:
• racial justice,
• mass incarceration,
• climate change,
• income equality, and
• health care.

“We can respond,” Olson said. “We have the language, the skills” gained through UMW training and leadership opportunities.

She said members are like the giant wind turbines seen in western Oklahoma. The women serve as conduits, catching and converting God’s breeze into wind power that provides energy for discipleship.

The Oklahoma and Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference UMW leadership teams hosted the Quadrennial Meeting.

Tote bags were made by Cookson Hills Center, a United Methodist mission in far eastern Oklahoma.

Jo Ellen Reed of Oklahoma was installed as a jurisdiction UMW Committee on Nominations member for 2017-20. She also is dean of Mission U, scheduled for July at Oklahoma City University.

Bible study was by Janet Wolf; workshop topics ranged from cyberbullying to finance. Music leaders were Marcus Briggs-Cloud and Anna Clough, with specials by the OKC-Quayle UMC Choir and the Expressive Worship Choir from Baton Rouge. A banquet featured Native American dancers and Christian comedian Constance Saizon.

Communion officiants were Bishops Robert Hayes of Oklahoma, Cynthia Harvey of Louisiana, and Earl Bledsoe of New Mexico/Northwest Texas, and Louisiana pastor Derrick Hills. The elements were grape dumplings, a Native American tradition.
Abiding Harvest plows ground for expansion

BY PRISCILLA HUBER

Between worship services and Easter egg hunts, Abiding Harvest United Methodist Church in Broken Arrow broke ground March 27 on a building expansion: the Abiding Harvest Multi-Activity Center.

However, there were no gold shovels at the Easter Sunday event. Members of the Building Committee, chaired by Phil Terry, lay hold of an old-fashioned plow, guiding it to turn the earth as the entire congregation pulled together on one long rope.

“It’s a WE thing!” declared Pastor Chris Buskirk. “We pull together in ministry and in making this building, a tool for still more ministry, possible.”

The project started with a $750,000 challenge gift from an unnamed donor almost a year ago. The people of the church responded by exceeding the challenge amount, and the total thus far raised in funds and pledges is $1.9 million.

The facility, 13,400 square feet, will house a gymnasium, classrooms, an amphitheater courtyard, a growing youth ministry, and more. It will be a host site for educational partnership with a nearby elementary school, and a distribution station for a community garden now in development.

Abiding Harvest is a small-groups church that emphasizes presence-based worship and vital service to the community. A free hot breakfast is served every Sunday, at 10 a.m., and worship at 10:30 always opens with Communion.

Watch a brief video of the groundbreaking at https://vimeo.com/163862989

8 churches prove ‘It Worked For Us’

The Board of Laity congratulates eight churches that will receive “It Worked For Us Awards” on May 31 at the Laity Luncheon during Annual Conference.

Outstanding lay-led ministries, one in each district, will be honored by the Board.

- Cheyenne-First UMC, Sack Lunch Ministry (Cimarron District)
- Tulsa-New Haven UMC, Bus Stop Ministry (Council Oak)
- Piedmont UMC, Shawl Ministry (Crossroads)
- Henryetta-First UMC, Bike & Build (Green Country)
- Franklin UMC, Prayer Quilts (Heartland)
- Ponca City-Albright UMC, Albright Neighborhood Breakfast (Northern Prairie)
- Quinton-First UMC, After-School Reading Program (Lake Country)
- Ringling UMC, Ringling Prom Dress Ministry (Wichitas)

The Tuesday noon luncheon will be at OKC-St. Luke’s. Tickets are only available in advance, through online registration for Annual Conference.

Book sale by retired clergy will move

The Retirees’ Used Book Sale has been moved to a different building during Annual Conference at Oklahoma City University.

The sale will be on the first floor of the Kramer School of Nursing building, just east of the Freede Center, said Burrel McNaught, president of the retired clergy group.

The sale, a 20-year tradition, features books that will be useful both to pastors and lay people. Proceeds go to the Clergy Crisis Fund.

Prior to the sale, donations of gently used books are welcome, as well as clergy robes and stoles in good condition.

Donors are asked to pack books, spine-up, in boxes that are easy to handle. Please do not bring old journals, magazines, tapes, or curriculum.

The preferred drop-off location for book donations is the Kramer building, which will be open May 25-26. Donors can park on the west side. Dollies will be available for moving books, if needed.

Books also may be dropped off at OKC-Wesley UMC, 1401 NW 25th, or in Tulsa at Boston Avenue UMC by May 25. The sale will be held May 31-June 2.
Briefly

President named honorary Kiowa member

Oklahoma City University President Robert Henry was inducted as an honorary member of the Kiowa Tribe April 2 at the OCU Native American Society Powwow. Kiowa elder Bud Sahmaunt, former OCU athletic director, and David Wilson, superintendent of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference and an OCU trustee, helped induct Henry.

“I am deeply honored to be named an honorary Kiowa,” Henry said.

“We can all learn from the altruism of our great Indian nations, especially those in Oklahoma. As our greatest historian Dr. Angie Debo noted, the tribes have a ‘genius for collective effort.’”

During the ceremony, Henry read Kiowa poet N. Scott Momaday’s prayer from “In the Bear’s House.”

Momaday previously wrote a poem honoring Henry, titled “To a Man Among Us,” which Sahmaunt read at the ceremony. The annual powwow celebrates OCU’s commitment to Oklahoma’s American Indians.

Missionary Marsha Alexander visiting in Oklahoma

Missionary Marsha Alexander, director of Asbury College in the Philippines, will be in Oklahoma through June 6 to visit her supporting churches.

The school, on the island of Anda in the northern Luzon Province of Pangasinan, has more than 400 students ranging from elementary level through college. It opened in 1947.

Rev. Alexander is an ordained deacon whose close connection to Oklahomans includes Chickasha-Epworth UMC. She also directed Manos Juntas Mexico, closely affiliated with Oklahoma Volunteers In Mission, more than five years.

She began her current assignment in the Philippines in 2010. Her missionary support code is 10772Z.

To arrange a visit, email Karen Distefano, Conference secretary of Global Ministries, okcsgm@gmail.com or 918-440-9213.

2 district offices move

The Heartland and Wichitas District Offices have relocated:

- The new address for Heartland is in Moore at 631 N. Broadway.
- The Wichitas staff moved to another space within the same building in Lawton: Suite B at 811 SW “B” Ave.

Phone and fax numbers are unchanged, according to District Administrators Stacey Sprayberry and Andrea Dollarhite.

Gaudreau among outstanding graduates

The Oklahoma City University Alumni Association honored Mary Hughes Gaudreau, a United Methodist deacon, and six more outstanding alumni during a special event April 23 on campus.

Rev. Gaudreau, Class of 1981, serves as director of emotional and spiritual care for the Oklahoma Conference of Churches, an interfaith group. She is responsible for that ministry by OCC in times of disaster. She especially has been training spiritual care responders engaged in long-term care for people affected by May 2013 storms in the state.

At OCU she earned a B.A., majoring in religion.

Saint Paul invites comments

Saint Paul School of Theology is seeking comments by Aug. 16 from the public in preparation for its evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The institution will host a visit Sept. 19-20 with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association.

Saint Paul has been accredited by the Commission since 1976. The team will review the institution’s ongoing ability to meet the Commission’s Criteria for Accreditation.

Mail comments regarding the school to: Public Comment on Saint Paul School of Theology The Higher Learning Commission 230 S. LaSalle St., Suite 7-500 Chicago, IL 60604-1411

The public may also submit comments at www.ncahlc.org.

Child SHARE Family Specialists

Our mission is to provide Christian help, healing, and hope to children and youths through recruiting and supporting Oklahoma foster care families.

There is a child waiting for you, will you help?

Call the number in your area.

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Grove 918-453-3503
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OKC Metro 405-463-6626
Ponca City 405-802-7697
Ponca City 2 405-802-9687
Shawnee 405-693-7795
Stillwater 405-312-6640
Tulsa Metro 918-794-3876
Weatherford 405-308-7715
Toll Free 866-978-2956

Woodward & McAlester Coming Soon!

www.circleofcare.org
May 20, 2013, was a devastating day. Tornadoes ripped through central Oklahoma and crippled thousands of people across our state. The First United Methodist Church in Moore found itself at ground zero; there was so much need right in front of them.

Many people had lost everything. They didn't know where the next meal would be; they didn't even have a place to spend the night. Moore-First UMC opened its Family Life Center as a temporary shelter, but the church family knew more would need to be done. The Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation was able to reach out with gift cards.

While other organizations manage the bigger details of disaster recovery and cleanup, some of the smaller needs can be overlooked. But those gift cards provided a toothbrush, a fresh change of clothes, a motel room, or a meal out. They supplied the basic items that kept day-to-day living closer to normal as people affected by the tornadoes began to rebuild.

**OKLAHOMA GENEROSITY**

Thanks to funds from a wide variety of sources, a story of strength and unity in the face of disaster was told. The Foundation is blessed to be a part of stories like this.

**DO YOU WANT TO TELL A BETTER STORY?**

Contact David Battles at 800-259-6863 or dbattles@okumf.org for information on how you can tell a BETTER STORY through a legacy gift.

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**Egan:**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

led her small group at a past youth camp. The youths had formed a prayer circle around Karen when she had to leave early for a family matter.

Patsi Nix of Tahlequah said she’s never camped at Egan, but she helped financially and physically build the playground. That project was done in memory of her father. “He loved the little kids.”

As preschoolers made full use of the play space, a young mother pointed out her son, tears streaming down her face as she thanked Patsi for a special place “at last” in Egan for children his age.

Patsi’s nephew Jimmy said, “It’s easy to write a check. The real work comes from folks who put in the sweat equity, like Josh and his people,” to extend hospitality at Egan Camp.

**Healthcare professionals Karen and Bob Williams pause in the waiting area while touring the new Holliman Medical Station. In background is Flo Conklin, who chairs the Egan Site Committee.**

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**WHITTINGTON — Rev. John F. Whittington Jr., 85, of Midwest City, died April 11, 2016.**

He pastored at Kremlin/Nash, Hunter, Seiling/Taloga, Tipton/Manitou, Leedey/Camargo, Custer City/Independence, OKC/Britton, Tyrone, and Spencer. He also had a long military career, retiring from the U.S. Marine Corps as a lieutenant colonel.

Survivors include his wife, Josephine; sons Kendall, Larry, and Jack Whittington, and Robert and Wesley Richter; and daughters Becky Noell and Bertie Holliday.

Service was April 16 at Enid-Willow View UMC. Memorial gifts to: Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (dementia or spinal cord research).

**LACOUR — Mildred Lacour, age 100, of Colorado Springs, Colo., died April 15, 2016.**

She was the widow of Rev. Dr. Lawrence L. Lacour.

Survivors include members of their extended family.

Service is scheduled for 11 a.m. June 8 at First United Methodist Church in Colorado Springs.

Dorothy Curtis, 90, of Mount Vernon, Ind., died April 15, 2016. She was the mother of Rev. John Curtis, pastor at Eden Chapel.

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**Employment**

Director of Youth Ministries: Verdigris UMC. Part-time. Inquire or send resume to pastor@verdigrisumc.org

Children and Youth Coordinator: Lawton-Wesley Chapel UMC. Part-time. Email inquiry or resume to wcpastorken@gmail.com

Director of Senior High and College Ministries: Tulsa-Boston Avenue UMC. Full-time. Job description at http://hireayouthpastor.com/churches/1326/jobs/1635. Send resume or inquiry to teresa.sippel@ymarchitects.com

Office Manager: Norman-McFarlin UMC. Full-time. Contact Executive Minister Michael Andres at mandres@mcfarlinumc.org

Director of Music Ministries: Bixby-First UMC. Part-time. Send resume to Dan Pulver at dpulver@olp.net

**Nursery and Mother’s Day Out workers: OKC-Chapel Hill UMC. Part-time. Email Vickie@mychapelhill.org**

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**Photographs by Holly Mccray**

Joanna and Larry Potts, members of the extended Holliman family, are honored by Egan manager Josh Pulver, at back, for their generosity that undergirded construction of Holliman Medical Center at camp.