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Exploration 2011 "Passion and Possibilities" Ordained Ministry in the UMC" Nov. 11-13, 2011 St. Louis, MO

For a calendar of McCleary Chapel Ministries events visit <http://ministries.uindy.edu/chapel.phps>

UM Connections now on Facebook

UM Connections will now be on Facebook. Be sure to become a fan of our page [UM Connections at UIndy](#) to keep up with the latest news about the activities and achievements of the University of Indianapolis faculty, staff, and students affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

Student Forum 2011

Chaplain Jeremiah Gibbs and five UIndy Students attended the 2011 United Methodist Student Forum at University of Evansville in May. This is an annual spiritual development and leadership training conference for young adult college and university students that focuses on

- worship and social justice advocacy
- leadership training for campus ministry
- networking and developing legislation for General Conference

Student Forum is open to young adult college and university students. Annual conferences, campus ministries, and local churches are encouraged to sponsor participants and send voting delegates. While any young adult student may attend Forum, voting and alternate delegates are designated by each annual conference.



(l-r) Front Row: Leanne Zimmerman, Jenn Meadows. Back Row: Ian Laue, Jeremiah Gibbs, Casey Madsen, Samantha Searls

Operation Classroom

<http://www.gbmg-umc.org/operationclassroom/>

Sierra Leone Spring Term Trip May 2012

Plans are underway for a service pilgrimage to Sierra Leone West Africa in May of 2012. Rev. L. Lang Brownlee and Rev. Jeremiah Gibbs, Chaplains, will be leading a group of 8 students to Sierra Leone as a part of UM's Operation Classroom.

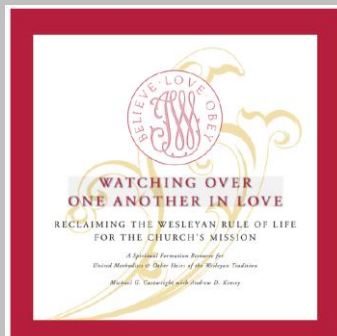
If you would like to donate to this trip for a student or for the supplies necessary, please contact either Lang Brownlee at 317-788-3382 (lbrownlee@uindy.edu) or Jeremiah Gibbs (gibbsj@uindy.edu) at 788-2058. Both chaplains are also available to speak with churches or organizations as part of the fund raising efforts for this trip.

Watching Over One Another in Love

Watching Over One Another in Love is a new resource created for use as part of the work of the Wesleyan Connexion Project (WCP). Subtitled "Reclaiming the Wesleyan Rule of Life for the Church's Mission" this 64-page booklet provides a set of 28 devotions focused on the text of the General Rules of the United Societies (1743). Michael Cartwright wrote the daily commentaries and provided an introduction and afterword that explains in what ways the General Rules can best be understood as a rule of life for spiritual formation. Rev. Dr. Andrew D. Kinsey supplied the daily prayers and scripture references that are to be read alongside selected hymns by John and Charles Wesley during the four-week period for which this resource is designed to be used.

The initial printing of 1500 copies of this resource was published in January 2011 and was intended for use in the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church. As of May, more than 1350 copies have been distributed. Sunday School classes in various congregations throughout the annual conference have used this resource, and the Memphis Conference of the UMC made this resource the focus of one of its continuing education events for pastors. In addition, all persons who attended the international Conference of UM Lay Leaders held in Indianapolis in February also received copies. Michael Cartwright reports, "We have been heartened by the response to this devotional booklet."

Persons interested in having access to this resource are encouraged to access it online at <http://www.inumc.org/pages/detail/644> The EIP office also has a limited supply of the first edition of these booklets available. Please contact Cindy Tyree at 788-2106 or e-mail ctyree@uindy.edu if you are interested in having a copy for your personal use. Earlier this summer, Wipf & Stock Publishing Company assumed responsibility for keeping this resource in print. (See flyer for additional information.)



United Methodist Student Association (UMSA)



Jenn Meadows, '14, (meadowsj@uindy.edu) will serve as the President for UMSA during the 2011-2012 academic year. She also will be serving as the Chapel Steward of Communications with the McCleary Chapel Ministries.

Check out UMSA Facebook page—
University of Indianapolis UMSA

Welcome to the UMYL Scholars Class of 2015

Madison Atkinson, Rachel Kreider, Tybytha Ryan and Kristen Williams make up the class of 2015 United Methodist Youth Leaders Scholars.

UMYL Scholars

Class of 2012

Christopher Hartley
Kelly Jamison
Samantha Searls
Allison Spenner

Class of 2013

Ian Brastauskas
Mackenzie Cain
Nathan Brock
Amanda Carter

Class of 2014

Jennifer Meadows
Amanda Musgrave
Kailey Willhelm

Class of 2015

Madison Atkinson
Rachel Kreider
Tybytha Ryan
Kristen Williams



Madison Atkinson attends the Wesleyan Chapel UMC in Floyd Knobs, Indiana. She is majoring in psychology/pre-Occupational Therapy.



Rachel Kreider is from Union City and attends the Wesleyan UMC in Union City, Indiana. She is majoring in nursing.



Tybytha Ryan attends Bethel UMC in Washington, Indiana, and will be majoring in psychology.



Kristen Williams attends Brushwood United Methodist Church in Rensselaer, Indiana and is majoring in experience design.

The Wesleyan Connexion Project's Summer Institute for United Methodist Seminarians

The second session of the second cohort of the WCP summer institute was held on UIndy's campus from June 5-8. Speakers included Rev. Dr. Andy Kinsey (Grace UMC in Franklin), Rev. Dr. Darren Cushman-Wood (Speedway UMC), Rev. Dr. Kim Reisman (Next Steps Evangelism) and Dr. Beth Felker Jones (Wheaton College). Dean Michael Cartwright led participants in a discussion of Kevin Corn's book *Forward Be Our Watchword: Indiana Methodism and the Modern Middle Class* (Univ. of Indianapolis Press, 2008). Participants also received copies of a resource that provides study questions for church groups to discuss two essays by Richard P. Heizenrather and William J. Abraham. *Exploring the Past, Renewing the Church: Wesleyan Resources for Our Mission Together* is available on the Indiana Conference UMC's web-page for the Wesleyan Connexion Project (see URL listed above)

Eight members of the second cohort of seminarians completed the summer institute: They are

Scott Taylor (United Theological Seminary)
John Huff (Methodist Theological School of Ohio)
Chris Neikirk (Asbury Theological Seminary)
Kaitlin Moore (Asbury Theological Seminary)
Seth Harshman (Asbury Theological Seminary)
Perry Montgomery (United Theological Seminary)
Christopher Lantz (Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary)

We also have a change in leadership to report. For the past two years, Dean Michael G. Cartwright has chaired the Steering Committee of the WCP. The Rev. Derek Weber (UIndy class of 1980) has agreed to lead this effort beginning in August. Cartwright will continue to serve as the Board of Ordained Ministry representative on the WCP Steering Committee and serve as needed as a consultant for resource development.



Campus Ministry Structure Summary

The new campus ministry structure is designed to focus on the UM mission of “making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world” with efforts to best support, equip, and network our local churches, campus ministries, institutions of higher education, and young adults and college students in that mission. The new Campus Discipleship Team will center those efforts and umbrella 3 sub-teams. The *Campus Discipleship Team*, made up of lay and clergy from the conferences and representation from the sub teams, will be responsible for promoting and supporting all forms of UMC-affiliated campus ministry. The *Campus Ministry Affinity Group*, made up of the campus ministers of all UMC related campus ministries in Indiana, representatives from local churches with ministries with college students, and the chaplains at UMC affiliated institutions, will coordinate and network campus ministries in the state, provide connection for incoming students, and support and pray for ministry on campuses and with college students in Indiana. The *Higher Education Institutions Team*, made up the chaplains and university staff who offer ministry on our UMC affiliated campuses in Indiana, will address specific needs of discipleship and ministry at our UMC-affiliated higher education institutions, networking and supporting one another and encouraging partnership and collaboration. While this overlaps with the Campus Ministry Affinity Group, it is included to acknowledge and address specific needs and possibilities with our institutions. The *Student Movement*, made up of student representation from around the state, will foster leadership and service among students.

UMC-UINDY Campus Ministry Affinity Group

Representatives from seven UMC churches from the south side of Indianapolis met with UIndy’s EIP staff on Saturday, January 22, to explore forming an affinity group to support campus ministries efforts at UIndy. Churches that participated in this initial meeting were: Christ, Edgewood, Good Shepherd, Greenwood, St. Andrew, Smith Valley, Southport, and University Heights. Central District Superintendent Bert Kite and Indiana Conference staffer Brian Durand were at this event.

The group reviewed the university’s longstanding church affiliation, discussed current aspects of campus ministry programming, and learned about the developmental tasks and concerns of ‘emerging adults’ in our society. After a full morning of discussion, the event concluded with lunch together.

We convened the meeting with the hope that the churches could strengthen the ways we are engaged in ministry with UIndy students through better communication and coordination of church activities created with young adults in mind. Two concrete outcomes from our initial meeting were student participation in a Sunday evening Bible study at one church, and the visiting and sharing by local church leadership at the UIndy United Methodist Student Association meetings on campus this spring.

Our hope is to continue the discussion with another gathering this year. We are looking for a church leader from one of our south side churches who will step up to guide this group. It was the consensus of the leaders present in January that the initiative for stronger coordinated church events for UIndy students as well as other young adults in our communities *must come from the UMC’s congregations*. We’ll alert you to further developments!





New Academic Award Named for United Brethren Leader

This year the EIP office anticipates presenting the inaugural Kephart Prize for Academic Excellence in Interfaith Engagement. This \$250 award will be given to the undergraduate student who completes the best academic project exploring interfaith topics. Although the award promotes interfaith engagement, it is not limited to religion majors and projects may take various forms.

You may be wondering about the namesake for this award. Bishop Ezekiel Kephart was the first person memorialized at Indiana Central University. Kephart died while trying to raise money for the fledgling Indiana Central University. Generations of students worshiped and attending convocation events in Kephart Memorial Auditorium also known as Kephart Chapel. Known by his friends as "Zeke," Kephart was also the foremost leader in the effort to establish church-related colleges in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Kephart has been remembered as a "progressive conservative" because of his willingness to engage the challenges of a changing world while continuing to engage the traditions of the past, Kephart was also an outspoken advocate of interfaith engagement. In fact, he was participant in the first Parliament of World Religions held in Chicago as part of the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

Dean Michael G. Cartwright believes that Kephart's life story fits with the purposes of the award. "In his lifetime, Kephart had the courage to engage intellectual challenges, including questions that forced him to confront his own ignorance about other religious traditions. He embodies the four intellectual virtues that the EIP staff invites UIndy students to display in their own interfaith engagements: humility, confidence, clarity and respect."

News and Notes from Ecumenical & Interfaith Programs Office

At the annual meeting of the Wesleyan Theological Society (in Dallas, TX), Dean **Michael Cartwright** participated in a panel discussion of Bryan Stone's book *Evangelism After Christendom* (Brazos Press, 2008). . . . During the Third Session of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church, the Rev. Jennifer Stuelpe Gibbs (spouse of Chaplain Jeremiah Gibbs) was ordained as an elder in the UMC. Rev. Stuelpe Gibbs serves on the staff of First UMC in Bloomington, Indiana. . . . In June (15-17), Chaplain **Lang Brownlee** represented UIndy at the Institute of Higher Education's conference on "Pedagogy for Planet Earth: Educating Moral Leaders for Ecological Responsibility" in Santa Fe, New Mexico. . . . In June (27-28), Chaplain **Jeremiah Gibbs** presented a paper at the Assemblies of God Faith and Science Conference held in Springfield, Missouri. . . . In July (24-28), Dean **Michael G. Cartwright** represented UIndy at the joint meeting of the International Association of Methodist Schools, Colleges, and Universities and the National Association of Schools, Colleges, and Universities of the United Methodist Church. This event, which event included a convocation held in the National Cathedral, was held in Washington, D.C. This the first occasion at which these two groups met together. . . . In September, **Cindy Tyree** begins studies as part of the spiritual direction internship training program offered by Benedict Inn Conference and Retreat Center in Beech Grove, IN. She anticipates completing the certificate in spiritual direction in the spring of 2013.



Visit the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry website for additional information on GBHEM Resource on candidacy, etc.

<http://www.gbhem.org/site/c.l5KSL3POLvF/b.3463017/k.BE22/Home.htm>

EXPLORATION 2011, an event for young adults who feel God's call to ordained ministry as a deacon or elder in The United Methodist Church, will take place Nov. 11-13 in St. Louis, Mo.

The event provides a chance to explore the call to ordained ministry through worship, prayer, workshops, networking, and small groups.

Sponsored by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Exploration 2011 is open to young adults age 18 to 26. The registration fee will cover a two-night stay at the Millennium Hotel, meals, and program fees. Updates and registration information will be posted on the event Web site at www.gbhem.org/exploration.

"This year's event will incorporate feedback we received through a longitudinal study begun at the 2009 Exploration. We hope to use what we have learned so far about the effect of these events on the discernment process to make each event more relevant to the participants," said the Rev. Meg Lassiat, director of Candidacy, Mentoring, and Conference Relations.

The Design Team which is planning the event encourages campus ministries, annual conferences, and local churches to identify young adults who exhibit the gifts and graces for ordained ministry and to invite and support their attendance at this event.

The event will include speakers, worship, workshops, and small group interaction to help students hear, discern, and respond to their call to ordained ministry.

If you are interested in attending Exploration 2011, talk with Chaplains Lang Brownlee, lbrownlee@uindy.edu 317-788-3383 or Jeremiah Gibbs, gibbsj@uindy.edu, 317-788-2058.

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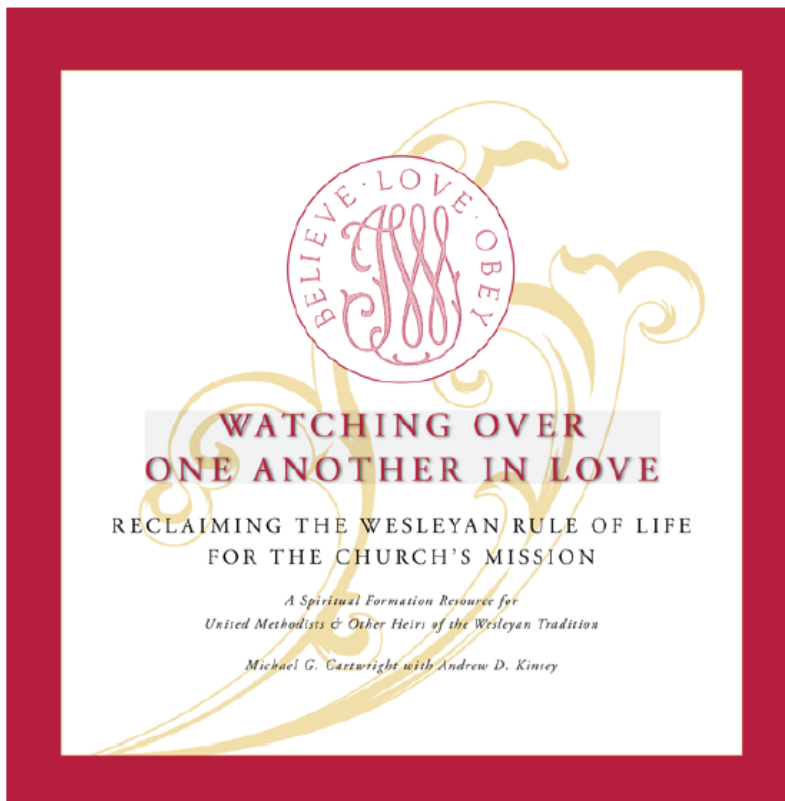
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WATCHING OVER ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE

RECLAIMING THE WESLEYAN RULE OF LIFE FOR THE CHURCH'S MISSION

*A Spiritual Formation Resource for
United Methodists & Other Heirs of the Wesleyan Tradition.*

Michael G. Cartwright with Andrew Kinsey



MICHAEL G. CARTWRIGHT is an ordained elder in the Indiana Conference, who serves as Associate Professor of Philosophy & Religion and Dean of Ecumenical & Interfaith Programs at the University of Indianapolis. Michael also serves on the Board of Ordained Ministry and chairs the Steering Committee for the Wesleyan Connexion Plan.

ANDREW D. KINSEY is an ordained elder in the Indiana Conference who serves as Senior Pastor of Grace United Methodist Church in Franklin, Indiana. Andy serves as the Dean of the Wesleyan Connexion Project as well as the Wesleyan Theologian on the Leadership Table for the Indiana Conference UMC.

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