



# United Methodist Connections

A newsletter for United Methodists at the University of Indianapolis



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*Through this e-newsletter, the Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Programs at UIndy highlights the activities and achievements of faculty, staff and students affiliated with the United Methodist Church. This e-newsletter is published three times a year in October, February, and June. If you have items that you would like to share please contact Cindy Tyree at 317-788-2106 or ctyree @uindy.edu.*

## Wesleyan Connexion Project (June 16-19, 2008)

The pilot project phase of the Wesleyan Connexion Project, a summer institute for United Methodists seminarians on the UIndy campus, has been successfully carried out in fruitful collaboration with clergy leaders from the South Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church. The participants came to campus in June for two consecutive years to study the Wesleyan Theological tradition and learn about the UMC in Indiana. The project was funded by the PHASE III grant and the South Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church.



Bishop Michael Coyner joined the Wesleyan Connexion to celebrate the Eucharist and spend the evening in conversation.



Paul Chilcote, Professor of Christian Theology at Ashland University School of Theology, was the guest lecturer for the Wesleyan Connexion.

## Important Dates

**October 8** Community Communion, 12:15 p.m. in McCleary Chapel

**October 19** Crop Walk

**November 12** Community Communion, 12:15 p.m. in McCleary Chapel

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of the African American Sages** November 18, 2008, at 7 p.m. Good Hall, Recital Hall

**Las Posadas**, 6:45 p.m. Meet at Hub, December 2

**Lessons & Carols**, December 4 9 p.m. McCleary Chapel

**Called to Unite Knowledge & Vital Piety: Symposium on Christian Higher Education in Indiana** (in collaboration with Anderson University) March 27-28, 2009



Wesleyan Connexion Participants—Front row: Andy Kinsey, (Dean of Wesleyan Connexion Project), Ruth Waite, Karen Devaisher,(mentor), Stephanie Jones, Michael Cartwright, (Dean of Ecumenical and Interfaith Programs). Back row: Jim Higdon, Damon Soper, Darren Cushman-Wood (mentor), Jacob Juncker, Sam Padgett, Adam Payne, Colin Cress, Darly Gilbert, Ed Fisher, and Michael Collins. Not Pictured: Greg Davis

## Meet some of UIndy's United Methodist personalities!

For a list of UIndy faculty and staff associated with the United Methodist Church, visit this link:

<http://eip.uindy.edu/umconnections.php>



Dr. **Stephen Nawrocki**, Professor of Anthropology & Biology and Sease Distinguished Professor, has been working at UIndy full-time since the fall of 1991, right out of grad school. Stephen and his wife, Susan, moved here from New York with their 6 month-old daughter, Jenna, in tow. They rented a place near Garfield Park and began attending University Heights United Methodist Church. Later, Jenna began pre-school and daughter Heather, born in 1993, was baptized there. They've remained members ever since and UHUMC has become their family away from home.

In 1998, Stephen helped start a contemporary worship service, Celebration Service, aimed primarily at young families and college students. He has played guitar in the band for the last 10 years and served as the Celebration Music Director twice, most recently since 2003. His family is the band! Susan plays bass, Jenna plays keyboard, Heather plays drums, and they all sing every Sunday at 11:05 a.m. They also play at coffeehouses, church functions, and for local organizations. Stephen says, "It is a blessing to be able to serve in such a loving and welcoming community."

Stephen teaches anatomy courses for the Department of Biology and runs the Archeology & Forensics Laboratory. Whenever human skeletons are found in Indiana, the lab is usually involved. He is also the director of the graduate program in Human Biology, in which students are trained to become forensic anthropologists.

Stephen collects and studies Charlie Brown and Peanuts books from the 1950's through the 1980s, and has more than 230 of them. With his family, he is an avid birder, and has more than 600 species on his life lists from North America and Africa. His favorite song is *Indescribable* by Chris Tomlin.



**Jan Thomas** came to the University in 1980 as a part-time staff employee in the Academic Services Office, or what is now referred to as the Registrar's Office. She transferred to a full-time position in the Office of Admissions in 1982. In 1984, she returned to the Office of Academic Services as administrative assistant to the academic dean where she worked until 1994. At that time, she transferred to the Office of the President where she works for the vice president for Research, Planning, and International Partnerships. She is starting her 29<sup>th</sup> year at the University.

Jan is an active member of the University Heights United Methodist Church, which she first attended in 1967. She raised both of her children in that church, where she also taught pre-school during the years that her daughter was enrolled. She became a member in 1974 and was active in the United Methodist Women organization for a number of years. She has taught Sunday school from preschool to fifth grade.

Her favorite food is pasta, any kind of pasta, but she is especially partial to spaghetti and macaroni and cheese. Jan states, "I love many hymns but, if I had to pick a favorite, I would say 'In the Garden.'"

## Meet a United Methodist Youth Scholarship Scholar

*The following students are the current recipients of the United Methodist Youth Leader Scholarships.*

### **First Year**

*Christopher Hartley*

*Kelly Jamison*

*Samantha Searls*

*Allison Spenner*

### **Sophomore**

*Leann Davan*

*Katie Gainey*

*Chelsea Hixon*

*Aubree Tuell*

*Amanda Tyring*

### **Juniors**

*Ryan Brock*

*Benton Cartledge*

*Danielle Diehl*

*Radcliffe Ganda*

*Suzanne Juncker*

### **Seniors**

*Hilary Foltz*

*Ryan Nelson*



**Hilary Foltz '09** is from Dyer, Indiana, and her home church is Dyer UMC. She currently attends 'the Journey,' a ministry of Southport UMC, where she leads a young adult small group. Hilary is president of the Student Education Association and a member of Kappa Delta Pi. She is a former chapel steward of worship at UIndy. Hilary has been on mission trips to Nashville, Virginia, South Africa, and

all over Chicagoland. Her first job was as a substitute teacher in Merrillville, Indiana. Hilary's dream job is to be a kindergarten teacher upon graduation. Hilary's favorite hymn is "Amazing Grace."

## The Peak

Sr. **Jennifer Horner**, co-chaplain, and **Ryan Brock**, chapel steward of worship, worked together to develop a program that would invite men into CVOC programming and help them look at what it means to be a man in Christ. The name of the program is *The Vocation Expedition* (The Peak). The Peak will meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 9 p.m. in SC005. The group held their "Base Camp" a Christian Men's Retreat on September 12-13.

## Students trained to be peer mentors

Beginning in August 2008, a Peer Mentoring Program will begin that allows incoming first-year students to meet with a peer mentor who will help guide them through the transition into college. Sr. **Jennifer Horner**, co-chaplain and director of the Lantz Center for Christian Vocations and Formation, says "although we will begin small, we hope that this program will continue to expand in the coming years."

## UM Student Forum heads to DC

The United Methodist Student Forum was held in Washington D.C at American University over Memorial Day weekend. Sponsored in part by University Heights United Methodist Church and the Office of Ecumenical & Interfaith Programs, UIndy freshmen **Karilyn 'Kari' Murray**, **Caitlin 'Caitie' Derank**, and **Ian Laue** and sophomore **Danielle 'Dani' Diehl** were able to attend the forum. Student Forum is a chance for all the United Methodist schools from across the United States and the Wesley foundation to have an annual gathering. The forum elected new chairs for the steering committee and the North Central member elected is from the University of Cincinnati. Elections also were held for the Division on Ministry with Young People, a committee that will meet at least once a year for the next four years. **Dani Diehl** was elected to serve as the North Central representative and attended her first meeting September 23—28. "We were all very grateful that we got to spend Memorial Day in the nation's capital," she says, "and look forward to spending next year some where in the South Central jurisdiction."

## University Heights United Methodist Church invites you

The members of University Heights United Methodist Church, located on campus at the corner of Hanna and Otterbein, invites you to join them for worship and other activities throughout 2008. If you'd like more information about the church or its activities, you may e-mail [uhumc@indy.rr.com](mailto:uhumc@indy.rr.com), check out the Web page at [www.universityheightsumc.org](http://www.universityheightsumc.org) or call the church office at 787-5347.

### Sunday Worship Times

Traditional Worship - 9:00 a.m.; Contemporary Celebration Worship - 11:05 a.m.  
Sunday School for all ages - 10:10 a.m.

### Beatles Sermon Series

Rev. C. Archibald Hawkins is preaching a series of sermons based on the songs of the Beatles. The schedule is: October 5—*Yesterday*; October 12—*When I'm Sixty-Four*; October 19—*In My Life*; October 26—*Let It Be*

### Bible Studies

**Book of Obadiah and Book of Acts** begins Tues., Sept. 30, 6 p.m. with community meal, 6:30 p.m. study at home of Kerry & Diana Bossingham (51 Pine Street, Southport); meets every Tues., join in at any time. **Disciple**—Introduction to Old Testament; meets 8 weeks—Thurs., Oct. 2, Shalom Room (upstairs Education Wing); led by Martha Morris

### Fall Festival

Fri., Oct. 3, 5-7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall; community families invited—games, fun, food, prizes as we celebrate arrival of fall. Hot dogs, chips and cookies will be served.

### Interfaith Hospitality Network

**Hosted by church Sun, Oct. 5—Oct. 12; opportunities to volunteer with mission outreach**

### Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Free breakfast for UIndy students in Fellowship Hall, Celebration Worship at 11:05 a.m.

### Coffeehouse

Dr. Stephen Nawrocki and family (Susan, Jenna & Heather) will perform at coffeehouse Wed., Oct. 29, from 7-10 p.m., along with other artists; if you are interested in performing, contact Dr. Nawrocki ([snawrocki@uindy.edu](mailto:snawrocki@uindy.edu)); great food and fellowship.

## News and Notes

In July, Dr. **Michael Cartwright** was the principal speaker for a consultation hosted by the General Board of Discipleship of the UMC in Nashville. The focus of the consultation was how to encourage United Methodist engagement with the church's "General Rules of the People Called Methodists" in the wake of the publication of Bishop Reuben Job's book *Three Simple Rules*. In September, Cartwright published an article entitled "Treasure from the United Methodist Attic: Rediscovering the General Rules" for the *Hoosier United Methodists Together* newspaper, and he spoke about the importance of the "General Rules" for Christian spiritual formation at Grace United Methodist Church in Franklin. Dr. **Gregory Clapper** is teaching a UM History and Doctrine Course at CTS this fall for all UMC members attending CTS. Greg has written the article "Affections," forthcoming in the *Dictionary of Scripture and Ethics*, edited by Green, Lapsley Miles, and Verhey, to be published by Baker Academic Books as well as four entries on Evil Tempers, Holy Tempers, Heart, and Fruit of the Spirit in the forthcoming *Wesley Study Bible* to be published by Abingdon Press. He also has written "John Wesley's Abridgement of Isaac Watt's 'The Doctrine of the Passions Explained and Improved,'" in *Wesleyan Theological Journal* forthcoming in (Vol. 43, No. 2) (Fall 2008). Greg was a respondent for three papers presented at the Wesleyan Theological Society held at Duke University in March 2008. This fall, Dr. **Lang Brownlee** is teaching Early and Medieval Church History for the Indiana Area Extension Course of Study School, and he continues to serve as adviser for UIndy's United Methodist Student Association.

In the next issue of *UM Connections* look for articles on:

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