



United Methodist Connections

A newsletter for United Methodists at the University of Indianapolis



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Important Dates:

Feb. 17
Showers Lectures
 4 pm & 7 p.m., McCleary Chapel

Feb. 28
United Methodist Lenten Breakfast, Dining Hall

March 27-28
Symposium: Called to Unite Knowledge and Vital Piety

April 17
10th anniversary celebration of the Lantz Center for Christian Vocations and Formation

April 20
Lantz Center Commissioning Service
 7 p.m. McCleary Chapel

For the McCleary Chapel Ministries Calendar for Semester II visit this link:

http://ministries.uindy.edu/winter_09_calendar.pdf

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.

Symposium: Called to Unite Knowledge and Vital Piety

*Unite the pair so long disjoined,
 Knowledge and vital piety
 Learning and holiness combined,
 And truth and love let all men see
 --Charles Wesley*



The state of Indiana has an unusually rich concentration of institutions of higher education that have been founded by persons and groups that saw themselves standing in the Wesleyan and Holiness movements and the Pietist heritage more generally. Indiana Asbury University was the first institution, founded in 1837. Six more institutions were founded during the next eighty-two years: Taylor College (1846), Moores Hill College (1854), Huntington College (1887), Indiana Central University (1902), Anderson College (1917), and Marion College (1919).

Across the past century much has changed in the landscape of American higher education, and within the state of Indiana changes have occurred within denominational structures as well as in the trajectories of particular institutions of higher education. Today, we know these institutions as DePauw University, Taylor University, University of Evansville, Huntington University, University of Indianapolis, Anderson University, and Indiana Wesleyan University. Some of these institutions have had longstanding ties to one another. In other cases little contact has occurred through their history.

“Called to Unite Knowledge and Vital Piety,” a symposium hosted by the University of Indianapolis in collaboration with Anderson University, will take place on March 27-28, 2009, with representatives from DePauw University, University of Evansville, Taylor University, Huntington University and Indiana Wesleyan University. Visit this link for the brochure and detailed information about the symposium.

http://eip.uindy.edu/events/showers_symposium_09.pdf

Meet some of UIndy's United Methodist personalities!

Visit this link for a list of UIndy faculty and staff who are connected with the United Methodist Church

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

If your name is not on this list and you would like for it to be, please notify Cindy Tyree, ctyree@uindy.edu



Dr. Stephen Graham, Professor of History and Political Science, has been teaching political science at UIndy for the past 25 years. In recent years he has offered an introductory course in American national government and advanced courses in constitutional law, political theory, and public administration. In 1992, he was selected as UIndy "Teacher of the Year."

Stephen's publications include a book co-authored with his wife, Marcia, "First the Kingdom," and two books on E. Stanley Jones—one on his political philosophy, "The Totalitarian Kingdom of God," and the other a biography, "Ordinary Man, Extraordinary Mission." The biography won the 2007 John Pollock Award for Christian biography. He also has written a two-volume casebook for constitutional law, "U. S. Constitutional Law: Analysis and Application," that he has used for his courses in that field.

Marcia and Stephen are active members of Edgewood UMC. He currently serves as chair of the Staff Parish Relations Committee and as secretary of the United Methodist Men. Charles Wesley's hymn, "And Can It Be That I Should Gain" is Stephen's favorite hymn.

A little-known fact about Stephen is his wife's nickname for him, "Boo," after a character in Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird."



Ms. Vicky Swank is a nurse practitioner in the Health Center at the University and an adjunct faculty member in the Athletic Training Program. She has been a UIndy employee for seven years. She is an alumna of the university with an undergraduate and graduate degree in nursing. This is how Vicky describes her connection with the university: "I feel very much at home on campus as I

basically grew up here. My dad is a retired faculty member from the Communications department. I have been hanging around here since I was 6 years old!"

Vicky grew up in the Evangelical United Brethren side of the UM church and has attended University Heights United Methodist Church since 1964. "My church/spiritual life is a very big part of who I am," says Vicky. Growing up, her weekly routine was attending church and Sunday school with her family. There was never a discussion about whether they were going to church on Sunday. It was just what her family did. When Vicky came to college, it was odd for her to think that she actually had a choice about whether to go to church or not!

Vicky served as an acolyte, sang in the children's choir, attended church camp, and was involved with youth fellowship. She is currently serving as vice president of United Methodist Women, serving on the freshmen committee, university committee, liturgist team, and children's message team.

Vicky loves music. Her favorite hymn is "Trust and Obey." "I can remember my mom singing that to me when I was a little girl," comments Vicky. "My baby book says I could sing 'Jesus Loves Me' (and stay in tune) at age 2!" Vicky's favorite Bible verse is "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded," Luke 12:48.

Meet a United Methodist Youth Leader 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

Suzanne Juncker

Seniors

Hilary Foltz

Ryan Nelson



Ms. **Chelsea Hixon** is a sophomore at the University of Indianapolis. She is in the physical therapy assistant program and will graduate in August. Her hometown is Dana, Indiana, where she attended South Vermillion High School. Salem United Methodist Church in Hillsdale, Indiana, is Chelsea's home church. Through the church she has attended a Chrysalis flight. She helps with VBS and children's church. Chelsea also helped build a wheelchair ramp to an elderly man's home in southern Kentucky through the Red Bird Mission.

"I really enjoy helping people and that is why I chose to be in physical therapy. I love the University of Indianapolis and all of the new people I have met here. I have grown so much in my faith and as a person here.

In my free time I enjoy hanging out with my friends and family, shopping and watching movies," Chelsea says.

United Methodist Student Association News

The United Methodist Student Association is in full swing this semester, according to UMSA President Ms. Dani Diehl (diehld@uindy.edu). Around six students from UMSA plan to attend the United Methodist Student Forum this summer. The Student Forum of the United Methodist Student Movement is an annual spiritual development and leadership training conference for college and university students. UMSA is planning a major event for Autism Awareness. Cash donations for autism will be accepted through the month of April. Watch for more details from UMSA.

Appalachian Service Project 2009

A group from UIndy, for the 26th consecutive year, traveled to take part in a week of Christian service with Appalachia Service Project, whose headquarters is in Johnson City, Tennessee. January 4-10 found the team of ten students and two staff personnel engaged in housing repair ministry while based at the ASP Year-Round Center in Jonesville, Virginia. Ms. **Christie Beckmann**, Director of Conferences and Scheduling (and a student at Christian Theological Seminary pursuing her M.Div. degree—Rosedale Hills UMC) and Rev. **Lang Brownlee** were this year's staff personnel for the week. The student leader this year was Ms. **Michelle Stephens**, third-year Pre-Theology student (Speedway UMC).

The ASP experience involved the service component as well as intentional processing of the experience as the participants grew in community and shared their reflections about the role of service in the life of their discipleship. They just had plenty of fun and laughter the entire week! On the way home, the group stopped to take in the view at the Pinnacle Overlook at the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, had lunch, and shopped at the college square in Berea, Kentucky.

News and Notes

Dr. **Michael Cartwright** participated in the annual meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics, January 8-10, 2009, in Chicago. In addition, he participated in the inaugural gathering of the working group on Wesleyan/Methodist Ethics. Cartwright will speak at Grace UMC Franklin on the United Methodist Social Creed on February 15, 2009.

Ms. **Cindy Tyree**, Office Manager for Ecumenical & Interfaith Programs and the PHASE III Vocations Project, attended the United Methodist Five-Day Academy for Spiritual Formation in Hinton, Oklahoma, in November. Roberta Bondi spoke on the Desert Fathers and Rabbi David Horowitz talked about the Jewish faith.

Spiritual Pilgrimage to Taizé, France

Sr. **Jennifer Horner**, Director of the Lantz Center for Christian Vocations and Formations and co-chaplain, and Ms. **Cindy Tyree** will be co-leading a group of nine students on a spiritual pilgrimage to Taizé, France, in May. The students traveling to Taizé are **Julie Bates, Michele Beanblosson, Christopher Bullick, Kierre Childers, Mark Fornefeld, Rebekah Hadley, Christina Michel, Jessica Peterson, and Julia Spangler.**

Lantz Center for Christian Vocations and Formation Celebrates 10 Years

Sr. Jennifer Horner, Director of the Lantz Center for Christian Vocations and Formation, chaplain, and assistant professor of spiritual formation, has announced plans for a 10th-anniversary celebration of the Lantz Center for Christian Vocations and Formation in April. The Center was formally dedicated in the fall of 1998 as an "Ecumenical Center for Christian Vocations" and named after President G. Benjamin Lantz in April 1999 on the occasion of President Jerry Israel's inauguration. Then-chaplain **John Young**, Ms. **Cheryl Larson** and Mr. **Paul Gabonay** (among others) helped establish the Center. During the first three years the center was funded by a grant from the Religion Division of the Lilly Endowment, Inc. and **Dr. Michael Cartwright** and **Dr. Greg Clapper** served as the first directors for this venture.

For the past six years, under the direction of Sr. Jennifer Horner, the CVOC program has grown and includes both co-curricular and curricular programming. The curriculum introduces students into a spiral of learning as each course takes them deeper and deeper into the Christian journey of vocational exploration and formation. After taking the four courses in the CVOC curriculum, students can be commissioned for service during the annual Lantz Center Commissioning Service. The first class of students to be commissioned for service graduated in 2000. This year's commissioning service will commission four students and is set for Monday, April 20, at 7:00 p.m. in McCleary Chapel.

To see Sr. Jennifer Horner's booklet on spiritual pilgrimage visit this link:

http://vocations.uindy.edu/Taize_Pilgrimage_book.pdf.

The Lantz Center for Christian Vocations and Formation exists as a place to hear God speaking, and to develop the formative skills to listen to what God speaks to us.

For more information on the Lantz Center for Christian Vocations and Formation visit this link <http://vocations.uindy.edu/>