

Perspective

Transitioning
TO A NEW DAY

Perkins Programs, Centers
OFFER VIBRANT EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES

#SMUnited
A VIGIL FOR
RACE EQUALITY

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On the cover: Dean Craig C. Hill (second from left) with Perkins students (left to right) Matthew Burroughs (M.Div. '18), president, Perkins Student Association; Jesseca Aziz (M.Div. '17); and Christian Watkins (M.Div. '19), chair, PSA Justice in Action Committee. Photo credit: Hillsman Jackson

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Ministerial Education Fund
*Preparing men and women
for effective ministry*

Perkins School of Theology benefits from the generous support of the Ministerial Education Fund apportionment contributed by nearly 33,000 United Methodist congregations across the United States. In partnership, we prepare women and men for faithful leadership in Christian ministry.



NEW BEGINNINGS

I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world. For God ... is my witness that without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers, asking that by God's will I may somehow at last succeed in coming to you. For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you – or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. (Romans 1:8–12)

This is how the apostle Paul introduced himself to the church of Rome. Like Paul, many of us have had the experience of anticipating a new sphere of ministry. If we're fortunate, as I have been in coming to Perkins, we've heard good reports about the community we'll be joining and already will have had the pleasure of knowing some of its members, just as Paul was previously acquainted with Prisca, Aquila, Mary, Andronicus, Junia and others in the church of Rome.

I thought of these verses in the weeks leading up to my arrival in Dallas. They encouraged me to pray often, if not entirely "without ceasing," for the Perkins community. The long process of sorting through, packing and moving our belongings did at times almost make me wonder if we'd ever "at last succeed in coming to you," but by the grace of God we arrived and anticipate being in fellowship with each of you in the days ahead.

Speaking of days ahead, another passage of scripture, 1 John 3:2, came to mind as I have had occasion to contemplate our future together:

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

I love this verse because it combines firm expectation with humility and reserve. The text doesn't claim too much – it doesn't speculate about what has not yet been revealed – but it also doesn't claim too little. "We are now children of God." We will be like him. Elsewhere in the letter, the author does indeed claim to know quite a bit: Christ is "righteous," "the expiation for our sins," one who "came in the flesh" and "laid down his life for us" in love. In other words, the hoped for future is defined by and grounded firmly in the community's past, in what they have heard and seen and looked upon and touched with their hands (1:1).

This is a model of Christian hope. It is strong without being arrogant, confident without being all-knowing. It is also a model for Perkins as it moves into its second century. We do not know what the future holds, but we do know quite a bit about what God has done through Perkins in the past and about how God

is presently at work in this community, on the basis of which we hold a strong, confident hope in what God will yet do.

I have many definite hopes for the roles Perkins will play in the future. For instance, at a time when American society generally and the American church specifically is highly polarized, I believe we must set a counter example. Perkins should be a place where it is possible to discuss and even disagree *Christianly*, respecting and honoring one another, resisting the all-too-human tendency to objectify and to demonize.

Another hope is that Perkins will take increased advantage of its location, its talent, its broad support and its many contacts to extend its reach even further into the world. As I told the faculty when I came to campus for my interview, my vision is that Perkins be "An Academy for the Whole Church in the Whole World." To imagine anything less, I believe, is to think too small.

Not that this is a one-way street. We have much to learn and much to gain from other institutions, especially churches and other seminaries, around the world, "that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith." Seminaries that thrive in the years ahead will be those that encourage and nurture partnerships and collaboration. This also means reaching out to new constituencies both here in the United States and abroad.

It is a great privilege to join the Perkins community at this exciting moment in its history. I am grateful for your prayerful support and wise counsel as I make the transition into the deanship, and I look forward to many years of shared partnership with you in the Gospel.

Grace and peace,

CRAIG C. HILL

*Dean, Perkins School of Theology
Southern Methodist University*

PERKINS WELCOMES *Dean Hill*

Craig C. Hill, a leader in theological education with strengths in practice, research and church relations, was appointed the new dean of Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, effective July 1, 2016.

Since 2010, Dr. Hill served as executive director of the Doctor of Ministry and Master of Christian Practice programs at Duke Divinity School, as well as research professor of theological pedagogy.

He previously served the Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., where he held several positions: professor of New Testament, executive director of academic outreach, director of the Wesley Ministry Network, co-director of the dual degree program with The American University and director of the Master of Theological Studies degree program.

“Dr. Hill’s broad achievements as a scholar and pastoral leader make him well-equipped to guide and strengthen the next century of theological higher education at SMU,” said Steven C. Currall, SMU provost and vice president for academic affairs. “Theology was one of the first subjects taught when SMU opened in 1915, and today Perkins School of Theology remains central to the mission and character of the University. Dr. Hill will further cement the close relationship between Perkins and The United Methodist Church, as well as with other faith-based organizations in the region, nationally and around the world. We are delighted that Dr. Hill has joined the academic leadership of SMU as dean of the Perkins School of Theology.”

From his experience at theology schools of other distinguished universities, Dr. Hill brings a broad overview of best practices and evolving challenges in different regions of the nation and world. These positions include those at seminaries in Moscow, Russia; Seoul, Korea; and the University of Cambridge, England. In the United States, he has been a visiting professor at Howard University Divinity School and at Indiana University and was a Henry Luce Fellow at Yale Divinity School. Based on his experience at Duke University, Dr. Hill brings insights into how theological education aligns with other academic programs in a global research university with a liberal arts tradition, such as SMU.

“Trends in theology education, the growing need for outreach to underserved communities and the importance of preparing ministers for new challenges and opportunities – all demand the balance of

theological practice and reflection that Dr. Hill will bring to his leadership of Perkins,” said SMU President R. Gerald Turner.

Among Dr. Hill’s church positions, he served as director of Christian Education at First United Methodist Church, Meriden, Connecticut; as chaplain at Christ Church College, University of Oxford; as associate pastor at First United Methodist Church, Peoria, Illinois; and as associate pastor at Woodside United Methodist Church, Springfield, Illinois.

“In a very competitive field, Dr. Craig Hill stood out for a number of reasons,” said Samuel S. Holland, chair of the search committee and dean of SMU’s Meadows School of the Arts. “He has served in various executive positions at Duke Divinity School and Wesley Theological Seminary, in other words both in a theological school embedded in a research university and at an independent institution. He brings an international perspective to SMU. In all, he will provide ecumenical breadth and theological depth that Perkins School of Theology will need going forward.”

Dr. Hill is the author of numerous scholarly articles and the forthcoming book, *Servant of All: Status, Ambition, and the Way of Jesus*. His previous books include *In God’s Time: The Bible and the Future* and *Hellenists and Hebrews: Reappraising Division within the Earliest Church*.

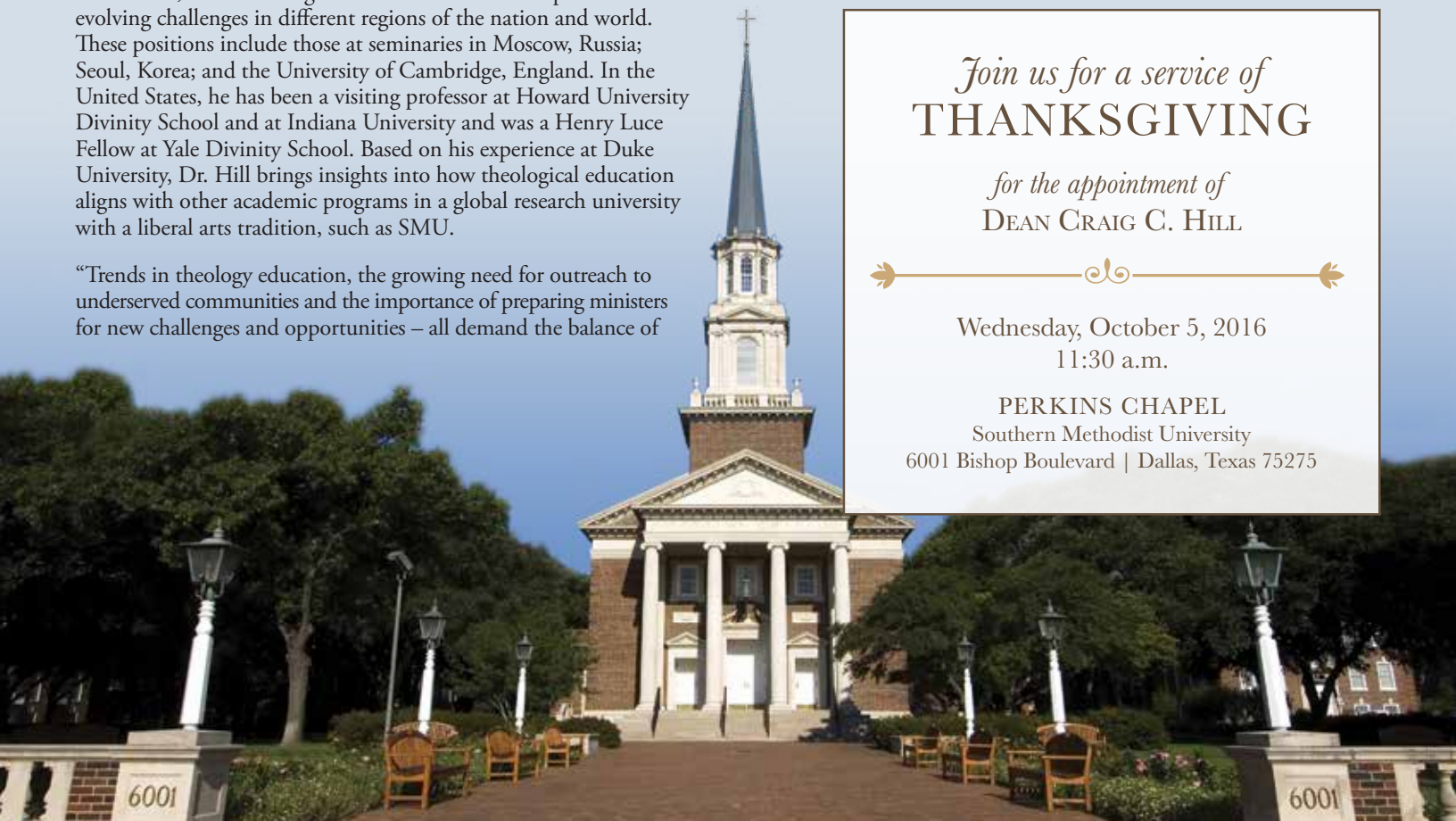
He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion from Illinois Wesleyan University, a Master of Divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Oxford (Christ Church College).

Join us for a service of
THANKSGIVING

for the appointment of
DEAN CRAIG C. HILL

Wednesday, October 5, 2016
11:30 a.m.

PERKINS CHAPEL
Southern Methodist University
6001 Bishop Boulevard | Dallas, Texas 75275





MEETING NEW *Challenges and Opportunities*

From the Latin trānsitiōn- (stem of trānsitiō) a going across, equivalent to trānsit (us) (past participle of trānsire to cross; cf. transit) + -iōn- -ion.

As a noun: Movement, passage or change from one position, state, stage, subject, concept, etc., to another; change.

As a verb (used without object): To make a transition.

A transition can be good or bad; easy or difficult; painless or painful; smooth or rocky; trouble-free or troublesome.

A transition is the end of something and the beginning of something else. It is a conclusion and a commencement, a docking and a launch.

That is where Perkins School of Theology finds itself in the fall of 2016. The extraordinary 14-year tenure of Dean William B. Lawrence has come to a close, and the promising term of Dean Craig C. Hill is beginning.

On top of that, the 100th anniversary celebratory year of SMU's birth has come to completion as has the exceedingly successful \$1.15 billion Second Century Campaign. So, where does that leave us, a school of theology?

We are positioned on the cusp of new and challenging options and opportunities. With a new dean who will be able to stand on the shoulders of William Lawrence and previous deans, while bringing his own mix of gifts, insights and acumen; a faculty committed to meeting the needs of students, the community and the Church; a strong financial base; and outstanding support from the University, Perkins is ready to meet the challenges that will come our way.

And challenges there will be. We all know that our culture is changing and that various visions of what the church should be and do are banded about and debated. We know that the cost of education is high – excessively high – especially for women and men who are heading into ministry positions. We understand that the demographics of the region in which we are located are not what they were a generation ago, which means that we should not be mired in a previous era.

A wise Old Testament poet said:

*Consider what God has done:
Who can straighten what has been made crooked?
When times are good, be happy!
But when times are difficult, consider
That God has made the one was well as the other.
Therefore a man cannot discover anything about his future.
(Ecclesiastes 7:13–14)*

The wise poet encourages us to directly and aggressively meet whatever challenges may come our way. At Perkins, we are doing this in many ways. We are persistently revamping our curricular offerings to meet the changing needs of the Church. We have created centers to study and dig deeply into important areas of need. Those vital Perkins centers have been established:

- for Evangelism and Missional Church Studies;
- for Methodist Studies;
- for Preaching Excellence;
- for Religious Leadership;
- for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions.



John A. Martin
Director of Development
Perkins School of Theology

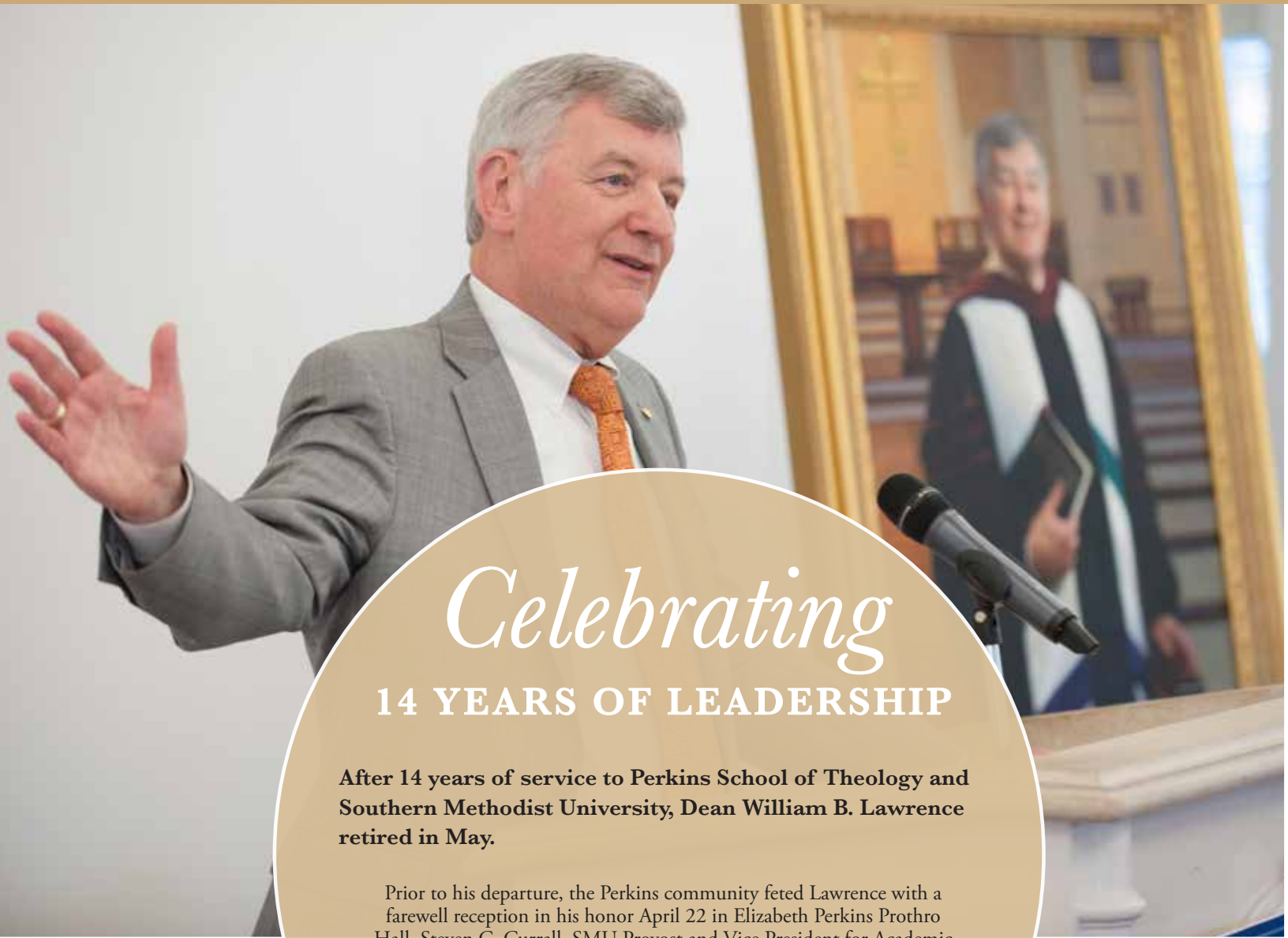
Each one of the centers utilizes an outstanding advisory board to help set an agenda of study and praxis. Watch for important research and developments to come from Perkins in these areas over the next few years.

As the above poet said, we don't know what the future holds. But we do know that we have a responsibility to prepare women and men for faithful leadership in Christian ministry. That has been and will remain our mission. We realize that this responsibility has been a part of Southern Methodist University for 100 years, and now, under the leadership of Dean Hill, will remain a central focus of the University through Perkins School of Theology.

All of us can have a supporting role in this responsibility of education through prayer, encouragement and finances. Dedicated women and men have supported this work for decades. We are counting on new generations to rise up and meet the challenges ahead, whatever they may be.

I am proud of the way Perkins was supported in The Second Century Campaign. Now, we are turning our attention to that next 100 years of Perkins existence. I am calling on all of our alumni, friends, churches and foundations to join us in this great effort.

The transition might be surprising, but it will be exciting and fulfilling.



Celebrating 14 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP

After 14 years of service to Perkins School of Theology and Southern Methodist University, Dean William B. Lawrence retired in May.

Prior to his departure, the Perkins community feted Lawrence with a farewell reception in his honor April 22 in Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Hall. Steven C. Currall, SMU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, addressed attendees – as did Bishop Mike McKee, episcopal leader of the North Texas Annual Conference; Perkins faculty members Carlos Cardoza-Orlandi, Alyce McKenzie and Evelyn Parker; Bridwell Library Director Roberta Schaafsma; Rev. Connie L. Nelson, Director of Public Affairs and Alumni/ae Relations at Perkins; and Diana Coon, Lawrence's longtime assistant. At the reception, Lawrence received an engraved crystal Bible, and his wife, Naomi, received a set of specially engraved wind chimes for display on the patio of their North Carolina home.





OFFICIAL PORTRAIT UNVEILED

The official portrait of Perkins Dean William B. Lawrence was unveiled March 1 during an Executive Board-sponsored retirement banquet held in his honor.



The portrait was made possible through the donations of members of the Perkins Executive Board, faculty and staff, and was painted by noted Fort Worth-based artist James Tennison.

In the portrait, Dean Lawrence is pictured in Perkins Chapel and is wearing a stole made especially for him, with the liturgical colors of purple, green, white and red in chevron formation. He is flanked in the portrait by the baptismal font at right, the altar table at left – representing the sacraments of The United Methodist Church (baptism and holy communion) – with the distinctive Chapel cross behind him.

Dean Lawrence holds a copy of his own leather-bound United Methodist hymnal, with his finger marking hymn number 627, “O the Depth of Love Divine,” which reflects his own theology of God’s love and grace.

The second verse of this hymn could surely serve as a statement of understanding about the purpose of theological education and the mission of Perkins School of Theology – to prepare women and men for faithful leadership in Christian ministry – the goal that guided Dean Lawrence during his 14-year tenure:

*Let the wisest mortals show how we the grace receive;
feeble elements bestow a power not theirs to give.
Who explains the wondrous way, how through these the virtue came?
These the virtue did convey, yet still remain the same.*

Tennison’s portrait commissions have taken him across the United States and to England. His works include the official portraits of former Texas governors Rick Perry and Ann Richards, which hang in the State Capitol in Austin, portraits for the National Institutes of Health, Southern Methodist University, Harvard University, Texas Christian University, Texas Instruments and Frito Lay, as well as many portraits for families.

The portrait of Dean Lawrence hangs in the Kirby Hall Parlor, as do portraits of all previous deans of Perkins School of Theology.

Bridwell LIBRARY

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FALL 2016 EXHIBIT



Surveying the wide range of manuscripts in Bridwell Library Special Collections representing the Christian, Judaic and Islamic traditions, the Library's fall 2016 exhibition in the Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Galleries includes items produced between the 12th and 19th centuries in numerous locations throughout Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and the Americas.

The array of texts, languages, letterforms, illuminations and illustrations provides evidence of both known and unrecorded scribes, artists, readers and owners as well as insights into the cultural, historical, bibliographical and aesthetic contexts in which these manuscripts were created.

These works both complement and supplement printed holdings in significant collecting areas for Bridwell Library, including scripture and worship, devotion, theology and

church history, and religious instruction and study. Focusing on these genres, Bridwell Library continues to build a diverse and instructive collection of manuscripts, many of which demonstrate how handwritten books and documents remained essential facets of religious and intellectual life following the introduction of printing in Europe in the mid-15th century. The exhibition, *Inscribed Illuminations and Inspirations: Manuscripts at Bridwell Library*, will be on display Aug. 8 to Dec. 16, 2016.



NAVIGATING CROSSCURRENTS

SMU'S GRADUATE PROGRAM IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES
CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

Emeriti faculty members, including Schubert Ogden (at left) and Charles Wood, and alumni of SMU's Graduate Program in Religious Studies (GPRS) joined with current students and faculty March 31 and April 1 for a diverse group of panels celebrating the program's 50th anniversary. "Navigating Crosscurrents: Looking Back. Looking Forward. Celebrating 50 Years of the GPRS" took place at Perkins School of Theology in Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Hall. The events were part of the Willis M. Tate-Willson Lectureship, which was established in 1967 through a gift from Dr. and Mrs. J.M. Willson Sr., of Floydada, Texas, to honor SMU's fifth president.

"The combined efforts of faculty, students and administrators have made the Graduate Program in Religious Studies an excellent Ph.D. program with a rich legacy and an exciting future," said Dr. Rebekah Miles, professor of Ethics and Practical Theology at Perkins and director of the GPRS. "Reflecting on the GPRS' achievements provides a wonderful vantage point from which to chart the course for the coming years."

PERKINS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Programs and Centers



Center for Preaching Excellence • Center for Evangelism and Missional Church Studies • Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions • Center for Religious Leadership • Certificate in Spiritual Direction • Course of Study School in Spanish and English • The Hispanic/Latin@Ministries Program • United Methodist Certification in Music • United Methodist Certification in Christian Education, Children and Older Adults • Perkins School of Youth Ministry • Youth Ministry Certification • Ministers Week • Lay Schools of Theology in Dallas, Houston and Alaska • Center for Preaching Excellence • Center for Evangelism and Missional Church Studies • Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions Center for Religious Leadership • Certificate in Spiritual Direction Course of Study School in Spanish and English • The Hispanic/Latin@ Ministries Program

A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

highlighting the Office of External Programs and its non-degree educational opportunities for clergy and laity

PERKINS CENTERS, PROGRAMS OFFER VIBRANT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Office of External Programs Coordinates Outreach to Clergy, Laity, Extended Community

ESTABLISHED IN 2015 TO COORDINATE the efforts of already-existing programs and centers that offer nondegree educational opportunities for wide-ranging, external audiences, the Office of External Programs is directed by Associate Dean Priscilla Pope-Levison and is composed of the following centers, programs and personnel:

PERKINS CENTERS, PROGRAMS AND PERSONNEL

- Center for Preaching Excellence
Alyce McKenzie
- Center for Evangelism and Missional Church Studies
Robert Hunt
- Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions
Hugo Magallanes
- Center for Religious Leadership
Bishop Max Whitfield
- Certificate in Spiritual Direction
Ruben Habito and Cherice Graham
- Course of Study School in Spanish and English and The Hispanic/Latin@ Ministries Program
Paul Barton
- United Methodist Certification in Music
C. Michael Hawn and Cherice Graham
- United Methodist Certification in Christian Education, Children and Older Adults
Cherice Graham
- Perkins School of Youth Ministry and Youth Ministry Certification - *Bart Patton*
- Ministers Week
Priscilla Pope-Levison and Mary Roberts
- Lay Schools of Theology in Dallas, Houston and Alaska
Priscilla Pope-Levison and Mary Roberts





“Although they once operated separately, the programs and centers now work cooperatively and in tandem with one another to share resources, calendars and insights,” Pope-Levison said. “We meet twice a semester to work on a topic of mutual interest, such as social media, and monthly over lunch simply to spend time together. These efforts at mutual engagement have contributed to building a community among us as opposed to our previously solo efforts.”

During a recent half-day retreat, OEP directors and staff began to craft a mission statement that encapsulates the work of the new office, offering phrases such as:

- “We collaborate to offer vibrant and creative educational programs that directly engage the church and community;”
- “... in order to foster accessible education that responds to the ever changing needs of the church and the world;”
- “... believing that education is a lifelong, collaborative process and that Perkins School of Theology offers invaluable theological resources;”
- “... so that the community of learning beyond Perkins is enriched, Perkins’ reputation is enhanced, potential students are attracted to apply and resources at Perkins engage the world beyond.”

These wide-ranging programs vary in length from two-hour workshops (Ministers Week), to one-day classes (Lay Schools of Theology), to four-day classes (Perkins School of Youth Ministry) and to four-week classes (Course of Study School). They vary in format from ongoing cohorts (Center for Preaching Excellence and Certificate in Spiritual Direction), to two-three day conferences with a well-known speaker (Ministers Week) and to classes taught by a Perkins faculty member (Lay Schools). They also vary in target audience from clergy to laity in The United Methodist Church and other denominations and in geographic regions from Texas to Alaska.

Yet, despite the variety, each program offered by the OEP coincides with the same purpose: to offer vibrant educational opportunities to the ecumenical constituencies vital to Perkins.

The OEP’s strategy going forward is to incorporate more online opportunities for disseminating these programs so that access is more widely available. For instance, for the first time, a lecture during Ministers Week was made available online via live streaming. On February 1, 2016, a lecture by Walter Brueggemann, “The Peculiar Gift of the Old Testament,” engaged more than 800 people. More than 300 attended in person, while 535 people representing 29 states, five countries and 91 cities listened to the lecture online.

These statistics underscore the need for the OEP to create and sustain an online community that regularly turns to Perkins School of Theology for continuing educational opportunities, according to Pope-Levison.

“Working with OEP personnel is the highlight of my job as Associate Dean for External Programs,” Pope-Levison said. “They embody in person the core values they want their programs to represent: service, teamwork, loyalty, quality, creativity, competency and faith.”

MODERN MINISTRY

The OEP’s strategy going forward is to incorporate more online opportunities for disseminating programs so that access is more widely available.

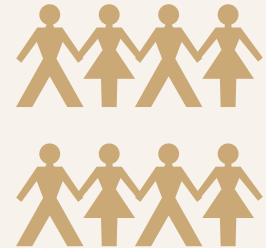
A lecture during Ministers Week was made available online



VIA LIVE STREAMING.

*“The Peculiar Gift of the Old Testament”
Walter Brueggemann
February 1, 2016*

Engaged more than
800
people.



More than **300** *attended in person.*

535
people listened to the lecture online.

*Representing 29 states,
five countries and 91 cities.*



Global Theological EDUCATION

IMMERSION IN BAPTISM CAN BE A POWERFUL EXPERIENCE. SO CAN IMMERSION IN ANOTHER CULTURE, EVEN IF IT'S SHORT TERM.



Eric Markinson (center), with fellow Perkins students, experienced El Salvador as part of the Global Theological Education Program.

FOR ERIC MARKINSON, the 10 days he spent in March in El Salvador, with a group of fellow Perkins students and Professor Hal Recinos, still reverberate. The group visited the Segundo Montes Christian Base Community and made a pilgrimage to El Mozote, site of a 1981 massacre of some 1,000 people.

The Perkins students emerged with points of comparison they couldn't have had any other way.

"What continues to possess my thoughts and prayers is the richness of the intellectual and spiritual lives of people who, by U.S. standards, live on next to nothing," Markinson, a master of divinity student, said. "It's a reminder of how easy it is to be distracted from the light of the Gospel by the things, the thoughts, the preoccupations of this world."

In 2004, Perkins School of Theology initiated a formal program of cross-cultural immersions through its Global Theological Education program, directed by Robert Hunt.

Cuba. Tibet. Palestine/Israel. South Africa. A homeless encampment under a bridge in Waco, Texas. Native American reservations in Oklahoma.

These are just some of the destinations of recent years.

"There's no place in the world we won't go," Hunt said.

Hunt is in a cross-cultural marriage (his wife, Lilian, is an ethnic Chinese who grew up in Malaysia) and lived overseas for 20 years, in Southeast Asia and Europe. So the work of getting seminarians to see beyond their own culture is personal to him.

But he's convinced it's an imperative for church leaders in an increasingly multicultural world.

"Any pastor who isn't engaged with cultural diversity is not fully engaged in ministry, because that's just the nature of our society," Hunt said.

Those Perkins students going on immersion trips prepare by taking a cultural intelligence seminar. On site, they keep a daily journal that Hunt describes as a "systematic reflection on how the student is engaging the culture." They also write essays and book reviews.

Hunt stresses focus on the trips, and that means largely staying put.

"Everybody needs to wake up in the same place seven days in a row," he said. "We're not going to do 'if it's Tuesday, this must

be Belgium.' This makes a huge difference. The students interact with people on a daily basis. In ideal cases, they sit down with fellow seminarians in that same cultural context."

Hunt noted that Perkins has been able to cover the travel costs of students. The percentage going on an immersion trip has steadily grown, and now more than half take a trip before graduation, he said.

Planned destinations for 2017 include the Vatican, Mexico City and Germany, to visit where Martin Luther led the Protestant Reformation 500 years ago.

While still sorting through his experience in El Salvador, Markinson has reached a general conclusion about Perkins and short-term immersions:

"The Global Theological Education program serves an essential purpose in preparing ministers to be present to diverse realities in U.S. and global culture."



Perkins Center for PREACHING EXCELLENCE



David K. Johnson (M.Div. '15) and Dr. Michael Waters (D.Min. '12, M.Div. '06, SMU B.A. '02) were among the first cohort of Perkins Center for Preaching Excellence mentees and mentors.

FOR THE REV. JAMES WOODS, associate pastor at First United Methodist Church of McKinney, the chance to be in a two-year cohort of Hardin Family Preaching Mentors proved “foundational.”

Woods was a “mentee,” an apprentice preacher working with veteran preachers from the Dallas area. He excitedly recounts the books he read and discussed, including fiction writers; the critiques he got and gave; and the encouragement he received to go deeper, including adding more “contextual insight” to sermons.

“My resounding comment would be that my preaching experience has been thoroughly enriched,” said Woods, who holds a master of divinity degree from Perkins and is pursuing a doctor of ministry degree.

The Rev. Alyce McKenzie, Le Van Professor of Preaching and Worship at Perkins and



Rev. James Woods, associate pastor at First United Methodist Church of McKinney

director of the Center, is happily accustomed to such testimonies.

“People say things like they’re more observant now of what God is doing around them and in the text,” she said. “They feel they’re more commissioned to be creative.”

The Center for Preaching Excellence was started at Perkins in 2014, after McKenzie landed a five-year grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. Foundation, which sought applications for programs aimed at strengthening preaching. Additional financial support from Louise Bray and Nancy Hardin – honoring their parents, Grady and Rowena Hardin – has underwritten the mentoring program, which is now called The Hardin Family Preaching Mentors.

First initiatives included this mentoring program pairing preaching students with seasoned pastors, as well as peer groups of pastors working with facilitators to improve homiletic skills. In all their initiatives, storytelling has been stressed. The Center’s motto is “Share the story. Shape the world.”

For Woods, that meant studying the works of Flannery O’Connor and Joyce Carol Oates, and going to hear Oates when she had an event in Dallas.

McKenzie said that one reason the Lilly Foundation wanted to support the Center was Perkins’ willingness to draw from across

the SMU faculty in enhancing preaching instruction. She was thrilled to have SMU playwright Will Power – whose “Stagger Lee” drew national attention – share his insights with a peer group in Houston. She and Will Power are team-teaching a course next spring on preaching and screenwriting.

The reach of the Center is illustrated by the peer groups, which bring together preachers in Arkansas, Louisiana, south Texas and north Texas. The Center also has debuted advanced preaching courses for Perkins students, including one McKenzie taught called “Making a Scene in the Pulpit.”

More recent Center initiatives include offering coaching for individual pastors or church staffs. The Center also is active on social media. Its robust website is overseen by the Rev. Dr. O. Wesley Allen Jr., Lois Craddock Perkins Professor of Homiletics, whose work on a conversation approach to preaching is featured in the required reading list for the Center’s peer groups. The website includes four blogs, among them “Ask the Professor,” with pastors from around the country posing questions on preaching topics.

McKenzie said that preaching deserves the attention Perkins is giving.

“I tell my students, ‘It’s a craft; it’s an art, but most important, it’s an action of God.’”



THE HISPANIC/LATIN@ Ministries Program



Ross leads Christ's Foundry UMC, a thriving Hispanic congregation in Dallas. The church offers both bilingual and Spanish-only services.

THE REV. ELIZABETH MURRAY is a deacon in the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, serving both as a youth minister and as the conference's Hispanic/Latino ministries coordinator.

Though she did her ministerial studies at Duke Divinity School, she made visits to Perkins the past two years as part of a Cultural Sensitivity and Hispanic Ministry Training program funded by the General Commission on Religion and Race of The United Methodist Church.

Murray especially appreciated the field trips to United Methodist churches, such as Christ's Foundry Mission in northwest Dallas, that are heavily involved in Hispanic ministry.

"I just thought that was so invaluable to see real people doing real ministry – and to learn what was successful, and what wasn't," Murray said.



Rev. Elizabeth Murray, a deacon in the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church

Since 1974, Perkins has had a program dedicated to equipping church leaders like Murray with the skills to work effectively in Spanish-speaking and bilingual contexts and cultures.

Long called the Mexican American Program, or MAP, the name changed in 2013 to something more inclusive – the Mexican American and Hispanic-Latino/a Church Ministry Program.

But that proved too unwieldy, said Paul Barton, director. In April, based on an ad hoc committee's recommendation, the name was changed to The Hispanic/Latin@ Ministries Program in English and El Programa de Ministerios Hispan@s/Latin@s in Spanish.

Why the @ sign?

"That's the solution to not privilege either the masculine or the feminine" with the title, Barton said.

Barton became director of the program last summer and has since formed an advisory board.

The program continues to offer local pastor licensing schools in Spanish, an important contribution given that The United Methodist Church is depending more on local pastors, including in Hispanic contexts.

Barton hopes to secure another grant from The United Methodist Church's General Commission on Religion and Race for more training of the kind Murray received.

The plan for that program was to focus on helping the denomination's Rio Grande and Southwest Texas Conferences as they merged into the new Rio Texas Conference, but the scope broadened. Participants came not only from Texas, but also from a range of states and conferences, including Murray from South Carolina.

One longstanding initiative of The Hispanic/Latin@ Ministries Program is the quarterly journal *Apuntes: Reflexiones Teológicas desde el Contexto Hispano-Latino*, edited by Perkins professor Hugo Magallanes.

Begun in 1980, it was the first ongoing Hispanic-Latino/a theological journal published in the United States.

The journal is available in print, and recently all issues were added to the database of the American Theological Library Association, making the articles much more accessible, Barton said.

The need recognized more than four decades ago with the creation of MAP has only intensified, as has the challenge facing The United Methodist Church in an ever more multicultural United States.

"It becomes all the more important for the church and its members to develop not only skills but attitudes and sensibilities to interact with and welcome people who are different from them," Barton said.

Center for EVANGELISM AND MISSIONAL CHURCH STUDIES



Dr. Marcie Lenk of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem – a partner institution of the Center for Evangelism and Missional Church Studies – leads a retreat of North Texas-area participants in 2015.

SHORT-TERM CHURCH MISSION GROUPS ABOUND, but so does criticism that the groups, however well meaning, often go with little or no understanding of the people and places they mean to help.

There's even a term, "toxic charity," that has come into currency to describe efforts that do more harm than good.

"When you don't have that cultural knowledge, you make senseless mistakes that are costly in terms of time and money and relationships," said the Rev. Dr. Robert Hunt, professor of Christian Mission and Interreligious Relations at Perkins.

Hunt wears various hats at Perkins, and one is director of the Center for Evangelism and Missional Church Studies. Among its key objectives is to help make short-term missions more effective for all.

The Center has had other names and other focuses. At first, under Professor William Abraham, it was focused more on the academic study of evangelism. Then, under Professor Scott Jones (now a United Methodist bishop), the emphasis shifted to practical evangelism, specifically church-growth strategies.

Under Professor Elaine Heath, who recently became dean of Duke Divinity School, the Center created Christian monastic communities doing outreach in their communities.

Heath eventually directed her work in this regard to the Missional Wisdom Foundation, and the Center became Hunt's responsibility. He sees the two title terms – "evangelism" and "missional" – as fruitful for academic study, especially in their relationship.

And he's bent on helping those entering the mission field, especially on a short-term basis, have both a better cultural base of knowledge and a better theological grasp of the "why" of mission.

He has led cultural competency seminars in all the annual conferences of the South Central Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church. In an example of one Perkins initiative helping another, he gave such a seminar to pastors and others who participated in the Hispanic-Latin@ Ministries Program's Cultural Sensitivity and Hispanic Ministry training.

The coming months will see the debut of a smart phone app by the Center for Evangelism and Missional Church Studies. It's under development with a company in Portland, Oregon.

"We expect to have the official rollout in November," Hunt said.

The target audience is short-term mission groups, who will get an RSS feed with cultural information on the place they'll be visiting. The app also will feature relevant Bible devotions.

"We're going to give short-term Christian groups what the Bible teaches about mission and what they need to know about the country where they're going," Hunt said.

The app will keep providing material in the weeks after the trip, to enhance participants' reflections on the experience.

Hunt's view is that an increasingly multicultural world presents new challenges for those who offer a Christian witness. But the great denominator is the Bible, so he stresses its centrality to all who would venture out in Jesus' name.

"They need to see [mission work] from a scriptural standpoint," Hunt said. "I think that's critical. The language that we Christians speak with one another is the language of scripture."



Course of STUDY SCHOOL



Summer 2016 Course of Study students gathered in Dallas July 10 to Aug. 5.

IN 2011, AT AGE 51, PETER McNABB decided to answer a call to ministry in The United Methodist Church.

The longtime journalist did his research, learning that he could go to seminary for a master of divinity degree or become a licensed local pastor, while also attending Course of Study School at Perkins in the summer.

McNabb, now associate pastor at First United Methodist Church in Irving, Texas, chose the latter path.

“I wanted to get into ministry quickly, and the Course of Study and the licensed local pastor program allowed me to pursue that,” he said.

Local pastors are an important, growing part of the clergy ranks of The United Methodist Church, serving many small churches, but



Peter McNabb, associate pastor at First United Methodist Church in Irving, Texas

increasingly showing up as associates in larger churches and even leading some of those.

The Course of Study is a program of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church, and it provides local pastors a basic theological education.

Perkins has long been a key regional Course of Study School site, typically seeing about 100 students in two, 10-day summer sessions. Bible, theology, evangelism, leadership, congregational care, United Methodist polity – these are just some of the subjects covered in the 20-course program.

Perkins has extension Course of Study Schools for part-time local pastors with the North Texas Conference (in Plano, Texas); Texas Conference (in Lufkin, Texas); and Arkansas Conference (at Hendrix College, in Conway, Arkansas). There is one satellite school (at McMurry University, in Abilene, Texas).

“The key word for Course of Study School is accessibility,” said Paul Barton, director of the Perkins program. “Course of Study School is really about making theological education accessible for persons who are, for whatever reason, unable to attend seminary.”

Of the United Methodist seminaries, only Perkins and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, in Evanston, Illinois, host Course

of Study Schools in Spanish as well as English. At Perkins, the English- and Spanish-language groups meet separately for classes but come together for bilingual worship and community programs.

Perkins has been asked by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry to create a satellite Course of Study School in Spanish for pastors of the Western Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church.

Barton also is working with the Rio Texas Conference to explore a bilingual satellite Course of Study School in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas.

Barton noted that local pastors from around the country have come to Perkins for Course of Study School, including Native Americans from the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference.

Perkins also is home to an Advanced Course of Study School for local pastors seeking probationary membership in an annual conference, and commissioning toward ordained ministry.

The consistent, immediate practicality of Course of Study School has impressed McNabb.

“You can, as a local pastor, apply it to everything you’re doing,” McNabb said.

Center for RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP



Participants in the inaugural Empowering Effective Leadership retreat, sponsored by the Center for Religious Leadership

THE CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP, ESTABLISHED IN 2009 WITH PATRICIA DAVIS AS DIRECTOR, was begun in response to the need to cultivate flexible and effective leadership for faith communities: many clergy and lay leaders received limited preparation and equipping to provide the adaptive leadership required in rapidly evolving, ever-changing expectations and demands on religious communities.

The Center focuses primarily on clergy leadership with additional attention to those in lay leadership. The Center continues to explore avenues for equipping lay leadership to address the manifold challenges facing faith communities.

The Certificate Program, in cooperation with the Cox School of Business, provides



excellent insights for clergy to learn alongside executive leaders from the business community, engaged primarily in the oil and gas business. The cross-disciplines of clergy and business leaders afforded both groups financial, ethical and leadership insights and skill seldom experienced in other certificate programs. This venture enabled clergy to have exposure to some of the best and latest leadership discernments processes available for religious leaders responding to adaptive challenges.

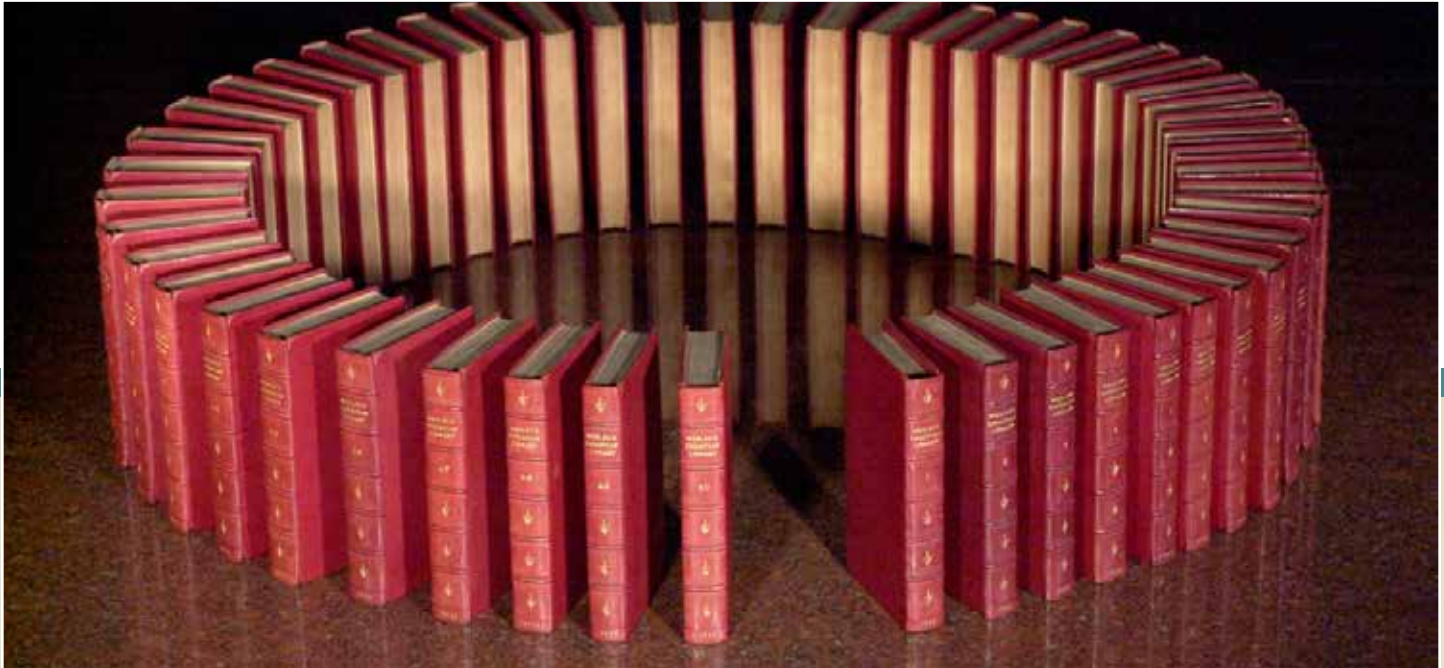
The newest venture involves clergy in an ecumenical, multiracial process to discover how to utilize multi-intelligence, emotional intelligence and adaptive leadership practices to create goals and objectives to address specific missional needs faced by their religious community. This equipping process occurs in an intense five-day retreat setting with designed followup to facilitate the application of theories and practices presented in the process. It is referred to

as the Empowering Effective Leadership process, the most recent session of which took place Feb. 15–19 at the Prothro Retreat Center on Lake Texoma, led by Bishop D. Max Whitfield, director of the Center for Religious Leadership, and Mary Anne Reed, a licensed marriage and family therapist.

“The Empowering Effective Leadership retreat left me feeling more hopeful and capable of doing that which God called me to over 20 years ago,” said Rev. Matthew Johnson, pastor at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Searcy, Arkansas. “The sessions on emotional awareness and management provided some of the most helpful lessons I’ve learned since graduating from seminary in 2003. Dr. Reed showed us how this gives us a clearer path toward practicing adaptive leadership, which is a better kind of change agent than merely retooling and renaming the same practices we’ve developed over the years.”



Center for METHODIST STUDIES



THE CENTER FOR METHODIST STUDIES AT BRIDWELL LIBRARY was established in 1984 to encourage research, study and reflection upon the Methodist movement – including the sources that influenced its origin, the forces that shaped its development and the features that determine its character and influence.

The programs of the Center for Methodist Studies at Bridwell Library are designed to promote a better understanding of the history and nature of the Methodist movement among a wide audience. The primary function of the Center is to undergird the curricular program of Perkins School of Theology by providing resources for research and study by students and faculty. The Center undertakes to supplement this basic service by providing additional opportunities for inquiry, dialogue and reflection through lectures,



exhibitions and fellowships for visiting ministers and scholars.

Through the Bridwell Library website, the public can view digital representations of the exhibitions of the Library's special collections. The Bridwell Fellowships program is open to scholars across the globe, and the stipend assists in enabling international Methodist and Wesleyan scholars to utilize the Library's materials on site.

Said a previous Bridwell Fellow, "The Library provides a superb working environment and, with the assistance of your unfailingly helpful and friendly staff, I was able to spend my time in extraordinarily intensive and fruitful research. The peace and seclusion of time away from everyday concerns, with access to the Library's magnificent collection and self-contained accommodation on site, allowed me the mental space to think. It was a very exciting time for me, and I am most grateful to the Bridwell Library for the generosity that made it possible."

Modern researchers in the areas of Methodist and Wesleyan studies utilize

both print and digital materials. The future of the Center for Methodist Studies includes expanding its founding purpose of encouraging research, study and reflection upon the Methodist movement through digitizing materials and finding new ways of serving researchers' needs.

Bridwell Library holds the largest collection of John Wesley manuscript letters found in the United States. As letters become available for acquisition, we will continue to add to this collection as the budget allows.

All of the John Wesley letters held by the Library are available to be read in digital format on the Library's website. In addition to the John Wesley letters, Bridwell Library's digital collections include letters and documents of other Methodist leaders and images of Methodist Episcopal Church, South missions work found on glass lantern slides. The Center also partners with other United Methodist theological libraries to digitize primary historical monographs and serials, making these rare and fragile materials easily accessible for researchers globally.

Center for the Study of LATINO/A CHRISTIANITY AND RELIGIONS



Director Hugo Magallanes addresses participants during an event sponsored by the Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions.

ANALYSTS WITH THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU predict that, during the next 25 years, persons of Hispanic origin – currently the largest minority group in the United States – will become the majority population.

This demographic shift will impact universities, as the number of Latino/a students entering academia continues to rise, and the need for Hispanic-Latino/a faculty increases. And Perkins School of Theology, by way of its Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions, is meeting the challenge head-on.

The Center was founded in 2007 thanks to an initial three-year, \$315,000 grant from the Henry Luce Foundation. Its mission is to promote a deeper understanding of the varieties of religious life and expression within the Latino communities in the United States and in Latin America. Additionally, the Center addresses topics and issues related to the Latino/a religious experience within a broader ecumenical and religious context, as well as attention to international dynamics and realities.

The Center's latest round of funding from the Luce Foundation – a \$500,000 grant that lasts from January 2016 through December 2018 – will support continued

enhancement of collaborative cross-cultural and interreligious engagement in research trips and projects as well as a number of additional key initiatives.

On Nov. 11, 2016, the Center will host a one-day seminar for 10 pre-tenure seminary faculty and Ph.D. students primarily from, but not limited to, the Southwest region. Dr. Juan Martinez, Vice President for Diversity and International Ministries and professor of Hispanic Studies and Pastoral Leadership at Fuller Theological Seminary, will assist participants in integrating Hispanic-Latino/a studies into their scholarly work early in their careers.

Additionally, the Center has begun accepting applications for its inaugural cohort of students for the Th.M. degree program in Spanish.

“Most persons in Latin America, if they have a theological education, will have little more than a bachelor's degree in theology,” Center Director Hugo Magallanes said.

“Many, if not the great majority, of them are bivocational – both pastors and professors. Very few of them are just professors.

“If given the opportunity, most pastors and professors would want to continue their education but don't have the infrastructure in place to do so. Because of our resources at Perkins, with multiple bilingual faculty members, we wanted to offer an academic degree to provide education and leadership for those who want to pursue an academic career but don't have the means to do so.”

As the Hispanic population in the United States inches closer to majority status, Magallanes said it is essential for Perkins to continue being a leader as that population segment gravitates to theological education.

“In the future, we expect people will be interested and want to move forward with us, to become more diverse and more aware of how our societies are changing,” Magallanes said.



Faculty NEWS

William J. Abraham, Albert Cook Outler Professor of Wesley Studies, delivered two lectures at the Christocentric Church in Turda, Romania, on Ministry in the Church on Dec. 5–6, 2015.

O. Wesley Allen Jr., Lois Craddock Perkins Professor of Homiletics, presented a paper at the Society of Biblical Literature, Homiletics and Biblical Studies Unit, in Atlanta, that reviewed David Schnasa Jacobsen's commentary, *Mark* (Nov. 22). Allen also presented a paper, "Preaching Eschatology in Advent" for the Theology of Preaching Working Group of the Academy of Homiletics on Dec. 4 in Nashville. At that meeting of the Academy of Homiletics, Allen served as the Second Vice President and assumed the role of First Vice President for 2016.

Ted A. Campbell, professor of Church History, received the Smith-Wynkoop Book Award (as a co-recipient) for his work in editing *John Wesley's Letters* at the annual meeting of the Wesleyan Theological Society in San Diego, California, on March 11. Campbell also gave a paper on recent developments in the study of Christian History at a 50th-anniversary event celebrating the Graduate Program in Religious Studies at SMU, on April 1–2.

Jaime Clark-Soles, professor of New Testament, has been chosen as a Fellow of the Christian Leadership Initiative for 2016–17. The comprehensive, yearlong Christian Leadership Initiative (CLI) study program, run in partnership with AJC, introduces prominent Christian leaders and change agents from North America to the central ideas of Jewish ethics and faith, the diverse ideologies and practices of contemporary Jewry, the meaning of Israel for world Jewry, foundations of religious pluralism and interreligious study. The program, conducted over 13 months, comprises year-round long-distance learning and two 10-day seminars held in Jerusalem in consecutive summers. The Jerusalem seminars enable Fellows to encounter Jewish life in Israel and facilitate encounters with Israelis of different backgrounds who represent diversity and challenges inherent in modern Judaism.

Isabel N. Docampo, professor of Supervised Ministry and associate director of the Intern Program, led the Plymouth

Park United Methodist's Church's annual Women's Retreat on Feb. 26–27 in Irving, Texas. Her topic was based on her volume "Joshua, Judges and Ruth: Immersion Bible Studies" published by the UMPH. She focused on the Book of Ruth. Docampo also shared a workshop – "Cultivating Peace through a Women's Interfaith Dialogue" – with Dr. Hind Jarrah (the 2015 Perkins Person of Faith award recipient) at the 2015 Parliament of the World's Religions: Reclaiming the Heart of Our Humanity in Salt Lake City. At the same conference, Docampo took part in the first Women's Assembly by participating on the panel "Reclaiming the Divine Feminine for Our Work of Compassion, Justice, Peace and Sustainability."

C. Michael Hawn, University Distinguished Professor of Church Music, was visiting professor of church music at East China Theological Seminary in Shanghai on Feb. 23–March 15. During the spring 2016 semester, he also was a visiting lecturer at the Methodist School of Music, Singapore; Methodist Theological School, Sibuluan, Sarawak, Malaysia; and Jakarta Theological Seminary, Jakarta, Indonesia. Hawn also delivered six keynote addresses, led several workshops and preached several times in three locations during the Tellihim Worship and Music Conferences, Oct. 12–27, 2015, in Pakistan. The event concluded with a Christian/Muslim Dialogue in Lahore, where Hawn was one of the respondents. His trip was sponsored by the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Robert Hunt, director of Global Theological Education, was named to the board of directors of two agencies: Roots (an Israeli-Jewish and Palestinian peace-building initiative) and TAQWA Seminary, a Dallas-area graduate school for future Muslim imams. He also presented a paper at the Parliament of the World's Religions on Buddhist Muslim Dialogue and gave the keynote address to the annual meeting of the Kentucky Council of Churches on a Biblical Theology of Religious Pluralism and moderated a multifaith panel of Kentucky religious leaders.

Jack Levison, W.J.A. Power Professor of Old Testament Interpretation and Biblical Hebrew, delivered the lecture

"The Historical Roots of Early Christian Pneumatology" on Sept. 26 at the annual meeting of the International Catacomb Society at Providence College (Rhode Island). This was based upon a research initiative, funded by a Shohet Scholars Grant from the International Catacomb Society and a TransCoop cooperative grant from the Alexander Humboldt Foundation, which he co-directed with Professor Jorg Frey, professor at the University of Zurich. Levison also was the featured speaker at the Texas Annual Conference Elders Retreat at Lakeview Camp in East Texas and was the speaker for the North Texas Conference Covenant Day.

Tamara E. Lewis, assistant professor of the History of Christianity, was elected an at-large senator to the SMU Faculty Senate. Her term will expire in 2019.

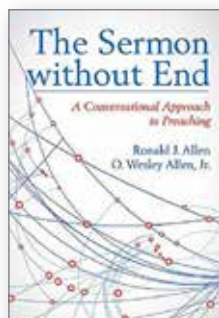
Alyce M. McKenzie, Le Van Professor of Preaching and Worship and director of the Perkins Center for Preaching Excellence, presented a sermon and lecture for the Festival of Homiletics – an annual week of lectures, preaching and worship led by leaders in the field of preaching and attended by pastors from around the world. McKenzie also was a featured preacher, keynote speaker, workshop leader and session coach at the Church of the Resurrection's Young Preacher's Festival in Leawood, Kansas, on July 21–22.

Evelyn L. Parker, Susanna Wesley Centennial Professor in Practical Theology and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, convened a paper session of two papers on adolescent girls and Chinese young adults at the Biennial Meeting of the Association of Practical Theology (APT) on April 8–10. She also convened a plenary session titled "Global Ecumenical Perspectives on Migration" that she organized with two colleagues from the World Council of Churches. After serving as secretary/treasurer of APT from 2012–16, Parker was elected president-elect during the biennial meeting and will become president in 2018.

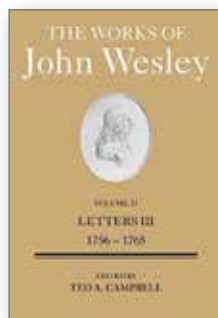
Priscilla Pope-Levison, Associate Dean of External Programs and professor of Ministerial Studies, gave the two keynote lectures for the Wesleyan Historical Society at Point Loma Nazarene University on March 9. She completed terms as co-chair

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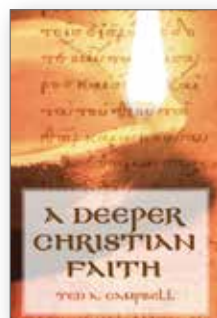
Faculty BOOKS



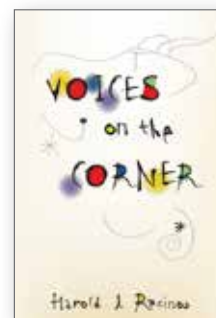
O. WESLEY ALLEN JR.
The Sermon without End: A Conversational Approach to Preaching
 (Abingdon Press, 2015).
 Co-written with Ronald J. Allen



TED A. CAMPBELL
The Works of John Wesley Volume 27: Letters III (1756-1765)
 (Abingdon Press, 2015). Editor.



TED A. CAMPBELL
A Deeper Christian Faith.
 (Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2016)



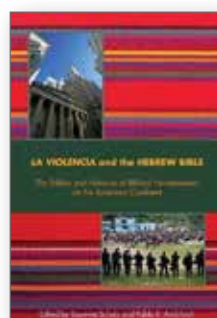
HAROLD J. RECINOS
Voices on the Corner
 (Wipf and Stock, 2015)



HAROLD J. RECINOS
Long Way Home
 (Florico Press, 2016)



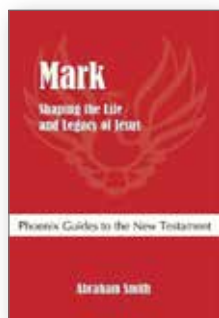
JOHN R. LEVISON
Holy Spirit, I Pray
 (Paraclete Press, 2015)



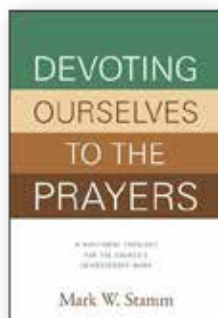
SUSANNE SCHOLZ
La Violencia and the Hebrew Bible: About Politics and Histories of Biblical Hermeneutics on the American Continent
 (SBL Press, 2016). Co-edited with Pablo R. Andiañach.



SUSANNE SCHOLZ
Feminist Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible in Retrospect: Method (Volume 3).
 (Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2016). Editor.



ABRAHAM SMITH
Mark: Shaping the Life and Legacy of Jesus
 (Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2015)



MARK W. STAMM
Devoting Ourselves to the Prayers, A Baptismal Theology for the Church's Intercessory Work
 (Discipleship Resources, 2015)



THEODORE WALKER
The Big Bang and God: An Astro-Theology
 (Palgrave Macmillan, September 2015). Co-written with Chandra Wickramasinghe.



PERKINS HAS MAJOR PRESENCE AT 2016 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH GATHERINGS

Every four years, the denomination holds its **General Conference**, which brings delegates from across the world to gather for 10 days of decision-making and setting the direction for the next quadrennium. During this year's event in Portland, Oregon, Perkins staffed a display in the conference's exhibit hall and hosted a reception for alumni/ae and friends, at which new Dean Craig C. Hill was introduced. Additionally, the school's Seminary Singers were one of three groups to perform during General Conference: at a reception sponsored by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, at a morning worship and during the Perkins reception.

The South Central Jurisdictional Conference, which met July 13–16 in Wichita, Kansas, saw the election of three new bishops – two of whom are Perkins alumni. During the conference, Dean Hill was introduced by Dallas Episcopal Area Bishop Mike McKee, chair of the Perkins Executive Board, and delivered the Perkins School of Theology report on the floor of the conference. A standing room-only crowd gathered July 14 for the Perkins ice cream reception.

Perkins also was well-represented by faculty and administrators at 16 Annual Conferences during May–July, where alumni/ae and friends also met for annual Perkins gatherings.



From General Conference (left, top center) to the South Central Jurisdictional Conference (right), and Annual Conferences (bottom center), Perkins School of Theology was well-represented in 2016.

UNITED METHODIST BISHOPS

PERKINS ALUMNI/AE SERVE AS EPISCOPAL LEADERS

Three Perkins School of Theology alumni were elected as bishops in The United Methodist Church during 2016 Jurisdictional Conferences.

Our congratulations to newly elected leaders, listed with their episcopal assignments effective Sept. 1, 2016:

Ruben Saenz Jr. (M.Div. '97, D.Min. '09), elected by the South Central Jurisdiction, assigned to the Great Plains Episcopal Area.

Robert (Bob) Farr (M.Div. '85), elected by the South Central Jurisdiction, assigned to the Missouri Episcopal Area.

David Bard (Ph.D. '94), elected by the North Central Jurisdiction, assigned to the Michigan Episcopal Area.



OTHER PERKINS ALUMNI/AE CURRENTLY ASSIGNED AS BISHOPS

W. Earl Bledsoe (M.Div.'85), elected 2008, South Central Jurisdiction.

J. Michael (Mike) Lowry (M.Th./M.Div.'76), elected 2008, South Central Jurisdiction.

Minerva Garza Carcaño (M.Th.'79), elected 2004, Western Jurisdiction.

Sudarshana Devadhar (M.Th.'80), elected 2004, Northeastern Jurisdiction.

Cynthia Fierro Harvey (M.Div.'99), elected 2012, South Central Jurisdiction.

Scott Jones (M.Th.'81, Ph.D.'92), elected 2004, South Central Jurisdiction.

Michael (Mike) McKee (M.Th.'78), elected 2012, South Central Jurisdiction.

Gary Mueller (M.Div.'79), elected 2012, South Central Jurisdiction.

Robert Schnase (M.Th.'84), elected 2004, South Central Jurisdiction.





#SMUUnited

PERKINS STUDENTS SPEARHEAD VIGIL IN SUPPORT OF RACE EQUALITY

More than 100 members of the Perkins School of Theology and SMU communities gathered for a vigil and march Nov. 17 in support of racial equality on the SMU campus.

The gathering, “A March Toward Wholeness and Solidarity on Campus,” was initiated and sponsored by the Black Seminarians Association and Justice in Action, two student groups at Perkins, and commenced on the steps of Perkins Chapel. Perkins students and faculty, including Dean William B. Lawrence, participated – as did area clergy members and representatives from local action groups. It concluded with a march up Bishop Boulevard to Dallas Hall – students, faculty, staff and alumni linked arm in arm in a show of unified support.



In 1952, Perkins School of Theology admitted five black students in what was the first voluntary desegregation of a major educational institution in the South. In a poignant moment during the Nov. 17 event, L. Robin Murray – chair of the Justice in Action and president of Los/Las Seminaristas – delivered a statement from the Rev. Dr. James V. Lyles, one of the “First Five” at Perkins.

This vigil and march acknowledged the brokenness, pain and frustration not only on the SMU campus but also on campuses across the nation. It was a call for sacred justice for all students, faculty and staff on the SMU campus, with the goal of uniting SMU against injustice, both the root causes and the systems that perpetuate discrimination.

The event drew local media coverage from numerous print and television outlets.

Students from the SMU community gathered to support equality on campus, uniting against injustice.



Staff NEWS

Lara Corazalla and **Greg Dawson** were among the persons receiving awards for service on the Future Library Systems Task Force. This cross-campus library team researched the next generation of integrated library systems and created a proposal (now accepted) for selection of the Alma/Primo system, which will be implemented by the SMU libraries in early 2017.

Cherice Graham accepted, in December 2015, a new position within the Office of External Programs as Assistant Director of External Programs. In this role, she will work with Ruben Habito to manage the Spiritual Direction Program and Spiritual Formation Certification. Cherice also will oversee The United Methodist Certification programs currently offered by Perkins School of Theology and serve as the liaison for certification programs to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church. Cherice has been a valued member of the Perkins community for six years.

Sally Hoover has been awarded the Warren P. Nettles Award by the Perkins Community Life Committee. This honor is bestowed on a staff member whose contributions to the Perkins community best exemplify the dedication of Ms. Nettles, secretary to the Perkins dean from 1953–1966.

Mary Roberts became the administrative assistant to the Associate Dean in the Office of External Programs in February 2016. Mary was already well-known to the Perkins community because she worked as the part-time administrative assistant for the Perkins Center for Preaching Excellence for three years and has assisted in the Office of Global Theological Education and the Center for Evangelism and Missional Church Studies for three-and-one-half years.

David Schmersal has been awarded the SMU Libraries Award for Effective Use of Information Technology. This award is given to a library staff member who has developed and/or implemented an effective use of information technology that enhances library services and/or operations. Specifically, David worked with other staff in the Lyle School of Engineering to create small tiles with raised Hebrew letters as a tactile aid to learning the language.

New Faces @ Perkins



Sabina Hulem joined Perkins in April 2016 as an administrative assistant with the Perkins Center for Preaching Excellence.



Seth Miskimins joined the Bridwell Library staff in April 2016 as Cataloging and Metadata Librarian. Seth earned a B.A. in German Studies from Central College (Pella, Iowa) and an M.S. in Library Science from the University of North Texas. In addition to his German language skills, Seth has experience in cataloging materials written in Swedish, Dutch, Spanish, French, Russian and Japanese. He was previously a librarian in the Special Collections Department of the Eugene McDermott Library at the University of Texas at Dallas.



R. Arvid Nelsen joined the Bridwell Library staff in July 2016 as Rare Books and Manuscripts Librarian. Arvid has a B.A. in Greek and Latin from the University of Minnesota and master's degrees in Classics as well as Library and Information Studies, both earned at the University of Wisconsin. Positions held prior to joining the Bridwell Library staff include Archivist and Curator of the Charles Babbage Institute at the University of Minnesota and Coordinator of Technical Services of the Mandeville Special Collections Library at the University of California, San Diego.



Bart Patton joined Perkins in July 2016 as Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Education. Bart has nearly 20 years of experience working in youth and young-adult ministry, including stops at United Methodist churches in both the Arkansas and North Texas annual conferences. In the Arkansas Conference, he served on the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, the Youth Ministry Resource Team and as a leader for the conference-wide Veritas Youth Event. Bart is well acquainted with youth-ministry education at Perkins. He was a co-instructor in 2016 for the Foundations Class for Perkins School of Youth Ministry (PSYM) and was tapped to serve on the PSYM Design Team. He was graduated from Ouachita Baptist University in 2001 with a B.A. in Biblical Studies and Languages.

Alumni/ae NEWS

Kevin Carnahan (M.T.S. '02, Ph.D. '07) has been selected as a co-editor of the *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*.

Michael Dent (M.Th. '79, D.Min. '92) received the Paul and Paula Murphy Human Sexuality Award from The Center for the Church and Global AIDS in October 2015. He also was elected as a delegate from the Rocky Mountain Conference to the 2016 Western Jurisdictional Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Rev. Andrew Forrest (M.Div. '11) received the Harry Denman Evangelism Award during the North Texas Annual Conference in June. The award, presented by The Foundation for Evangelism, honors United Methodists in each annual conference whose exceptional ministry of evangelism – expressed in Word (what), Sign (why), and Deed (how) – brings people into a life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ.

Osmond A. Lindo Sr. (M.Th. '75) has published a book titled *Real Men Read Jesus' Parables: A Twenty-first Century Study of Jesus' Parables for Men*.

Chaplain (Major) Jeff Matsler (M.Div. '93), a member of the Perkins Alumni/ae Council, is a bioethicist with the U.S. Army at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. A synopsis of his work on trauma appeared in a recent issue of *Christianity Today* magazine. Also, he spoke at and led a workshop on the topic at Saddleback Church's conference on Mental Health and the Church in October 2015.

Vanessa Sims (M.T.S. '15) received the Mrs. Community Service award from the City of Denton Juneteenth Committee.

Rev. John Thornburg (M.Th. '81) was elected a fellow of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, the highest honor bestowed

by the group. Thornburg has led churches in the North Texas Conference and now works for the Texas Methodist Foundation, where he is Senior Area Representative for the North Texas Conference and Vice President of Area Staff.

Barbara Cook Wendland (B.A. '55, M.T.S. '86) received the first Advocate for Public Religious Literacy (APRL) award from the Westar Institute. This national award recognizes "the courage, commitment and contribution of members of the public who go to extraordinary lengths to cultivate thoughtful discussion and disseminate learning about religion in their communities." Wendland – who also is a member of the Perkins School of Theology Executive Board, the author of three books and author/publisher of the internationally circulated *Connections* newsletter – received the award at a recent Westar meeting in Santa Rosa, California.



2016 PUBLIC LIFE | PERSONAL FAITH *Lecture and Luncheon*

Pulitzer Prize-winning author and historian Taylor Branch was the featured speaker for the 2016 Public Life | Personal Faith lecture and luncheon on Feb. 12. Immediately preceding the luncheon, Branch conducted an informal question-and-answer session for students, faculty and others in the Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Great Hall. At both events, Branch spoke on “How Spiritual Faith Impacted the Civil Rights Movement in America.”

Branch is an American author and public speaker best known for his landmark narrative history of the civil rights era, *America in the King Years*. The trilogy’s first book, *Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954-63*, won the Pulitzer Prize and numerous other awards in 1989. Two successive volumes also gained critical and popular success: *Pillar of Fire: America in the King Years, 1963-65*, and *At Canaan’s Edge: America in the King Years, 1965-1968*.

The Public Life | Personal Faith events are sponsored by the family of Pat and Jane Bolin. Pat Bolin, chairman and chief executive officer at EagleCorp and Eagle Oil & Gas Co. in

Dallas, is a graduate of SMU (B.A. ’73) and a 2010 recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the SMU Cox School of Business.

The PL | PF series, in its sixth year, is a fundraising and outreach event of Perkins School of Theology in service to the larger community. Proceeds from the event benefit the Center for Religious Leadership at Perkins, which provides training in the theology of – and practical skills for – leadership as a spiritual vocation. The lecture and colloquium provide an opportunity for participants to engage scholars on topics related to why and how personal faith shapes public life.



PASTORAL CARE CERTIFICATION

Four students celebrated the successful completion of their oral examinations, the last requirement of the Pastoral Care Certificate Program at Perkins, at a reception on April 25. Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner and Paula Dobbs-Wiggins passed “mantle of pastoral leadership” stoles to the students as part of the ceremony.

Photographed from L-R (front): Robert Goodman, Patricia Lund, Eric Markinson, Kantrice Robinson. (Back): Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner, program donor Joan Hunt and Paula Dobbs-Wiggins.



2016

COMMENCEMENT AWARDS



THE DR. AND MRS. J.P. BRAY AWARD IN HEBREW: **Courtney Schultz**

Given to the student who ranks highest in Hebrew scholarship.

THE CHARLES C. SELECMAN AWARD IN NEW TESTAMENT GREEK: **Christopher Rios**

Given to the student who ranks highest in New Testament Greek scholarship.

THE CHARLEY T. AND JESSE JAMES BIBLE AWARDS: **Rebekah Rochte, Beth Taylor, Jennifer Logsdon-Kellogg, Katherine Newsome**

Awarded to students on the basis of academic achievement in biblical courses and overall scholastic performance.

THE W.B.J. MARTIN AWARD IN HOMILETICS: **Kristopher Keller**

Given in recognition of the most outstanding student in the introductory preaching classes.

THE W.B. DEJERNETT AWARD IN HOMILETICS: **Rebekah Rochte and Alexander Zeisig**

Given to a senior student with the highest academic average in courses in homiletics.

THE PAUL W. QUILLIAN AWARD IN HOMILETICS: **Patricia Lund**

Given to students who have presented the best written sermon.

THE WILLIAM K. McELVANEY PREACHING AWARD: **Kellie Sanford**

Given to a student who has presented the best written sermon on a public issue, which includes a social crisis, a controversial issue or a chronic social problem.

THE ROBERT WEATHERFORD PRIZE FOR INTERNSHIP PREACHING: **Stefanie Hayes**

Established to honor the distinguished service of Robert Weatherford to the United Methodist Foundation and given to Master of Divinity students for excellence in preaching during internship.

THE BERT AFFLECK AWARD: **Joshua Elder**

Given to a student for Creativity in Ministry during internship.

THE JERRY W. HOBBS AWARD IN WORSHIP: **Kallie Green**

Established in memory of United Methodist layman Jerry Hobbs and awarded to a student who has demonstrated academic excellence in worship combined with personal commitment to the worship life of the Perkins community during his or her time here.

THE FELLOWSHIP SEMINARIAN AWARD: **Donté Ford**

Established by The Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts, and given to a graduating seminary student who displays outstanding leadership in music and/or worship arts including, but not limited to, dance, drama, fabric art and liturgical writing.

THE JANE MARSHALL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP AND LEADERSHIP IN CHRISTIAN WORSHIP: **Kristi Hassell**

Funded by a gift from Jane and Elbert Marshall, and given to a Master of Divinity or Master of Theological Studies student who has demonstrated excellence in the study and practice of Christian liturgy and worship.

THE HOYT HICKMAN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING LITURGICAL SCHOLARSHIP AND PRACTICE: **Thomas Webster**

Awarded by The Order of St. Luke to the graduating student who has demonstrated quality scholarship in the study of liturgy and is an effective leader of Christian worship.

THE MASTER OF SACRED MUSIC AWARD: **Gabe Edwards and Francis "Taylor" Vancil**

THE ROGER DESCHNER PRIZE IN SACRED MUSIC: **Joshua Zentner-Barrett**

Established in memory of Roger Deschner, longtime professor of Sacred Music at Perkins and given to continuing M.S.M. students who excel in academic work, musical abilities and overall achievement in the M.S.M. program.

THE ALBERT C. OUTLER AWARD IN THEOLOGY: **Christopher Rios**

Awarded to the student contributing the most outstanding essays in theology during the academic year.

THE PHILLIP SCHAFF PRIZE IN CHURCH HISTORY: **Christopher Rios and Blake Danner**

Established by Klaus Penzel and awarded to students who have demonstrated excellence in the historical study of Christianity while participating in courses in church history. It is named after the founder of the American Society of Church History.

THE KARIS STAHL FADELY AWARD: **Jennifer Logsdon-Kellogg and Peter Norton**

Presented to students who exhibit the qualities that were exemplified by Karis Fadely: commitment to Jesus Christ and to the total ministry and mission of the Church; responsibility in assigned tasks; ability to excel in a wide range of ministerial functions; and use and management of time.

THE B'NAI B'RITH AWARD IN SOCIAL ETHICS: **Robin Murray and James Hill Jr.**

Given by the Harold M. Kaufman Memorial Foundation to a student on the basis of scholarly competence in the field of Social Ethics and personal commitment as shown in voluntary activity in support of worthy social causes.

THE HARRY HOSIER SPIRIT AWARD: **Lael Melville**

THE DR. AND MRS. GLENN FLINN SENIOR AWARD: **Lael Melville**

Given to that member of the graduating class who, in the judgment of the faculty, best exemplifies the aims of the school and the church in its ministry.



Perkins School of Theology
NAMES 2016 DISTINGUISHED
ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS



Rev. Linda Roby (second from left) and Rev. John McKellar (third from left), pictured with Perkins Dean William B. Lawrence (left) and SMU Provost Steven Currall (right)

Two exemplary United Methodist clergy were selected as the 2016 Perkins School of Theology Distinguished Alumni Award recipients.

Rev. John McKellar, pastor of White's Chapel United Methodist Church in Southlake, Texas, and Rev. Linda Roby, Associate Minister of Local and Global Missions at First United Methodist Church Dallas, were honored Feb. 1, 2016, during the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards banquet taking place in conjunction with Ministers Week.

The recipients were chosen by members of the Perkins Alumni/ae Council for their demonstrated effectiveness and integrity in service to the church, continuing support and involvement in the goals of Perkins School of Theology and SMU, distinguished service in the wider community and exemplary character.

"Through their respective ministries, Linda Roby and John McKellar have impacted untold lives not only in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex but also throughout the world," said former Perkins School of Theology Dean William B. Lawrence. "Their faithfulness to the ministries to which they have been called and their effectiveness in communicating the transformational love of Jesus Christ have garnered the respect of peers and colleagues alike. We honor them both as the 2016 Distinguished Alumni of Perkins School of Theology."



Rev. Roby, who earned the Master of Religious Education degree in 2000, delivers her acceptance speech to those gathered in the Great Hall of Highland Park United Methodist Church.

Rev. McKellar received his master of divinity degree from Perkins in 1990. After serving churches in Grandview, Haslet and Fort Worth, Texas, he began his appointment at White's Chapel in 1992. During his tenure, Rev. McKellar has helped increase church membership from 490 members to more than 13,000.

In addition to regularly teaching Bible study groups, Rev. McKellar also serves on the Central Texas Conference Committee on Finance and the Committee on the Episcopacy, and he was one of the conference's delegates to both the 2016 General Conference and South Central Jurisdictional Conference. He also received his doctor of ministry in Applied Ministries degree from the Graduate Theological Foundation in 2004.

"John is an incredible model for what it is to live the Christian life in the community," said Rev. Todd Renner, co-pastor at White's Chapel. "In every way, he exemplifies the grace that forms the foundation of Wesleyan theology and defends it with humility and passion."

Rev. Roby received her master of religious education degree from Perkins in 2000. Since her appointment to First UMC Dallas in 2009, Rev. Roby has directed the UrbanLife



Rev. McKellar (center) is joined by Bishop Mike Lowry (right) of the Fort Worth Episcopal Area and Dr. Todd Renner (left), co-pastor of White's Chapel UMC.

Ministry, congregational care and the church's mission and outreach efforts. Previously, she served at Highland Park UMC overseeing adult education, Sunday school and local and global mission outreach opportunities. At both churches, Rev. Roby was instrumental in cultivating relationships and identifying global partners – notably in Latin America – that led to significant growth in outreach participation.

An ordained deacon in the North Texas Conference, Rev. Roby graduated from SMU with a bachelor of science in elementary education degree. She also serves on the board of directors of Golden Cross Academic Clinic in Dallas and is a member of the Perkins School of Theology Executive Board.

"Linda fully exemplifies the mission of Perkins and its interpretation in the local church and community context," said Rev. Andy Stoker, senior minister at First UMC Dallas. "She has sought to connect the church and the world in profound ways both locally and globally and embodies the very best of the Perkins spirit through vital piety and social witness."

The awards banquet took place Feb. 1, in the Great Hall of Highland Park United Methodist Church.

"Their faithfulness to the ministries to which they have been called and their effectiveness in communicating the transformational love of Jesus Christ have garnered the respect of peers and colleagues alike."

– WILLIAM B. LAWRENCE

The embodiment of CHRISTIAN FAITH

PERKINS NAMES 2016 PERSON OF FAITH, SEALS LAITY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Perkins School of Theology honored Dr. Mauro Ferrari as the recipient of the Woodrow B. Seals Laity Award and Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger as the recipient of the 2016 Person of Faith Award at an awards dinner March 4 during the three-day Perkins Theological School for the Laity.

The Woodrow B. Seals Laity Award is presented annually to laypersons in the United States who embody the Christian faith and commitment of service to Christ in the church, community and world as exemplified by Judge Woodrow B. Seals, a distinguished layperson whose interest and energy were instrumental in establishing the Perkins Theological School for the Laity. Selection for the Seals Laity Award is made by the Perkins Lay Advisory Board.

The Perkins School of Theology Person of Faith Award was created in 2015 to recognize a woman, man or young person who – through their own religious institution or the wider interfaith community – is making a significant contribution as a peacemaker or reconciler. The award is open to persons of all religious traditions.

Dr. Mauro Ferrari is the Executive Vice President of Houston Methodist and the President and CEO of the Houston Methodist Research Institute, where he is the Ernest Cockrell Jr. Presidential Distinguished Chair. As the Director of the Houston Methodist Institute for Academic Medicine, Ferrari oversees all research and education programs at Houston Methodist,

more than 1,200 research employees and credentialed clinicians executing more than 800 clinical protocols. He also serves as the Senior Associate Dean of the Weill Cornell Medical College, the primary academic affiliate of Houston Methodist, and holds Adjunct and Honorary Professorships at many universities around the world.

Ferrari is an active member of the Roman Catholic Church and is studying to be a deacon. He has lectured extensively at Houston Methodist and the University of St. Thomas on the relationship between spiritual care and scientific research.

Said Rev. Donald S. Nesti, director of the Center for Faith and Culture at the University of St. Thomas, “One need only be in dialogue with Dr. Ferrari to discover that he is led by the Spirit and is imbued with the priestly, prophetic and leadership roles of Christ. He is a man of prayer who encounters his God in an ongoing way. He seeks truth and lives it in word and action. He is a model of servant leadership.”

Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger is the Executive Director and Community Rabbinic Scholar for the Jewish Studies Initiative of North Texas, which he founded in 2010. In this capacity, he teaches adult education classes

on Judaism and spearheads interfaith projects throughout the greater Dallas area.

The vast majority of his time is spent in Israel, where Rabbi Schlesinger is the director of international relations for Roots/Shorashim/Judur, the Palestinian Israeli Grassroots Initiative for Understanding, Nonviolence and Reconciliation, which he helped found at the beginning of 2014. He also is the president of the Israel chapter of the Memnosyne Institute.

Rabbi Schlesinger is a member of the Rabbinical Council of America and the International Rabbinic Fellowship, as well as Beit Hillel, an Israeli rabbinical association. He is a Rabbis Without Borders fellow, and was honored in 2013 and again in 2014 as the Memnosyne Institute Interfaith Scholar.

Said the Rev. Douglas B. Skinner, senior minister at Northway Christian Church in Dallas, “Passionately committed to his own convictions, Hanan is passionately committed as well to the kind of interfaith dialogue that tries to build mutual understanding and trust between people who he knows aren’t likely to change their minds about what it is that they believe, but who are looking for better ways to live and work together anyway.”



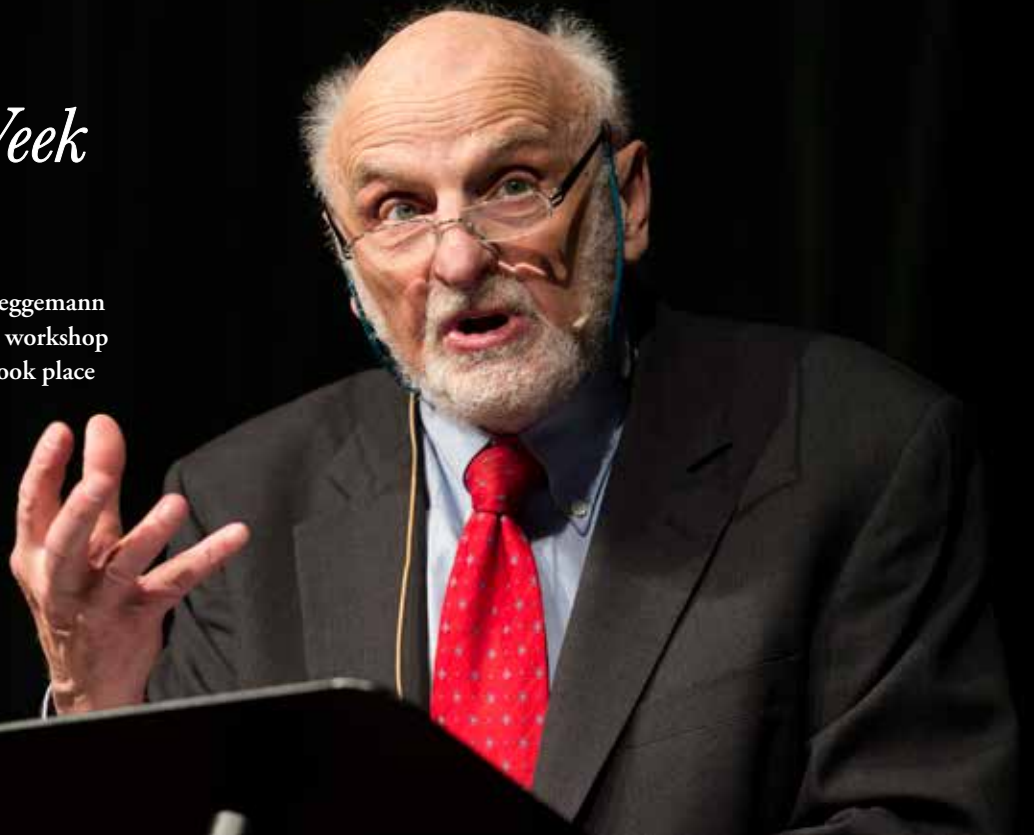
Dr. Mauro Ferrari (second from left) is joined (from left) by Dr. Charles Millikan, Dean William B. Lawrence, Perkins Lay Advisory Board Chair Justin Swinford, and Rev. Connie L. Nelson. Second photo: Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, who delivered his acceptance speech via video, is the second recipient of the Perkins School of Theology Person of Faith Award.



MINISTERS *Week*

REACH DEEP

Renowned author and theologian Walter Brueggemann headlined an esteemed group of lecturers and workshop leaders during Ministers Week 2016, which took place Feb. 1–2.



This year's theme was "Reach Deep," and the activities instilled in the clergy and church leaders participating how to aspire higher, reach deeper and connect wider with their congregants. Ministers Week at Perkins School of Theology is an annual continuing education program and a major unifying event not only for United Methodism in the South Central Jurisdiction but also for the wider ecumenical Dallas community.

Brueggemann – the William Marcellus McPheeters Professor Emeritus of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary, a past president of the Society of Biblical Literature and an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ – spoke at three lectures during Ministers Week.

The Jackson Lecture, which took place Feb. 1, was titled "The Peculiar Gift of the Old Testament" and took place in Wesley Hall at Highland Park United Methodist Church. This lecture was livestreamed and reached participants from 29 states, five countries and 91 cities worldwide.

Additionally, Brueggemann presented two lectures in Perkins Chapel on Feb. 2: the Peyton Lecture ("Preaching from Elsewhere in the Public Square") and the Johannaber Lecture ("Almost Talked Out of the Image of God").

Two noted clergywomen also provided keynote addresses at this year's Ministers Week.

Bishop Janice Riggle Huie conducted the opening and closing worship services in Perkins Chapel. Bishop Huie, a Perkins alumna, has been episcopal leader of the Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church since September 2004 and has witnessed the conference's expansion to nearly 700 congregations totaling more than 284,000 members.

The Rev. Dr. Loida Martell-Otero, a professor of Constructive Theology at Palmer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania, presented the Barton Lecture on Feb. 1. Martell also is a licensed doctor in veterinary medicine and an ordained minister in the American Baptist Churches/USA.



Ann and Lynn Akin of Lubbock were among the "Reach Deep" attendees.



Bishop Janice Riggle Huie (right), with retired Bishop Max Whitfield, leads the opening worship service.

Memoriams

Patsy Affleck, 82, died March 29, 2016. She served as Secretary to the Librarian and Coordinator of Perkins Chapel at SMU. Her husband, the Rev. Dr. Bert Affleck, was Retired Professor of Practical Theology and Director of the Intern Program and the Course of Study School at Perkins School of Theology at SMU.

'50s

Dr. J. Noble Atkins (B.D., '51), 88, died July 21, 2016. During his 44 years in ministry Dr. Atkins served churches in New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

James J. Caraway (M.Th. '51), 90, died April 8, 2016. Jimmie, as he was known, served student appointments in the North Texas Conference (1947 to 1949) before serving appointments in the Louisiana Conference from 1949 to 1991, including eight appointments to the local church, two tenures as district superintendent and his final 12 years as Executive Director of Financial Affairs for the Louisiana Annual Conference. Beyond the Conference, he served as president of the South Central Jurisdiction Council on Finance, on the General Conference CFA and as a general trustee of The United Methodist Church. He also served on the Executive Committee of the National Association of United Methodist Foundations, including three years as executive director, post-

retirement. As president of the South Central JCFA, he was a member of the SMU Board of Trustees, and he also served on the boards of Lydia Patterson Institute, Mt. Sequoyah and St. Paul's School of Theology. He received the then-Volunteer of the Year award for Perkins in 1984 for his pivotal role in bringing the \$5 million Perkins Endowment funding proposal before the SC Jurisdictional Conference and for his role in establishing Fair Share Goals for the then-13 Annual Conferences of the SC Jurisdiction.

Jefferson E. Davis Jr. (M.Th. '51), 90, died Dec. 29, 2015. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II for three years and then in the U.S. Air Force for more than 23 years as a chaplain.

Loyd J. Bliss (M.Th. '53), 96, died June 10, 2016. His wife, **Patricia A. Bliss, 88**, died June 11, 2016. After their marriage in 1947, Loyd and Patti served United Methodist churches in Douglas-Burr, Lincoln St. James, Aurora, Hastings, Alliance, Scottsbluff and Norfolk, Nebraska, before retiring in 1985. Patti was so much a part of the church ministry, too, leading classes, working in the offices and singing in the choirs.

Richard A. Hunt (M.Th. '55), 85, died March 20, 2016. He was a retired clergymember of the Central Texas Conference with many years of service also in the North Texas Conference. Rev. Hunt and his wife, Joan, also co-authored the official United Methodist Church program *Growing Love in Christian Marriage*.

James S. Manning Sr. (M.Th. '55), 88, died June 25, 2016. His wife, Betty, was for many years the assistant to Schubert Ogden, University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Theology.

'60s

Rev. Thomas Strother (M.Th. '60), 81, died March 5, 2016. He retired in 1998 after 24 years of service with the Methodist Children's Home in Waco. Rev. Strother also previously pastored at churches in Lubbock, Odessa, Pecos and Toyah.

'80s

The Rev. Katherine Brun (M.R.E. '84, M.Div. '92), 58, died Aug. 4, 2016. She was a pastor in both The United Methodist Church and the United Church of Christ and had served as the Director of Spiritual Formation of the Texas Annual Conference. Rev. Brun also was the creator and founder of the Charis Spiritual Director Training Program and was instrumental in developing the Cramer Center that brought United Methodist retreat space to Houston.

'90s

Thelma Colorado Subramanian (M.Div. '91), 64, died Nov. 14, 2015. She was an elder in The United Methodist Church and served churches in the Philippines and in the Iowa Conference.

Faculty NEWS (CONTINUED)

of the Wesleyan Studies Group in the American Academy of Religion and as a Methodist representative on the Methodist and Roman Catholic International Commission, sponsored by the World Methodist Council and the Holy See's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. Pope-Levison also participated in the Joint Commission international dialogue between the Roman Catholic Church and the World Methodist Council, held in Kuala Lumpur, on Oct. 9–16.

Harold J. Recinos, professor of Church and Society, delivered the annual Owen Lenten Lectures at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church in Dallas: "The Boundless Dinner Party," "Do Likewise in the World" and "The Woman of Samaria."

Susanne Scholz, professor of Old Testament, spoke at the regional meeting of the American Academy of Religion and Society of Biblical Studies (SWCRS) on March 11–13 in Irving, Texas, where she presented a paper at the "Ethics, Society

and Cultural Analysis" Section, titled "Studying Patanjali's Yoga Sutras Like the Bible in Sunday School: An Analysis of (Neo)Colonial Reading Strategies in Western Yoga Practice." Scholz also delivered the Burchenal Lecture for the Center of Spiritual Life and the Department of Religious Studies at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, on Sept. 28, 2015. Her lecture was titled "Reading Biblical Rape Texts within Contemporary American Title IX Debates." She also was invited, by the Carter Center and the Faith Trust Institute, to be part of a seminar on "Scholars in Action: Addressing Violence Against Women and Girls as an Agenda for Theological Education: A Multi-Faith Working Group" on Nov. 18–29, 2015.

Abraham Smith, professor of New Testament, presented a paper titled "Witnesses for the Defense in the Gospel of Luke" at the Ancient Fiction and Early Christian and Jewish Narrative Section of the Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Atlanta on Nov. 21. He also gave an

address on "Vocation and Calling" and preached Oct. 14–15 at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, for its Religious Emphasis Series.

Mark W. Stamm, professor of Christian Worship, offered the workshop "Living Water: Baptism as Work of the Missional Church" at FUSION: The Future of Worship in The United Methodist Church, on Feb. 5 in Raleigh, North Carolina. Stamm also published "The Three-Year Lectionary and Formation According to 'the Whole Counsel of God': A United Methodist's Perspective" in *Liturgy* 31:2 (27-36).

Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner, professor of Pastoral Care, will serve as president of the SMU Faculty Senate in academic year 2016–17. She also was a presider on the panel "Intersectionality in Theological Education: Continuing the Conversation," at the American Academy of Religions annual meeting on Nov. 21, 2015, in Atlanta.

Register Now!

SIMPLY WRIGHT

N.T. WRIGHT AT PERKINS | SMU
NOVEMBER 15-17, 2016



N.T. Wright, Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity at University of St. Andrews, author and retired Anglican bishop

Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University welcomes author **N.T. Wright** for a three-day program of lectures, workshops and discussion related to his books. Online registration and additional details for the event are available at smu.edu/Perkins/Events/NTWright



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Join us for
CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

4 & 8 p.m. Thursday, December 1, 2016

PERKINS CHAPEL

6001 Bishop Boulevard | Dallas, Texas 75275 | SMU Campus

“God Is Reconciling the World Through Christ”

FEATURING:

Christopher Anderson, *organist and Associate Professor of Sacred Music* • **Marjorie Procter-Smith**, *Le Van Professor Emerita of Preaching and Worship* • **John C. Holbert**, *Lois Craddock Perkins Professor Emeritus of Homiletics* • **Evelyn Parker**, *Susanna Wesley Centennial Professor of Practical Theology and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs* • **Dean Craig C. Hill**

THE SERVICE WILL BE WEBCAST LIVE AT 4 P.M. CST AT

www.smu.edu/perkins/ChristmasService

Seminary Singers Reunion

This year marks the 25th and final service for **C. Michael Hawm**, University Distinguished Professor of Church Music. Professor Hawm, who joined the faculty in 1992, will retire in May 2017.

To mark the occasion of Professor Hawm's final service, Seminary Singers alumni/ae are invited to return to Perkins to participate and gather for a reunion. The day will include lunch and dinner, rehearsal with current Seminary Singers and a white-elephant gift exchange.

THE COST IS \$35; CONTACT TERESA ROSADO (TERESAR@SMU.EDU) FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION. DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS OCT. 31.