

THE STORY MAGAZINE AND ANNUAL REPORT

Volume XLVII * Winter 08/09



METHODIST THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

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THE STORY MAGAZINE AND ANNUAL REPORT

Volume XLVII * Winter 08/09

A publication of Methodist **Theological School in Ohio**

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On the cover: Detail of stained glass in the south window at the entrance to the Burgett Chapel Classroom in Gault Hall

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A Methesco Church Administration class meets in 1961

Founded in 1958, Methodist Theological School in Ohio is one of 13 seminaries formally affiliated with and funded in part by the United Methodist Church. Located on a 72-acre campus in Central Ohio, MTSO offers five graduate degree programs: Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Christian Education, Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries, Master of Theological Studies and Doctor of Ministry. It also offers graduate-level certificate programs in Basic Theological Education, United Methodist Deacon Studies, and the Advanced Course of Study in the United Methodist Church.

MTSO is accredited by the Association of **Theological Schools** in the United States and Canada and the **Higher Learning** Commission of the North Central Asso-

ciation of Colleges and Schools. Its degree programs are authorized by the Ohio Board of Regents and approved by the University Senate of The United Methodist Church.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send them to drussell@mtso.edu, or Danny Russell, MTSO, 3081 Columbus Pike, Delaware, Ohio 43015.

A strong ship on a turbulent sea

By Rev. Jay Rundell President

It is my privilege to greet you on behalf of the many members of the MTSO community and to invite you to page through this issue of *The Story*. You will find news of past happenings and future events, articles about students, alums, faculty and trustees, as well as our Annual Report for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

This publication comes to you amidst extraordinary times. Along with you and your families, churches and communities, we have been deeply affected by the economic troubles of the past several months. Our campus is a place of keen awareness of the myriad trials that our world faces in the years to come. And like the rest of the world, we have been moved by the significance of a historical election season.

Like most educational institutions, we are confronting acute financial strain and all the accompanying uncertainty and stress. And yet, there is a good spirit here. Our students

remind us of the continuing hunger for learning and growth. Our faculty has a way of making theological education relevant even to times like these.

And there is evidence of the kind of hope that comes from trusting that the Church has something to say and do in a time like this, and from knowing that we're preparing people who will lead that effort. That makes the turmoil worthwhile. I am deeply grateful



to all of you who are finding a way to support us through this difficult period. Following are a few items I want to highlight for you.

Our financial position

MTSO has not escaped the effects of struggling domestic and global economies. At a time when costs associated with higher education are rising, several of our revenue streams are weakened. Understandably, gift and tuition income are down slightly.

There is evidence of the kind of hope that comes from trusting that the Church has something to say and do in a time like this, and from knowing that we're preparing people who will lead that effort.

> Income from endowed funds is likely to be our greatest financial challenge in the next few years. We are broadly diversified and have capable managers and superb trustee oversight, but, like everyone else, we've lost considerable market value. As of Nov. 30, our endowment has fallen from an

all-time high of \$37 million in January 2008 to about \$26.5 million.

A 28.6 percent loss is hard to take, but many institutions have fared much worse. (And for what it's worth, the Standard & Poor's 500 stock index has fallen by 38 percent over this period.) We have experienced similar paper losses before, most recently in 2002. Because these funds are the source of revenue for such things as scholarships, faculty chairs and other general expenses, we will be challenged to find new sources of income and additional ways to curb expenses. We will endeavor to be good stewards with the school's resources, balancing prudent spending with the ever-important need to fund our vital mission.

Self-study and reaccreditation

Nearly two years of institutional selfstudy culminated in October with the campus visit of teams from the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada and the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

continues \rightarrow

FROM THE PRESIDENT

from previous page

The teams registered a very positive reaction to our campus and what they saw occurring here.

Official action on team reports will not take place until the boards of the associations meet in February. But while still on campus, visiting team members indicated that they were extremely impressed with the strength and vision of this institution and its ability to carry out its mission. In particular, they noted:

- The collaboration in teaching and learning between an excellent faculty and an engaged student body.
- An institutional environment of egalitarianism and relationality.
- The commendable presence of diversity as seen in the student body, faculty and curriculum, with a commitment to ecumenical and inter-religious understanding, as well as other practices of inclusivity.
- Notable progress in the area of educational assessment.

The team also encouraged us to give continued attention to a number of things, ranging from institutional advancement to library development to deferred maintenance. Dean John Kampen, a seasoned veteran of accreditation visits for both ATS and HLC, said of the review, "This is as good as it gets." I believe we have reason to feel very good about MTSO and the work we are doing.

The Office of the Academic Dean

Methodist Theological School in Ohio has been blessed over the years by the committed work of a number of extraordinary academic deans. From the crucial formative role played by a legendary founding dean to the careful academic stewardship of several leaders who helped steer the school through its transformative years, we have been wellserved.



Scholar and administrator, friend and guide * Kampen

Over the past five years, Dean John Kampen has gathered and appropriated that history and, with the very best of academic integrity and principles, helped us forge a sound future in theological education. I simply cannot overstate John's influence upon the maturation of our academic pro-

gram and ethos. He has done what he came here to do, and the institution is in his debt.

In addition to his work in academic administration,

Dr. Kampen has nurtured his calling as a scholar and student of the Jewish context of the New Testament, with a specific focus on what is commonly referred to as Second-Temple Judaism. As a researcher and author of note within this field, several aspects of his work with the Dead Sea Scrolls have been seminal to the field.

It is out of this latter part of John's rich vocational identity that he is choosing to build the next phase of his professional life. I will be recommending to the faculty and ultimately the board of trustees that beginning July 1, 2009, Dr. Kampen be appointed Professor of New Testament Studies in the Van Bogard Dunn Chair in Biblical Interpretation.

I wish to express my deep regard for John, not only as a scholar and academic administrator but as a friend and guide as I have grown into the presidency at MTSO. His experience and wisdom have profoundly influenced the shaping of the foundation for my work in this place.

An advisory search committee has begun the process of identifying and integrating our next dean into academic leadership in the life of our fine school. When the way has been paved with care, a community such as ours can travel into its future with confidence and anticipation.

Visiting accreditation team members indicated that they were extremely impressed with the strength and vision of this institution and its ability to carry out its mission.

> In concluding, let me share my deep appreciation for your support of Methesco and for all you do in extending our mission and ministry to the world around us. Please hold us in your prayers as we move forward in faith through these turbulent but hopeful times.

DR. MAGGIE JACKSON

Trustees' leader wears many hats

Many things qualified Dr. Maggie Jackson to take the reins of the MTSO Board of Trustees in 2008. An abundance of idle time was not among them.

Jackson is the chair, the director and a professor in the School of Social Work at Cleveland State University. But that's just her day job.

A member of Werner UMC in Cleveland, Jackson serves other United Methodist organizations as chair of the North Central Jurisdiction Episcopacy Committee and a member of the General Board of Global Ministries. She also was a delegate to the last three General Conferences. In addition to chairing the Methesco board, she's a trustee at Northwestern College in Iowa, her undergraduate alma mater.

Jackson earned a Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University and a master's from the University of Denver, both in social work. That background gives her a unique appreciation for those in MTSO's Master of Arts in Counseling Ministries program.

"In addition to having the skills to help people through these difficult times, they bring that Christian overlay, which is an added dimension to help people in a broader fashion," she said. She's proud of Cleveland State students, "but we are a state university, so many of them are not embedded in a church or a belief base, and they miss that added dimension that I believe helps us to meet the whole person."

Jackson became familiar with Methesco as president of the East Ohio United Methodist Women in the 1990s, when she visited campus to attend polity classes taught by then President Ned Dewire. Apparently he saw her potential to be more than an occasional student at MTSO.

"He called one day and said, 'Maggie, I'm going to be in Cleveland. Would you mind if

"I want people to look at us and say, 'This is an institution I want to be a part of—and therefore, I give.'"

I stopped by to talk to you?' You know the drill." She laughed at the memory. "I got hooked."

She was appointed to the MTSO board in 1999 and became chair July 1, 2008, replacing Columbus attorney John W.

Zeiger, a 14-year trustee who served four years as chair and remains on the board.

"I have had the opportunity to serve on various boards in my professional life," Jackson said, "and Methesco's membership is a huge, dedicated group that I am proud to be a part of. I see how people are willing to go beyond to make a difference because they believe in what we do."

"Methesco is a warm, invitational institution," she said. "It is the epitome of what I would expect in a seminary."

"We are an open institution, and we welcome people from all walks of life, all different religions and philosophies. I think it makes for a more well-rounded graduate when in the classroom you're exposed to different views. For us to grow as individuals, we need to be challenged about our thoughts and ideas."

Jackson, who served on the search committee that brought President Jay Rundell to MTSO in 2006, said she's "extremely well pleased" with his leadership. "It's a privilege for me to have this opportunity to work with him."

As she ponders the challenges of her term as chair, Jackson is well aware she'll be leading the trustees in a challenging economic climate.

"If I have any goal at this moment, it is to ensure that we have the resources necessary to continue our growth and development," she said. "These are critical times."

"I want people to look at us and say, 'This is an institution I want to be a part of—and therefore, I give."



A unique appreciation for counseling ministries * Jackson at commencement in May 2008

The winds of change

Hurricane Ike triggers a new campus alert system

When a hurricane warning went out to Gulf Coast states during the second week of September, no one figured Ohio needed to be bracing for a once-in-a-lifetime windstorm. But on



Sept. 14, Hurricane Ike's powerful last gasp cut a wide swath of destruction through the Midwest, leaving much of Ohio without power and putting Methesco out of commission for the next two days.

Power at MTSO went out on that windy Sunday and wasn't restored until late Tuesday afternoon. A number of large trees on campus were damaged, some irreparably.

One of two tall pines that towered over the entrance to Werner Hall had to be removed. But remarkably, no campus buildings were struck by flying tree limbs or

otherwise damaged by the storm.

The school was fortunate to be back in business relatively soon; some in the Methesco community were without power at their homes all week. But the loss of MTSO's main computer server during the outage crippled efforts to update students, faculty and staff. Though closing no-

tices were carried by major media in the Columbus area, some students who live far from Central Ohio drove hours to campus only to learn it was closed.

"The out-of-town students who were inconvenienced by this power outage were remarkably patient and understanding," said MTSO President Jay Rundell, "but we realized that we need a more reliable way

the launch this fall of the MTSO Alert sys-

every subscriber in the campus community

virtually instantaneously. Students, faculty,

tem, which has the capacity to send text

messages, voice messages and e-mail to

The MTSO Alert system has the capacity to send text messages, voice messages and e-mail to every subscriber in the campus community virtually instantaneously. l, "but we able way to keep everyone informed when unexpected events affect our campus."

sult was



Buildings were spared, but not trees * This pine outside Werner Hall was lost to the September windstorm

staff and trustees have been invited to sign up for the service, which is provided at no charge by MTSO.

The school has retained e2Campus, whose system is used by hundreds of campuses across the country, to host MTSO Alert. This ensures that the system will work reliably even if the school's computer server is out of service.

"We can't promise a winter without more campus closings," Rundell said, "but if they come, we're much more confident that we can spread the word." ₩

www.mtso.edu/alert/AlertFAQ.pdf

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Three distinguished alumni are honored with Mount Awards



Serving in dramatically different ways * *Mount Award recipients (from left) Heisler, Sells and Hays*

An annual highlight of the Schooler Institute on Preaching is the presentation of the John and Ruth Mount Alumni Awards for Distinguished Service. With the recognition of three new recipients at the Oct. 6 awards dinner, there have been 60 honorees since the awards were established in 1990.

Not only do the trio of 2008 honorees represent dramatically different parts of the country—from Michigan to Tennessee to Alaska—but they have modeled dramatically different ways to put a theological education to use in service to the church and the world.

Rev. Walter Hays Jr. Distinguished Service in Specialized Ministry

A member of Methesco's first graduating class, in 1963, Walter Hays holds the distinction of being the first graduate of MTSO to be commissioned as a missionary. In addition to his missionary work, Hays has co-founded several organizations, hosted weekly radio programs, and served on the Alaska Council of Churches, among other achievements.

In 1986, Hays began a second career as a development officer and a non-profit executive. He had a vital role in raising more than \$16 million for a wide variety of worthy organizations, from churches to cultural, health and children-services agencies.

Since retirement in 2000, his passion has been the Personal Energy Transportation Project, a faith-based organization that provides sturdy, hand-cranked wheelchairs for those who lack mobility in the Third World.

Rev. Benton Heisler Distinguished Service in Parish Ministry

The district superintendent for the Lansing District of the West Michigan Conference, Benton Heisler earned his Master of Divinity degree from Methesco in 1986. His ministry has included service to small rural parishes, two-point charges and urban areas. He has been a student intern, an associate pastor and a senior pastor.

Those nominating Heisler described him as a passionate spiritual leader and conflictresolution facilitator with a great sense of humor. He was no doubt developing some of those attributes during his pre-ministry career, when he was a sixth-grade teacher and a science department chair.

Heisler has a vision, expectation and goal that every local congregation can be passionately committed to a relationship with Jesus Christ and a desire to build, repair, and recycle people and places of community, for the sake of the kingdom of God and the transformation of the world.

Rev. Dr. L. Raymond Sells Distinguished Service to MTSO

Ray Sells has harnessed his interest and expertise in community organizing to provide significant leadership to MTSO and the community beyond. A 1963 graduate and former trustee of Methesco, he has trained community organizers in the Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati areas.

Sells now works in Nashville, training and organizing communities around worker rights and environmental issues. He is effective in his community and in his discourse with government officials.

His interest in seminary students has brought him to the classroom to discuss community organizing as one approach to ministry, and his advocacy for those organizations fighting against human trafficking has led him to be a strong supporter of the MTSO Liberation! Conference. **

5

A busy fall on campus Autumn 2008 events

Liberation! Conference Equipping Christian Leaders to Abolish Modern Slavery

This was the second year for the Liberation! Conference, coordinated by MTSO students in the local chapter of the Beatitudes Society. Sponsored by the Beatitudes Society, the Not for Sale campaign and the Columbus Coalition for the Homeless, the conference dealt with responses to slavery on both the global and local level.

Among presenters at the Sept. 27 event was Dr. Claude d'Estrée, director of the Center on Rights Development and a special rapporteur to the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking.



At the Mission and Evangelism Institute * Fernando

Mission and Evangelism Institute Offering Christ in a Multi-religious World

Can a Christian's burning conviction coexist with respect for other religions? And what does it mean, as a Christian, to be sensitive to people of other faiths? That's a sampling of the challenging questions tackled at the Seventh Annual Mission and Evangelism Institute on the MTSO campus Oct. 12-14.



At the nuclear forum * Rev. Barbara G. Green

Dr. Ajith Fernando, national director of Youth for Christ in Sri Lanka, was the keynote speaker. Leading seminars was Rev. Jeff Marian, lead pastor at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, a congregation of 9,000 members in Burnsville, Minn.

Schooler Institute on Preaching Rethinking Your Advent Series

The 2008 Schooler Institute on Preaching was redesigned with the goal of quickly giving busy clergy useful tools for constructing a full Advent sermon series. Former Methesco faculty member Dr. Sharon Ringe, who now teaches at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., delivered four presentations, many enhanced with sacred art. Following each presentation, Rev. Patrick Clayborn, MTSO instructor of homiletics, offered a response.

In addition to the presentations and small-group discussions Oct. 6 and 7, attendees received a liturgical resource guide for Advent 2008, prepared by Dr. Robin Knowles Wallace, MTSO professor of worship and music.

New Directions for a New Nuclear Age: Church Influence and Public Policy

Held shortly after the presidential election, this Nov. 20 forum reviewed the most significant ecclesial positions on nuclear weapons from the Cold War in the context of contemporary, post-Cold War dynamics. The event focused on pastoral letters on the nuclear threat by Catholic and United Methodist bishops, as well as the emergence of a new evangelical consensus around nuclear weapons elimination.

Panelists included Dr. John F. Ahearne, a veteran of the Carter White House and former chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and Rev. Tyler Wigg-Stevenson, director of the Two Futures Project, an evangelical effort for a nuclear weapons-free world. *



At Schooler * Ringe

Mark your calendar Upcoming events for 2009

January 26-27

Ohio Ministries Convocation

SemCon Luncheon Jan. 26, hosted by MTSO, United Theological Seminary, and the East and West Ohio conferences.

brollins@mtso.edu

February 10 **Faculty Lecture and Installation**

Lisa Withrow will address the topic "Change: Exploring Its Implications for Religious Leadership (A Pedagogical Inquiry)" and will be installed in the Norman E. Dewire Chair in Christian Leadership.

lwithrow@mtso.edu

February 16-17

Harding Scholarship Interviews

www.mtso.edu/harding acasperson@mtso.edu

March 15-17

Women in the Religious and Intellectual Activity of the Ancient Mediterranean World

Interdisciplinary and international conference in honor of Adela Yarbro Collins. The annual Williams Institute will be based in this conference, supplemented by a special workshop on Monday morning by Dr. Lee Johnson for clergy and non-specialists on "Women in the New Testament World."

www.mtso.edu/collinsconference sahearne-kroll@mtso.edu, ljohnson@mtso.edu

March 21

Admissions Open House

Campus tours, classroom visitation, faculty and student panels, and worship opportunities for prospective students, their families and sponsors

www.mtso.edu/visit acasperson@mtso.edu

March 24

Premiere Scholarship Interviews

www.mtso.edu/prospective/ scholarship-p.htm emorganski@mtso.edu

April 15

Fifth Annual Lecture in World Religions and Inter-Religious Dialogue

"Catholic-Muslim Relations Today," with speakers Fr. Dennis McManus of the Catholic University of America and Imam Yahya Hendi of Georgetown University. Held at the Pontifical College Josephinum's Joseph Jessing Center.

pnumrich@mtso.edu

April 21 MACM Senior Celebration Dinner

vlattimore@mtso.edu

May 12

Closing Convocation and Awards Ceremony

President Jay Rundell preaching

May 13 Closing Eucharist

Academic Dean John Kampen preaching

May 22-23 **Baccalaureate and Commencement**



Professor, survivor, spokesmodel

Riverside Methodist Hospital touts Sarah Lancaster's remarkable recovery

It's arguably one of the most prominent billboards in Central Ohio, looming over the "hospital curve," where a major freeway snakes around Riverside Methodist Hospital. A year ago, Dr. Sarah Lancaster couldn't possibly have guessed her smiling face would grace that enormous sign, or that she would also star in radio and TV commercials.

Lancaster, who holds the Werner Chair of Theology at MTSO, jokes easily about her 15 minutes of fame. Ironically, they're the result of about 15 minutes that saved her life on the morning of April 15.

"I tripped," she said. "I had been on the telephone and I dropped the phone. And I



"I graded 100 papers at the end of the semester" * Eager to return, Lancaster was back on campus days after leaving the hospital

was taking a step over to be able to pick up the phone and just went flat down."

It wasn't until later that she reconstructed the reason for that fall: "What I realize now is I was dragging my left foot. My left side wasn't working."

Lancaster's husband, Kermit, heard her fall and worried that it was more than a simple stumble. He began grilling her with questions to test her alertness, "and I could answer them just fine." But, "I wasn't making any effort to get up."

"He picked me up and basically carried me out to the car and said, 'I think you've had a stroke,' and I said, 'No I haven't."

The Lancasters went to the nearest hospital, Mount Carmel St. Ann's in Westerville, where Sarah promptly lost an argument about whether she needed a wheelchair. "I was in complete denial."

After confirming that she had indeed suffered a stroke, the staff at St. Ann's made a vital decision: They sent her to a competitor.

"They realized I was a good candidate for the MERCI procedure, so they transported me to Riverside."

Riverside is one of many Methodist hospitals. They're a lasting testament to John Wesley's interest in health care.

"Wesley had a concern for people's wellbeing, both spiritual and physical," said Lancaster, who, as it happens, has written and lectured on Wesley. "In fact, he collected folk remedies and made those available to people who couldn't afford medical care." The MERCI Retriever is no folk remedy. A cutting-edge method of removing a stroke's clot from the brain using a catheter, it's one of several techniques that were applied in quick progression once Lancaster's ambulance arrived at Riverside.

"The doctor told me, 'I used everything I had in my office on you," she said. "The results were immediate and dramatic."

When she arrived at the hospital, Lancaster had lost function on the left side of her body, including vision. Her doctor noticed improvement while she was still lying on the table during the procedure. Within a day, she had completely regained use of her left side and was walking.

It wasn't until later that she learned how critical her situation had been: "Apparently it was a very serious stroke that I was lucky to survive."

Lancaster stayed in the hospital a week, but days after being released, she was back on the Methesco campus, sitting in on the classes she'd been teaching. Before the end of the spring semester, she was leading those classes again.

"That's pretty insane, I realize," she said. "But there's a part of me that thinks it's because I was so persistent that I got better as quickly as I did."

Despite Lancaster's quick return to action, exhaustion was a lingering challenge.

"I graded 100 papers at the end of the semester," she said, "and I could do maybe five or six and then I had to take a nap."

She fought off fatigue during two big

COMMUNITY



Sign of success * Lancaster was happy to help Riverside explain how her life was saved

trips in the two months following the stroke. In May, she went to Dallas to attend daughter Jocelyn's graduation from Southern Methodist University. In June, she flew to Egypt for a long-planned conference.

June was also when Lancaster launched her second career as a multi-media celebrity. Shortly after her hospital stay, she was approached by Riverside about participating in an ad campaign touting the procedure that led to her recovery.

"I was certainly surprised," she said. "But I'll tell you, I was so grateful at that point for all the hospital had done, it was, 'Yes, I'll be glad to help you."

A television commercial was filmed in the Lancasters' home. That was augmented by radio and print advertising, including billboards all over town and even signs inside Riverside's elevators. In the TV spot, Lancaster mentions her trip to Dallas for Jocelyn's graduation, and the camera focuses on a snapshot of her daughter in a cap and gown—except it's not Jocelyn. Thanks to a malfunctioning camera, they had no photos of Jocelyn's SMU graduation, but there was a nice photo of the Lancasters' other daughter, Kendra, graduating from Westerville South High School, so the commercial crew just shot that.

For Lancaster's billboard photo, she and the family dog, 8-year-old Hunter, posed by a stream in Westerville's Inniswood Gardens.

"I had a student who caught me in the hallway and said, 'Are you on a billboard Downtown?' I said, 'Yeah,' and he said, 'I almost swerved off the road when I saw that.'"

> "You don't ordinarily get to take pets in there," she said, "but we got permission to take Hunter. The crew loved my dog."

As for all the notoriety, Lancaster said, "It's almost gotten to the point of being embarrassing. I had a student who caught me in the hallway and said, 'Are you on a billboard Downtown?' I said, 'Yeah,' and he said, 'I almost swerved off the road when I saw that." Lancaster, who was in "really good health" before the stroke, is now walking 2 miles a day for exercise, though she's no longer allowed to lift weights as she once did. Her memory didn't return to pre-stroke levels as quickly as she might have liked, "but I don't feel like I have any of those problems now."

But the memory of the stroke itself has receded.

"I spent the first couple of months just occasionally being really hit with what the alternative could have been," she said. "There's a lot of stuff about salvation in theology, and I'd never really had my life saved before. And to have that, I think you do realize what that thankfulness is about."

Among other things, she's thankful that her recovery has left her with precious few reminders of all that transpired on April 15.

"Most days, I have to remind myself that I've had a problem."

Those, presumably, are the days she doesn't drive past any billboards. **



STUDENTS

They're putting the 'be' in beatitudes A new book features MTSO's April Blaine and Jeremy Scott



"They really are students who show great leadership potential" * Scott and Blaine

In a forthcoming book by the leader of the Beatitudes Society, nine seminary students and alums will be featured for the ways each of them models a beatitude presented in the fifth chapter of Matthew. Two of those nine are MTSO students.

Claiming the Beatitudes: Nine Stories from a New Generation, by Beatitudes Society Executive Director Rev. Anne Sutherland Howard, is due to be published this winter by the Alban Institute. "I chose nine students that I've encountered in my work," Howard said, "and they stretch across the country from Boston to Berkeley."

MTSO student April Blaine appears in the chapter illustrating Verse 7: "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy." MTSO student Jeremy Scott's ministry is held up as an example of Verse 10: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for justice' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Both Blaine and Scott are Master of Divinity students. Blaine will graduate this spring, Scott in 2010.

Scott founded the MTSO chapter of the Be'Ats, as members call it, in January 2007.

The national organization describes its mission this way: "The Beatitudes Society develops and sustains emerging Christian leaders at seminaries and divinity schools as they build a progressive network for justice, compassion and peace as expressed in the Beatitudes."

It was Scott's work in founding MTSO's Liberation! Conference to combat modern slavery that caught Howard's attention. The conference evolved from Scott's interest in the writing of author David Batstone about the slave trade. Batstone, he said, "was involved with the Be'Ats, so Anne kind of offered him up to our campus."

The fall 2007 Liberation! Conference, featuring Batstone, was followed this year by a conference featuring international human trafficking expert Claude d'Estree.

"The Liberation! Conference caught a lot of people's attention because it was the first time a student group had put on anything that big," said Scott, who has handed the reins of the local Be'Ats chapter to MTSO students Jared Littleton and Cassie Smith.

Scott, who co-pastors the Thurman Avenue and Washington Avenue United Methodist churches in Columbus with fellow MTSO student Nathan Adams, has moved on to a new project. He's producing a video featuring interviews with experts on modern slavery. Among those he hopes to talk with is a representative of Higher Grounds, a fair-trade coffee company whose products are served in Dunn Dining Hall on the MTSO campus.

Blaine said Howard approached her about being featured in *Claiming the Beatitudes* after the two worked together on the national Be'Ats' Emerging Leaders Project, which brings together 15 progressive Christian leaders and 15 seminary students for a fall retreat. After participating in 2007, Blaine worked on the planning team for the 2008 event.

Howard asked Blaine which of the beatitudes she related to, an exchange that still makes Blaine laugh: "I said, 'Oddly enough, if you want to talk about how I don't seem to have much mercy, we can talk about that."

"It's the hardest thing in the world to let go of things when people hurt you," Blaine said, but, "One of the things Anne and I talked about is there's a leveling that happens when we show mercy."

Blaine has pursued her MTSO education while working full-time at Riverside United Methodist Church in Upper Arlington. She joined the Riverside staff as youth pastor six years ago and now is associate pastor and a licensed local pastor.

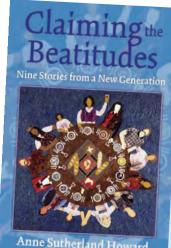
"I love Methesco very much. I've had a wonderful experience," she said. But she's ready to concentrate more on her ministry and less on writing papers.

"This is my fifth year. It's time to leave."

Each chapter of *Claiming the Beatitudes* begins with the story of an individual such as Blaine or Scott, followed by Howard's re-

flection on the beatitude and guidelines for group discussion.

"I chose students who have a passion for something the beatitudes express," Howard said. "They really are students who show great leadership potential." **



Anne Sutherland Howard Foreword by Marcus J. Borg

How they stake the claim

Two excerpts from Claiming the Beatitudes

On Jeremy Scott:

He's now taken on a new volunteer role, in addition to his seminary work, to become State Director of the Ohio Not for Sale Campaign. There are many aspects to this kind of work, from participating in the new "underground railroad" that coordinates the new abolitionists across the globe who are rescuing the victims of the global slave trade, to staging local educational events for schools, churches and community groups. But it's the root cause of slavery that gets Jeremy.

"Families in good economic condition don't sell their daughters. If a family has a decent source of income, they don't sell their daughters. I'm interested in addressing the poverty that produces slavery. That's my passion."

On April Blaine:

"I am interested in re-imagining the church," April said, "and I think mercy has everything to do with re-imagining the church. This beatitude is about being, it's not about doing. Being church, just being church, not doing church. I am learning that we aren't very good at just being with people in their lives, in community."

"We want to do things, we want to disciple people, we want to change people, we want people to come to this program or that program. Church is so often all this stuff that people want to do. But people just want people to be with them, just be with them."



Pastor's best friend

Diane Winters Johnson's award-winning children's book is told from her guide dog's point of view

It wasn't that there weren't books about blind people, even blind people in religious settings. But Rev. Diane Winters Johnson, who earned a master's in Christian education from Methesco in 2002, was looking for something very specific, and she couldn't find it.

"I frequently was asked to go to elementary schools and talk with classes about issues of blindness and disability with groups of children," said Johnson, who is the associate pastor at Wooster United Methodist Church and is blind. "And I never had any materials to use with kids."

"All the books that we could find showed a blind person that was the *object* of ministry rather than *in* ministry. So I thought about writing a book to use for my own."

Johnson's task of creating her own book was helped along by two relationships. The first was with Margaret Freed, who attends Wooster UMC and is a professional artist. Johnson approached her about providing illustrations.

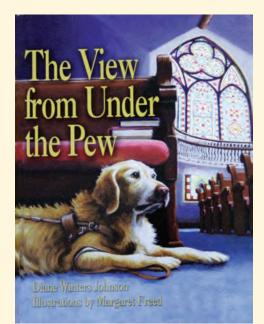
"I thought, well, as long as we're going to do this, why don't we have it bound and make it a gift for the children here in our church?" Johnson said. She and Freed discussed it over lunch, "and the more we talked about it, we discovered that she had had this lifelong dream of doing a children's book and being published."

Soon they were compiling a list of children's book publishers.

"I told her that since I was clergy, we would really need to go to the United Methodist Publishing House first before we went outside: Go there, get their refusal and then go somewhere else."

There was no refusal. Abingdon Press, which is affiliated with the UM Publishing House, wanted the book. In May of this year, *The View from Under the Pew* was published.

Johnson knew from the start how she wanted to tell the story of a blind pastor's



You'll recognize Wooster UMC "exactly" * Johnson's book, The View from Under the Pew

ministry, and that involved another important relationship. She would tell children about her work and the sometimes hard-tograsp trappings of a church with the help of Walter, the Seeing Eye dog who was vital to her work in the church, not to mention her education at MTSO.

"Walter traveled my road to ordination with me," Johnson said. "Walter was a necessary piece to my traveling from being a layperson in ministry to being an ordained person in ministry. I used a white cane very successfully for years, but I couldn't have gone to seminary without Walter."

Johnson has happy memories of Methesco that began well before she enrolled.

"My first time on campus actually was as a confirmand, and I'm not going to tell you how long ago," she said, laughing. "I think I was 13."

Most weeks, she'd get a ride from Wooster to campus with a member of her congregation, and a ride home with her husband, Wesley. (The Johnsons have four grown children.)

On the MTSO campus, Walter was Johnson's constant companion, walking every step and attending every class with her.

"I treasured those years," she said.

The two even graduated together.

"He has a diploma as well as I do," Johnson said, "only his says he has a degree in dogmatic theology. When I was ordained, the bishop laid hands on him as well."

Walter put his ordination to good use.

"He learned the order of worship," Johnson said. "He would stand up when it was necessary to stand, he would lie down when it was time to lie down. He knew it was bread first and juice second."

But more than that, she said, "He had a way of touching people. And a lot of it came through with visitation. Sometimes in the hardest situations, just having him there would calm somebody. He just had a way of communicating with people. He was truly a pastoral-care kind of dog."

Walter retired several years ago and went to live with members of Johnson's church.

"He is now actually 16 years old, and very much a lump on a pillow," she said. "He's almost all white now. He can't hear anymore,

and he can barely see. But he still wags his tail, and he still thinks it's all about him."

Johnson's current guide dog is Amber, whom she considers as indispensable as Walter was. But it's Walter

who stars in *The View from Under the Pew*, appearing in every one of Freed's illustrations. The book has earned plaudits for both the words and pictures, recently winning the silver medal in the Moonbeam Children's Book Awards for non-fiction picture books.

Even before the award, the book was a big hit in Wooster. The church is faithfully



Taking over for Walter * Amber is Johnson's new Seeing Eye dog

recreated, as are other buildings in the community.

"You would recognize it exactly," Johnson said. "You would not only recognize the

"All the books that we could find showed a blind person that was the *object* of ministry rather than *in* ministry," Johnson said. "So I thought about writing a book to use for my own."

> church, but you could probably pick out the people. My daughter is in the book. Our senior pastor is in the book."

The senior pastor is Dr. David Wilcox, who also serves as vice chair of the MTSO Board of Trustees. And he confirms that he appears in the book—sort of.

"I had a caveat for the artist," Wilcox said.

"I said, 'I want you to make me younger and thinner and more handsome.' When my wife saw the picture, she said, 'Who is that wearing your sweater?"

When the church held a book signing for *The View from Under the Pew*, Walter was on hand for the event.

"You could tell he knew he was a celebrity," said Wilcox, who had just arrived in Wooster when Walter retired. The church held a special farewell ceremony.

"There wasn't a dry eye in the place," said Wilcox, who—though he didn't know Walter as well as others in the congregation got a very specific glimpse during the ceremony of the magnanimous personality that made Diane Johnson's companion so beloved.

"As I reached down to put my hand on his head to do the blessing, he looked up at me so sweetly," Wilcox said. "And I didn't realize until later that I had been standing on his fur." **

Alum news

If you're an alum or former faculty or staff member of Methesco and have news to share about personal achievements or milestones, please submit it via the link at www.mtso.edu/alumni. If you don't have an Internet connection, you may mail your news to us at Alum News, MTSO, 3081 Columbus Pike, Delaware, Ohio 43015.

1969

Robert S. Henderson and his wife, Janis, have coauthored a three-volume book, *Living with Jung: "Enterviews" with Jungian Analysts*, published by Spring Journal and Books. **rob444@cox.net**

1972

Ed Garten retired from the University of Dayton in 2007 after 20 years of service as dean of libraries and information technologies and was named dean emeritus. Early this year he was named program director and professor for the Ed.D. Specialization in Higher Education and Adult Learning with the Richard W. Riley College of Education and Leadership, Walden University, Minneapolis. Ed retired from the Minnesota Annual Conference of the UMC in 2005 after 30 years of ministry in higher education. **eddiegarten@gmail.com**

1992

John Gray and his wife, Patty, are in their 44th year of marriage, eighth year of retirement and seventh year as pastor at Jackson Chapel in Grove City. John stays active with the local food pantry and as chaplain of two veteran groups. "I will always cherish my time at seminary and my fond memories of the staff there," he said. revjgray@wowway.com

1995

Amelia Walker is now pastor of the Christian Fellowship United Church of Christ in San Diego.

1996

Karen Oehl shared the pulpit with her father, MTSO Professor Emeritus **Bill Mc-Cartney**, at the 50th anniversary celebration of Trinity Tower UMC in Pittsburgh, Pa., in September. Oehl, the pastor of Brecksville UMC, was baptized at Trinity Tower when McCartney served that congregation as pastor. Despite the fact both father and daughter preached, McCartney insists, "The whole sermon was no longer than a regular one."

1997

Judy Johnson has published her first book of scripture-based meditations, *A Week to Pray About It*, containing 52 brief meditations arranged by seasons. She is a freelance writer of educational materials in Yellow Springs and an active member of Christ Episcopal Church in Springfield. jjwrites@sbcglobal.net

2002

Alton Plummer was ordained to the Sacred and Holy Order of Priests by the Rt. Rev. Thomas Breidenthal, Southern Ohio bishop of the Episcopal Church, in June. Plummer is serving as assistant rector of Trinity Episcopal Church on Capitol Square in Columbus.

aplummer@trinitycolumbus.org

Charles Neff has negotiated the merger of two United Methodist congregations in McAlester, Okla., where he serves as senior pastor of Grand Avenue UMC. The merger will take effect Jan. 1, 2009. The new congregation, First UMC of McAlester, will embark on a \$4 million construction project to build a new facility on 10 acres of land. First UMC McAlester will be the largest UM church in Southeast Oklahoma and the "flagship church" of the McAlester District. **revneff@hotmail.com**



ALUMNI

2003

Ronald Dodds has been appointed as lead pastor of Grace UMC in Washington Court House, in the Shawnee Valley District of the West Ohio Conference. rdodds1@roadrunner.com

2006

Chuck Kaliszewski and his wife, Linda, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Chuck is pastor of the South Euclid-Hill-crest UMC in the East Ohio Conference. revchuckkal@aol.com



2004

Brian Oliver and his wife, Christine, welcomed their third child, Laura-Faith Lilelilekekaiikeeokala Oliver on July 20, 2007. Brian serves as associate pastor at First UMC in Casper, Wyo. brianleeoliver@yahoo.com

2005

Maureen Webber and her husband, Dale, recently celebrated the first birthday of their first grandchild. Said Maureen: "Ani Elizabeth is her name, and she is a delight to behold!" revmowebber@gmail.com

2007

Linda McCowen was commissioned at East Ohio Annual Conference and appointed to serve Westlake UMC and Broadway UMC in the North Coast District as their parish nurse. She also is parish nurse at Old Stone First Presbyterian Church on Public Square in Cleveland. She received the 2008 Bishop James S. Thomas Leadership award from the East Ohio chapter of the Methodist Federation for Social Action. Ismccowen@aol.com **NEW INSTRUCTOR OF HOMILETICS**

Well, so much for that career plan

A budding engineer, Patrick Clayborn was pulled in a new direction

Young Patrick Clayborn was poised to enter a profession many new college grads would envy. It was 1998, and he knew his dual degree in mathematics and electrical engineering from Morehouse College and Georgia Tech would set him up with a ready-made career.

"This was 10 years ago," Clayborn said recently, "and the salaries were, like, 65-70 thousand dollars. I thought I was going to be on easy street." But as graduation neared, things got complicated.

While attending college, Clayborn had been an active member of Big Bethel AME Church in downtown Atlanta, singing in the choir, getting to know leaders of the church and becoming intrigued.

Meanwhile, he was surprised by his reaction to what should have been a dream internship at NASA's Stennis Space Center: "I found myself watching the clock."

A NASA executive watched Clayborn grinding through his often-solitary engi-

neering work and told him, "You seem more like a people person."

"And that's where the evolution began," Clayborn said. "I had a strange sensation

that I wasn't supposed to be an engineer."

Encouraged by leaders at Big Bethel, he had discovered his gift for preaching. And in April of the spring he would graduate, he decided that instead of rolling in dough, he would be spending it to go to seminary.

"That's when the bills began to be incurred," he said, chuckling. "No scholarships for late arrivals to seminary."



"Preaching is really a moment of transparency if we take the task seriously" * Clayborn

Clayborn earned a Master of Philosophy degree from Drew Theological School, along with Master of Divinity and Master of Theology degrees and a certificate in black church studies from the Candler School of

In April of the spring he would graduate from college, Clayborn decided that instead of rolling in dough, he should spend it to go to seminary.

Theology at Emory University.

He taught at Spelman College, New Brunswick Theological Seminary and St. James Preparatory School in Newark, N.J., before being appointed to Methesco's faculty prior to the fall semester.

He's currently pursuing his Ph.D. in liturgical studies at Drew. His dissertation topic is the preaching of Dr. Howard Thurman, whose Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples in San Francisco pioneered the integration of races and denominations in the 1940s.

"Rev. Clayborn is a marvelous preacher and an exceptional teacher," said MTSO President Jay Rundell. "Those two things aren't always found in the same person. Patrick has quickly gained a reputation for helping students find their own voice in the pulpit."

Clayborn said he has been impressed by the students at Methesco.

"These are the most prepared students I have encountered," he said, adding that he can envision at least half of the students in his classes doing doctoral work—not that he would steer them toward academia at the expense of other ministry.

"I think they could serve both church and academy if they chose to do so," he said. "I hate when people say you're either a scholar or a pastor."

Clayborn, who has a flair for the dramatic in the pulpit, isn't trying to mold preachers in his image as he teaches homiletics.

"I believe my task is one of discovery—to try to discover the authentic preacher within each student, not to force anybody into becoming anyone other than authentically who God called

them to be," he said.

"I tell the introductory class: If who you are in the moment of the sermon is different than who you are when you're outside of the pulpit, you may want to be very cautious."

"Preaching is really a moment of transparency if we take the task seriously," he said. "There will be a glimpse into who we are." *

NEW ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF CHRISTIAN ETHICS

Pondering issues big and small

Yvonne Zimmerman contends it's not just 'heroic' questions that define us

Last year, Yvonne Zimmerman was working toward the completion of her Ph.D. through the joint program in Religious and Theological Studies at the Iliff School of Theology and the University of Denver. Her dissertation explored the ethical issues surrounding human trafficking, and she planned to interview for positions teaching ethics. But she wasn't sure what kind of school would be the best fit for her work.

"My training is more interdisciplinary than that of a classically trained Christian ethicist," Zimmerman explained. "It's a bit broader than many ethics programs."

In the fall of 2007, she attended the American Academy of Religion's annual meeting, where she had several interviews lined up. At one of the many receptions that week, she ran into Cathie Kelsey, dean of the chapel at Iliff.

"Cathie sort of grabbed my arm as I was walking in and said, 'There's someone I want you to meet. This is Jay Rundell, the president of Methodist Theological School in Ohio." Zimmerman and Rundell chatted about an ethics opening at MTSO. He gave her his card and invited her to give him a curriculum vitae.

"My thought immediately was that that was his kind way of saying, 'We're not really interested in

you," she recalled. "But an hour or so later, I was gathering my things to leave, and he came over to me and said, 'Don't forget your CV. I really want that from you."

Before she left the conference, Zimmerman had interviewed with Rundell and MTSO's small search committee.

"The interview apparently went well," she said.

Apparently. Following extensive interviews on campus, Zimmerman was chosen for the position and has just completed her first semester as Methesco's assistant professor of Christian ethics.

"After several years of having two ethicists on our faculty, we were faced last year with the challenge of finding one person to teach in this important area," said Rundell. "In Dr. Zimmerman, we found someone with the both the breadth of academic interests and the intellectual depth needed for this position. She has proven to be a great asset to students preparing to connect their spiritual lives and Christian vocation with the important moral and ethical issues of the tradition and of our day."

Zimmerman, who earned a Master of Theological Studies degree from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University before studying in Denver, taught at the University of Denver and the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs before com-

"My training is more interdisciplinary than that of a classically trained Christian ethicist," Zimmerman said.

ing to Methesco. She tries to bring "a bit of a different perspective to what it means to do Christian ethics."

"One of the things that I try to remind students in the classroom is that they're not just doing Christian ethics when they're making great big giant decisions. Those are the heroic moments. But we do ethics all the time in the more mundane stuff of life—and that's actually the more important thing,



Bringing "a different perspective" to Christian ethics * Zimmerman

rather than the big dramatic moment."

She finds that view jibes with what many of her students are seeking. Rather than "the big ones like the morality of war," she said, "they're far more concerned with the practical aspects, like: How do we do this in church? How do we get our congregations thinking about ethics in new and interesting ways?"

Zimmerman is pleased to see her broader approach to Christian ethics accepted at MTSO.

"I do it not to make the world a more Christian place but to make the world a more just place," she said. "And frankly, whether or not that is a more Christian place is more a second-order question for me."

"I hold that view as a Christian because I believe that making the world a just place makes more room for all religious practices, including Christian practices."

"It's not every institution and certainly not every seminary that would welcome a voice like that." #

Beyond the classroom Faculty activities 2007-2008



Stephen Ahearne-Kroll Assistant Professor of New Testament

Publications

The Psalms of Lament in Mark's Passion: Jesus' Davidic Suffering. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

Academic lectures and presentations

"Audience Exclusion as Rhetorical Technique in the Gospel of Mark," International Society of Biblical Literature, Vienna, Austria, July 24, 2007.

Panelist responding to Fernando Segovia, Williams Institute, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, April 3, 2008.

Reviews

Review of Stephen C. Barton, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to the Gospels. Horizons in Biblical Theology* 29 (2007): 248-249.

Church and popular lectures

"Why Jesus Died, According to the Gospel of Mark," Worthington Presbyterian Church, Oct. 10, 2007.

"The Bible," St. Thomas More Newman Center, Ohio State University, Oct. 28, 2007.

"Eschatology," St. Thomas More Newman Center, The Ohio State University, January 2008.

Led discussion on *The Reluctant Parting* at Beth Tikva, Worthington, OH, March 16.

"The Apocrypha," St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church, UCC, Columbus, OH, April 13 and 20, 2008.

"What Didn't Make the Cut: Apocrypha, Gnostic Gospels and More," Covenant Presbyterian Church, Upper Arlington, OH, April 27, 2008.



Judith Craig Visiting Professor of Church Leadership and Bishop in Residence

Church and popular lectures

Lectures on the contemporary reality for Palestinians, given in Jerusalem in January 2008, to persons from East and West Ohio taking the usual Holy Land Tour.

Methodist Federation for Social Action in Detroit Annual Conference, May 15, 2008.

Commencement address at MTSO, May 17, 2008.



Lee Johnson

Associate Professor of New Testament in the Riley Chair of Biblical Interpretation

Reviews

Review of Thomas A. Robinson, *Mastering New Testament Greek: Essential Tools for Students. Biblical Theology Bulletin* 38:1 (2008): 47-48.

Review of Craig S. Keener, *1-2 Corinthians. Religious Studies Review* 33/2 (April 2007): 157.

Review of Bruce J. Malina and John J. Pilch, Social-Science Commentary on the Letters of Paul. Biblical Theology Bulletin 37:2 (2007): 82-83.

Church and popular lectures

"Introduction to the Gospel According to Matthew," Chicago Temple UMC Adult Class, Nov. 4, 2007.

"Lenten and Easter Lectionary Study Workshop," Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Jan. 25, 2008. "Mary's Risky Pregnancy: Betrothal Birth and Shame in First Century Galilee," St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Dec. 2, 2008.



John Kampen Academic Dean and Professor of New Testament

Publications "Hasidim." *The New Interpreter's Dictionary*

of the Bible. Nashville: Abingdon, 2007. 2: 739-40.

Academic lectures and presentations

"Jesus, Wisdom and Matthew's Place Within Judaism," Matthew Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Nov. 17, 2007.

"The Sectarian Origins of an Authoritative Text: The Gospel of Matthew," Believers Church Conference, Winnipeg, June 13, 2008.

"The Changing Face of the Study of the Qumran Texts," Association of Jewish Librarians, Cleveland, June 23, 2008.

Church and popular lectures

"Courting the Wrong Woman," Sermon, Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship, Oct. 21, 2008.



Paul Kim

Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible in the Williams Chair of Biblical Studies

Publications "Jonah Read Intertextually," *Journal of Biblical Literature* 126 (2007): 497-528.

"Tsunami, Hurricane, and Jeremiah 4:23-28,"

Biblical Theology Bulletin 37 (2007): 54-61.

"Acacia." *The New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*. Ed. Katharine Doob Sakenfeld. Nashville: Abingdon, 2007. 1: 28.

Academic lectures and presentations

"Abraham the Insider and the Outsider," International Society of Biblical Literature, Vienna, Austria, July 24, 2007.

Awards and appointments

Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst/ German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Faculty Research Visit Grant recipient (Sept. 1 – Nov. 30, 2007).

Church and popular lectures

"A Community of Faith," Goettingen Korean Church, Goettingen, Germany, Feb. 24, 2008.

"Palm Sunday Message" Chung Woon Church, Seoul, Korea, March 16, 2008.

Lectures on Isaiah and Exegetical Methods at Presbyterian College & Theological Seminary, Seoul, Korea, March 17-19, 2008.

"Inner-biblical Exegesis on the Call Narratives of Isaiah and Jeremiah" School of Theology, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany, July 4, 2008.



Sarah Lancaster Professor in the Werner Chair of

Theology

Publications

"Authority and Narrative." Pages 81-89 in Engaging Biblical Authority: Perspectives on the Bible As Scripture. Edited by William Brown. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2007.

"Ecclesiology and Ministry in the Methodist Church (1939-1968)," *Methodist History* 46:3 (April 2008): 156-66.

"Knowledge and Vital Piety," "Prevenient Grace," and "Stewardship," *A Year with John Wesley and Our Methodist Values*, Discipleship Resources, 2008. Pp. 43-44, 47-48, 55-56.

Academic lectures and presentations

Panelist, "The Future of Our Journey: Issues in Ecumenism: A Perspective from the World Council of Churches," at 50th Anniversary Conference, "On Being Christian Together: The Faith and Order Experience in the United States," held by the National Council of Churches, Oberlin, Ohio, July 22, 2007.

"Being Happy in God: Implications for the Nature and Mission of the Church," Systematic Theology Working Group, 12th Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies, Aug. 13, 2007.

Panelist for "Methodist, Lutheran, and Catholic Agreement on Justification," Wesleyan Studies Group of the American Academy of Religion, Nov. 18, 2007.

"Being One in Christ," presented in a conference "Albert Outler and the Wesleyan Spirit," held at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Jan. 30, 2008.

Panelist responding to Fernando Segovia, Williams Institute, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, April 3, 2008.

Reviews

"Dramatic Enactment of Christian Faith," Asbury Theological Journal, 62:1 (Spring 2007): 119-26. Review essay, includes reviews of The Drama of Scripture: Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story, by Craig G. Bartholomew and Michael W. Goheen; Theology and the Drama of History, Cambridge Studies in Christian Doctrine series, by Ben Quash; The Drama of Doctrine: A Canonical-Linguistic Approach to Christian Theology, by Kevin J. Vanhoozer.

Review of *Man of One Book? John Wesley's Interpretation and Use of the Bible*, by Donald A. Bullen. *Methodist History* 46:3 (April 2008): 189-90.

Awards and appointments

Elected North American Secretary for the 13th Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies, Aug. 20, 2008.

Church and popular lectures

"Membership in the Wesleyan Tradition," Church of the Messiah, June 24 and 30, 2007. "The Great Divide: Preaching Justification," Schooler Institute on Preaching Workshop, MTSO, Oct. 15, 2007.

MTSO liaison for "Will You Hear Me Now? A Day of Christian Conversation about Homosexuality and the Church," Oct. 12, 2007.

New Members' Class, Church of the Messiah, Westerville, Oct. 25, 2007, Feb. 19 and April 12, 2008.

"The Church: Global and Local," North Broadway United Methodist Church, Columbus, Jan. 20, 2008.

"John Wesley and the Kingdom of God," Church of the Messiah, Westerville, March 16, 2008.



Vergel Lattimore Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling

Care and Counseling in the Beeghly Chair of Pastoral Care

Church and popular lectures

Keynote speech – "Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.: A Witness to God's Reciprocity and the Physics of Love," Ohio Wesleyan University Chapel Observance, Delaware, Jan. 23, 2008.

"Challenges to Future African American Inventors," Columbus Africentric Early College Elementary, Columbus, Feb. 4, 2008.

"Signs and Symptoms of Addiction: Personal and Professional," Invited presentation, Ohio Association for Justice Annual Convention, Columbus, May 9, 2008.

"Human Darkness and God's Light," sermon for First AME Zion Church, Columbus, Feb. 17, 2008.

"Amos 5:24, Let Justice Roll Down Like Waters," Bible Studies Presenter, Ministries in Christian Education, A.M.E. Church, Columbus, April 25, 2008.

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from previous page



Linda Mercadante Professor of Theology

Professor of Theology in the Straker Chair of Historical Theology

Academic lectures and presentations "Christology," Workgroup on Constructive

Theology, Nashville, Tenn., April 2007.

"Theology in Memoir Writing," Center of Theological Inquiry, October 2007.

"Kawaida Towers and Ethnic Tension in Newark, NJ," Rutgers University Center on Culture and Ethnicity, Conference on Newark Riots Aftermath, October 2007.

"Victimization and Christology," Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, November 2007.

"SBNR Research Report," University of Colorado at Boulder, Interview Research Methods with Professor Stewart Hoover, March 2008.

"Christian Theology—Buddhist Theology," Naropa University, Senior Seminar, March 2008.

Progress Report on "Women Matter" to Princeton University Women Faculty and Staff, sponsored by dean of religious life, April 2008.

Reviews

Review of *Reframing Theology and Film: New Focus for an Emerging Discipline*, in *Reviews in Religion & Theology*, Wiley-Black-well, July 2008.

Awards and appointments

Association of Theological Schools Research Grant, 2007-2008.

Theologian-in-Residence, First United Church, Boulder, Colo., winter 2008.

Church and popular lectures

"Author Speaks: Writing Spiritual Memoir," Barnes & Noble Easton, Easton Town Center, Columbus, February 2007. "Spiritual Memoir," talk series, St. John's Church, Worthington, Ohio, March 2007.

"Writing Your Spiritual Memoir," retreat, Light on the Hill Retreat Center, Van Ettan, N.Y., April 2007.

"Bloomfield Avenue," Covenant Presbyterian Church Adult Forum, April 2007.

"Meet the Author," Upper Arlington Public Library, May 2007.

"Growing Up Jewish-Catholic," Sons of Italy Columbus Chapter, June 2007.

"Theological Aspects of Addiction and Recovery," report to Bishops of the North Central Jurisdiction, September 2007.

"A Newark Girl Returns: Readings from Bloomfield Avenue: A Jewish-Catholic Jersey Girl's Spiritual Journey," at the Newark Public Library, October 2007.

"Finding the Grace on My Journey: Spiritual Memoir," Columbus Mennonite Church Winter Seminar, February 2008.

"Meet the Authors: Literature Responding to a Changing World—Linda Mercadante's *Bloomfield Avenue: A Jewish-Catholic Jersey Girl's Spiritual Journey*," Erdman Center at Princeton Theological Seminary, April 2008.

Sermon: "Death and Resurrection," at First United Methodist Church, Boulder, Colo., March 2008.

"Mixed Faith Backgrounds," adult education, First United Methodist Church, Boulder, Colo., February 2008.

"Learning from Others' Spiritual Memoirs," adult education, First United Church, Boulder, Colo., March 2008.

"How to Map Your Spiritual Journey and Find Grace," retreat at First United Church, Boulder, Colo., April 2008.

"What Can We Learn from the Spiritual but not Religious?" evening forum, First United Methodist Church, Boulder, Colo., April 2008.

Seminar on "Faith and Film," First United Church, Boulder, Colo., May 2008.



Paul Numrich

Associate Professor in the Snowden Chair for the Study of Religion; Associate Professor of World Religions and Inter-Religious

Relations for the Theological Consortium of Greater Columbus

Publications

With Fred Kniss. Sacred Assemblies and Civic Engagement: How Religion Matters for America's Newest Immigrants. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2007.

With Gurinder Singh Mann and Raymond B. Williams. *Buddhists, Hindus and Sikhs in America: A Short History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007.

"A Topical Overview of Selected English Resources on Islam," *Journal of Religious and Theological Information* 7, 2 (2005): 11-28 (actual publication date: July 2007)

Academic lectures and presentations

Presentation to Loyola University Chicago Sociology Department colloquy, Sept. 14, 2007.

Co-authored proposal (with wife), entitled "Religious/Spiritual CAM in the Foreign-Born Population of the United States," First Annual Meeting of the Society for Spirituality, Theology, and Health at Duke University, June 25-27, 2008.

Reviews

Review of Paul O. Ingram, *Wrestling with God. Trinity Seminary Review* 28, 2 (Summer/Fall 2007): 132-133.

Church and popular lectures

Keynote address, Committee on Interchurch Relations luncheon, Church of the Brethren Annual Conference, July 3, 2007.

Presentation on Buddhism in America to Delaware Cosmopolitan Club, Sept. 10, 2007.

Panelist at interfaith dinner, Brecksville, Ohio, Sept. 22, 2007.

Guest lecturer on Theravada Buddhism in

the US, Bright Dawn Institute, Chicago class (via conference call), Oct. 21, 2007.

Presentation on Abrahamic Faiths, Worthington Presbyterian Church, Nov. 4, 2007.

Two-part series on religiously competent health care for Riverside Methodist Hospital's ethics committee, Nov. 8 and Dec. 13, 2007.

Keynote speech at Scioto Educational Foundation's Annual Community Fellowship Dinner, Columbus, Jan. 10, 2008.

Four Sunday series on Abrahamic Faiths, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Upper Arlington, Jan. 13 and 27, Feb. 3 and 24, 2008.

Keynote lecture for Religious Emphasis Week, Wilmington College, Feb. 21, 2008.

Presented to United Church of Christ Equipping the Saints conference, March 1, 2008.

Presented twice to medical directors, Riverside Methodist Hospital, March 26 and 28, 2008.

Taught adult class and preached, Trinity UCC, Thornville, OH, March 30, 2008.



Fulgence Nyengele Professor of Pastoral

Care and Counseling in the Chryst Chair in Pastoral Theology

Publications

"General Conference Must Prioritize Global UMC," *The United Methodist Newscope*, 36:5 (April 18, 2008).

Academic lectures and presentations "Caring for Our Stories: Understanding Addictive Behaviors in Pastoral Ministry." Presentation at the meeting of the North Central Jurisdiction College of Bishops of The United Methodist Church, Sept. 25, 2007. to Multicultural Awareness in Pastoral Care." Lectured presented at Ohio State University Medical Center in celebration of Pastoral Care Week, Department of Pastoral Care and Clinical Pastoral Education. Oct. 22, 2007.

Church and popular lectures

Eucharist Celebrant (in Swahili), Multicultural Worship Service, Capitol Area North District , The United Methodist Church, Columbus, Ohio. Oct. 7, 2007.

"To Pray Always and Work to Make Things Fair for Every Child." Presentation for the celebration of the National Observance of Children's Sabbath at Asbury North United Methodist Church. Oct. 21, 2007.

(With Randy Litchfield) "Staying Centered in Chaotic Times." Workshop in the Spirituality and Leadership Workshop Series sponsored by OhioHealth and Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Riverside Methodist Hospital, March 26, 2008.

Lenten Bible Study, Asbury North United Methodist Church, Lent 2008.

"Nurturing Healthy Family Relationships: The Importance of Renewing/Developing Trust and Trustworthiness," Revival Missions International, Columbus, Ohio, May 10, 2008.

"The Wilderness Experience," Sermon, Revival Missions International, Columbus, Ohio, May 11, 2008.

"Rooted and Grounded in Love," Sermon for the graduation celebration service of Rev. Dr. Gregory Herndon for achieving his Doctor of Ministry degree, Asbury North United Methodist Church, May 25, 2008.

(With Randy Litchfield) "Authentic Living and Leadership." Workshop in the Spirituality and Leadership Workshop Series sponsored by OhioHealth and Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Riverside Methodist Hospital, June 26, 2008.



Joon-Sik Park Professor in the Jones Chair of World Evangelism

Publications

Missional Ecclesiologies in Creative Tension: H. Richard Niebuhr and John H. Yoder. New York: Peter Lang, 2007.

"Minjung Theology." *Dictionary of Mission Theology*. Edited by John Corrie, 229-31. Nottingham, U.K.: InterVarsity Press, 2007.

Academic lectures and presentations

"The Gospel and the Practice of Hospitality," Lausanne Theology Working Group, Chiang Mai, Thailand, Feb. 10-16.

Church and popular lectures

"Small Group Ministry," Workshop presented at Amen Korean Methodist Church, Seoul, South Korea, June 19, 2007.

"Why Mission?" Workshop presented at First Presbyterian Church of Delaware, Delaware, OH, Sept. 9, 2007.

"From Maintenance to Mission," Workshop presented at Trinity United Methodist Church, Columbus, OH, May 25, 2008.



David Powell

Assistant Librarian

Publications

"Hearing It Again for the First Time," *American Libraries*, December 2008.

Reviews

Review of *Dictionary of Major Biblical Interpreters* in *Theological Librarianship*, June 2008.

"Deepening Empathy: From Monocultural

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Timothy Van Meter

Assistant Professor in the Alford Chair of Christian Education and Youth Ministry

Academic lectures and presentations

"Youth Travel in an Age of Empire: Mission, Service, Pilgrimage." Paper presented at IASYM in Cambridge UK, January 2007.

Church and popular lectures

"Choosing a new youth minister," Asbury United Methodist Church, Delaware, OH, June 1, 2008.

"The End of Youth Ministry," District 4 Men's day for Disciples (Christian Church)," (Bolindale Christian Church), May 4, 2008.



Robin Knowles Wallace

Professor in the Taylor Chair of Church Worship and Music

Publications

With Terry R. Heck. *Worship in Small Membership Churches*. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2007.

"Hymns as a Resource for the Language of Worship," *The Hymn* 58:3 (Summer 2007), 33-37.

"Singing Charles Wesley 300 Years after his birth," a series in *Worship Arts*: "Picking a Tune for a Nativity Hymn," 53:1 (September-October 2007), 8-9; "All Saints and Advent," 52:6 (July-August 2007), 10; "His Communion Hymns in *The United Methodist Hymnal & The Faith We Sing*," 52:5 (May-June 2007), 10; "Hymns on Christian Community," 53:2 (November-December 2007), 10-11.

"Hymn Singing in an Age of Violence & Spiritual Hunger," *Journal of Theology* (2007): 45-52. Contributing writer, *Living Into the Mystery: A United Methodist Guide for Celebrating Holy Communion*. Nashville: Upper Room, 2007.

Academic lectures and presentations

"Hymn Texts in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*: An Introduction," North American Academy of Liturgy, Jan. 4-5, 2007, Toronto.

"Jesus, united by thy grace': Wesleyan Hymn Singing as a Communal Spiritual Practice," The Hymn Society of the United States and Canada, July 17 and 18, 2007, Ottawa.

"The Church of Christ in Every Age," Worship and Spirituality Seminar, 12th Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies, Aug. 12-21, 2007.

"Jesus, united by thy grace': Wesleyan Hymn Singing as a Communal Spiritual Practice," Church Music Symposium, Mt. Union College, Oct. 27, 2007

"Defining the Leitmotifs of Music of the Heart," Liturgical Language Working Group, North American Academy of Liturgy, Annual Meeting, Savannah, Jan. 2-5, 2008.

Contributing writer, "Living Into the Mystery: A United Methodist Guide for Celebrating Holy Communion," available through the GBOD website, beginning November 2007

Reviews

Review of Joyce D. Sohl, *Sing the Wondrous Love of Jesus: Women Hymn Writers and Their Songs. The Hymn* 58:1 (Winter 2007): 55.

Awards and appointments

Awarded Lilly Theological Scholars Grant, 2007, *Music of the Heart: Congregational Singing as a Means of Grace.*

Church and popular lectures

Keynoter, "Jubilate! 2007! Re-Imagining Worship," Pacific-Northwest Fellowship Chapter of The Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts, Spokane, July 23-28.

Preached at Highwater United Church of Christ, Newark, Ohio, April 13, 2008.



Lisa Withrow

Associate Professor in the Dewire Chair of Christian Leadership

Publications

"Church for the Future," *Circuit Rider* (September/October 2007): 9.

"Success and the Prosperity Gospel: From Commodification to Transformation—a Wesleyan Perspective," *Journal of Theology* (2007): 15-42.

Academic lectures and presentations

"Success and the Prosperity Gospel: From Commodification to Transformation—a Wesleyan Perspective," Ethics, Globalization and Economics working group, 12th Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies, Aug. 12-21, 2007.

"Change: Implications for Curricular Pedagogy in Religious Leadership," Academy of Religious Leadership, April 2008.

Church and popular lectures

"DIALOG: Civil Discourse about Controversial Topics." Sept/Oct 2007 (5-week ecumenical seminar led in northeastern Ohio).

"Change and the Church," East Ohio District UMW event, Oct. 27, 2007.

"Conflict Transformation," Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, Cape Atlantic District, March 2008 and Palisades District, May 2008. #

Financial information

Methodist Theological School in Ohio had \$6,560,581 in revenues in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, with expenditures of \$6,556,065. Below is a breakdown of those numbers. If you have questions about this information, please feel free to contact our business office at 740-363-1146.

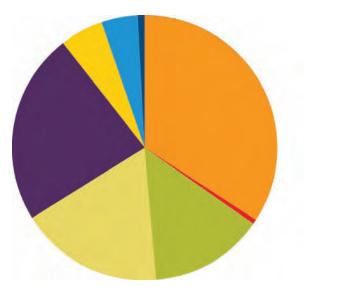
Operating budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008

Revenues

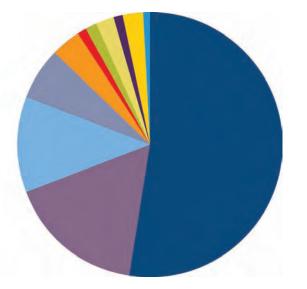
MTSO relied primarily on three sources of income: student tuition and fees (34.1 percent of total revenues), endowment earnings (23.2 percent) and the Ministerial Education Fund of the United Methodist Church (17.4 percent). Combined gift revenue accounted for 10.6 percent of total revenues.

Expenditures

Compensation of faculty and staff accounted for 52.3 percent of the MTSO operating budget, followed by financial aid (17.0 percent) and auxiliary enterprises, which consists of programs such as the Course of Study School of Ohio and services such as the Dunn Dining Hall (11.7 percent).



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	Revenues	Percent of total
Tuition and fees	\$2,238,081	34.1%
Federal work study	\$40,027	0.6%
Auxiliary	\$920,923	14.0%
Ministerial Education Fund	\$1,144,695	17.4%
Endowment	\$1,523,240	23.2%
Restricted gifts	\$362,955	5.5%
Methesco Fund gifts	\$283,211	4.3%
Student aid gifts	\$47,449	0.7%
Total revenues	\$6,560,581	100%



	Expenditures	Percent of total
Compensation	\$3,427,443	52.3%
Financial aid	\$1,113,367	17.0%
Auxiliary enterprises	\$765,672	11.7%
Plant maintenance	\$422,882	6.5%
General administration	\$234,314	3.6%
Business administration	\$79,178	1.2%
Institutional advancement	\$75,924	1.2%
Information systems	\$150,790	2.3%
Instruction	\$86,216	1.3%
Academic support	\$162,070	2.5%
Enrollment	\$38,209	0.6%
Total expenditures	\$6,556,065	100%

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