



Annual Conference 2015

Awards Newsletter

Students in Mission (SIM) 2015

Students in Mission (SIM) proposes to expose young adults to the mission of the church; to encourage and develop vocational discernment of young adults; to assist the church in carrying out specialized ministries; to stimulate the church in developing new ministries; to extend the missional outreach of the church; and through young adults, to make the church aware of missional needs in South Carolina. It is an opportunity for young adults to serve as missionaries for the summer in authentic mission sites within South Carolina. It is a meaningful experience of intentional Christian living, faith in action and spiritual formation. This year our sites range from work with children and youth to construction-based work.

Christina Paradis, student at Lee University from Lee Road United Methodist Church (Taylors) will serve at Rural Mission, Inc.

Connor Jewett, student at the Citadel and member of the Charleston Wesley Foundation will serve at Rural Mission, Inc.

Joseph Kovas, student at Presbyterian College from Bethel United Methodist Church (Chester) will serve at Rural Mission, Inc.

Murphy Belton, student at Clark-Atlanta University from Shiloh United Methodist Church (Lugoff) will serve at Camp Providence.

Hanna Morehead, recent graduate of the College of Charleston and member of the Charleston Wesley Foundation will serve at Camp Providence.

Tripp Edwards, student at Coastal Carolina University from Christ United Methodist Church (Myrtle Beach) will serve at Camp Providence.

Vanessa Ballard, student at the Citadel and member of the Charleston Wesley Foundation will serve at Camp Providence.

Joseph B. Bethea *Distinguished Service Award*

The Joseph B. Bethea Distinguished Service Award is presented to a person who has performed outstanding service in working for racial justice. Laity or clergy of the S.C. conference are eligible if she or he has shown a strong commitment to Christian social justice for at least five years (unless the individual is a youth). Specific efforts toward elimination of racism and/or building inclusiveness and/or empowerment of persons considered a minority racially or ethnically are a criterion, as is Christian character and servant-hood.



Rev. Hayes Gainey, Jr.

Rev. Gainey has shown you, “O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God”

Micah 6:8 (NIV)

“Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice. Justice at its best is love correcting everything that stands against love.” Stated by legendary civil rights leader The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., these words represent a basic human philosophy to which Reverend Hayes T. Gainey, Jr. passionately subscribed.

Reverend Gainey walks, teaches and preaches love in and around the Communities he serves and should be honored because his commitment to Social Gospel is taken beyond the walls of the individual church into the Church universal, our homes, and our schools. His spirit of liberation is demonstrated in part by the more than 25 years of consecutive service he has given as an officer of the South Carolina Caucus of Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR). Reverend Gainey stated that it has sometimes been challenging to serve an organization that many in the church fear and others find irrelevant. He continues to work diligently in love to train churches on how to deal with the issues of racism and oppression.

Denman Evangelism Award

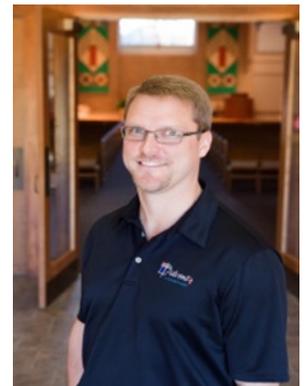
The Denman Evangelism Award, established in 1980 by The Foundation for Evangelism, honors pastors and laypersons for responsible evangelism in the local church. In 1981, the national award was introduced to annual conferences to choose a clergy person and a layperson each year.

The Denman Evangelism Award honors people who are effective in making disciples of Jesus Christ. This can involve speaking, personal witnessing, inspiring the church to be involved in evangelism, etc. This person may or may not have the best statistical record and may be from any size church. Nominees’ lifestyles bring honor to Christ and the Church and work in ways that are in keeping with United Methodist history and traditions.

Commissioned in 2000 and ordained in 2003, Rev. Michael Turner has served a wide variety of appointments in South Carolina. With concentrated focus on Jesus’ Great Commission, Turner has led congregations to significant numeric and spiritual growth.

In 2014, Rev. Turner lead Advent UMC, Simpsonville in a Christmas Miracle Mission that encouraged members to shift one-half of gift expenditures on “self” to those in need. The congregation responded with \$260,000. Through partnerships in the Upstate, this offering will be multiplied like loaves and fishes into 10-15 homes for homeless families.

Michael and his wife, Heather, have two children: Ellie Grace and Drew.



Rev. Michael Turner

Barbara Boultinghouse

Bridge Builder Award

The **Barbara Boultinghouse Bridge Builder Award**, named after a UMC deaconess, is given to a person or organization in the SC Conference who has built bridges of understanding by promoting equity and inclusiveness without regard to race, gender, age, handicap or economic condition. It is sponsored by the Commission on Religion and Race.



Rev. Phil H. Reynolds

Pastor Phil made a huge impact on the Boiling Springs congregation by placing much emphasis on inclusiveness.

Worship: He felt it was especially important to use children in all aspects of the worship services.

Communion: For the first time in most of their lives a variety of people were communion stewards.

Outreach: He recruited men to be part of worship and part of some fairly unique outreach missions. Hearts and Hands at Palmetto Richland's Children's Hospital was just one.

He and his wife, Janice, are supporters of Oliver Gospel Mission where they purchase and distribute Bibles and reading glasses. He encouraged members to be part of the Emmaus community with the church hosting a gathering and several members going on the Walk to Emmaus.

Pastor Phil leads by example and clearly understands the importance of including all persons regardless of age, handicap, gender, etc. Because of his example and leadership he made worship a fun and inspirational time.

Michael C. Watson

Volunteer in Mission Award

The **Michael C. Watson Volunteer in Mission Award** is an annual initiative which recognizes clergy and laypersons who exemplify extraordinary volunteer mission service within the S.C. Conference.

After being appointed to Aldersgate UMC, Sumter, Webb jumped right into action volunteering with the Shaw/Dalzell Salkehatchie Camp.

Webb spends time in our local elementary school reading books to students. Webb also was instrumental in setting up the backpack program which feeds local elementary kids over the weekends. This ensures 37 children have food over the weekend.

Webb is an active volunteer with the Sumter Area Mission Project that is focused on making homes dry, safe and secure for people of the lower income over Sumter County. He also worked many hours at Sumter Christian Charities fixing heater and lighting and security problems.



Rev. Dr. Webb Belangia, V.



Mr. Danny Thompson

Since a 1999 mission trip to Mexico with the Anderson District VIM, Danny has been on mission trips to South America, Central America, the Caribbean, Haiti and Cuba.

Danny was on the first ERT Methodist team from South Carolina that responded to Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi. Over the next 5 years he returned 14 times to assist in the rebuilding construction.

As Anderson District Response Coordinator, he is frequently called by different organizations to assist after flooding or home fires.

Danny is a member of Zion UMC where he serves on the Mission Team. Danny and his wife Tonita have three children

The Board of Ordained Ministry (BOM)

The South Carolina Annual Conference Seminary Student Scholarship

The South Carolina Conference Seminary Student Scholarship was established in 1991 by the South Carolina Conference to assist students from South Carolina in pursuing a program of study leading to a first professional degree. This year's recipient is:

Sean Michael Kilpatrick

Sean Michael Kilpatrick is a native of Shreveport, Louisiana. He is a member of Hibben United Methodist Church, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. Kilpatrick has served as young adult group coordinator, member of staff pastor relations committee, missions committee, secretary for the United Methodist Men, UMVIM Team Leader (Alabama & Haiti). Kilpatrick is a graduate of the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he majored in Political Science and received the Bachelor of Arts degree, May 2008. Presently, Kilpatrick is a seminary student at Candler School of Theology, Emory University. Kilpatrick is the pastor of Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Rome, Georgia. After graduation in May 2016, Kilpatrick hopes to return to South Carolina and continue serving the local church.

T. Dennie Smith Scholarship

The T. Dennie Smith Scholarship was created to effectively carry forward the wishes of the late Mr. T. Dennie Smith of Greer, South Carolina, who died in 1973 and whose last will and testament included provisions creating a testamentary trust to assist "any young man or woman...who intend(ed) to devote their lives to the ministry in the Methodist Church." This year's recipients are:

Meegian Alicia Gossard

Meegian is a native of Painesville, Ohio. She has served as a teacher's assistant, the Sunshine House, Aiken, South Carolina; teacher, Faith Academy Child Development Center; assistant, children's choirs, Clemson United Methodist Church, Clemson, South Carolina. Meegian has served as president, UMYF; member, Church Council and member, chancel choir. She is a graduate of Clemson University and a current student, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. Meegian plans to become an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church.

James Allen Vaught

James Allen Vaught is a native of Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He has served in the United States Army, management, land development, and as a teacher. In the local church, he has served as a lay servant, and as Sunday School superintendent. James is a graduate of Clemson University and is currently a student at Lutheran Southern Theological Seminary and serving as a local pastor in Allendale.

These students were selected for scholarship awards based upon academic achievement and demonstrated need.

**"Where there are no goals, neither will there be significant accomplishments.
There will only be existence." Anonymous**

The Commission on Archives and History

Awards

Herbert Hucks Local Church Category

The Herbert Hucks Award for Preservation and Interpretation of Church History goes to six churches this year as follows:

Pisgah, Aynor

Mrs. Judy Floyd, Church Historian

Pisgah shows us that any church has the capacity to do good church history. They do everything a local church history committee could do: the historian is active in the life of the congregation, they celebrate anniversaries, collect materials, interpret Methodist history, and do something new every year. Mrs. Floyd looks to have made being church historian into a fulltime job!

Mountain View, Taylors

Mrs. Frieda Anne Liston, Church Historian

Mountain View is a repeat winner of the Hucks Award as well. Their application is a historical document in itself as it represents the entire work of the church for the year. They meet all of the criteria for this award: they have organized, presented, and interpreted and collected materials throughout the year.

Broad Street, Clinton

Dr. David Needham, Church Historian

Broad Street is a repeat winner, and continues its good work in preserving and promoting history. Their historian and committee carried off a centennial year celebration in 2014, and they opened a new history and archives room. They presented Methodist heritage as part of their centennial year, and collected and made new memories.

Emmanuel UMC, Sumter

Ms. Julia E. Wells, Church Historian

Emmanuel UMC celebrated their 150th anniversary this year, and their church historian led the year's celebration. They have organized materials, collected church records, and presented and promoted Methodist history in their congregation. They hope to use these efforts as a springboard to more projects in 2015.

Green Pond UMC, Gray Court

Ann Vaughan, Church Historian

Green Pond Church is a new winner this year, but has produced a nice book as their application. They celebrated Heritage Sunday, their historian is active in the life of the congregation, and they have spent time inventorying and adding materials in their history room and collecting memories of members of the church. The historian and minister are both active in interpreting Methodist history in the congregation.

John Wesley UMC, Charleston

Mrs. Jane Williams, Church Historian

John Wesley is a first-time recipient. The church celebrated its 70th anniversary this year, with appropriate festivities. They have collected and organized their materials, promoted and interpreted Methodist history, and have enjoyed a year of celebrating their memories.

Nazareth UMC, Leesville

Nazareth celebrated its 200th anniversary in 2013 and continued to build its collections. They continue to celebrate and honor their history. This year, they published a book of photographs and memories of church members. Their historian was active in collecting and preserving these memories.

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Bicentennial Church -- Founded 1815

Zion, Pageland	Hartsville
Shiloh, Marion	Marion
Mt. Zion, St. Matthews	Orangeburg
Limestone, North	Orangeburg
Sardis, Union	Spartanburg
Swallow Savannah, Allendale	Walterboro

Centennial Churches – Founded 1915

Johnsonville, Johnsonville	Florence
Bethlehem, Pamplico	Florence
Pamplico, Pamplico	Florence
Franklin, Denmark	Orangeburg

***The South Carolina
United Methodist Advocate***

The South Carolina United Methodist Advocate awards a \$1,000 scholarship annually to a United Methodist student with an interest in business, communications or journalism who is planning to enroll or is already enrolled at one of the four United Methodist colleges in South Carolina: Claflin University, Columbia College, Spartanburg Methodist College or Wofford College.

This year, the *Advocate* has selected Jordan Geddis, a freshman at Claflin University, as the newspaper’s college scholarship recipient. Geddis will receive \$1,000 from the *Advocate* toward his studies at Claflin in the 2015-2016 academic year. Geddis is majoring in mass communications at Claflin. In his spare time, he coaches a youth basketball team at the YMCA. He is a member of Wesley United Methodist Church, Johns Island, where he was a member of the Sunbeam choir and still assists the sound and media technician in recording church services. He was active in Upward Bound and a host of community and church service projects.

Geddis wrote in his application letter that journalism can be used to promote social and religious issues and reach younger people in new ways.

“With the growing number of young people getting killed or incarcerated, it is my hope to lead by example and help at least one young person realize that crime is not the answer but Jesus Christ is,” he wrote. “The skills and teaching that I am receiving as a mass communication major will certainly help me to advance the cause of Methodism.”

The *Advocate* called Geddis a wonderful example of a United Methodist scholar and a strong representation of the future of journalism.

Janie Robinson Thomasson Memorial Scholarship Fund Recipients 2015

Beginning with the 1996-97 academic year a scholarship was awarded from the Janie Robinson Thomason Memorial Fund to the United Methodist student selected by the Scholarship Committee of the Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. The South Carolina United Methodist Foundation upon verification of current enrollment shall distribute the award amount to the recipient's institution. Awards shall be made to the students as a part of the cost being undertaken by the student or his/her parents. Applicants must be a member and regular attendee of a United Methodist Church for at least one year. Preference for all applicants shall be given to members of St. Paul United Methodist Church, Clover, South Carolina or Rock Hill District. Students at a two year institution are eligible to apply with evidence in writing of transferring to a four-year institution to complete a four year-undergraduate degree.



Samuel Patrick Murphy



William Loren Gallien

The South Carolina Conference Merit Scholarship



Mary Burgess Harrelson

The South Carolina Merit Scholarship is an Annual Conference award administered to United Methodist students attending United Methodist institutions. The Annual Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry shall disperse the Merit Scholarship Award in accord with these guidelines and others, which they may set. Awards are “Merit”, but it would be understood that merit can be in terms of academic scholarship, church involvement, financial need, and special vocational preparation for ministry or other service, a combination of these.

Bishop's Five Star Award

The Bishop's Five Star Award is to provide an incentive for churches to embrace new ministries each year geared toward growth and outreach. The awards enable small churches—as well as large churches—to receive recognition. The criteria is:

- 1.) An increase in Sunday school attendance and/or enhancement of Christian education ministry;*
- 2.) A “new work” that impacts growth;*
- 3.) Reception of new members by profession of faith or rededication: one for every 100 members;*
- 4.) Emphasis on youth ministries that demonstrate growth; and*
- 5.) All apportionments paid in full for the prior year, or a 25% increase in apportionment payments compared to two years prior.*

Church	Pastor	District
Advent United Methodist Church	Rev. Michael Turner	Greenville
Bethel United Methodist Church	Rev. Cindy Shaw	Charleston
Bethel United Methodist Church	Rev. Todd Davis, IV	Columbia
Chapin United Methodist Church	Rev. Joseph “Jody” Flowers	Columbia
Christ United Methodist Church	Rev. Wade Everett	Marion
Fair Lawn United Methodist Church	Rev. Scott Bratton	Columbia
First United Methodist Church - Clover	Rev. Thomas Wilkes, III	Rock Hill
Little River United Methodist Church	Rev. Kevin Gorry	Marion
Mays Chapel United Methodist Church	Rev. Mark Williams	Orangeburg
Mauldin United Methodist Church	Rev. C. E. “Smoke” Kanipe	Greenville
Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church	Ms. Thessa Smith	Greenwood
Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, Bishopville	Rev. Angela Nelson	Hartsville
New Life United Methodist Church	Rev. Dwight Nelson, Sr.	Walterboro
Saint Matthew United Methodist Church	Rev. Brenda Thomas	Greenville
Trinity United Methodist Church - Conway	Rev. Sandra Stevens-Poirel	Marion
Trinity United Methodist Church - Fountain Inn	Rev. Laura Canine	Greenville
Trinity United Methodist Church -Greenwood	Rev. LaSheila Mack Wyatt	Greenwood