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Our Mission

*Rooted in the Wesleyan tradition and
committed to inspiring passion for ministry
in diverse Christian bodies,*

**Saint Paul School of Theology
educates leaders to make disciples
for Jesus Christ, renew the church,
and transform the world.**

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LIVING OUT THE CALL




SAINT PAUL
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
ANNUAL REPORT 2010/2011

News in Brief



1st Graduating Class, Saint Paul at OCU

Five students received their MDiv degrees at the first commencement for Saint Paul School of Theology at Oklahoma City University on August 19. The graduates are pictured from left front: Tari Carbaugh; Felecia Hensley; AnnaMarie George; and Dr. Elaine Robinson, Academic Dean of Saint Paul at OCU. Back row: David Gardner; Nathan Mills; and Saint Paul President Myron McCoy.

Seminary Lite is a new program at Saint Paul School of Theology at Oklahoma City University focusing on learning for the laity. Additionally, Saint Paul is now offering Course of Study Saturday School for part-time local pastors in Oklahoma City.

Saint Paul at Oklahoma City University Academic Dean, **Dr. Elaine Robinson**, was awarded the 2011 Bishop Robert E Hayes Jr. Racial Unity Award.

The library on the Kansas City campus was chosen to receive an **International Society for Science and Religion (ISSR)** library. The collection of 224 books doubles the library's research materials in science and religion.

President's Award 2011- Jim and Marjie Mordy

"I make a lot of investments in a lot of things – but I have yet to lose when I invest in the church."

Jim Mordy

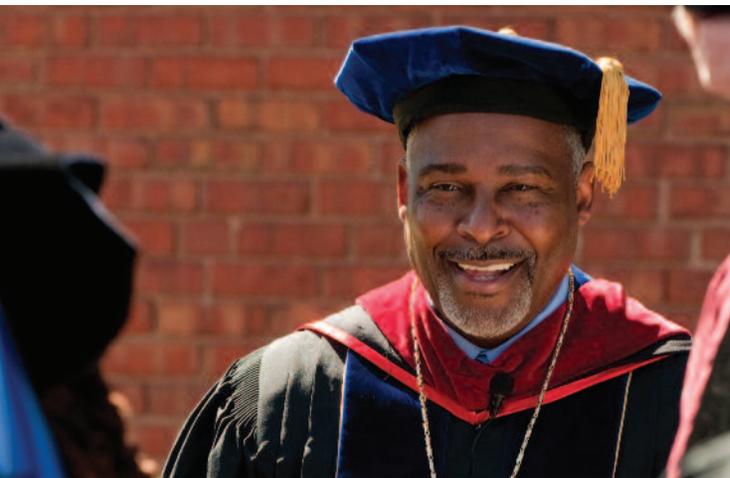
Jim and Marjie Mordy are the recipients of the 2011 President's Award. The couple are long-time, active members of Broadway United Methodist Church in Kansas City, Missouri. Jim and Marjie Mordy have been part of the Saint Paul family for roughly thirty years. They have been a part of the Saint Paul Council, supporting the Annual Fund, since it first existed in 1985.

At a fundraising dinner hosted by Clark Randall in 1982, Jim shared that he had been the person who presented a check for \$20,000 to Saint Paul from Broadway UMC as part of the initial fundraising effort for the seminary in the late 1950s. The note from development officer Ivan Lyddon read, "Jim Mordy said that this investment had paid outstanding dividends and had been a very minor investment when considering the returns which he and his fellow church members had received from the seminary. He went on to say that Broadway

UMC has heard from and knows almost every faculty member at Saint Paul who has participated with them in worship, church school education, seminars, and other meetings."

"The Mordys have been faithful supporters who have quietly worked with the seminary through the years," said President Myron McCoy. "It is my pleasure to present this award to them."





“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” -**Ephesians 4:1-3 NSRV**

The late Walter Cronkite spent time in his professional journalism career in both Kansas City and Oklahoma City. While still a youngster Walter read an article in *American Boy* magazine about the adventures of reporters working around the world. After reading the magazine his interest in journalism was piqued to a point that by the time Cronkite became a junior in high school he wanted to be a reporter. His life reflected a positive response to a calling. Highly respected for his straightforward and honest reporting on the CBS news, Cronkite will always be remembered for his trademark sign-off, “And that’s the way it is.”

In Ephesians, Paul affirms the miracle of living life under the power of a distinctive and discernable call, while at the same time he makes the call a common experience and guiding imperative of every believer. Calls encompass our time, talents, and gifts. In our calls we acknowledge that we don’t have it all together, but we serve an all-together God who expects us to encourage one another.

Here at Saint Paul, our mission places emphasis on those who are responding to growing and claiming a call to some ministry path. Some of our students come as Walter Cronkite did to journalism, knowing with clarity from their early years that God has the particular call of ministry for them. Some come having discovered their callings while in the midst of doing other things and journeying down other paths.

In this annual report issue we have highlighted several of our alums who are “**Living Out the Call**” in a variety of places and ways.

Please know that your gifts go a long way in making it possible for our students to live out their calls and later help others discern their life callings too. Your gifts make it possible for us to minimize tuition increases. With an economy very much in the doldrums, how encouraging it is for us to have donors like you who see it as part of your calling to join us in this important work of educating leaders to make disciples for Jesus Christ, renew the church, and transform the world.

Clergy and practical theologian Barbara Brown Taylor reminds us, “God looks at us and sees the best: sees beloved children, sees likely allies, and sees able partners in the ongoing work of creation.”

As we live out our calls, remember God challenges us to be faithful and fruitful with what has been placed in our hands. “And that’s the way it is.”

President, Saint Paul School of Theology

LIVING AND MINISTERING ON THE STREETS

By Lorenza Andrade Smith MDiv '09



I've been appointed by Bishop James B. Dorff to a ministry with the poor and marginalized, advocating for systemic changes. In solidarity, I am living among those living on the streets. In order to have as authentic solidarity as possible, and realizing my privilege, I have rejected any compensation and benefits. I have committed to three years, though Bishop Dorff will evaluate and make an annual appointment.

I've always been interested in ministries of justice, but it has been my involvement with the DREAM Act that has been a more public and challenging role in justice ministries. Both my parents have advocated for the least of these in their own communities and they were my role models growing up. It was an integral part of our everyday lives. An outside influence who challenged me has been the life and work of Frida Kahlo—she was a woman who was able to express a common experience that all of humanity has, suffering and pain. It is not that I agree or like everything about her life, though some aspects I very much do, but she does challenge us in a unique way.

This is the hardest work and ministry I've ever experienced. Yet I feel so absolutely privileged and so full of joy. I'm unable to set those boundaries that are so important in the ministry—24 hours a day, 7 days a week is all wrapped up together. Simply, there is no break from life on the streets. I am so humbled to be in the midst of those who live on the streets. It's an incredible journey of faith, hope and love in the midst of chaos. And I certainly know that the peace I feel can only come from the God that promises to be with us! I'm thankful and joyful to have the privilege to be serving in the capacity that I have been appointed to serve.

Tough days abound, but there is always a Word from God that is greater than any difficult circumstance and/or day. From my first experience in jail while I was fasting, to having a knife pulled on me on the streets, Philippians chapter 4 has been my stronghold, especially verses 4-7, 11b-14. Thanks be to God!

1 Corinthians 13:13 says, "And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love." In building relationships, I am merely trying to communicate the love of God, because I think that is what is the transforming element in all of our lives. I'm trying to communicate this love by embodying the gospel in a way that offers mutual respect and dignity. At this point in my ministry

I am listening and learning in the ministry of presence. My Bishop jokingly, yet seriously, refers to this as being appointed to do nothing. I am appointed to be a kind of incarnational presence of the church to those living on the streets and giving voice to the poor and marginalized. So many times we get caught up in doing all types of ministry and stuff. Maybe it's time to be still enough to Do Nothing and BE the church!

Saint Paul School of Theology has had a significant impact on my life and in my ministry. The challenges and opportunities that were offered by the school and faculty have certainly influenced me. The specialization, Women, Society and Church Studies, was especially influential in my theological development and ministry discernment. And without hesitation I can say that every faculty and staff member at Saint Paul School of Theology influenced me in a way that continuously transforms me even today. And I have to say to Saint Paul School of Theology, GRACIAS!!!

“Tough days abound, but there is always a Word from God that is greater than any difficult circumstance and/or day. From my first experience in jail while I was fasting, to having a knife pulled on me on the streets, Philippians chapter 4 has been my stronghold..”

Rev. Lorenza Andrade Smith MDiv '09



LIVING OUT
THE CALL

COURSE OF STUDY GRADUATE SERVES INNER CITY CHURCH



*Gaines receives the Denman Award for Evangelism
from the Nebraska United Methodist Conference*

Rev. Ralph Gaines COS '10 is proud to be the pastor of the first mission church in Nebraska. “The people in the North Omaha community are poverty stricken and violence is bad,” said Gaines. In an area with weekly shootings and with a poor, graying congregation, the church seemed to have little chance for survival. Rev. Gaines had faith that it could. After finding in the UM Discipline that his church met the four requirements needed to be a mission church, he inquired about obtaining the status. “The Nebraska United Methodist Conference now assists us, and is helping this church to stay alive.”

The urban church has grown considerably since gaining its mission church status. It has grown from its original 26 members to 180 members since July of 2010. “I’ve pastored for over twenty-

four years and never seen anything like this. To God I give the glory. It is not me, it is all God,” said Gaines.

Living Hope UMC brings in people with diverse needs and religious backgrounds. “Only thirteen people are actually United Methodist and five are from my family,” he said with a laugh. Reverend Gaines can certainly relate to his congregants. “I was born and raised a Baptist,” he said. “I started serving the church at age eighteen, later becoming a Baptist pastor. About nine years ago I fell in love with the United Methodist Church and knew that I needed seminary training. I chose to get a Course of Study degree from Saint Paul. During my training, I learned a lot,” he said. “Dr. Rena Yocom helped me to get where I am now. I especially liked the student feedback. I heard how they had done things and are doing them now. It was a big help. I recommend Course of Study for anybody.”

Last year, Rev. Ralph Gaines received the Denman Award for Evangelism from the Nebraska Annual Conference due to his church’s growth. Gaines admits that the traditional forms of evangelism did not work for his church. “We received money for mailings but not one person has come to our church due to a postcard—not one person. It’s really been word of mouth.” The church’s evangelism team hands out fliers about the church to others and invites their friends and family. People also come to visit after seeing postings from the Living Hope UMC Facebook page. “I create an event every week for Sunday worship. So far five families have become members after connecting via Facebook.”

Other draws include the praise band, community Sunday meals, and a “come as you are” mentality. “Living Hope United Methodist Church is a church where everyone is welcome no matter where they may be in life. Here, all are welcome because it is God’s house,” said Rev. Gaines. People feel comfortable enough to come even if they are battling addictions or have been pushed out of other churches because of who they were. “We want to get people to know God, grow in Christ and to give to others,” said Gaines.

He finds opportunities for the congregation to learn to give, even if it is not financially. “Once a month we go to shelters and get our young people to serve the food.” Living Hope UMC is a definitely a serving congregation. “Christ reached out to people of all ages and backgrounds. At Living Hope we do the same,” said Gaines. The outreach programs include a food and clothing pantry and the Pearl Community Center. “We have fed a record number of people. My food pantry chair has tallied that we’ve fed over 11,000 people this year,” he said.

Twenty-five children regularly come to the Community Center Monday through Friday. “We are trying to keep them out of trouble and out of gangs. Our greatest hope is that every person who comes into contact with the family of Living Hope UMC will have an unforgettable encounter of encouragement, as the power and grace of God is reflected through the prayers, praise of the people and the preaching of God’s Word.”



“

Living Hope United Methodist Church is a church where everyone is welcome no matter where they may be in life. Here, all are welcome because it is God’s house.

”

Rev. Ralph Gaines COS '10

SEMINARY PREPARES GRAD FOR RURAL CHURCH REALITIES



When Felicia Hensley began her Master of Divinity studies at Saint Paul School of Theology at Oklahoma City University, she was returning to school after 30 years. For a time, three family members were on the OCU campus concurrently. She has pastored in Cashion, Oklahoma, since 2008.

The town of Cashion has less than 1,000 people and few businesses, with the heart of the community being the school. Around the town are family farms. Because Cashion is just 20 miles from Oklahoma City, there has been an increase in higher end housing as people move out from the city to build where land values and taxes are low. People are also looking for a small school experience for their children. The population is a mix of old town and a variety of newcomers. “Older residents feel that the ground is changing under their feet and some are not quite sure how they feel about that,” Hensley said.

“I’m mostly a city girl,” she said, “but I just love my congregation, it’s been wonderful. I enjoy the intimacy of involvement that you get in these tiny churches. When there is an event in town, it is expected that all of the churches will participate. That’s a small town.”

Hensley went on to say that pastors in rural ministry do whatever they have to do to take care of people because there are no mental health or senior services. “If churches don’t provide social services or feeding programs there’s nothing else. In a big city, a social service agency may step up for that. My people just do that for each other,” said Hensley.

Cashion UMC is 110 years old and has an average attendance of forty members. Some of the families that started the church are still in the area. A newcomer is anyone not born in that church. It may be a small, rural church but the ministry it offers to the people in the community is vital. Every Thursday the church provides a hot meal for senior citizens in the community.

Hensley appreciates the valuable tools she gained in Contextual Education at Saint Paul, where she learned to research communities and their needs. She also said, “The theology and Bible classes are so keystone. Old and New

Testament really helped me to do exegetical work for sermons.” Hensley continues to connect with Saint Paul as a teaching assistant in the Christian Traditions class on the Oklahoma campus and by sharing with other grads over Facebook.

“Pastors in rural ministry do whatever they have to do to take care of people. If churches don't provide social services or feeding programs there's nothing else.”

Rev. Felicia Hensley MDiv '11
First Saint Paul at OCU graduating class



**LIVING OUT
THE CALL**

GRADUATE INTRODUCES STUDENTS TO NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE



Immersion has been woven into the curriculum at Saint Paul School of Theology since the early years. Dr. Sondra Matthaei MRE '69, Professor of Christian Religious Education, remembers numerous immersions and leads her own now. "When I was here in the 60s, there were only four women students. The immersions then were much more radical. For example, they would take a student down to the bus station armed with a quarter for a telephone call and he would have to spend the night on the streets. Another immersion that made a deep impression on students was 24 hours in solitary confinement at Leavenworth."

Matthaei went on to lead immersions to Guatemala and later developed a keen interest in the Native American culture. "I did the first

immersion in 2002 and we have been to New Mexico six times. Our trip in January is our seventh visit," she said. She had been interested in Native American spirituality for a long time and wanted to do an immersion with the Pueblo peoples. "When I got a chance to visit the Santa Fe area to make contacts, the immersion began to take shape. It does take years to gain the trust of Native Peoples, so we have been particularly blessed with our relationship with the Santa Clara Pueblo," said Dr. Matthaei.

"The first immersion started by my contacting the Ancient Storytellers from an ad in the *Native Peoples* magazine and sending them a packet about who we were, what the course was about, how we were preparing, and my expectations about respectfully entering a culture different from our own," said Matthaei. She recalls that "out of the blue" Elaine Filbert from Ancient Storytellers called and asked if the group would like to visit the Puye cliff dwellings which had been closed for a number of years to visitors and was open only for members of the Pueblo. "We have been invited back to this site for every one of the immersions. I believe this is because the students are prepared to respect the sacred sites and are interested in learning about the culture."

Before traveling, all students must read several texts. Each student decides on an area of focus before they go on the trip. It could be the arts, spirituality, agriculture, education, women's roles, etc. Their observations enrich the whole group during their travels. "Because of the intersection of cultures, Hispanic, Latino/Latina, White, and Native, it is really interesting to see how the intercultural

relationships have evolved over time. To get an idea about how that works, you can read Frank Waters, *The Man Who Killed the Deer*,” said Dr. Matthaei.

“To learn about Native Americans and their culture, go and visit,” she recommends. “Follow the rules for proper behavior and listen to them, don’t interrupt and learn about their culture. Since we started the Pueblo immersion, we have also added an immersion with the Plains Tribes in Oklahoma and the same rules apply.” In Sondra Matthaei’s experience, “these folks are way more hospitable than they have to be given the way a lot of tourists act in their presence. We try to enter humbly, recognizing that we are guests.”

Pastors or lay leaders who want to learn more are invited to join these immersions when they are offered. Contact the seminary, 816-483-9600.



“ It does take years to gain the trust of Native Peoples, so we have been particularly blessed with our relationship with the Santa Clara Pueblo. ”

Dr. Sondra Matthaei, MRE '69
Professor of Religious Education

GRADUATE LEADS GROWING KOREAN CHURCH IN MISSION

"I thank God for the opportunity to serve Him and His people."

Rev. Sei Hwan Kim MDiv '01

Sei Hwan Kim MDiv '01, pastors a church focusing on Korean immigrant ministry in Los Angeles, California. "This church has been at the forefront of Korean immigrant ministry as it is the first and oldest Korean church in the mainland of the United States," he said. There are currently 400 adults and another 100 children and youth in worship every week. "It is by the grace of God that we have been and continue to grow steadily, increasing in number and also growing deeper in our faith."



Families within the church are diverse. "We have an English-speaking ministry within our Korean ministry for interracial couples and cross-cultural families," said Rev. Kim. "Coincidentally, our English ministry group is diverse, consisting of Korean, Chinese, Japanese, African, Hispanic, Anglo, and Filipino members."

The ministries of Los Angeles Korean UMC cross denominational, ecumenical, local, international, and intercultural boundaries. Its local missions include a day care center, partnership with an Anglo United Methodist Church to help people on the streets, and an ecumenical disabilities ministry. The youth and young adults are very active in campus evangelism and urban mission projects such as the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, World Impact, Team Red, White, and Blue (an injured veterans advocacy group) as well as Flood LA, (Cal-Pac's youth spiritual development ministry). The church has long contributed to international missions. "We offer our resources and serve with our bodies in multiple areas of Baja California, Kazakhstan, Cambodia, and Mongolia, all for the glory of God and the disciple making of Jesus Christ," said Kim.

Sei Hwan Kim served at a church in Wichita, Kansas during seminary and several years after. "It has been a marvelous journey since God led my footsteps to Saint Paul School of Theology. My ministry would not have been what it is today if it were not for Saint Paul," said Rev. Kim. "The education I received along with the insights of my professors and colleagues have been most helpful. In particular, the credo I wrote in preparation for graduation has been a ground marker for the philosophy and direction of my ministry. I thank the school and my professors for guiding me. Most of all, I thank God for the opportunity to serve Him and His people."



PUMPKIN FEST IS OUTREACH TO MILITARY COMMUNITY

“The event created excitement in the community and helped people gain trust in our churches.”

Rev. Bill O’Neal MDiv ’07

“How can we connect with people who are constantly moving?” That is the question that graduate Bill O’Neal MDiv ’07, asked himself when settling in Waynesville, Missouri. Waynesville is a military community, home to people serving at the Fort Leonard Wood training facility. “Eighty percent of our church members are somehow connected to the military—40 percent are on active duty, others serve in civilian jobs on the post, and many are retired from the military. That’s why our church numbers go up and down,” he said. O’Neal has been in Waynesville for five years. He started out as the associate pastor under the leadership of Londa Granger Wright, MDiv ’02, and was appointed as the lead pastor three years later.

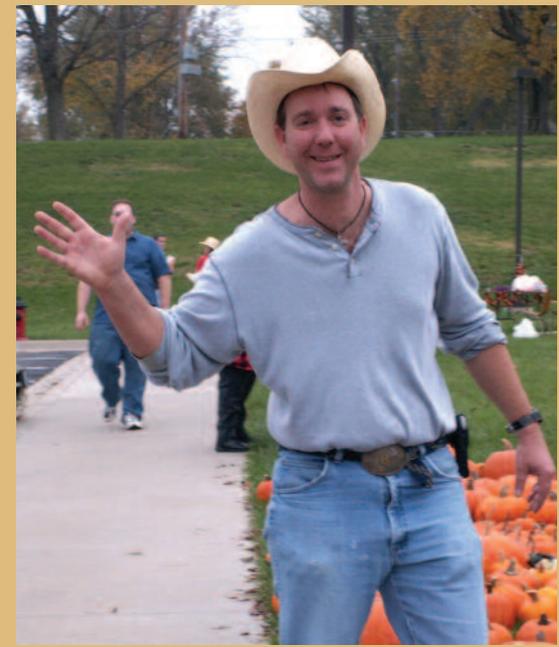
When the fall season rolled around, Bill decided to use an idea that he had tried before. “In seminary, I was part of a group of students that wanted to reach out to the community. We realized that Saint Paul had a beautiful, safe space and decided that we’d try a fall Pumpkin Fest for the neighborhood children.” Bill used his marketing background to get the Saint Paul community excited about the event and successfully asked several outside organizations to donate items. “The entire Saint Paul community was willing to take a risk. It really was encouraging,” he said.

In Waynesville, O’Neal’s first attempt at Pumpkin Fest, held at the church, attracted only the children who normally attended church. Then, due to a series of events, he decided to move the Pumpkin Fest to the city park. The attendance skyrocketed to 2,500 people last year and over 3,500 this year. The church also invited other churches to work with them. “If you combine the military communities of Waynesville and St. Robert the total population is 7,000 people, so we were really surprised at the turn out,” said O’Neal. “We had three popcorn machines going and gave out 1800 hotdogs, 500 pumpkins, and 800 cupcakes.” It was like the gospel lesson of feeding the 5,000. “Both years we thought we wouldn’t have enough, but we had plenty—with leftovers.”

Residents enjoyed puppets, the music of two praise bands, game booths, and more. Although the church did not have a sign promoting the event as church-sponsored, the local newspaper included the churches in their story afterwards. “The event created excitement in the community and helped people gain trust in our churches.”

Now that Waynesville UMC has decided to be an outwardly focused church, it has grown in many ways. “We have seen new families attend worship, growing in numbers from 220 to 317 in a matter of one year. Our congregants have learned that outreach can be fun; it doesn’t have to be a scary task. More and more people are willing to volunteer and the congregation is really becoming generous.” The church financially helps a sister church in Mozambique and they are doing mission work with an apartment complex nearby. “We are doing things to continually focus the church on the mission of Jesus,” said O’Neal. Waynesville UMC has started more Bible study house groups and changed the way the leadership board makes decisions. “We hope to do Vacation Bible School in the park with other church partners this summer,” he said.

Bill O’Neal credits his alma mater. “I felt like I was already outwardly focused when coming to seminary, but the Saint Paul professors and staff were very intentional about outreach. They gave me the tools, the knowledge, and the wisdom to do it. Saint Paul was a natural fit for me.”



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Cleaver Roast

Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II MDiv '76, 5th Congressional District, Missouri, and his wife, Dianne, enjoy the speakers at the Cleaver Roast Event for seminary scholarships in October.



Bishop Hayes Roast

Bishop Robert E. Hayes, Jr. and his wife, Dee, laugh with the roasters at the dinner held December 2010 in his honor in Oklahoma City.



Bishop Sherer Simpson Roast

On April Fool's Day Bishop Ann B. Sherer Simpson was lightly roasted at a dinner in her honor. She is pictured with her husband, Wayne Simpson.



Bryan Roast

Rev. Jim Bryan MDiv '76 and Dr. Tex Sample, Professor Emeritus of Church and Society, listen as Rev. Molly Moore MDiv '00 tells stories of serving with Bryan at Missouri United Methodist Church during the scholarship roast event in his honor.

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“ Upon my graduation with the first class in 1962 I went to Chile as a short-term missionary. My Saint Paul training equipped me well for subsequent pastoral appointments in Kansas until April of 2011. It is wonderful to see how many hundreds of men and women have come through our great seminary. ”

Rev. Gary Harms, MDiv '62 (on left, pictured with Dr. Myron McCoy). Rev. Harms is part of the first graduating class, which will be honored at Commencement 2012.

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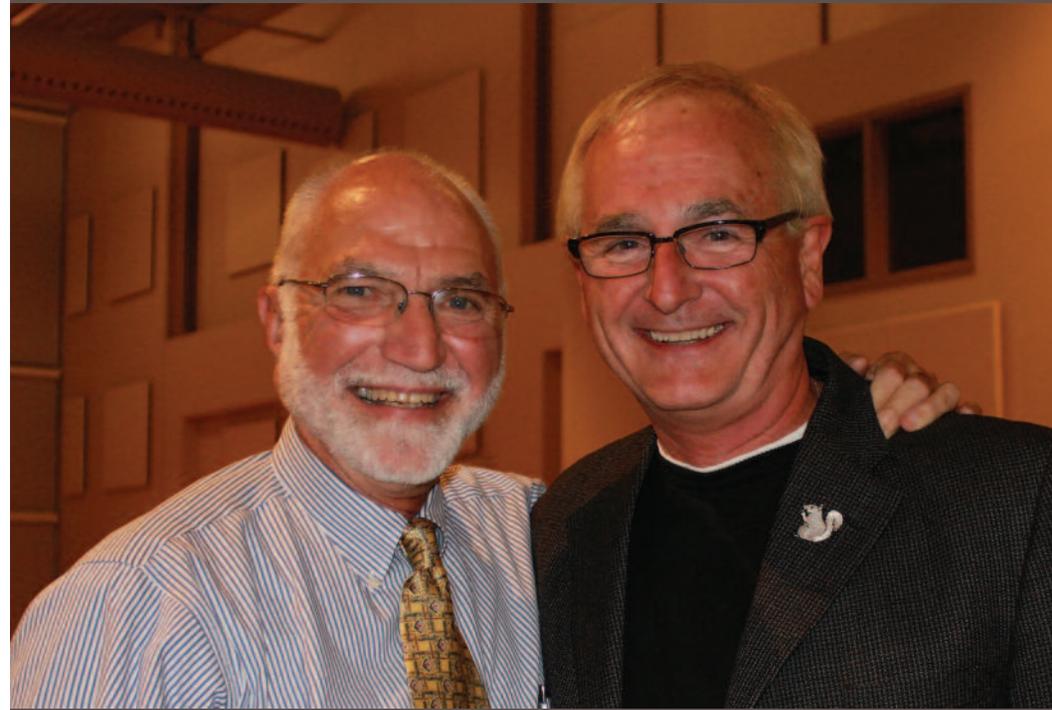
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“ Saint Paul provided me such a strong basis on which to build 35 years of ministry. I will be forever grateful. The relationships built at Saint Paul, classmates, faculty and staff, have sustained me and strengthened me over the years. I pray God’s Spirit be with those now preparing for the amazing opportunities and challenges that ministry provides. ”

Rev. Jim Bryan, MDiv '76
(on left, pictured with fellow graduate,
Rev. David Bennett MDiv '76)

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Twila M. Glenn
Director of Consulting and Learning, The Alban Institute
Saint Paul Board member since 2001
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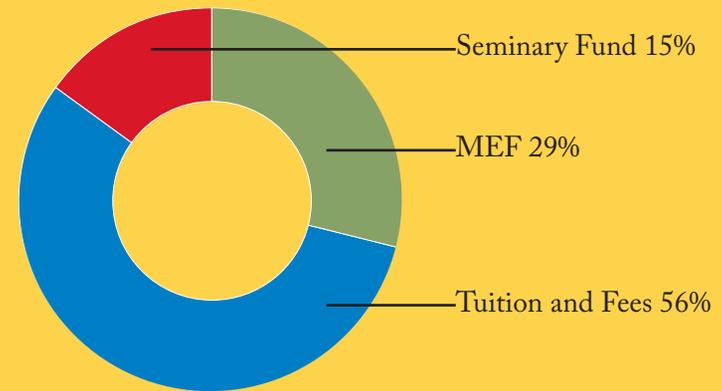
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	Percent
Tuition and Fees	56%
Seminary Fund	15%
MEF	29%
Total	100%

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February 18, 2012

Seminary Lite
Oklahoma City
United Methodist Heritage
Dr. Elaine Robinson

February 25, 2012

Laity School of Theology
Kansas City
Immigration: Responding in Faith
Dr. James Brandt

March 15, 2012

Kansas City
Blood Done Sign My Name
Dr. Timothy Tyson
Duke University

March 17, 2012

Seminary Lite
Oklahoma City
Introduction to Church History
Dr. James Brandt

March 27, 2012

Evangelical Society Lecture
Kansas City
Dr. Don Thorsen
Azusa Pacific University

March 30-31, 2012

Youth Worker's Gathering
Oklahoma City
Sustainable Youth Ministry

March 31, 2012

Laity School of Theology
Kansas City
*The Bible, Homosexuality, and
Christian Community*
Dr. Harold Washington

April 16-17, 2012

Board of Trustees Meeting
Kansas City

April 21, 2012

Laity School of Theology
Kansas City
Storytelling and Social Justice
Dr. Angela Sims

April 21, 2012

Seminary Lite
Oklahoma City
Introduction to Worship
Dr. Henry (Hal) Knight

April 24, 2012

Spring Community Read
Kansas City
The Misunderstood Jew
Dr. Amy-Jill Levine
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May 18, 2012

Commencement
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