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Advocate

Volume 32 No. 2 March - April 2016

The Advocate - A Publication of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of The United Methodist Church

OIMC Office prepares for a move!



Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference office, 602 Southwest 35th, Oklahoma City.

The staff of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference is preparing to move into their new facility which is located at 602 Southwest 35th. The move should be completed by the middle or end of March. Date for dedication and open house has not yet been determined.

This building was once a Shalom Zone facility of the Oklahoma Conference. It was in 1992 that Shalom Zones were created at the General Conference that was held in Louisville, Kentucky. Through the Shalom Initiative churches could acquire the knowledge and skill they would need to become active in ministry. Each participating congregation would have access to methods and tools that they could apply to their particular circumstances. By spreading Shalom Zones far and wide, the United Methodist Church could work through community partnerships to become indeed "the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in." (Isaiah 58:12).

It is fitting that our conference office be housed in a facility that was dedicated for such a purpose.

Preparations are being made for 2016 Annual Conference

The annual conference worship team has been making plans in celebration of this year's annual conference. The dates of the Annual Conference are June 9-12, 2016 and will be held at the Northeast Region Center, Preston, Oklahoma. The theme that was chosen is, "OIMC: Authorized, Commanded and Commissioned ... To go forth to all nations." It is based upon the passage Matthew 28:19-20 taken from Eugene Peterson's The Message. Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his

charge: "God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 The Message (MSG)

Mr. Sam Samuel, III, will be the worship leader. Sam is originally from

Oklahoma, a music performance major at Oklahoma State University and a graduate of Langston University. He now resides in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where he has his own recording studio.

The trustees are working hard to have the grounds all prepared and the churches are sprucing up their cabins in preparation for hosting. A ramp has been added to the stage at the tabernacle making it handicap accessible. The new children's building will be ready to welcome all the children!

Saturday evening's program will be dedicated to honoring Bishop Robert Hayes and Dee. The conference is looking for pictures from the time bishop and Dee came to us till present to present a slide show of his time with us. If you have pictures that you would like to share please email to jdeere@oimc.org.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to the 174th Session of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference!



Words from our Bishop

“It stands to reason, doesn't it, that if the alive and present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, God will do the same thing in you that He did in Jesus, bringing you alive to Himself.”

Romans 8:11 (Peterson's Translation)

I call them Easter people

After those first few days following the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, it seemed as though nothing much had changed. Sure, Jesus showed himself alive to the women, his disciples and a few others, but Pilate was still governor of Judea, Caiaphas was still the high priest, and the Scribes and Pharisees who were the enemies of Jesus were still in power controlling all religious life. The road to Jericho was still unsafe for travelers, and tax collectors and moneychangers still went about their business of taking from the needy to give to the greedy.

But after Jesus returned in his resurrected form, the impact was everything but normal. Seeing that death could not defeat God, the disciples and followers of Jesus were ready for anything. They became bold, able to go out and proclaim the risen Savior no matter what the world thought or said. No, the resurrection of Jesus did not reform the world, but it rallied a few people who were willing to preach Jesus and follow his way of life in spite of anything the world might do to them.

That was then, but what about now? I



Bishop Robert E. Hayes, Jr.

can assure you that after Easter Sunday, most things will return to normal. Just like it was back then. The flowers will fade and wither, the eggs will all be found, the crowds that showed up for Easter will all go back to what they were doing. But there are some who will come back, just as they do Sunday after Sunday. I call them Easter people because they have seen for themselves that Christ is risen. They know firsthand the power of his resurrection.

These are the people who keep OIMC alive, pushing ahead in spite of the odds, difficulties or challenges. Like yeast rising in uncooked bread, these faithful disciples are the ones who will change the world! If Easter is going to make a difference you will first see it in those who have been raised with Christ to a new and higher level of life.

What about you? Do you believe that God can do the same thing in you that He did in Jesus, bringing you alive to Himself?" I certainly hope so.

Youth Spring Retreat!

Theme: “Act Justly and Walk Humbly with God”
Micah 6:8

When: March 18-20, 2016

Registration check-in 7:00 p.m. on the 18. Retreat ends at 10:00 a.m. on the 20.

Where: Southwest Region Center, west of Anadarko

Cost: \$40 per participant before March 4 (must be attached to registration form; \$80 March 4- 11. Due to space first 40 PAID registrations will be accepted; first 20 males and first 20 females.

What to Bring:

Bible, air mattress or something to sleep on, towels, wash cloth, work clothes, toiletry items, money for YSF fundraising and concessions, bathing suit



OIMC-OCU Day enjoyed by all!

For several years Oklahoma City University has invited Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference to spend a day on campus where the youth can experience a little of university life. This year that day was February 6 and the day went as planned with a panel of Native American Student scholars speaking on their experiences, information on scholarships and admissions presented by staff as well as students, tours of the campus, basketball tournaments, and free-throw contest as well as a time for worship. Fifteen OIMC churches registered with 170 registered participants. Springfield UMC of Okemah received the award for the Most in Attendance with 33 attending and the church that Traveled the Farthest was Dallas Indian UMC, Dallas, TX.

The Basketball tournament hosted 6 adult teams, 6 young adult teams, 7 senior high school teams, and 7 junior high teams. First place winners were: Adult Division,

Springfield UMC; Young Adult, Tohwali UMC; Senior High, Mitchell Memorial UMC; and Junior High Division, Ponca Indian UMC.

In the Free-Throw Contest the 1st place for elementary (ages 11 and under) went to Elaine Berryhill of Springfield. First place for Junior High and Senior High combined was Andrew Amos of Tohwali, UMC. Placing 1st place for the Young Adults was Koby Baker of Tohwali UMC and for the Adults (35 and up) was Jason Eyachabbe of North Oklahoma City Fellowship.

The event concluded with worship service that was led by the Conference Council on Youth Ministries officers. Mr. Jonathan Clour, a graduate of OCU and Lay Missioner at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, was the guest speaker. Thank you to OCU staff and students, OIMC churches, and OIMC staff for an enjoyable experience.



The United Methodist Women South Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting will be held at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City, April 15-17, 2016. Registration is \$200 and includes all three meals on Saturday (supper is a banquet) and breakfast on Sunday. Registration deadline is March 15; however late registrations of \$225 will be taken up to April 2. Please register online at www.umwscj.org. Each participant must make their own hotel reservation at Renaissance Hotel by Marriot. To receive the negotiated group rate you must make reservations on or before March 15. Rooms are \$149/night.

The main purpose of the Jurisdiction meeting is to elect women to the National Organization of United Methodist Women. You have the opportunity to meet face to face those women who will speak for our organization for the next four years. This meeting gives all UMW a chance to experience the wonderful diversity of our jurisdiction. You have the opportunity to meet women from eight different states and 12 different conferences to share ideas and network. Conference officers can pick up very helpful ideas for planning future meetings and speakers for their conference events.

Marcus Briggs-Cloud will be the worship leader and among the workshop presenters will be Rev. Margaret Johnson who will present a workshop on the Cherokee Double Weave Basket.



Kyle Wallace, OCU Senior and working in the Admissions Office speaking to the group concerning admission process.

What does the egg have to do with Easter?



The egg became associated with Easter somewhere near the 400s and was often a food that was given up at Lent. According to Mary Jane Norton, Interim General Secretary for Discipleship Ministries (formerly General Board of Discipleship) "In some of the early church traditions, people brought their eggs to the church to be blessed before they ate them, as the first joyful food of Easter."

The egg was used in a lot of the early civilizations to talk about even the forming of the world. It was adopted by the Christian faith so that it became the symbol then of the new life that we received in Christ. Children would take their hats or their bonnets or even a cardboard box and decorate it and would put it outside to make a nest for the Easter bunny to come and lay the eggs.

With so many Easter traditions, we look at them from the eyes of faith and we say, 'Wow, there's something about going to hunt the eggs just as we might go to hunt for Jesus in the tomb.' And when we find them it's that joy that the women had when they reached the tomb first and found that Jesus was no longer there.

With the painting of the egg, one of the earlier traditions says that they were first painted red because red is a color of joy. But from the red we then morphed into all sorts of other colors...and other ways to say "this is a joyful thing."

Eggs were also used to greet one another on Easter. You took an egg and when you saw another person you would basically click eggs to say, "Christ is alive. Christ is alive indeed."

Attention! Attention! Attention!

Order VBS supplies as soon as possible, especially craft kits, as Cokesbury has a tendency to run out early. Remember OIMC churches, your first \$100 is covered by the Native American Children's fund; anything over \$100 you pay for.

When ordering from Cokesbury please contact the following: Stephen Toombs, Director of Sales, stoombs@cookesbury.com; Carla Wiltshire, Regional Manager, cwiltshire@cookesbury.com; or Anita Miller, Regional Manager, amiller@cookesbury.com.

Percentages of Apportionments and Insurance paid by churches so far in 2016:

Church	Appor.	Ins.	Church	Appor.	Ins.	Church	Appor.	Ins.
Angie Smith	7	17	Mutteloke	0	0	Johnson Chapel	0	100
Billy Hooton	0	0	New Hope	0	17	Kulichito	15	17
Clinton Mission	0	0	Newtown	0	17	Kullituklo	0	25
El Reno Fellowship	8	8	Pickett Chapel	11	100	Mitchell Memorial	0	33
Mary Lee Clark	0	17	Seminole Hitchitee	10	22	Nanih Chito	0	0
Norman First American	100	100	Serenity Fellowship	-	0	Old Cedar	100	100
Pawnee	0	0	Springfield	0	0	Pennington	0	0
Ponca Indian	0	0	Springtown	25	25	Seeley Chapel	100	26
Wichita Mission	0	17	Stilwell	11	17	St. Paul Talihina	17	8
All Nations	-	6	Thlophlocco	100	16	Sulphur Springs	0	100
Arbeka	0	0	Tulsa Indian	0	17	Tohwali	25	17
Big Cussetah	0	0	Weleetka Fellowship	-	0	Whitesand Bennington	0	0
Broken Arrow	0	17	Wewoka	0	0	White Sand Valliant	0	0
Bryan Chapel	-	0	Yeager	0	0	William Anderson	0	0
Canterbury	100	0	Bethel Hill	0	17	Yasho	10	17
Choska	0	0	Big Lick	0	0	Botone Memorial	2	17
Christ	0	17	Bobb-Myers	0	0	Cache Creek	100	100
Concharty	0	8	Boiling Springs	100	100	Cedar Creek	0	0
D.D. Etchieson	0	100	Bokchito	0	0	Hunting Horse	0	0
Davis Chapel	0	100	Cane Hill	0	100	JJ Methvin	8	8
Fife Indian	2	100	Chihowa Okla	0	-	Little Washita	100	100
Grant Chapel	12	17	Choctaw Academy	0	100	Mt. Scott Comanche	0	0
Haikey Chapel	0	100	Dallas Indian	8	8	Mt. Scott Kiowa	0	0
Honey Creek	73	100	Goodland	6	17	Petarsy Mission	0	0
Kahbeah Fellowship	-	0	Good Springs	0	0	Sherwood Tsotigh	62	0
Kaney Chapel	100	100	Goodwater	5	8	UMC of Apache	0	17
Lawrence	0	0	Grace Indian	11	9	Ware's Chapel	51	20
Little Cussetah	0	0	Hampton Chapel	49	8			



Rev. Dr. David Wilson, Rev. Lisa Dellinger and Rev. Chebon Kernell being recognized for their contributions to the book, Coming Full Circle, at Phillips Theological Seminary. Congratulations to these OIMC clergy not only for this recognition but also on your writing.

Cokesbury Representative

Diane Doughty, the Cokesbury Consultant assigned to the Tulsa and Oklahoma City area is no longer the consultant for Cokesbury. As soon as information is received concerning her replacement, the conference office will get the message out to our churches. We thank Diane for her service with our conference; her assistance will be greatly missed. Please remember OIMC churches receive 50% off dated material (curriculum - VBS, Sunday School) and free shipping.

In memoriam

Rev. Charles "Nick" Quoetone
April 23, 1934 – February 18, 2016

Funeral services for Rev. Charles "Nick" Quoetone, 81, were held Monday, February 22, 2016, at Centenary United Methodist Church, Lawton, with the Rev. William Foote and Rev. Sharon Yeahquo officiating. The Rev. Quoetone went on his final journey, surrounded by family, Thursday, February 18, 2016, in Norman, Oklahoma. Burial followed at Mount Scott KCA Cemetery, Meers, Oklahoma, under the direction of Comanche Nation Funeral Home. A wake service was held Sunday, February 21, 2016 at the Comanche Nation Funeral Home Chapel.

Nick was born April 23, 1934, at Jimmy Creek in Meers to Nannie Susan Sahmaunt and Guy Quoetone. He was raised by his grandparents, Jimmy Quoetone and Daisy Mah-tawn-shan, in the Meers area. He attended Fort Sill Indian School and Riverside Indian School where he played football and was the homecoming king in 1952. He escorted Sandra Bear who won homecoming queen. He and Sandra were married February 21, 1953, and were married for 63 years.

After graduating from high school, Nick and Sandra moved to Riverside, California, and several years later they moved back to Oklahoma. Nick felt that he was called to follow his father's footsteps and became a servant of God. He gave his life to the Lord and attended

Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. He became a minister in 1967 and his first appointment was Wesley Tah Memorial United Methodist Church in Watonga. During his tenure as a minister he served a number of Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference churches in Southwest Oklahoma. He served for a number of years on the Committee on Archives and History for the OIMC. He retired from the OIMC in 1996 and served as the pastor in residence for Meers. He served as the chaplain for the Kiowa Tia-Piah Society and was a full-blooded member of the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; children: Aaron Quoetone and Anna Tsatoke, Nick and Marla Quoetone and Susan Nauri, all of Anadarko; William and Laquinta Quoetone, Norman; and Jeanie Quoetone, of the home; 20 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; a great-great-granddaughter; adopted brother, Tim Bailey; adopted children: Mary Pebbles Hummingbird Thompson, and David Havis Landon; many OIMC PK's he took under his wing; and numerous family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; 10 siblings; sons and daughters-in-law: Walter and Elizabeth Quoetone, Mike and Opal Harjo; a daughter, Cindy DeBartolo; a daughter-in-law, Irene Quoetone; and granddaughters: Erin Lou Quoetone and Mikka Harjo.

Wild Onion Dinners

In the spring time wild onions appear along creek banks, in moist low-lying areas and are dug up, cleaned and cooked with scrambled eggs. Wild onions are usually found in the eastern half of the state and since they appear only in spring churches and organizations will sponsor onion dinners to help raise funds. The churches in the OIMC that have such dinners usually use these funds to assist with the paying of apportionments. You are invited, if you are able, to patronize your sister churches in their endeavors.

- March 5 - Seminole Hitchitee UMC, Seminole exit off I-40 south 2.4 miles, turn east go 5 miles, then north on NS 361 Rd., half mile. 11-3 p.m. Adults \$10; Children 5-8 \$7 (4 & under free). AYCE
Billy Hooton UMC, 2444 NW 1st Terrace, Oklahoma City (do not have details)
- March 12 - Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 601 SW Grand Blvd., Oklahoma City, 11-4 p.m., Adults \$10, Children (10 yrs. & under) \$5.
- March 19 - Haikey Chapel UMC, 8815 E. 101st Street, Tulsa, 11-3 p.m., Adults \$9, Children 10 & Under \$6.
Big Cussetah UMC, 3 miles east of Okmulgee on Highway 62, south on Prairie Bell Road 3.5 miles, turn east at church sign, 11-3 p.m., Adults \$10, Carryout \$10, Children 10 & Under \$5.
Mary Lee Clark UMC, 1100 Howard Drive, Oklahoma City (do not have details)
Tulsa Indian UMC, 1901 N. College, Tulsa, 11-4 p.m., \$8.
- March 26 - Concharty UMC, 19040 Garfield Road, Bixby (do not have details)
- April 2 - Springfield UMC, 3 miles South of Okemah, east 3 miles, then 1 mile south, 11-?, AYCE! Adults \$10, Carryout \$10, Children 12 & Under \$5.
Norman First American UMC, 1950 Beaumont Drive, Norman (do not have details)
- April 9 - Little Cussetah UMC, south of Shulter on Hwy 75 to Wilson Road, go west, 11am to 2pm. All you can eat \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 & under, \$10 for carryouts

The members of Kaney Chapel UMC would like to thank all of those who came out and supported them during their wild onion dinner. Your support was greatly appreciated and it was good to see old friends and meet new ones!

One Great Hour of Sharing – March 6, 2016

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is present in times of crisis and disaster around the world, acting as the hands of Christ in the most difficult or tragic times. This organization is able to provide fast and meaningful relief in the aftermath of disasters thanks in large part to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering collected by local congregations every year. When your congregation contributes to this offering, you help pay for the general operating costs of UMCOR. Because of this offering, UMCOR is able to direct 100% of other donations directly to specific disaster relief.

Several in our conference have been assisted through UMCOR due to the disasters that have occurred not only here in Oklahoma but also in Kansas. Also UMCOR kits will be collected again at annual conference as this is an ongoing necessity as disasters continue to happen. If you need to know what goes into the kits and/or how to assemble please contact the conference office.



Northern District Superintendent, Rev. Margaret Johnson, inspecting and preparing school kits for shipping at the UMCOR Depot at Sager Brown, Baldwin, Louisiana.



Mrs. Diana Fitzpatrick, member of Ponca Indian UMC, assisting with disaster response following the tornadoes that struck in Moore, Little Axe and Shawnee area.

Conference Calendar

MARCH

- 1 Cabinet, Conference Office, 9:30 a.m.
5 NE Region Youth Rally, Kaney Chapel UMC, 10 a.m.
5 SE Region UMW Prayer Retreat, SE Region Center, 9:30 a.m.
6 One Great Hour of Sharing - Special offering taken
7 Central/SW Region Trustee/Finance Mtg., SW Region Center, 6:30 p.m.
11 Indian Taco Sale, Norman FAUMC, 11-2 p.m.
12 First Aid/CPR Training, NE Region Center, 11 a.m.
12 North District UMW Call to Prayer, NE Region Center,
12 NE Region Leadership Team Meeting, NE Region Center, 10 a.m.
13 Daylight Savings Time Begins
14 NE Region Pastor Gathering, NE Region Center, 6:30 p.m.
18 Indian Taco Sale, El Reno Fellowship, 11-1:30 p.m.
18-19 SE Region Lay Servant School, SE Region Center
18-20 Conference Wide Youth Retreat, SW Region Center
19 NE Region Trustee Meeting, NE Region Center, 10 a.m.
19 SE Region Trustee Meeting, SE Region Center, 9 a.m.
19 SE Region Finance Meeting, SE Region Center, 2:20 p.m.
20 SW Region 3rd Night Revival, Hunting Horse UMC, 4:30 p.m.
21 SE Region Pastor's Meeting, SE Region Center, 7 p.m.
22 SW Region Pastor's Meeting, SW Region Center, 7 p.m.
25 Good Friday - Conference Office Closed
27 Happy Easter!

APRIL

Golden Cross Sunday - Any Sunday in April

North District UMW Mission Month - Every Unit to plan a project

- 1 SE Region Revival, SE Region Center, 6:30 p.m.
1 OK UM Historical Luncheon, Crown Heights UMC, OKC, 12-2 p.m.
2 NE Region Youth Rally, Broken Arrow UMC, 10 a.m.
2 SE Region Conference, SE Region Center, 9 a.m.
2 SE Region Youth Easter Gathering & Workday, SE Region Center
4 Cabinet, Conference Office, 9:30 a.m.
4 SW Region Trustee & Finance Meeting, SW Region Center, 6:30 p.m.
8 Indian Taco Sale, Norman FAUMC, 11-2 p.m.
8 NE Region Memorial Service, NE Region Center, 7 p.m.
9 SW Region Spring Conference, SW Region Center 9 a.m.
9 SW Region Trustee's Pow-Wow
9 NE Region Spring Conference, NE Region Center, 9 a.m.
10 SW Region Finance Meeting, Little Washita UMC, 3 p.m.
10 Native American Ministries Sunday - Special Offering taken
15-16 SCJ UMW Quadrennial Meeting, Oklahoma City
16 Central Region Youth Rally, TBD, 10 a.m.
16 NE Region Trustees Meeting, NE Region Center, 10 a.m.
16 NE Region Acolytes Training/Children, NE Region Center
16 SE Region Trustees Meeting, SE Region Center, 9 a.m.
16 SW Region Spring Conference, SW Region Center, 9 a.m.
16 NE Region Children's Ministry Team Mtg., NE Region Center, 10 a.m.
17 SW Region 3rd Night Revival, Petarsy Mission, 4:30 p.m.
22-23 Conference UMW Retreat
24 Cabinet, Conference Office, 9:30 a.m.
30 NE Region Safe Sanctuary, NE Region Center, 9-12 noon
30 Conference COLCM Meeting, Conference office, 10 a.m.



from

David, Linda, Josephine and
Dennis

Rev. Anna Stilwell would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and words of comfort during the passing of her grandson. Anna says that it was because of your concern and love that has and continues to sustain her through this time of grief.

The *Advocate* is published six times a year by the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of The United Methodist Church. For subscription information, contact the office at 3020 S. Harvey, OKC. OK 73109. Phone: 405-632-2006; Fax: 405-632-0209. E-mail: jdeere@oimc.org.