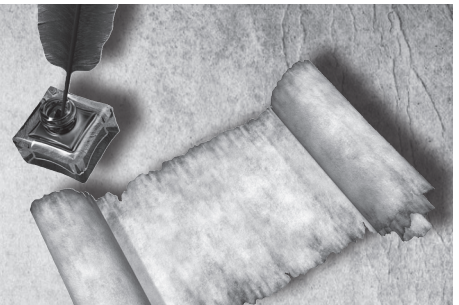


HISTORIAN'S DIGEST



Volume 54, Number 2

Spring, 2014

2014 HSUMC Annual Meeting to Focus on "Methodism and Education in South Carolina in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries"

Our 2014 HSUMC will be held from June 24-26 in conjunction with the SEJ Historical Society annual meeting at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC. The theme of the meeting will be "Methodism and Education in South Carolina in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries," and will feature a number of distinguished presenters.



Rev. Dr. A. V. Huff

At the opening session of the meeting on Tuesday afternoon, the keynote address, "Methodism and Education in South Carolina in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries," will be given by the current SEJ Historical Society President and South Carolina Conference Historian, the Rev. Dr. A.V. Huff. Dr. Huff is Professor Emeritus of History at Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina, is one of South Carolina's preeminent historians, and has authored books on both South Carolina history and Methodist history in the state. He currently serves on the General Commission on Archives and History.

That evening, following dinner, Dr. Katherine Cann, Professor of History at Spartanburg Methodist College, will give a presentation based upon her book, *Common Ties: A History of Textile Industrial Institute, Spartanburg Junior College and Spartanburg Methodist College*. David English Camak had a vision for the establishment of a common school for textile mill workers which evolved into Textile Industrial Institute. *Common Ties* is the story of that school from its establishment in 1911 through its time as Spartanburg Junior College and now Spartanburg Methodist College, a two-year liberal arts institution. Katherine Davis Cann, a professor of history at SMC, brings the school's rich and unique history to life through the voices of students and the countless men and women who gave their best to assure its future (from a description of the book on Amazon.com).



Dr. Kathy Cann



Dr. David Mitchell

On Wednesday morning, following Morning Devotion and Prayer, Dr. David Mitchell will present "Methodism and the Education of African-Americans in South Carolina in the 19th Century." Dr. Mitchell is an Adjunct Faculty of History at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina, where he teaches courses on African American History, Religion in African American History, Civil Rights Era, American Labor History, and other courses related to his interest in the social and cultural history of the New South.

The final presentation will take place on Thursday morning following society business meetings and will be made by the Rev. Dr. Ronald R. Robinson, Perkins-Prothro Chaplain and Professor of Religion at Wofford College. He will speak on "The State of Methodist Influence and Faith at Methodist Founded Colleges and Universities." Dr. Robinson has previously served as a campus minister at Duke University and for 15 years as the pastor of the Myers Park UMC in Charlotte. He has written two books which connect servant leadership with the spiritual life. All four of these presenters promise to be most interesting.

The HSUMC Ministry of Memory and Saddlebag Selection Awards will be presented after the banquet on Wednesday evening and the annual business meeting will be held on Thursday morning. Registration is not due until May 16, so it is still not too late to register for this exciting annual meeting. See pages 3-6 for full schedule and registration materials.



Rev. Dr. Ron Robinson

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Please send address changes to Marge Benham. Editorial correspondence should be directed to Pat Thompson. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is July 1, 2014.

Historian's Digest is published quarterly by the Historical Society of the United Methodist Church.

From the President, Dr. Russell Richey

Connecting Methodists: Preaching the Word and Pushing Books

[conclusion of the letter previously published in the Winter 2014 issue]

To be sure, Methodists said what they were about more effectively in the doing, in their circuits and conferences, in what they accomplished, in their building of an effective organizational structure, in practice and practices. Their connectional enterprise functioned to enact or embody an ecclesiology. Seldom, however, were Methodists capable of teasing out and specifying what their connectionalism implicitly said about themselves. Seldom did connectionalism cash out as an articulated ecclesiology. The enacted understanding of the church remained just that, enacted, structured, practiced.

Perhaps in its history did Methodism come closest to letting its many words about itself describe its connectional nature in quasi-ecclesiological terms. Methodist history, rendered for the eye, captured and captures what was heard and done. History in looking at and describing the Methodist connection, in its detail, rendered a kind of phenomenological ecclesiology. The historical accounts can be read as exhibiting Methodism's connectional nature but typically failed to enter the theological realm to make the implicit ecclesiology explicit.

Getting history to reclaim its theological responsibility is part of what my writing is about and what HSUMC needs to be about.

I admit, then, to having a constructive, personal interest in getting Methodists, United Methodists particularly, to recognize that their connectionalism has expressed and does express their best ecclesiology, to help them make that explicit so as to become ecclesologically self-conscious as a denomination, and then begin to think critically with and about that more formalized ecclesial understanding. Becoming ecclesologically more self-aware should, I believe, allow Methodists to fashion connectional praxis, program and structure more faithful to their sense of mission, to their Wesleyan heritage, to Scripture, and to the leading of the Spirit. That is my programmatic gesture towards United Methodists. And what I have said about the Methodist Episcopal/Methodist/United Methodist legacy applies to some extent to the larger family of communions which share common rootage in American Methodism (African Methodists, holiness churches, to some extent Pentecostal bodies).

HSUMC and GCAH have incredibly important roles to play in helping Methodists generally and United Methodists specifically to understand who they are and to what they are called—that is, to their unique, extraordinary, mission-oriented, dynamic, empowering ecclesiology.

Russell E. Richey

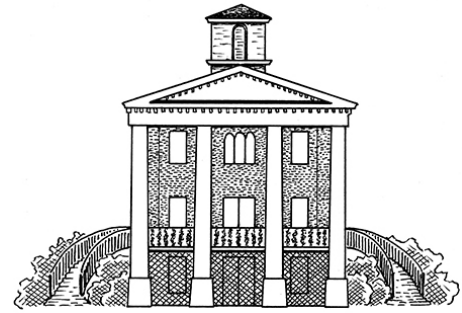
Excerpts, with additions and deletions, from the "Introduction" of my *Methodist Connectionalism: Historical Perspectives* (Nashville: GBHEM, 2009), used with permission.



Dr. Russell Richey

***It's still not too late to register for the annual meeting.
Registration Due: May 16, 2014.***

2014 ANNUAL MEETING
The SEJ Historical Society Of The United Methodist Church
Hosting
The Historical Society Of The United Methodist Church
June 24-26, 2014
WOFFORD COLLEGE
Spartanburg, South Carolina



***“Methodism and Education in South Carolina
19th and Early 20th Centuries***

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Monday, June 23, 2014

2:00 – 6:00 Registration, Lodging Check-In, The Galleria(Evins Street)
6:00 Dinner – Burwell Center Dining Hall

Tuesday, June 24, 2014

7:30 Breakfast – Burwell Center Dining Hall
9:00 – 1:00 Registration, Lodging Check-In, The Galleria (Evins Street)
10:30 – 12:00 SEJHS Steering Committee, Gray-Jones Room, Burwell Center
12:00 – 1:00 Lunch, Burwell Center Dining Hall
1:00 – 1:30 Welcome & Opening Remarks Ms. Joyce E. Plyler, Esquire, President
South Carolina Conference Historical Society
1:30 – 2:30 Keynote Address – “South Carolina Methodism and Education in the 19th and Early
20th Centuries” The Reverend Dr. A. V. Huff, Jr., President
SEJ Historical Society of the UMC
South Carolina Conference Historian
Professor of History Emeritus, Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina
2:30 – 2:45 Break
2:45 – 3:45 Business Meetings
SEJHS, Gray-Jones Room, Burwell Center
HSUMC, Holcombe Room, Burwell Center
4:00 – 5:00 “Walking Tour” of the Wofford Campus Dr. R. Phillip Stone, Archivist
Wofford College and South Carolina Conference
6:00 – 7:00 Dinner, Burwell Center Dining Hall
7:00 – 8:00 “History of Textile Industrial Institute, Spartanburg Junior College, and Spartanburg
Methodist College” Dr. Katherine Cann Professor of History
Spartanburg Methodist College, Spartanburg, South Carolina
8:30 – until Social Hour, Burwell Center *Loggia*

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

7:30 Breakfast, Burwell Center Dining Hall
8:30 – 9:00 Morning Devotion and Prayer
9:00 – 10:00 “Methodism and the Education of African-Americans in South Carolina in the 19th
Century” Dr. David Mitchell, Adjunct Faculty of History
Winthrop University, Rock Hill, South Carolina
10:00 – 10:15 Break

10:15 – 11:00 Business Meetings

SEJHS, Gray-Jones Room, Burwell Center

HSUMC, Holcombe Room, Burwell Center

11:30 – 5:00 Tour to the Cokesbury Historic District, Greenwood, South Carolina (Lunch on Bus)

The Reverend Dr. Ted R. Morton, Jr.

Former Member, Cokesbury Historical and Recreation Commission

6:30 Banquet and Awards, Faculty Dining Room, Burwell Center

HSUMC, SEJHS - Remarks

Entertainment, TBA

Thursday, June 26, 2014

7:30 Breakfast, Burwell Center Dining Hall

8:30 – 9:15 Business Meetings

SEJHS, Gray-Jones Room, Burwell Center

HSUMC, Holcombe Room, Burwell Center

9:15 – 10:15 “The State of Methodist Influence and Faith at Methodist Founded Colleges and Universities”

The Reverend Dr. Ronald R. Robinson

Perkins-Prothro Chaplain and Professor of Religion

Wofford College, Spartanburg, South Carolina

10:45 – 12:00 Service of Holy Communion and Memorial Observance

Leonard Auditorium, Old Main Building

Bishop L. Jonathan Holston, Preacher and Celebrant

The Reverend Dr. Roger M. Gramling, Liturgist

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch, Burwell Center Dining Hall

GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome! The South Carolina Conference Historical Society and the South Carolina Conference Commission on Archives and History welcome you to South Carolina and the 2014 Annual Meeting of the SEJ Historical Society and the meeting of the Historical Society of the United Methodist Church. There were numerous early Methodist ventures into education in South Carolina, and we hope that you will find the program about them interesting and informative.

Lodging and Meals are offered on the Wofford Campus for this meeting. Lodging will be provided in The Wofford Village Apartments. Each apartment is composed of a living area, four single private bedrooms, and two baths. First floor assignments will be made to those who must avoid stairs (please advise on the registration form).

Linens are provided; however, you will need to bring your own pillow and extra blanket as desired. You may wish to bring your own bath soap. **Parking** is available in The Village parking lots near each apartment. Meals will be provided in the Dining Hall of the Burwell Center. The dining hall is located on the main(second) floor. There is elevator access via a service elevator from the rear of the ground floor meeting area to the food service area.

“Day Student” Parking. For those lodging off-campus, parking is available in the admission visitors’ parking area. A campus map will be sent after your registration is received.

Other lodging is available. The closest hotel is the Spartanburg Marriott within walking distance of the campus. The Spartanburg Marriott is located at 299 N. Church Street(Tel. 864/596-1211). You should ask for the “Wofford Rate”. Other recommended lodging is Courtyard Spartanburg located several miles from campus at 110 Mobile Drive(Tel. 864/585-2400). For those lodging off campus, a “day student” package is offered which includes meals at Wofford, snacks, social, banquet, and Wednesday tour to the Cokesbury Historic District.

Meetings will be held in the Gray-Jones and Holcombe rooms on the ground floor of the Burwell Center. Ground level access is available at the left side of the building through the patio(*Loggia*) area.

The Thursday Holy Communion and Memorial Service will be held in Leonard Auditorium of Wofford’s Old Main Building. Ground level access to an elevator is available through doors at the rear of the building.

Directions. Wofford College is located at 429 N. Church Street(Highway 221) in Spartanburg, South Carolina 29303-3663. Spartanburg is located at the intersection of Interstate Highway 26 and Interstate Highway 85. Exits 21, 22, & 28 from Interstate 26, Exits 72,75, & 78 from Interstate 85, and Exits 4, 5, & 6 from Business Loop 85 will take you to downtown Spartanburg and the Campus.

Air Service is provided through the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport with service available through US Airways, United, Southwest, Delta, and American Airlines. (The next closest airport is Charlotte International outside of Charlotte, North Carolina. You will need to rent a car if you fly into Charlotte.)

If it is necessary to cancel your registration, the South Carolina Conference Historical Society will reimburse your fees in full on or prior to June 1, 2014. After June 1, 2014, reimbursement will be adjusted for costs which the Society has already incurred or for which the Society has already contracted.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____
(Please print name(s) as you wish them to appear on your name tag and list of registrants.)

Address _____

City, State, and Zip Code _____

Telephone No. _____

E-mail Address _____

Annual Conference _____

I/We plan to arrive(circle one): Monday Afternoon or Tuesday Morning

Please indicate any special needs or requests. _____

(If traveling by air, please provide information regarding arrival city, airline, day and time _____)

Event Registration

Lodging, Meals, and Tour Package(Monday afternoon arrival) – Three nights housing \$ _____
on the Wofford Campus(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday), linens(bring your own pillow
and extra blanket), all meals, snacks, banquet, social, and Wednesday tour to Cokesbury
Historic District. \$ 207.00 per person

Lodging, Meals, and Tour Package(Tuesday morning arrival) – Two nights housing \$ _____
on the Wofford Campus(Tuesday and Wednesday), linens(bring your own pillow
and extra blanket), all meals(beginning with Tuesday lunch), snacks, banquet, social,
and Wednesday tour to Cokesbury Historic District. \$ 177.00 per person

“Day Student” Package – All meals at Wofford(beginning with Tuesday lunch), snacks, \$ _____
banquet, social, and Wednesday tour to Cokesbury Historic District(off-campus lodging
arrangements made by registrant). \$ 127.00 per person

Membership Dues in the SEJ Historical Society - \$15.00(1 year), \$27.00(2 years), \$ _____
\$40.00(3 years), \$200.00(Life Members).

Proceedings – A compilation of papers and reports shared during this meeting mailed \$ _____
in the Fall following the meeting. \$10.00 per copy

Total Amount Enclosed Payable by Check or Money Order \$ _____

Make Checks Payable To:
South Carolina Conference Historical Society

Mail Checks and Registration Forms To:
South Carolina Conference Historical Society
P. O. Box 21305
Columbia, South Carolina 29221-1305

Registration Deadline Is May 16, 2014 For Questions Regarding Registration Contact: The Reverend
Roger M. Gramling, Tel. 803/771-9125, E-mail: scumf@bellsouth.net

Forgotten Document Sheds Light on Early Holston History

The Holston Conference Archives (HCA), housed at Emory & Henry College, holds a number of manuscript treasures dating back to the earliest years of Holston's history. One of those documents came to light this past spring at a meeting of the Holston Conference Historical Society in Knoxville. Conference archivist, Robert Vejnar, showed attendees a six page manuscript entitled "Bunker Hill Camp Meeting, Aug. 15, 1856." The report gives a description of the thirteen day camp meeting that ensued there, providing such details as sermon topics and the responses of the congregation to altar calls, which on one occasion was described this way: "Several fell and lay for hours in an ecstasy of joy." It also lists those who experienced conversion and joined the church, such as Martin Bays, Sarah Cox, Jane Faris, and Orville Looney.

Bunker Hill Camp Meeting
Aug. 15, 1856.
The meeting, being the 4th quarterly meeting for this conference year, commenced Aug 15, 1856. There were four families moved in to day viz. Geo. B. Merrimon, Thos. Sillanwaters, Wm. Miller, & O. B. Miller. There were so few present at night, we just had a little prayer meeting. Bro. Wm. Bellamy a local preacher from the Kingston circuit arrived.
Sat. 16 - The following moved in to day, George Brown, Wm. White, Clinton Charles & B. L. Bussell - making in all 9 families. Bro. Bellamy's Price preached to day & I exhorted. I called the quarterly-conference together and went through with the business. Our Presiding Elder was not able to reach us. At night I preached from Rom. 6:23 and called for mourners & came forward.

This is just the first two paragraphs of the document. See website referenced below for entire letter.

Interestingly, the document did not specify where Bunker Hill was located in Holston, nor did the author of the report give his name. And many of those in attendance in the spring 2013 Historical Society Meeting said they had never before heard of this particular camp meeting site.

Members of the Historical Society, working in different parts of the Conference with access to various research tools, began laboring together to uncover the history of Bunker Hill. Rev. Jim Douthat uploaded the nearly 150 names provided in the document into a database that then identified most of the converted came from Claiborne, Hawkins, and Sullivan counties in Tennessee. Rev. Grady Winegar used an early 20th century United States Geological Survey map to locate Bunker Hill, which turned out to be in Hawkins County about halfway between Rogersville and Surgoinsville. Rev. Roy Howard consulted a list of ministerial appointments for 1856 and surmised that Rev. William C. Graves wrote the Bunker Hill report because he lived within easy horseback riding distance from the camp site. Graves's authorship was corroborated when Vejnar, Winegar, and Dr. Michael Puglisi of the Emory & Henry College history faculty confirmed that the handwriting in Graves's diary (also deposited in the HCA) matched the document. Further research into a bound volume of the Carter's Valley district quarterly minutes for 1808-1851 (which had been donated to the HCA years earlier) uncovered that Bunker Hill had served as the gathering place for the Carter's Valley Quarterly Conference for at least twenty years, thus substantiating the importance of the site in the religious life of antebellum Holston Methodists.

The Bunker Hill account has been uploaded to the Digital Library of Appalachia's (DLA) website, hosted by the Appalachian College Association (ACA), to which Emory & Henry College belongs: <http://dla.acaweb.org/cdm/ref/collection/Emory/id/98>. The content of the DLA is contributed by the ACA's libraries and provides access to Appalachian historical artifacts. The Bunker Hill report, previously a forgotten piece of Holston's history, is now available to the entire world to view and research along with other historic Holston documents. Additional manuscripts will be uploaded to the DLA in the months ahead. The HCA is always looking to add more historic Holston papers to its archives, so if anyone has documents that think may be suitable for deposit please contact Robert Vejnar at rvejnar@ehc.edu.

—Robert J. Vejnar, II

Papers Solicited for United Methodist Women Sesquicentennial – Deadline for Submission Extended to June 1, 2014



The Methodist Theological School in Delaware, OH (MTSO), will host a three-day conference in 2015. United Methodist Women will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2019. In preparation for the sesquicentennial, Methodist Theological School in Ohio will host a conference May 28-30, 2015, with the theme “United Methodist Women’s History: Voices Lost & Found.”

The conference will include presentation of papers exploring the history, significance, prominent persons and defining issues in the development of UMW. **Anyone interested in presenting a paper at the conference is invited to submit a proposal of 250-500 words by June 1, 2014.** Each proposal, along with a short academic profile of the author, should be emailed to conference coordinator Sarah Lancaster, professor in the Werner Chair of Theology at MTSO. Her address is slancaster@mtso.edu. The conveners hope to publish a volume of selected essays from the conference.

UMW is the largest denominational faith organization for women. Its mission is fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders and advocating for justice. Members raise up to \$20 million each year for programs and projects related to women, children and youth in more than 100 countries around the world.

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