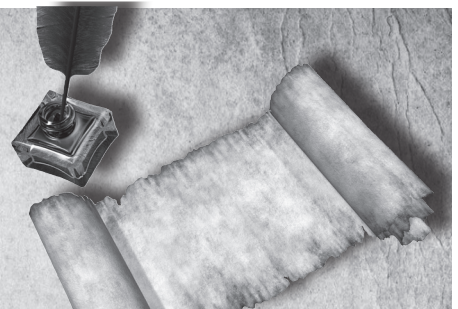


HISTORIAN'S DIGEST



Volume 57, Number 1

Winter, 2017



Western Jurisdiction Issues Invitation to Historical Society Members to Attend 2017 Annual Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska



On behalf of the Western Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History, I want to issue a special invitation to you to be a part of the joint meeting of Western Jurisdiction Commission and the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church which will be held in Anchorage, Alaska June 26-29, 2017 at our Methodist-founded institution of Higher Learning, Alaska Pacific University.

The meeting will highlight some of the people, places and events that have historical significance for us within the western United Methodist Church and especially Alaska. Alaska was first serviced by the Woman's Home Missionary Society in Unga in 1886 and then at the Jesse Lee Home in Unalaska in 1890. The Gold Rush in the late 1890s, fishing industries, the fur industry headed by the Russian merchants brought many people to the District of Alaska and these people needed spiritual guidance along with economic survival. Initially this was accomplished by the Russian Orthodox, then the Catholics, Moravians, and then the others including Methodists. We will highlight these stories with presentations and field trips.

2017 is a banner year for Alaska. It is Alaska's Sesquicentennial. It has been 150 years since Alaska was purchased from Russia. Celebrations are being planned all during 2017. Some of these celebrations will happen during our June meeting.

Many when they hear the word "Alaska" vision its geology and biological beauty as well as its outdoor activities, but our meeting in 2017 will add

a cultural history dimension to that agenda, as we learn about Methodist activity since 1886, Alaska indigenous people's involvement, and many social and economic issues that provide a basis for mission outreach.

Since traveling to Alaska is a long distance for many of you, it is suggested that you will want to either come a few days early or stay a few days after to see some of the many interesting sites in the Anchorage area or in other places in Alaska. The summer solstice with its 20 hours of sun light has many special activities. However, this is prime tourist season so it is important to make reservations early.

Please accept our invitation to the June 26 to 29, 2017 meeting to learn about Methodism in the West and Alaska and experience a small portion of the beauty of Alaska. Mail your registration today.

Larry Hayden, Vice President and Host
3604 East 18th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
907-222-1938
lhaydennjuno@gmail.com

Please Note:

The Registration Form for the annual meeting is on pages three and four and can be either copied or detached from the agenda and returned to the registrar.

In addition

This is the year in which we elect new officers for the HSUMC. There is a special insert inside the newsletter with the names and biographies of those running for office. The ballot is a single sheet, which can be marked and then folded and returned to GCAH. All you need to do is to mark it, put it in an envelope and mail it by March 15 to the address at the bottom of the ballot.

Historical Society of the UMC

Priscilla Pope-Levison, President
popelevison@mail.smu.edu

Dan Swinson, Vice President
Chair, Program Committee
djswinson7@gmail.com

Barbara Essen, Secretary
barbaraessen05@gmail.com

Kerri Shoemaker, Treasurer
kerrishoe@zebra.net

Program Committee:
Chris Shoemaker
brothershoe@zebra.net

Philip Lawton
Plawton302@gmail.com

Luther Oconer
ljoconer@united.edu

Joyce Plyler
joyce@charlotte.twcbc.com

Linda Schramm, GCAH Rep.
lars@greatlakes.net

GCAH General Secretary
Alfred T. Day
atday@gcah.org

Richard Stowe, Membership Sec.
8801 W. Eucalyptus Avenue
Muncie, IN 47304
rastowe@mstar.net

Patricia J. Thompson, Editor
P. O. Box 538
Morrisville VT 05661
802-888-2185
pajt8817@aol.com

Please send address changes to Richard Stowe. Editorial correspondence should be directed to Pat Thompson. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is March 15, 2017.

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

Message from the President

— Dr. Priscilla Pope-Levison



Dr. Priscilla Pope-Levison

In his *magnum opus* on *Methodism, Methodism: Empire of the Spirit*, David Hempton pronounces this grand statement: “... the history of Methodism is really a history of female preponderance,” or, reiterating the same point in another way, he writes, “... Methodism was without question preponderantly a women’s movement.” Beyond the fact that women were the majority of Methodism, Hempton argues that they also *shaped* the movement. To quote Hempton again, “Quite simply, as purveyors of hospitality, deaconesses, visitors, evangelists, prayers, exhorters, testifiers, class members and leaders, and preachers, women helped define the character of the Methodist movement.”

Women in Methodism—very ordinary women, not just the “rock stars” like Susanna Wesley and Phoebe Palmer—contributed vastly to shaping and defining the movement, and they did this by banding together in organizations, like the Woman’s Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman’s Home Missionary Society, the deaconess movement, and more. These organizations eventually merged into what we know today as United Methodist Women. UMW, 800,000 members strong, represents the current iteration of Methodist women’s organizing, which has been going strong for nearly a century and a half. Hence, the approaching sesquicentennial of UMW in 2019.

In anticipation of this important anniversary, UMW hosted a conference at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio on the topic, “United Methodist Women: Voices Lost and Found.” I am pleased to report that some of the papers presented at that conference have been published in a double issue of *Methodist History* and are accessible to HSUMC members in hard copy (if you pay for that subscription level) or online on the GCAH website at this link: <http://archives.gcah.org/handle/10516/9855>

Many of the women featured in these pages will not be familiar even to regular readers of *Methodist History*. In his article on Methodist women in Iowa, Andrew Klumpp unearths women like Hattie N. Wilcox and Martha Snyder who, as minister’s wives, faced “the struggles of itinerancy on the expansive prairies.” Some women he discovered were only identified by their husband’s name, like Mrs. O.H. P. Faus and Mrs. George W. Pratt. Beyond the United States, Paul Chilcote and Ulrike Shuler introduce readers to the Methodist Bible women of Bulgaria and Italy who “laid a foundation for Methodist mission before the WFMS missionaries even arrived.” In the appendix, four Bulgarian names and 29 Italian names fill a list of Methodist Bible women.

In her opening lecture for the conference—which serves as the first article in the *Methodist History* double issue—Dana Robert, historian and missiologist, argues that the women featured represent three core Methodist values: 1) The “continuous narrative of believers’ witness” from early Methodism to today; 2) The history of United Methodism, in agreement with David Hempton, is a women’s movement; and 3) The “rich matrix of community engagement that stretches beyond the local church.”

Take time to read the latest double issue of *Methodist History* from cover to cover, then share it with a pastor, lay leader, Sunday School teacher, UMW member, youth group leader, and beyond!

June 26 – 29, 2017 Registration Form
Joint Meeting of the
Western Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History Bi-Annual Meeting
and the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church
Hosted by the Alaska United Methodist Conference
Anchorage, Alaska

Name _____
(Please print name as you wish it on your name tag and registrant list)

Mailing Address _____
Street, City, State, ZIP

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Your Annual Conference _____

Registration Fee _____ \$175.00
(includes Monday and Tuesday dinners, Tuesday lunch, Wednesday tour day activities and 2 meals, rent of our meeting spaces and incidentals); (does not include breakfasts or lodging)

Please write your deposit check for \$75.00 per person (or the full \$175 if desired) payable to the Western Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History (WJCA&H) and send it with this completed registration form to Larry Hayden, 3604 East 18th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99508, preferably by May 25, 2017.

Who should we contact if there is an emergency: Name and Phone Number: _____

Any food or physical restrictions? _____

Continuing Education Unit certificate will be offered for those needing documentation.

I wish to donate an additional amount to benefit the
Historical Society of The United Methodist Church _____

☐

Check here if you will NOT allow the use of your photograph in UM publications

I am / We are willing and able to transport people in and around Anchorage: _____

Write any notes here of concerns that we need to be aware of:

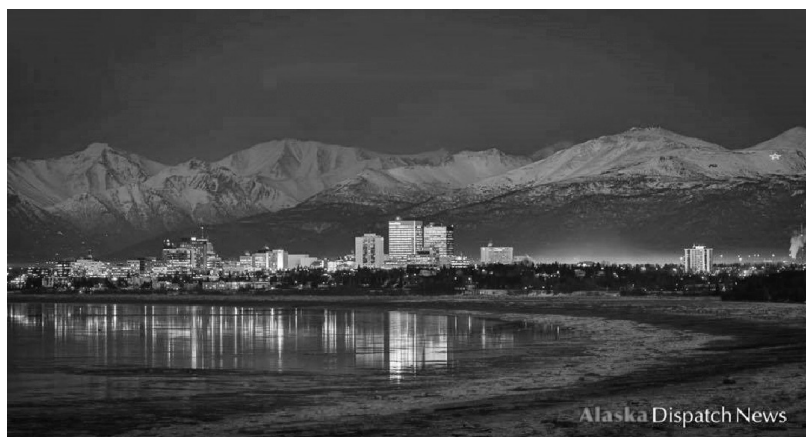
Another choice would be the Spring Hill Suites by Marriott at Anchorage University Lake; 907-751-6300; or another place of your own choosing. Spring Hill has complimentary shuttle service from the airport upon request. They also have a full breakfast, indoor pool, and a meeting room. Spring Hill has offered us a room rate of at \$222 per night. www.springhillsuites.com/ancum Make sure you ask for the Methodist History Group rate. All unconfirmed rooms will be released on MAY 25, 2017.

Alaska Pacific University Dormitory: _____

[illegible]

If you have questions, please contact:

WJCA&H President DarEll Weist at dtw4940@gmail.com (213-700-1458) or Vice President Larry Hayden at lhaydennjuno@gmail.com (907-222-1938) or Treasurer Jim Lewis at revjlewis43@gmail.com (253-848-4434) www.adn.com – to get more photos and current news stories



Ballot for HSUMC Officers for 2018-2021

____ For President – Ivan G. Corbin



Ivan G. Corbin has been a pastor in the Florida Annual Conference since 1986, serving churches as new as Peace United Methodist Church in Orlando and as historic as the Key West United Methodist Church (Formerly the First United Methodist "Old Stone" Church) in Key West (1844) where he oversaw the merger of three historic United Methodist congregations.

Ivan has served leadership positions for the Florida Conference Commission on Archives and History and a member of the Florida Conference and Southeast Jurisdiction Historical Societies serving as president for both groups. He has been a member of Southeast Jurisdiction Commission for eight years, Chairperson for his final four. A term of service with the General Commission on Archives and History put him in connection Historical Society of the United Methodist Church.

Ivan is a genealogist. To his delight, he has discovered his fifth great grandfather, Samuel Forwood I of Deer Creek in Harford County, Maryland, appears in Bishop Francis Asbury's journal numerous times. During the 1770's Forwood's home was as a preaching station and Forwood himself an avid Methodist. One could say our nominee for President of the HSUMC literally has Methodism in his blood.

____ For Vice-President – Doug Tzan



Doug Tzan earned his Ph.D. in Religious Studies (History of Christianity) from Boston University in 2013. His forthcoming book on Bishop William Taylor was awarded the 2015 Jesse Lee Prize of the General Commission on Archives and History. He was also a presenter at the "Voices Lost, Voices Found" conference anticipating the UMW's upcoming 150th anniversary held at The Methodist Theological School of Ohio (2015).

He is an ordained Elder in the Baltimore-Washington Conference and the associate pastor at the Sykesville Parish in Sykesville, MD. He teaches in the fields of church history and mission, and he serves on the Baltimore-Washington Conference Historical Society and the board of the Strawbridge Shrine Association.

____ For Secretary -

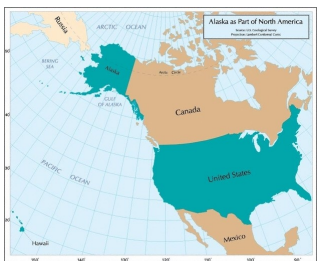
If you know someone who would be willing to serve in this position [please check with him/her before placing his/her name into nomination] or if you are interested in serving in this position, please send names and a brief statement of commitment to United Methodist historical work to Priscilla Pope-Levison at popelevison@mail.smu.edu asap. The position requires taking minutes at the annual board and annual meetings, held at the annual meeting, sending the minutes to the board members, and preparing the minutes of the annual meeting for publication in Methodist History. Assistance is available to board members to help with travel expenses to annual meetings.

____ For Treasurer - Kerri Shoemaker



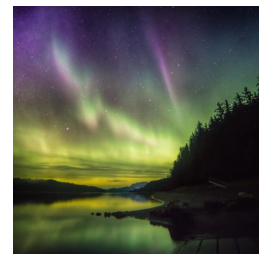
Kerri Shoemaker is currently a business analyst at an electronic payments processing company in Columbus, Georgia. I have been married to Chris, a United Methodist pastor, for 19 years. I am a lifelong United Methodist, growing up at Pitts Chapel UMC in Jones County, Georgia. I graduated from Jones County High School and went on to earn a B.S. in Mathematics from United Methodist-affiliated LaGrange College, just north of Columbus, Georgia. From 2009-2012, I held the position of Editor of NEWS and NOTES, the newsletter publication of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society, and am currently serving as the SEJHS Secretary. I am the incumbent HSUMC Treasurer, beginning my term in 2013.

Please mark the ballot below and return it by no later than March 15, 2017 to:
General Commission on Archives and History
PO Box 127
Madison, NJ 07940



Program Agenda

North to Alaska: Walking in the Light



Monday, June 26, 2017



General Secretary Rev.
Fred Day



Dr. Priscilla Pope-Levison



Rev. Dr. DarEll Weist



Charlie Brower, Nome



Ray Buckley, Palmer



Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, Invited

7 - 9 a.m.	Breakfast on your own
9 - 12	Historical Society Executive Board Meeting
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Registration and check-in available on APU Campus Carr-Gottstein Building Lobby
	Walk around on the campus of Alaska Methodist University (APU) or other local tours as available.
Whenever to 1:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own
1:00 - 1:45	Opening Devotions with GCAH General Secretary Fred Day
1:45- 1:55	Welcome, housekeeping items and Introductions by host chair Larry Hayden
1:55- 2:15	Welcoming from local dignitaries
2:15 - 5	Plenary Sessions with Dr. Priscilla Pope Levison and the Rev. Dr. DarEll Weist - in either the Board Room or classroom
6 - 9	Dinner and Program at First Anchorage UMC downtown hosted by the Samoan/Polynesian Fellowship with a program on Alaska Native Involvement in Methodism (Charles Brower and Ray Buckley, tentative speakers). Short recognition of the Alaska Sesquicentennial.



Conference Superintendent
Rev. Carlo Rapanut



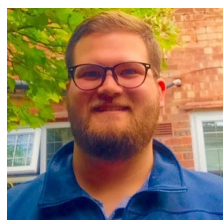
Larry Hayden, Host



**Tuesday,
June 27, 2017**



Dale Patterson



Alex Parrish



Shirley Knepp

7 - 8	Breakfast on your own
8:30 - 9	Worship/Devotions, Conference Superintendent Carlo Rapanut
9 - 10	The Historical Society will have Committee meetings: History and Interpretation/Heritage Landmarks/Archives and Library; these three committees will report their findings later in the week.
10 - 11	Western Jurisdiction business meeting
11 - 12	Workshop: Dale Patterson "Conducting and Preserving Oral History"
12 - 1	Lunch at the Jesse Lee Home Campus with a program on its history and Benny Benson and the Alaska Flag design
1 - 2	Plenary Address: Alex Parrish from Historical Society
2 - 3	Plenary Address: Shirley Knepp from Western Jurisdiction
3 - 5	Joint HS/WJ Business Meeting
6 - 9	HSUMC: The Distinguished Service Award Banquet identifying the winners of the Saddlebag (one hour) and Ministry of Memory (half hour) awards with comments


**Wednesday,
June 28, 2017**



Walt Hays



Rev. Dan Wilcox

The bus tour day will include some sites around the Anchorage area 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	Breakfast on campus 7-8:30 a.m. on your own 
9:00 a.m. sharp leave APU or Springhill	St. John UMC totem pole Drive by Russian Orthodox church after short visit at the Alaska Conference Office and Reference Room
11:30	Birchwood Camp for lunch with a possible stop of Chugiak UMC for Denali view Eklutna Cemetery with history of Russian missionaries in the late 1700s
1:00	Musk Ox Farm in Palmer Headquarters of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race
5:00	Dinner at Christ First UMC with a program on Alaska Methodism
	Rev. Dan Wilcox will talk about the Unalaska experience (working with the fishing people and blessing of the fleet, and original Jesse Lee Home orphanage, etc.
	Potential commentaries may be given while on bus.
9:00	Return to campus

**Thursday,
June 29, 2017**

7 - 8	Breakfast on your own
8 - 8:15	Devotions
8:15 - 9	Presentation by The Rev. Dr. DarEll T. Weist - The Methodist Invasion of California 1850-1870
9 - 10	Speaker (perhaps on Alaska Methodist Women) (perhaps on the Siberian Mission), unfinished business
10 - 12	Memorial readings, parting comments, etc.
12	Closing Devotions
	Lunch on your own and tours and departures

Notes:

Nominations Open for Sister M. Claude Lane, O.P. Memorial Award

The Society of American Archivists' Awards Committee is seeking nominations for the Sister M. Claude Lane, O.P., Memorial Award. This award recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to the field of religious archives. It is named in honor of Sister M. Claude Lane, the first professionally trained archivist at the Catholic Archives of Texas in Austin, who served there from 1960 until her death in 1974. The award is sponsored by the Society of Southwest Archivists, in conjunction with Society of American Archivists.

Criteria for nomination include:

- Involvement and work in the Archivists of Religious Collections Section (ARCS) of the Society of American Archivists.
- Contributions to archival literature that relates to religious archives.
- Participation and leadership in religious archives organizations.
- Evidence of leadership in specific religious archives.

Only individual archivists are eligible for nomination. The award finalist is recognized with a certificate from SAA and a \$300 cash prize provided by the Society of Southwest Archivists at the annual Society of American Archivists meeting.

Nomination forms and guidelines are available online, and can be submitted via email. To download the nomination form, please visit <http://www2.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section12-lane>. This page also includes more information on the award and list of past winners.

The deadline for submitting nominations is **February 28, 2017**.

If you have any questions about the award or the nomination process, please contact:

Jillian Ewalt, ewalt@csus.edu

Metadata Archivist, Japanese American Digitization Project

Special Collections and Archives, California State University, Sacramento

Historian's Digest
c/o WV Annual Conference of UMC
P.O. Box 2313
Charleston WV 25328

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Clarksburg WV
26301
Permit #87