
2004 RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY AWARDS FOR YEARS OF SERVICE -- 2004

70 years

Arnold Weaver

50 years

Calvin W. Carey
Gerald A. Krause
James E. Miller
James L. Vahey
Verlin M. Wandrey
T. Edmond White

35 years

John F. Webster

27 years

Thomas Brown

25 years

Barbara Gist Cook
Thomas E. Long
Joseph R. Mitchell
Peter A. Peterson
Forrest R. Wells
Richard L. Whitaker
Kerry James Wilson

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

The C.O.S.R.O.W. (Commission on the Status and Role of Women) Bridge Builders Award is given to persons who have been and are good bridge builders between men and women, lay and clergy in our Annual Conference and in society. It is the Commission's hope to present the award to a man and a woman each year. Those receiving the award must have the following criteria: (1) They must be inclusive in their style of leadership. (2) They must work to break down the barriers that both the Church and society have built. The recipients of this year's award have spent many years in these pursuits.

THE 2004 C.O.S.R.O.W. BRIDGE BUILDERS AWARDS ARE GIVEN TO:

HARRIET ALICEA, PAUL FOULKE, AND IM JUNG

HARRIET ALICEA, SEYMOUR, WISCONSIN

My Lord and God, as one of your Christian children, I want to give thanks, honor, and praise for the amazing journey you've provided me. Since I made the decision to follow you, and even before that, you have been there to love, strengthen, guide, and help me to use the wisdom of your Word to have a good life.

I want to thank, and am forever blessed by, the many pastors who encouraged me to become a lay speaker, Sunday school teacher, youth counselor, and a leader for the Church. Also, thank you to those who encouraged me to become a local pastor, especially my family, my pastors, and church members who shared your love and kind words in my preaching, in marriage ceremonies I was privileged to take part in, in baptizing your children, in counseling, and in burying loved ones within the Oneida community. I was also privileged to travel and share the Word within many churches in Wisconsin. There were many times I feel I was blessed more than those I served than in my own gift of preaching. Every encounter gave me more reason to share His Word.

The journey in His service has been filled with awe at His power and gentleness and love when I feel I've failed at times. His forgiveness has filled me with more faith and love to serve even better. Lord, You taught me that every person who touched my life has made me who I am. Thanks and praise to you all. May God richly bless your lives.

With much gratitude,
Harriet Alicea

PAUL FOULKE
PASTOR OF HOLY TRINITY UMC, BALSAM LAKE

Paul was a member of COSROW from 1993-2003 and served as secretary for the last three years. During his service with the commission he was always eager to help with the tasks at hand with ideas, inspiration, and labor.

Paul has also taken advantage of opportunities to bring better awareness to the churches he serves on issues of domestic violence by inviting shelter directors to speak to the congregations. This is an area in which he takes great interest and a pattern he will continue throughout his ministry.

IM JUNG
PASTOR OF ONEIDA UMC

I came from “Mono-culture Korea” to “Blended-culture America” 30 years ago. Ever since then I have tried to fit into this blended culture where I now live. But, because each group of people has their own unique language, traditions, values, arts, music, and faiths, I become rather confused or lost.

The first 20 years, living with several different immigrants in different parts of America, I slowly saw the beauty of differences and the sin of prejudice. Those people whom I met during those years built the cultural bridge for me to walk closer to them. Many people sincerely respected my customs, traditions, and identity, which empowered me to walk forward on their bridge. Other times there was much demand—walk closer to me so you can be “just like me.” I struggled to balance walking between these two bridges. No matter how long I have lived here in the USA—who I am, where I live, where I shop, who I serve—because of my “Koreanness,” I constantly experience racism and prejudice and I keep fighting to live as a free person in Christ as well as Korean-American.

During the next ten years, I not only walked their comfortable or demanding bridges, but I also tried to become a bridge builder of inclusiveness, unity, and reconciliation among other immigrants, race, gender, or classes—blended groups. Presently I have received double blessings to serve Native Americans—not immigrants—but the “First Nation” people. Oneida Corn Soup and my kimchee (Korean) just don’t go together, but who says that hamburger (American) and kimchee, taco (Hispanic) and kimchee, mustard greens (Afro-American) and kimchee can’t go together!!?? Why not??

My experience, after all, living in a blended-culture for 30 years has strengthened me to understand and care for others who are not like me. I am called a bridge building of peace for church, society, and the world as pastor of a church in the Midwest. I enjoy serving God’s people and their community of faith with all their diverse beauty which God has created as a gift.

DENMAN EVANGELISM AWARDS HONOR WORK IN EVANGELISM

The Denman Evangelism Award is presented annually to a United Methodist lay and clergy person in each Annual Conference for outstanding work in Christian Evangelism. The award was named for the late Dr. Harry Denman, distinguished lay evangelist whom Dr. Billy Graham called "my mentor in evangelism." The awards are made possible by the Foundation of Evangelism, which was founded in 1949 by Dr. Denman.

LAITY AWARD

PATTY BERNAU, WATERFORD UMC

As one of her nominators wrote: "She can no more fail to introduce the lost to Jesus than she can stop breathing. It's just what she does." Another person shared, "She has a warm and tender heart for God and often proclaims the Good News of Jesus Christ." Patty Bernau is a mother of three teenage sons. Her capacity to lead and serve is amazing. She gives of herself in Youth Ministry, "Moms-in-Touch," Bible Studies, Sunday School, and community activities. She devotes many hours to finding ways of presenting the Gospel.

One event in her life that created even more of a sense of urgency in bringing Christ to the world was Columbine. Patty's nephew, John Tomlin, died in the violence of that day. Because John and his family were originally from Wisconsin, and a very strong Christian family, Patty has seized many opportunities on their behalf to speak publicly about the importance of having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Patty lives that every minute matters in helping others to interact with Jesus' offer of new life and eternal life.

CLERGY AWARD

MICHAEL R. CARLSON

PASTOR OF PARKVIEW UMC, TURTLE LAKE

Pastor Michael Carlson grew up on a family farm in the rural Lake Wilson area, Slayton, Minnesota. On June 15, 1985, Mike and Leona were wed. His seminary training was completed at Bethel Seminary in 1989. The gift of evangelism has been evident in Mike's ministry whether it has been men's group like "Promise Keepers" or children's ministries like Good News Clubs or Discipleship Bible Studies or retreat experiences like "Walk to Emmaus." There is the fruit of evangelism in the Turtle Lake church as Mike has effectively offered Christ through his lifestyle and his words. He has engaged the unchurched, confirmation students, seekers and the disenchanted as well as members in the call of Jesus upon their lives. He identifies people who have not yet believed in Jesus and works with them toward their own faith whether it is as he enjoys his hobby of antique tractors, his work in the Lions Club, or his ministry in the church. The words of testimony from one of those whom God used Mike to disciple defines his gift of evangelism well: "Mike Carlson ... has guided me to a rebirth in Jesus Christ. I have been enlightened to God's complete love. I now read the Bible daily and look forward to living a better life through Christ."

FRANCIS ASBURY AWARD

The Francis Asbury Award offers recognition to individuals who have made a significant contribution to fostering the Church's ministries in higher education at the local, district, or annual conference level. The name is based on Bishop Asbury's admonition to the people called Methodist to erect a school in the vicinity of every church ". . . to give the key of knowledge in a general way to your children, and those of the poor in the vicinity of your small towns and villages."

THE 2004 FRANCIS ASBURY AWARD IS GIVEN TO:

DON ILIFF

PASTOR OF WESLEY UMC, LA CROSSE

Don has been a committed and active member of the Wisconsin Conference Board of Higher Education and Student Ministry for many years. Local campus ministry has been a top pastoral priority for Don and he has been actively committed and involved with the Crossroads Campus Ministry at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Don has served as Board President of the Crossroads Campus Ministry and participates in serving meals to students and planning special occasions for college students in the Wesley United Methodist Church. Don also supports students at UW-La Crosse by giving away hundreds of plants each year to students through the campus ministry.

LOVE IN ACTION AWARD

The Love in Action Award recognizes outstanding commitment and passion to God's mission through disaster response and relief.

THE 2004 LOVE IN ACTION AWARD IS GIVEN TO:

VAUGHN BRANCEL

BRIGGSVILLE, WISCONSIN

Vaughn Brancel has been chosen due to his ongoing willingness to donate time and effort to his church and to Wisconsin Conference Disaster Response.

Vaughn has been on the Wisconsin Disaster Committee since it was formed. He helped purchase the Disaster Response trailer and its contents, as well as storing the trailer at his residence.

He has worked on the Siren tornado response. He has served on the Board of the Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Chatham, Illinois.

In addition, Vaughn is a life-long member and a tireless volunteer in his local church, Briggsville United Methodist Church, as well as in Trinity United Parish, located in southern Marquette County.

PERRY SAITO AWARD

Given by the Wisconsin United Methodist Federation for Social Action to individuals who demonstrate their loyalty to Christ through faith and work to further justice and peace through The United Methodist Church.

THE 2004 PERRY SAITO AWARD IS GIVEN TO:

BISHOP DON OTT

PEWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

for his commitment to and promotion of

The United Methodist Council of Bishops' Initiative on Children and Poverty

JULIE MCNAUGHTON

MENOMONIE, WISCONSIN

for her local, Conference level, national and world-wide fight against hunger through Bread for the World, ECHO, and Conference Hunger Task Force

THELMA W. GREGG

MEMORIAL FUND AWARD

The Thelma W. Gregg Award is named for a woman who demonstrated her Christian commitment in a tireless promotion of the missionary outreach of the Church. She showed a concern for church growth and mission education in her church, Wauwatosa Avenue United Methodist Church in the Metro North District, as well as in the Wisconsin Conference.

This award is a family-initiated endowment which awards an annual gift to a United Methodist lay person who serves in the mission spirit personified by Thelma W. Gregg. This lay person will be actively and creatively engaged in local, national, and global missions.

The award was established in 1993 by the family to recognize and honor lay persons who are doing vital missions in ways that reflect the love of Christ. The award includes a financial gift to be designated to an Advance project by the recipient.

THE 2004 THELMA W. GREGG MEMORIAL FUND AWARD IS GIVEN TO:

DEANNA SHIMKO, WATERFORD, WISCONSIN

Deanna is one of those rare individuals who gives freely of her time and talents to all who need them. She is a Christian witness in all that she does.

She has been a missionary to Cambodia while involving many people in Wisconsin to support her well digging projects with prayers and funds.

She has coordinated the Korean Exchange Program for 11 years. This year 28 junior high students and 4 chaperones came to Wisconsin.

Deanna has been an active member of Caldwell UMC. She has helped to lead Caldwell people in the renovation of an apartment at United Methodist Children's Service in Milwaukee. She is an active part of the local food pantry housed at the Caldwell church, which currently provides all the food needed for 25 families. Deanna is willing to share about the Caldwell mission program to other churches.

Rev. John Huenink says, "Deanna is one of those rare individuals who knows how to relate to those around her. She is a true inspiration to all who are near her, filling them with her spirit of Christian missions and outreach."
