

## 2006 RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

### COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY AWARDS FOR YEARS OF SERVICE - 2006

#### 70 YEARS

Orville McKay

#### 60 YEARS

Stanley C. F. Hayes

Keith W. Irwin

Theodore W. Schwartz

Ray E. Short

Richard G. Sweitzer

Arthur W. Vieth

#### 50 YEARS

Richard L. Bonney

Billy F. Bross

Myron E. Christensen

Paul H. Doering

Henry R. Dreistadt

Anthony J. Farina

Donald L. Frank

Hilbert E. Lohr

William A. Noble

Donald M. Stassel

Edwin S. Stefan

\*Barry Shaw

(inadvertently omitted in  
2005)

#### 25 YEARS

Paul B. Armstrong

Elmer M. Colyer

Joel Deaner-Rogers

Larry Allen Hakes

Kent P. Ingram

Lucille A. Kness

Thomas S. LaChapelle

Carol S. McDonald

Scott A. McMurray

Marc Well Nagel

Jean Ehnert Nicholas

Dennis C. Weis

David R. Werner

Harold H. Zimmick, Jr.

### THELMA W. GREGG MEMORIAL FUND AWARD

The Thelma W. Gregg Award is named for a woman from Wauwatosa Avenue UMC who demonstrated her Christian commitment in a tireless promotion of the missionary outreach of the Church. 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 2006 Thelma W. Gregg Memorial Fund Award  
is given to:**

**FRED BRANCEL**

**Madison, Wisconsin**

Fred is a lay person who has lived his witness to peace in Wisconsin and in the world. He worked for twenty years as an agricultural/educational missionary in Angola, Zimbabwe and Zaire, Africa. He was a director-manager of our Whispering Pines Camp for eleven years. In retirement, he has made numerous VIM trips around the U.S., Montserrat, West Indies, and Zimbabwe. He has traveled extensively in South America, Africa and Europe. He committed civil-disobedience at Fort Benning, was sentenced to federal prison for three months, and will be released in July. Fred has also been an active member of the Capital district missions committee. He lives in Madison with his wife, Mary Ann.

**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 2006**

**Francis Asbury Award is given to:**

**SANDY HIEBERT**

**Whitewater, Wisconsin**

Sandy has served as an active and vital member of the Wisconsin Conference Board of Higher Education and Student Ministry for seven years. Her presence and contributions have helped the Board move in positive directions to serve students in higher education. As a campus minister at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Sandy leads the Whitewater United Methodist Ministry. She has been an instrumental and critical presence in organizing the Tuesday Free Lunch Program for campus students, which she helped begin seven years ago. The lunch is averaging 418 students per week for a delicious home-cooked meal. In her time as campus minister, Sandy has been instrumental in networking with United Methodist churches in the Whitewater area both large and small, to bring support to the campus ministry financially and with help for the weekly meals.

**LOVE IN ACTION AWARD**

The Love in Action Award is presented annually by the Disaster Response Committee of the Board of Global Ministries of the Wisconsin Annual Conference. The award recognizes outstanding commitment and passion to God's mission through disaster response and relief.

This year three recipients earned this award:

**The 2006 Love in Action Awards**

**are given to:**

**JUDY BRUNN**

**New Berlin, Wisconsin**

Judy has led volunteers in flood clean-up in eastern Wisconsin and primarily in the Milwaukee area. She is the Volunteer coordinator for the Conference Disaster Response efforts.

**JUDY VASBY**

**Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin**

Judy taught, organized, and led the child care volunteers at the Tommy Thompson State Fair Park Center after Hurricane Katrina. She continues to train child care volunteers for the Wisconsin Conference.

**RICK TYLER**

**Elroy, Wisconsin**

Rick helped organize and participated in the long-term recovery of the Cottonville fires in Adams County and the recover efforts after the Viola tornado.

**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 AWARDS  
PEGGY FALKENSTEIN  
Lodi UMC**

Peggy’s spirit is effervescent. She witnesses to her faith in Christ in the friendship and love shown to the youth of the church and community. Peggy’s vision is inclusive in nature. Her evangelism has brought numerous adults and children into the church by praising God through the Christian fine arts. Peggy has been instrumental in the Cherub Choir, Junior Choir, in five years of Christmas pageants, and in a yearly skit held for Mother’s Day. She has incredible patience, kindness, and love as she brings out the best in children as they do the musicals. As a result of the pageants, family, friends, and community have experienced the Good News in a joyful and contemporary way.

**ROBERTA NOWICKI  
Necedah UMC**

Robbie has an amazing ability to bring the “face of Christ” into any situation. She is always positive, always ready to not only suggest new ministries, but to dig in and get the work done. In 2003, Robbie hand-delivered 200+ flyers to almost every house in town to tell community families about the Vacation Bible School Program that summer. Because of Robbie’s enthusiastic spirit, for the first time 5 students attended Jr. High Convo this year and she resurrected the camping program with 11 youth attending camps this summer. In 2005 Robbie attended the Youth Ministry Institute through the conference and is now leading a growing youth program at the church.

**CLERGY AWARD  
DAVID P. CARLSON  
Pastor of Sparta UMC**

Pastor Carlson came to Sparta 10 years ago faced with the task of rebuilding and reunifying that church. It has been his vision and leadership which has kept the church alive. He had a vision to add a Saturday night service with an informal “praise and worship” format. Through this service the church is reaching those in the community who might not otherwise go to church. A second music team consisting entirely of youth has been formed, growing from 7 to 15 members in a matter of months. Under Pastor Carlson’s leadership a theater ministry has been developed. Cast members are recruited from the community-at-large and the church has gained new members through this. The church has also started a free soup supper every Tuesday night and is reaching out to all persons in need.

**COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN  
BRIDGE BUILDER'S AWARD**

The Commission on the Status and Role of Women (C.O.S.R.O.W.) Bridge Builder's Award is given to person who have been and are good bridge builders between men and women, lay and clergy in our Wisconsin Annual Conference and in society.

**CATHRYN PRIME LUSE**  
**Milwaukee, WI**

Cathryn is a member of Brown Deer UMC. She became involved in the United Methodist Church when she moved to an area in 1971 where there was not a Baptist church. She immediately embraced its concept of the global church. Cathryn has served in many positions in her local church and district; among them are superintendent of Sunday School, Worship Chair, Lay Leader, local UMW president, and district UMW Vice-President. She is presently the Brown Deer UMC Lay Member of Annual Conference, serves on the Wisconsin Conference Board of Trustees, the Northcott Neighborhood House Board of Directors, the United Methodist Children's Services Board of Directors, and the Wisconsin Council of Churches Board of Directors. Cathryn uses her experiences and faith to return to the local church and work for a global difference. Cathryn is the mother of two adult children and also has two granddaughters. She is a retired high school mathematics teacher.

**TOM POPP**  
**Madison, Wisconsin**

Tom, a member of Lake Mills UMC, a lay member of Annual Conference, and a layperson who serves on the Board of Ordained Ministry, has demonstrated his mission skills and inclusive bridging/healing skills in his church family, community, and the world. After taking early retirement, Tom served as interim director of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Dane County, interim director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dane County, traveled to Vanuatu to experience the culture and do service projects, and with a grant from Rotary International, spent time in Malawi to help develop care programs for children orphaned by the AIDS epidemic. Besides being the father of three children, Tom has been a foster parent, exchange student parent, and a school volunteer. Tom's consistent message of inclusion and mission is directed by his lifelong participation in the church of Jesus Christ.