

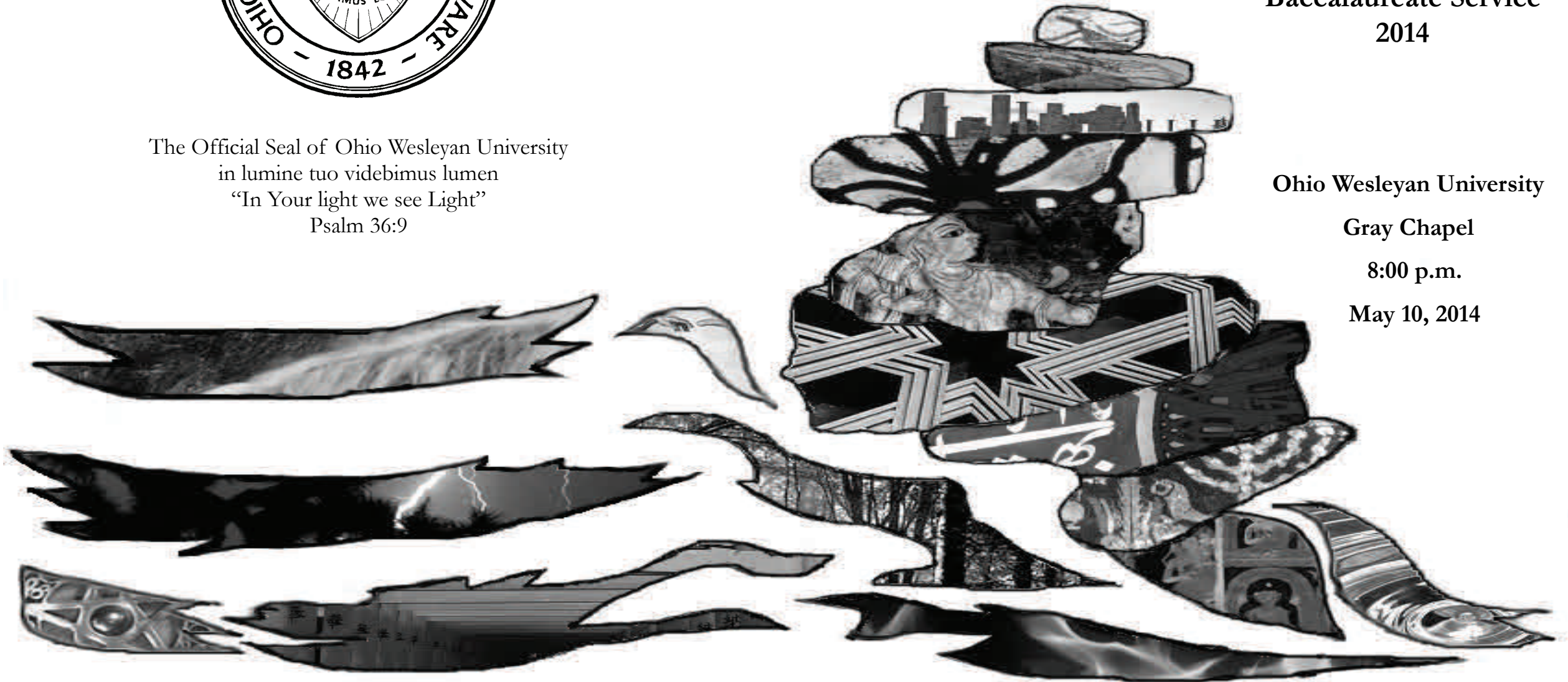
The Official Seal of Ohio Wesleyan University  
in lumine tuo videbimus lumen  
“In Your light we see Light”  
Psalm 36:9

# Living Stones,

## *Rippling Waters*

Baccalaureate Service  
2014

Ohio Wesleyan University  
Gray Chapel  
8:00 p.m.  
May 10, 2014



The Class of 2014  
Baccalaureate Service  
Gray Chapel  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
Delaware, Ohio  
May 10, 2014

*“Living Stones, Rippling Waters”*

## *A Special Note of Thanks To:*

**Nancy Tumeo** in the Card Office for her consistent support

**Duplicating Services** for printing the programs

**Oakland Nursery, Delaware** for their generous sharing of stones and ferns

**Darryl Phelps, Judy Kies, and Gary Hall** for Housekeeping Services

**Joe Peterson, Chuck Della Lana, and Elaine Chun** for Sound and Media Equipment

**Gerri Spurlock, Darrell Albon, and Dorota Kendrick** of the International Student Services Office for the national flags

**Becky Swartz** for her meticulous attention to every detail

**BACCALAUREATE SERVICE**  
**Ohio Wesleyan University**  
**The Class of 2014**

“Living Stones, Rippling Waters”

8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, May 10, 2013

Gray Chapel  
Ohio Wesleyan University

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**Prelude in Pictures**

The Senior Class Slideshow

**Processional**

Alexander Armstrong, '16, organist  
*Variations on Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  
Albert L. Travis

**Procession of Our National Flags**

**University Greeting**

The Reverend Dr. Rock Jones  
*University President*

**President's Commission Awards**

The Reverend Jon Powers  
*University Chaplain*

**Guy Sarvis Special Presentation**

**Religious Life Awards**

The Reverend Jon Powers  
*University Chaplain*  
The Reverend Dr. Blake Michael  
*Professor of Religion*

**Baccalaureate Hymn** *“Living Stones, Rippling Waters”*

Words: Chaplain Jon Powers, in honor of the Class of 2014

Music: 19th Century USA melody, Amazing Grace CM

These living stones have formed our faith,  
Foundations of our lives;  
From every corner of the world  
Now to this hour arrive.

These rippling waters, flowing hopes,  
Our dreams and destiny,  
Begun within these sacred walls,  
Have shaped what’s yet to be.

O God of every faith and face,  
Give us the grace to see  
The power of this sacred hour:  
Our love, our unity.

As we move on to serve the world,  
For many years to come,  
Deep in our hearts we’ll hold this bond  
Here, where we’ve first begun.

**Student Leader Greeting**

Kelsey Brewer  
Haneya Hasan  
Rachel Vinciguerra  
*Baccalaureate 2014 Co-Chairs*

**Reflective Ripples**

*Friendship into the Future*

Hayden Barns

**Foundational Text**

*Sirah 3:103*  
The Holy Qur'an

Haneya Hasan

**Foundational Text**

*Terns*  
Mary Oliver

Jackie Amanna  
Alyson Michael

**Foundational Text**

*The Station*  
Robert J. Hastings

Martin Clark  
Malcolm Clark

**Flows of Dance**

*Untitled*

Rachel Vinciguerra

**Reflective Ripples**

*Hindu Prayer*

Krina Patel  
Priyanka Venkararan

**Foundational Text**

*I Corinthians 13*  
The Christian Scriptures

Sarah Hartzheim  
Aara Ramesh  
Deanna Wu  
Maya Buening

**Foundational Text**

*Two Kinds of Intelligence*  
Jelaluddin Rumi

Haneya Hasan

**Reflective Ripples**

*Love Thy Neighbor*

Gus Wood

**Living Voices**

*Universal Solider*  
Buffy Saint-Marie

Cara Slotkin  
Kati Sweigart

<b>Foundational Text</b>	<i>I Peter 2:4-10</i> The Christian Scriptures	Kelsey Brewer
<b>Foundational Text</b>	<i>Isaiah 35:5-10</i> The Tanakh	Frida Hess
<b>Foundational Text</b>	<i>The Mad Farmer Liberation Front</i> Wendell Berry	Sophie Crispin Kate Johnson
<b>Flows of Dance</b>	<i>Classical Indian Dance</i>	Mahnoor Wali Prabhjor Virk
<b>Reflective Ripples</b>	<i>God's Love</i>	Brad Ingles
<b>Reflective Ripples</b>	<i>Unity of Culture and Faith</i>	Aara Ramesh
<b>Foundational Text</b>	<i>To Alfred Corn</i> Flannery O'Connor	Mimi Abrams
<b>Reflective Ripples</b>	<i>Mirror of the Past, Reflection of the Future</i>	Ashley Madera Hazel Barrera Peter Reveles

**The Senior Class Comes Forward**

Alexander Armstrong, organist

*At this time, we invite all members of the graduating class to the stage for candle lighting and singing of the alma mater.*

*“Alma Mater”*

1. Ohio Wesleyan, sweetly and strong  
Rises our hymn of praise for thee alone;  
Heaven re-echoes it, loud let it ring,  
Ohio Wesleyan! Loyal hearts sing.
  
2. Ohio Wesleyan! Proud is thy crown.  
Rarest of laurels e'er Vict'ry has known;  
Noblest achievements have hallowed thy name,  
Ohio Wesleyan! Deathless thy fame.

**Benediction**

Jenea Dominguez  
Pastor Enrique Samuel Dominguez

**Postlude**

Alexander Armstrong '16

*Toccata on Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

Albert L. Travis



## **THE BACCALAUREATE COMMITTEE 2014**

The word liturgy means “the work of the people.” Tonight’s liturgy illustrates that original meaning. This service is a prayerful, earnest, and semester-long effort of the Class of 2014. Their goal has been consistent and conscientious: to bring together all the mysterious and kaleidoscopic ways in which God has touched their lives, informed their faith, and molded their character over the past four years at Ohio Wesleyan University. This service is by intent patterned and chaotic, personal and corporate, sorrowful and exultant. It is not intended to be comprehensive or complete, but rather allusive and illustrative. All the sights and sounds of this evening are a collage of praise to God, a tapestry of thanksgiving, if you will, to acknowledge that “we have not come this far by our own power.”

**Baccalaureate Committee:** Kelsey Brewer, Haneya Hasan, and Rachel Vinciguerra (Co-Chairs), Jenna Reeger (Secretary), Jackie Amanna and Alyson Michael (Chapel Design), Amy LeFebvre (Graphic Arts), Mimi Abrams (Senior Photos), Hank Owings (Reception); At-large: Margaret Knecht, Carrie Thompson, Aara Ramash, Sean Anthony, Prabhjot Virk, and Claire Hackett.

**Ex-Officio:** Jack Kubicki, Annie Pappenhagen, and Zack Paull , Class of 2015; Katie Nunner and Luke Waters, Class of 2016; Chase Smith and Dominic Mejia, Class of 2017; Associate Chaplain Chad Johns, University Chaplain Jon Powers, Assistant to the Chaplain Becky Swartz, and Wilderness Ministry Intern Haley Figlestahler.

## **Honoring Our National Flags**

The flags placed at the front of Gray Chapel this evening represent all the nations of our Class of 2014. These flags represent:

Australia

Nepal

South Africa

China

Nigeria

Taiwan

India

Pakistan

Thailand

Korea South

Paraguay

United States of  
America

Mexico

Singapore

Venezuela

Morocco

Slovakia

Vietnam

## **Gray Chapel and the Rexford Keller Memorial Organ**

Gray Chapel has long been Ohio Wesleyan's major chapel, concert hall, lecture hall, and place of gathering for the campus community. For over a century, some of the world's leading performers and preachers, speakers and scholars, have held forth in this sacred space. Among the more recent are Morris Dees, Gloria Steinem, and John McCutcheon. The chapel is named in honor of Brother David F. Gray, President of the Board of Trustees in the 1880's. In 1888, Acting President and Professor McCabe made a plea for a chapel to be built somewhere between University and Monnett Halls. Brother David F. Gray pledged \$10,000 toward such a building. When University Hall was built, the construction of the chapel was named in Brother Gray's honor.

The glorious Rexford Keller Memorial Organ, installed in 1980, was designed for Gray Chapel and was constructed by Johannes Klais Orgelbau of Bonn, Germany, one of the world's most prestigious organ builders. This splendid instrument is one of only eight built for America by the Klais firm. (The organ at Asbury United Methodist in Delaware, Ohio, is the most recent.) It has mechanical linkage to the valves that admit air to pipes. This permits the musician infinite control over the shadings of the music.

The organ, in a case of European white oak, contains 4,644 pipes arranged in 84 ranks and ranging from more than 20 feet in length to one-quarter of an inch. The pipes are composed of special alloys of tin, or of mahogany, pear wood or redwood. The pipe shades, which are both decorative and functional, are covered with 22-carat gold leaf.

The Klais instrument is the third organ to be housed in Gray Chapel since the chapel was constructed in 1893. It is one of the largest and finest modern mechanical action pipe organs to be found in an educational institution in the United States.

We are grateful to those who came before us for these dedicated resources which make this chapel and organ available to us for the worship of God. It is a solemn blessing, in the midst of an academic institution, to have such glorious facilities in which to praise the source of all knowledge and truth.

## **THE GUY SARVIS AWARD**

*The Guy Sarvis Award was established in honor of Dr. Sarvis by Stephen Ollendorff. Dr. Sarvis was a Professor of Sociology at OWU and devoted much of his life to promoting and living by example the virtues and values of cross-cultural understanding and sensitivity to racial and religious diversity. This award is given to a student who has a demonstrated record of fostering cross-cultural understanding and contributing to the creation of a culture of hospitality and inclusion at OWU.*

**Prabhjot Virk**

Prabh has been an active member of Horizons, the International Student Organization at OWU's since her freshman year, and she is currently the President of that organization. She is also the secretary for the South Indian Student association and is an active member of Rafiki-Wa-Africa. However, her numerous hours of service at OWU are only one of the reasons that she is the recipient of this award. Prabh is known on campus as a natural cultural diplomat who is motivated by a deep personal desire to foster understanding among people. She is particularly adept at making the transition to US culture easier for our OWU international students. In other words, she embodies a spirit of hospitality and inclusion, and that is why the President's Commission on Racial and Cultural Diversity is proud to recognize her achievements with this award.

## THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON RACIAL AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY AWARDS

*The President's Commission for Racial and Cultural Diversity recognizes one student, one organization and one faculty or staff member for working to improve the state of racial and cultural diversity and/or social justice at OWU each year.*

### **Student Diversity Award Winner: *Ashley Madera***

The President's Commission on Racial and Cultural Diversity is delighted to recognize Ashley Madera with the student diversity award this evening. Ashley has been described as a role model, harmonizer, and motivator on our campus. She is a true campus leader, a person who leads by example and who quietly brings people together, the person who others look to for wisdom and strength. She has been the moderator of the Citizens of the World house, a significant member of Ohio Wesleyan's Better Together initiative, worked as a mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters, participated in the LeaderShape Institute, studied North African Muslims in Paris and the impact of acculturation on Muslim culture and religion, participated in interfaith dialogue with the COEXIST chapter, served in a variety of roles with VIVA, and engaged in much more volunteer outreach than most students ever consider.

Because of Ashley our campus is much better, much kinder, and more aware and that is why we are happy to celebrate her contributions with this award!

**Faculty/Staff Diversity Award Winner: *Professor Mary Howard***

PCORCD is honored to award **Professor Mary Howard** the faculty Diversity Award this year. Professor Howard is a long time member of the Sociology-Anthropology Department at OWU. Her contributions to diversity issues on campus are too numerous to count, but include helping to found both the Women's and Gender Studies Program and the Black World Studies Program. More recently, she has led travel learning courses to both Tanzania and Bolivia for OWU students, a testimony to her on-going dedication to exploring issues of diversity and equity in her teaching. In addition, Mary is a passionate advocate for social justice and embodies the ethos of this award. It is truly an honor to recognize her!

**Organization Diversity Award Winner: *VIVA, The Latin American Student Association***

The President's Commission on Racial and Cultural Diversity is pleased to recognize the contributions of the student organization, VIVA! VIVA is a vibrant presence on campus and stands out as exemplary in terms of making an impact on campus in the last year. VIVA fosters an understanding and knowledge of Latin American cultures on campus. In the past year they have brought a Latino/Hispanic film festival to campus and have hosted cultural events and evening discussions to raise awareness about race and immigration issues in the US. VIVA works to inform the student body of the struggles and triumphs of the Latin American community in the US. They have also developed a mentorship program in which OWU students help local high school students with their studies and applying for college. PCORCD is honored to recognize the many and significant contributions of VIVA this evening!

## UNIVERSITY RELIGIOUS LIFE AWARDS

Each of the Religious Life Awards honors an individual who exemplifies a faithful witness to the ethical, spiritual, and missional values of Ohio Wesleyan University, as delineated in the University's Charter of 1842 and the University's current Statement of Aims, as demonstrated in leadership both on campus and in the community, including church or other faith community affiliation.

These institutional honors, presented each year at the Baccalaureate Service, are cited by the John Templeton Foundation as one of the primary reasons for honoring Ohio Wesleyan University for its "Spiritual Growth program" in *The Templeton Guide: Colleges That Encourage Character Development – A Resource for Parents, Students, and Educators* (1999). The John Templeton Foundation declares such programs vital for college life.

"Students searching for meaning, connectedness, and significance present both a challenge and an opportunity for colleges and universities. Programs that foster spiritual growth provide a means to develop a vision of moral integrity that coheres and connects belief to behavior. Exemplary programs (such as Ohio Wesleyan's) affirm the integral role that spirituality and religion often play in shaping character."

This distinction for Ohio Wesleyan has been reaffirmed in recent years by the Lilly Endowment, Inc., The United Methodist Church, the National Catholic Campus Ministry Association, the national Interfaith Youth Core, President Barack Obama's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge, and The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

**The Bliss and Mildred Wiant Award for Leadership in  
Interfaith and Intercultural Relations**

*Rachel Vinciguerra*

*A big part of what the 21st century will be about is whether religion is a bubble of isolation, a barrier of division, a bomb of destruction, or a bridge of cooperation. Lots of leaders and movements have been pushing for the bubble, the barrier, and the bomb. I think now you're starting to see a critical mass of participants and leaders building bridges.*

*- Eboo Patel, Founder of Interfaith Youth Core*

In all matters of faith, culture, and human hope, Rachel Vinciguerra is a powerful promoter of peace. Among the astounding number of other communities on campus that she has influenced, the OWU Interfaith community has immensely grown in maturity and depth this year, in large part because of Rachel's quiet, gentle presence among us. As a creative member of the Interfaith House, a prominent leader in OWU Better Together, a powerful participant of the national Interfaith Youth Leadership Conference, a dedicated and effective Spring Break Mission Team leader, and even through her profound and passionate blog as a student abroad in India, Rachel Vinciguerra has made a definitive and long-lasting impact on this campus. Rachel's commitment, competency, and maturity are so great that this year, when an adviser on a mission team had to step down at the last minute, she was asked to step in as a quasi-adviser, something that we had never before asked a student to do. Yet she did it with Gandhi-like grace and a powerful presence.

When Eboo Patel talks about the emerging movement of Interfaith leaders on college campuses across the nation, he says. "If we don't engage religious diversity, if we don't bring people from different faiths together, if we don't acquire positive knowledge and appreciative knowledge of other people's traditions, then we forfeit the territory to people who are happy to build barriers and spread lies." When he says such things, he is talking about Rachel Vinciguerra.



## **The Chaplain James Leslie Award for Leadership in Peace and Justice**

*Haneya Hasan*

Even before coming to Ohio Wesleyan, Haneya Hasan was emerging as a prophetic voice for peace and understanding between people and cultures and nations at war. With quiet courage, she continues to create, establish, and sustain a sense of journalistic and literary perspective that challenges people to enter into national, cultural, and faith dialogue. Within the first few days of her freshman year and continuing throughout her four years here, Haneya has been a quiet but vibrant presence in OWU Common Texts, the Muslim Student Association, and the OWU Better Together initiatives. In each of these leadership roles, Haneya has demonstrated a consistent level of leadership – inspiring others with her energy, insight, and encouragement; willing to do the dirty work of details without ever needing to be in the spot-light; nudging others to think beyond themselves.

Haneya has consistently served as a prophetic voice for peace and justice in her home country of Pakistan, as well. While her academic focus has been on International Studies and History, it is her bold, insightful, and compelling essays and editorials that capture our attention. More often than not, her writing challenges the powerful in her midst. To meet her in person is to be impressed with her gentle presence; but to hear her speak, or read her elegant essays and editorials, is to discover the courageous voice of a prophet. We expect that her future career as a writer and a journalist will profoundly impact the discourse of the nations – not only in Pakistan and the United States, but quite likely the globe.

## **The Bishop Gerald Ensley Award for Leadership in Christian Mission**

*Naomi “Mimi” Abrams*

Mimi Abrams is a living, breathing testament to her Christian faith. She shines with a joy and energy that emanates from Christ's light and grace within her. Mimi's activities have ranged from Interfaith House membership to mission team leader, to social justice intern during her study abroad in South America. Through it all, Mimi filters experiences through her faith lens and shares her thoughts and conclusions with others – never in an overbearing or proselytizing way, but in a way that helps others think critically about how they view and interact with the world.

Mimi has served as a member and a team leader for the Spring Break Mission Team Program; participates in a Christian student book club on campus, and is co-leader of a student bible study at Delaware City Vineyard. So many students have grown immensely in their own faith because of Mimi's kind-hearted, open-hearted care for them. As one student wrote: “By interacting with me on an individual and personal level, Mimi has shown that my voice and perspectives are valid and significant. She can sense when an individual is unhappy, and rather than ignore it, she offers her patient ear. Mimi has helped me make sense of my thoughts and feelings from a faith perspective. With Mimi, I felt more than comfortable sharing faith-based opinions that I otherwise would feel uncomfortable addressing. Many of the incoming members of IF house have also had strong, faith-based experiences with her. One talked of Mimi being an inspiration to them and wanting to offer the same kindness and support the OWU community, after she has graduated. Her presence in the Interfaith, Christian, and OWU community will be greatly missed.”

## **The Cheryl McGinniss Award for Catholic Leadership**

*Jenna Reeger*

Pope Francis, in his recently published Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, has proclaimed that "an attitude of openness in truth and love must prevail in dialogue with believers of non-Christian religions, despite the various obstacles and difficulties; particularly fundamentalism on both sides...Dialogue does not mean giving up your identity as a Catholic Christian. On the contrary, true openness means remaining firm in one's deepest convictions, and therefore being open to understanding others."

Jenna Reeger exemplifies these high ideals of The Holy Father. She is a compassionate, thoughtful, and passionate leader in the Catholic community, and she applies her Catholic leadership and religion gracefully in her interfaith work. Jenna has engaged both the Catholic community on campus and the Catholic community in Delaware.

Over the past four years, Jenna has been a member of OWU Common Texts, OWU Better Together, and the Interfaith House. She has led numerous IF House projects, including the great "speed faithing" event this semester. In all of her interfaith programs, Jenna has been an impeccable witness for her Catholic faith tradition. With quiet ease, she shares her own thoughts about religion and Catholicism with her peers and, with equal ease, she is able to compare and contrast other religious traditions with her own. She is an exceptional example of a person of deep faith who has the capacity to effectively voice her perspectives and questions, and yet engage others comfortably and openly in those ideas.

Jenna often talks about how she had lost touch with her faith and religion before college, but now attends a Catholic service every week. She is committed to understanding her own faith in the context of others and also to being an approachable member of the Catholic community within the broader OWU community.

## **The Taban Blake Award for Servant Leadership**

*Carolyn “Carrie” Thompson and Alyson Michael*

### **Carrie Thompson**

Quiet. Powerful. Insightful. Gifted. Dedicated.

These are among the first adjectives to come to mind when Carrie Thompson is mentioned. In so many ways, Carrie is the archetype of the Servant Leader. She doesn't seek power or prestige for their own sake, but neither does she hang back when she is needed. As a mission leader on a Chicago-based team, Carrie led her peers through a morass of muddle and interpersonal conflict. As a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority, Carrie didn't seek to be president, but answered the call of her sisters as the right person for the position. As a member of the Disciple Bible Study, Carrie offered her own questions, her own doubts, her own insights, and her own authenticity to create the space for others to travel along the paths of their own spiritual journeys.

And through it all, Carrie's humility and compassion shine in her actions and in her voice. Whether discussing who Jesus is, how we could better the campus community, or even the pros and cons (but let's be honest, mostly pros) of the BBC series *Merlin*, Carrie's wit and wisdom are a blessing to those around her. Whichever community claims her next, they will certainly benefit from her quiet leadership and powerful presence.

## **Alyson Michael**

Alyson Michael has been one of the most remarkable Christian leaders Ohio Wesleyan has seen in recent years. Though quiet and unassuming, Alyson's calm demeanor nevertheless belies a rapier wit, piercing insight, and a pointed sense of humor. As a member and leader of the Wilderness Ministry program, Alyson has traveled into the remote places of God's Creation and challenged herself and her peers to live deeply into what it means to be a child of God concerned with the natural world. As a chemistry major and leader within Women in Science, Alyson has bridged the gap between science and faith, pulling together people and ideas (have you ever considered the connection between Jesus and the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle—if not, ask Alyson) that otherwise might never have connected. As a four-year member of the Disciple Bible Study, Alyson has led the group in both laughter and insight.

Alyson has been an often unsung, but nonetheless vital Christian leader at OWU. Her quiet authenticity and not-so-quiet passion for going deep into the hard places of thought, faith, and life, have opened many doors for others to follow her into the deep places of existence. And we know, without doubt, that as she travels to Dartmouth to pursue her Ph.D. in chemistry, that Alyson will continue to lead those around her into an ever deepening sense of the miracles of science and faith that surround us all.

## **The Arthur S. Flemming Award for Leadership in the Civic Arts**

*Hazel Barrera and Timothy O'Keefe*

### Hazel Barrera

Hazel Barrera came to Ohio Wesleyan already an engaged citizen and a valued community member. Coming to us from the Lydia Patterson Institute in El Paso, she already knew that participation makes a community better and acted upon that knowledge as soon as she arrived on campus.

Over the last four years, Hazel has demonstrated the power of servant leadership on our campus and in the Delaware community. She hasn't looked for awards or acclaim; she has just seen the work and gotten the job done. Over the last four years, Hazel could be found working at the Woodward Family Resource Center, in dining venues all over campus, in the Chartwells' kitchen, in the Service Learning Office, in leadership with VIVA, at Office of Multicultural Student Affairs events, and with the Modern Foreign Language House. Hazel's work and outreach in Delaware's Second Ward is probably her most profound contribution. She has translated countless letters, notifications, and documents for Delaware's Hispanic community members. She has set up serving tables and helped with the Summer Free Lunch Program. She has worked to make the Second Ward's Community Unity Festival a reality.

One of the things that Hazel says most frequently is, "What can I do?" Hazel knows that there is always work to be done - and that there aren't always a lot of people stepping up to help. Hazel is the go-to person, the person who gets things done. She even leaves as her legacy the hope and the groundwork for VIVA's new LASER Chapter, a program that matches college mentors with Latino and Latina high school students in the Columbus area in hopes of aiding the transition from high school into college. Hazel has ensured that her presence will be felt at OWU for years to come.

## Timothy O'Keeffe

Timothy O'Keeffe stands before you today as the recipient of the *President Arthur Fleming Award for Leadership in the Civic Arts* because he cares. He cares deeply about most everything.

Timothy O'Keeffe is a wonderful contradiction. He is the totally committed four-year worker at the Early Childhood Center, the summer camp counselor and exotic animal handler, and the passionate proponent of Haiti OWU. He is the Resident Assistant, the Vice President of WCSA, the President's Club member, the Fraternity member, and the understated philanthropic force behind Sigma Chi's efforts benefitting Big Brothers Big Sisters. He is the outspoken critic, the suave MC of last year's Global Outreach Show, and the student who helped guide those most affected by the shootings at Sandy Hook through a service of recognition and memorial - a service that confronted the tough questions in a profound and touching way.

From residence life to student government, service, philanthropy, student organizations, Greek life, and national political campaigns, Timothy has immersed himself in the Civic Arena. And whether advocating, being insightfully sardonic, engaging in public service, or providing critical commentary, he has always been motivated by a very genuine concern for community. He genuinely cares. And this is what best qualifies him for the *President Arthur Fleming Award for Leadership in the Civic Arts*.

**The Robert and Bette Meyer Award for faithful witness  
to the ethical, spiritual, and missional values of Ohio Wesleyan University  
as delineated in the University's Charter and Statement of Aims**

*Linda Whitlock*

It's like the old TV show Cheers: At the Ritazza "cart" in the basement of University Hall, the hostess knows everybody's name – and their major, and their usual order. In many cases, she knows their personal problems, and sometimes even their parents. So many students have weighed in; but one quote exemplifies her spirit:

"Linda embodies the true spirit of Ohio Wesleyan because of the equal respect and kindness with which she treats each person who approaches her cart in University Hall. This building provides a unique crossroads on campus for students, faculty, staff, and administrators. More than once I have actually been in line behind Dr. Rock Jones and have been struck by the fact that Linda greets a student like me with the same cheerfulness--and prepares my coffee with same thoughtful care--as she shows the president of the university. To Linda, every name is worth remembering and every person is worth listening to. It is caring people like Linda who make OWU's campus a community."

Linda's faith comes from deep within her spirit – a bouncing St. Francis-like lilt laced with the solemn wisdom of loved-ones lost and life-threatening challenges for close family members. Yet family is also a core cause of her vibrant joy: her husband, Wayne, their two sons, Matt and Michael, beautiful daughter-in-law, Katie, and their grand-daughter, Riley Louise, soon to be born!

There is no one on this campus who better exemplifies the historic essence of Ohio Wesleyan's spirit and mission than does Linda Whitlock.



**The Bishop Francis Enmer Kearns Award for faithful witness  
to the ethical, spiritual, and missional values of Ohio Wesleyan University  
as delineated in the University's Charter and Statement of Aims**

*Dr. David Eastman*

The intellect of a talented New Testament scholar. The heart of a father for kids and college students of all kinds. The spirit of a deeply committed follower of Jesus Christ. Bind these all together with strands of wisdom and grace, laughter and compassion, and a smattering of challenging questions and pour them into a professor-shaped mold. You've now met the gift to Ohio Wesleyan that is Dr. David Eastman.

As a scholar, he studies the Apostle Paul. As a teacher, he introduces students to the depth and breadth of the Christian New Testament. As a mission adviser, he travels with students to the Love and Hope Children's Home in El Salvador to spend time serving among the dispossessed. As a person of faith, he goes out of his way to show the love of God, particularly for OWU students, in word and deed, whether by inviting students to his home or leaving a conference early in order to get a few students back on time for their other commitments.

With all of these interwoven threads, David serves as an exemplar par excellence of the kind of faculty that make OWU the community of deep learning and deep living that it is. And his colleagues agree. One wrote: "David's ability to foster conversation across lines of difference is exactly the kind of classroom presence that helps students explore issues, intellectually and spiritually." We are blessed to call him one of our own.

## **How is Ohio Wesleyan University related to the United Methodist Church?**

### **1842 Official Charter and Current Statement of Aims**

Since its founding, Ohio Wesleyan University has maintained its connection with the Methodist (now United Methodist) Church, offering a quality of scholarship, leadership, and service that has enriched both Church (faith community) and society. Its charter provided that “the University is forever to be conducted on the most liberal principles, accessible to all religious denominations (faith communities), and designed for the benefit of our citizens in general.” In spirit and heritage, the University defines itself as a community of teachers and students devoted to the free pursuit of truth. It attempts to develop in its students qualities of intellect and character which will be useful no matter what they choose to do in later life.

One of the three primary objectives of the University is to place education in the context of values. Liberal education seeks to develop in students understanding of themselves, appreciation of others, and willingness to meet the responsibilities of citizenship in a free society. It recognizes that trained sensitivity to private and public value issues, grounded in a sound grasp of various cultural heritages, is important for maturation and for living a good life. It accords high honor to intellectual honesty. Consistent with our Methodist tradition, Ohio Wesleyan University encourages concern for all religious and ethical issues and stimulates its students to examine their own views in light of these issues.

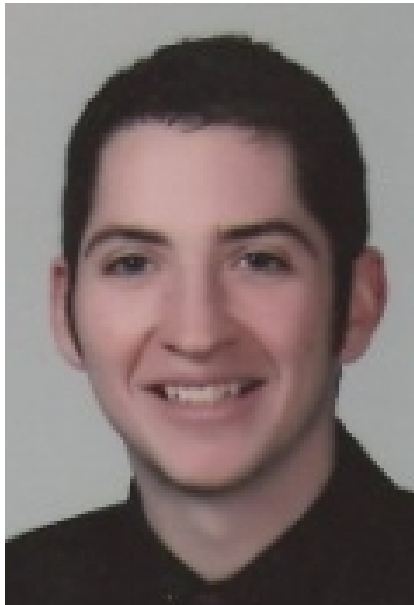
### **Official Affiliation with the United Methodist Church**

In keeping with these sacred and social commitments, and based upon a regular review of its academic program, religious life, student life, and financial standing, Ohio Wesleyan University is officially affiliated with The United Methodist Church as a United Methodist institution of higher education.

**In Sacred Memory of Our Classmate**

**Jakob F. Von Der Vellen**

**April 4, 1992 – March 16, 2012**



## **Mission Statement of Ohio Wesleyan University Chaplaincy**

“In the historic tradition of Ohio Wesleyan University’s namesake,  
Oxford scholar/theologian John Wesley,  
and OWU’s founder Adam Poe,  
it is the mission of the University Chaplaincy at Ohio Wesleyan University  
to nurture the faithful development of the intellectual  
and the intellectual development of the faithful  
by providing rigorous theological reflection,  
compassionate pastoral care,  
and fearless prophetic witness  
to all aspects of the university community – faculty, staff, students, and alumni.”