

The Class of 2015  
Baccalaureate Service  
Gray Chapel  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
Delaware, Ohio  
May 9, 2015  
7:30 p.m.

*“On the Threshold of Home”*

## *A Special Note of Thanks To:*

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

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**Mary Jeffries** for her endless energy and creativity in processing and displaying the senior class baby pictures

**Miller's Country Gardens** 2488 State Rte. 37 W., Delaware, Ohio, (740) 363-5021

**Families: Be sure to take your graduate's baby picture with you tonight!**

**BACCALAUREATE SERVICE**  
**Ohio Wesleyan University**  
**The Class of 2015**  
“On the Threshold of Home”

7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, May 9, 2015

Gray Chapel  
Ohio Wesleyan University

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**Processional** Alexander Armstrong, '16, organist

**Procession of Our National Flags**

**University Greeting** The Reverend Dr. Rock Jones  
*University President*

**President's Commission Awards** Chuck Della Lana  
*Co-Chair, The President's Commission  
on Racial and Cultural Diversity*

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

**Student Leader Greeting** Annie Pappenhagen  
Zach Paull  
Jack Kubicki  
*Baccalaureate 2015 Co-Chairs*

**“The Parting Glass”** *Traditional Irish Folk Song* Grace Thompson  
Brianna Robinson  
Anna Jones

<b>A Sacred Reading from Siddur Sim Shalom</b>		Rebecca Fisher Jordan Bernstein
<b>A Sacred Reading from the Epistles</b>	<i>1 Corinthians 13</i>	Katie Nunner Lauren Holler Brittany Hupp Emma Goetz
<b>“I Rise”</b>	<i>Etana</i>	Sharmalee Gooden
<b>“Faith Journey and Home”</b>		Sarah Thomas
<b>“The Invitation”</b>	<i>Oriah</i>	Tom Horsfall
<b>“Wide is the Water”</b>	<i>Lord James Douglas</i>	Lidia Mowad Owen Connor Stout
<b>“Spirituality and Physical Journey”</b>		Niveditha Manivannan
<b>“463”</b>	<i>Mike Wall</i>	Michelle Smith Haenny Park Kristen Krak Ben Danielson
<b>“Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front”</b>	<i>Wendell Berry</i>	Noah Manskar
<b>“When Two Worlds Collide”</b>		Ibrahim Urooj Saeed Alex Pavlechko
<b>“Mountain Top Mist”</b>		Makenna Huff

**“The Flower Duet” (Lakme)**      *Leo Delibes*      Grace Thompson  
Brianna Robinson  
Dr. Mariko Kaneda-Niwa, accompanist

**“What I Did for Love”**      *Pierre David Guetta*      Ryan Haddad  
and friends

**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**      Anna Jones  
The Reverend Dr. Rock Jones

**Postlude**      Alexander Armstrong, '16

*“Where we love is home – home that our feet may leave, but not our hearts.”*  
Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr.

## THE BACCALAUREATE COMMITTEE 2015

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 2015. 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:** Co-chairs, Jack Kubicki, Annie Pappenhagen, and Zach Paull; Secretary, Katie Nunner; Graphic Design, Kristin Puckett; Chancel Design, Brianna Robinson and Grace Thompson; Reception, Jack Kubicki; At-Large Committee, Liam Dennigan, Sarah Thomas, Carley Zalenski, Noah Manskar, Emi Keiser, Zoha Ansari, Khristina Gardner, Makenna Huff, Zoe Crankshaw.

**Ex-Officio:** Luke Waters and Naa-Oye Bosompra, Class of 2016; Chase Smith and Dominic Mejia, Class of 2017; Sharon Hayes, Miranda Anthony, and Courtney Clark, Class of 2018; Associate Chaplains Mary Jeffries and Chad Johns, University Chaplain Jon Powers, Assistant to the Chaplain Becky Swartz.

## **Honoring Our National Flags**

The flags placed at the front of Gray Chapel this evening represent all the nations of our Class of 2015. These flags represent:

Brazil

Nepal

China

Pakistan

Germany

Palestine

India

South Korea

Indonesia

Sri Lanka

Jamaica

Thailand

Mexico

United States of America

Myanmar

Venezuela

Namibia

Vietnam

Zambia

## **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 Congressman John Lewis, Morris Dees, and Gloria Steinem.

The chapel is named in honor of Brother David F. Gray, President of the Board of Trustees in the 1880s. 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 President's Commission for 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: *Meredith Harrison***

During her time as a student here at Ohio Wesleyan, Meredith has been involved in numerous organizations and co-curricular activities, which have included: Department of Women & Gender Studies, PRIDE (President & Vice President), Student Involvement Office (Desk Attendant), SPRECTRUM Resource Center (Intern), Women's House/Sexuality and Gender Equality House (Moderator). Meredith is extremely dedicated to furthering the presence, awareness, and significance of Women and the LGBTQIA communities here at Ohio Wesleyan University. Not only is Meredith a Moderator of the Women's House/Sexuality and Gender Equality House, but she is also actively involved in multiple multicultural student organizations and is an outspoken advocate, ally, and defender of the under-represented communities here at Ohio Wesleyan. To put it simply, Meredith is an inspiration, a leader who leads with her heart and dedicates her entire self to bettering and improving the lives of others. She never stops fighting for what is right and will always help those in need. Meredith intends to change the world, and we have no doubt that she will continue to do just that!

Perhaps Meredith's lasting legacy here at Ohio Wesleyan will be the tireless effort that she has put in to bringing gender-inclusive housing to the OWU campus. Working closely with the SPRECTRUM Resource Center and the

Residential Life Office, Meredith has co-authored a proposal to make gender-inclusive housing a reality for at OWU. If adopted, this proposal will create a safe and welcoming environment for students who do not wish/cannot live in an environment confined by traditional gender binary policies.

**Faculty/Staff Diversity Award Winner: *Dr. Glenda Nieto Cuebas***

Glenda teaches Spanish language and literature in the MFL department. She is also the faculty advisor to VIVA, the Latin American Culture Club on campus. Under Glenda's mentorship, VIVA has once again become a very active and visible group on campus, raising awareness and educating students and community members about Latin American culture and its ethnic and racial diversity. She has also revitalized our Spanish Practicum by transforming it into a celebration of culture. Through all of this, she has generated a lot of student interest and helped to integrate the Latino students on campus by giving them a space to celebrate their own culture. The various events that she has helped organize and the mentorship she has provided have raised awareness of Hispanic culture and helped to better integrate Latino students on campus. Students attending the events will have learned about the diverse aspects of Hispanic culture and better understand what it means to be Hispanic/Latino in the US.

**Organization Diversity Award Winner: *Citizens of the World House***

The Citizens of the World House aims to promote acceptance of all different types of diversity around the world. They advocate and stand for social justice issues and rights. They promote community and togetherness. Each housemate must do one house project a year relating to their house mission statement. House moderator Kerrigan Boyd was part of the driving force behind the cultural diversity mural next to HamWill. This brought together the campus community and blended the diverse backgrounds of our OWU community into a beautiful piece of art for all to see. House projects throughout the year promote diversity, acceptance, and awareness throughout the OWU community. This is a part of the house mission statement that all house members seek to live out as a part of being in the house.

## UNIVERSITY RELIGIOUS LIFE AWARDS

Each of the Religious Life Awards honor 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 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 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**

*Brianna Robinson*

She who sings prays twice. She who sings like Brianna Robinson lifts the souls of all those around her toward higher ground and higher hopes. She who leads like Brianna Robinson lifts the bar for the whole community toward higher visions and higher aspirations.

Brianna blends the attributes of gifted, balanced, wholesome, and humble. Her classmates and housemates describe her more fully as organized; authentic; humble; a leader able to handle diverse constituencies and difficult individuals; a multi-tasker; dependable; trustworthy; detailed; conscientious; determined; hard-working; a team-player; delightful; winsome; thoughtful; deep; mature; compassionate; generous; skilled; dedicated; kind; diplomatic; honest; tenacious; persistent; gentle; gracious; elegant; fun; real; tough; and down-to-earth.”

When Brianna acts and sings in musicals, solo recitals, and memorial services, or when leading the acappella group Pitch Black, she possesses a richness of talent and tenacity that fills the stage and melts the heart of the hearer with awe and wonder. She is equally powerful and impressive when she serves as the moderator of the Inter-Faith House and its many powerful programs; or represents Ohio Wesleyan at the annual Interfaith Youth Core Leadership Institute and at the White House Conference for the President’s Higher Education Interfaith Community Service Challenge; or leads the Better Together Unity in Diversity events at OWU; or serves as an interfaith volunteer at the multilingual, free medical Grace Clinic. Through the blend of her music and her leadership, Brianna has helped establish a level of quality and depth for Ohio Wesleyan’s interfaith programs that will help us sustain her legacy for years to come.

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

*Noah Manskar*

*“We have a cause that is just. We have a cause that is going to prevail. For goodness’ sake, let us not spoil it by the kind of methods we use.” - Bishop Desmond Tutu*

To promote peace and justice in this world is indeed a hazardous assignment. To fight fire with fire leaves everything in ashes; one must be passionate *and* compassionate, tactical *and* tactful. This was the strategy and spirit of Ohio Wesleyan University Chaplain James Leslie, and it is the character and charm of Noah Manskar.

Since Noah first stepped foot on campus – with his solemn, shy eyes surveying every detail around him, his quick wit ready to quietly question the least contradiction or irony – he has served as a solid symbol of this challenge. Early on, he became a vibrant member of the Peace and Justice House. He sparked thoughtful discussions about justice issues on campus, nationally, and globally. He formed and fostered a spiritual encounter group with the book *Velvet Elvis*. He raised profound questions and offered unique insights as a member of the Chaplain’s Disciple Bible Study. He became senior editor of *The Transcript* and moderator of the Peace and Justice House, balancing his gentle leadership in P&J with powerful editorials. As an intern with the *Nashville Tennessean* and as a member of the Lakota Nation Spring Break Mission Team, Noah practiced prophetic peacemaking far beyond the classroom and the campus. As a faithful and frequent worshipper at Asbury United Methodist Church and as a member of Alpha Sigma Phi, Noah never shied away from his strong faith witness and his exemplary high ethical standards. His causes have been just; his causes will prevail, and his methods have been consistent with his message. He leaves a legacy of passionate and compassionate truth-telling that will echo on this campus for years to come.

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

*Makenna Huff*

*Katie Nunner*

*Makenna Huff*

Quiet, solid, and joyful, Makenna's sustained involvement and commitment to Christian mission, leadership, and living during her four years at Ohio Wesleyan has been exceptionally inspiring and impactful. As a freshman, she was selected to travel on a service mission trip for three weeks to Peru. She joined the Outdoor Ministry Team that year and was a committed member for four years, eventually helping to lead meetings as an upperclassman. Since freshman year, she has gone on multiple wilderness treks, and twice was selected as a student leader for the Spring Break Wilderness Trek program. She led teams of her peers through outdoor adventures, in discussions and experiential learning, and toward growth in their individual Christian faith journeys. The past two years she served as the student chaplain for the Kappa Phi Christian Women's Service Sorority, planning weekly worship and Bible study events for the group. Makenna also was committed to a Discipleship Bible study for four years, bringing probing questions and thoughtful insights to the discussions every week. She attended the Coalition for Christian Outreach Jubilee Conference every February in Pittsburgh, learning with other OWU students how to integrate her faith into her academic studies and future career and vocation. She finished her time at OWU by completing a year-long project of securing a Theory-to-Practice grant to hike the historic 500 mile Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route. She then integrated her first-hand experiential learning into her Religion major capstone paper – a scholarly work with a strong juxtaposition of history, sociology, anthropology, psychology, geography, and theology that will serve as a model for other students for years to come. Throughout her four years among us, Makenna has demonstrated a deep commitment to not only developing her own faith and Christian leadership, but also to serving and leading others to grow in their own faith.

**Katie Nunner**

*“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen:  
not only because I see it, but because by it, I see everything else...  
The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate  
deserts.”*

- C. S. Lewis

Katie Nunner is deep water. Her dignified persona reflects her smooth elegance. She embodies a mystical blend of devout Christianity and intellectual rigor. Katie’s leadership and service has been as deep and wide as her faith witness: Student government, Greek life, Residential Life, The Transcript, the Woltemade Center, Women’s Soccer, President’s Club, Marketing Club, and Chamber Orchestra. She has served on a Spring Break Mission Team with homeless families in Washington, D.C. and the local multi-lingual Free Grace Medical Clinic. She has studied media law in London, England; researched migration in Mexico; and experienced foreign immersion in Spain through a Naples Council on World Affairs Scholarship. Katie’s Theory-to-Practice grant involved intensive studies of C.S. Lewis, and from that experience she developed a relationship with the founder of The Veritas Forum, Kelly Monroe Kullberg. This year, Katie was able to arrange for Kullberg to spend an evening with Ohio Wesleyan students to discuss her award-winning book, *“Finding God at Harvard: Spiritual Journeys of Christian Thinkers,”* and its sequel, *“Finding God Beyond Harvard: The Quest for Veritas,”* as well as her latest book, *“A Faith and Culture Devotional: Daily Readings in Art, Science and Life.”* As a result, we have been able to begin plans for the possibility of an ongoing partnership between Ohio Wesleyan and The Veritas Forum. Such a lasting legacy would, indeed, be a formidable contribution from Katie Nunner for years to come.

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

*Caitlen Sellers*

*“The best way to find yourself  
is to lose yourself in the service of others.”  
Mahatma Gandhi*

*“I slept and dreamt that life was joy.  
I awoke and saw that life was service.  
I acted and behold, service was joy.”  
Rabindranath Tagore*

In the true spirit of Taban Blake, Caitlen Sellers runs. A lot. She runs for joy. She runs for health. She runs marathons for the sake of justice. She runs from her flute lesson to help serve meals to families in need late on a Friday night. She runs across campus to set up the Interfaith Oxfam Hunger Banquet to promote awareness and support People in Need, F.E.E.D., and Lutheran Social Services. She runs downtown to serve at the Global Village Store to promote a just wage for artists in developing nations. She runs through the streets of a city in Morocco, where she studied Arabic and passionately immersed herself in North African Islamic culture. She runs to campus and community meetings and workshops and service events to promote pastoral care and prophetic respect for the 2.4 million Americans in prison, and the 65 million Americans who live with the haunting shadow of a criminal record. Indeed, she runs for her life, and for the lives of “the least of those” in our midst – the poor and the powerless, the invisible and the uninvited. In a few short days, she will be involved in the Run Across Congo program to benefit one of the region’s communities most in need of support, Lemera. This is a hub for women who are Victims of Sexual Aggression (VAS), many of whom walk four or more days with their children to receive medical attention. Funds raised by Caitlen will support the community’s Lemera Hospital, which has treated 670 VAS patients in the last year. Though Caitlen will cease to run in this place, the reverberations of her servant leadership will continue to sound through OWU.



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

*Liam Dennigan*

To be a civic leader is an art form, rooted as much in intrinsic character traits as in developed knowledge. When those attributes of values and skills combine, a truly exemplary leader emerges. That is the soul and substance of Liam Dennigan: Solid. Quiet. Unassuming. Kind. Considerate. Steady. Wry. Witty. Agile. Confident. Unobtrusive. Inspiring. Powerful. Gentle. Influential. Bright. Scholarly. Knowledgeable. Creative. Dazzling, but with an under-stated persona.

With such values and virtues, Liam has served our campus community in myriad ways: WCSA representative; executive board of the President's Club; founding member and leader of the re-established chapter of Phil Gamma Delta; congressional campaign staffer; intern for a company's governmental relations branch; outstanding member of the university's moot court competitive team, ranking higher than any previous Ohio Wesleyan team. With a Theory-to-Practice grant team in Ireland, Liam met and mingled with IRA leaders, Loyalists, Catholics and Protestants alike, then helped his team reflect deeply on the impacts of what they had heard each day. Liam served two years as a leader of the Re-New Orleans Spring Break Mission Team. He worked diligently as an equal member of his service team, yet quietly and effectively nudged his teammates to reflect about the lives of the victims of Hurricane Katrina, now a decade thick with lingering neglect and exploitation. Yet he never allowed himself to become the focus of these experiences. To be a civic leader is an art form; Liam Dennigan is a civic artist of the highest order.

**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**

*Kimberly Eckart*

“Grace under pressure.” “Great strength and wisdom.” “Professional dignity far beyond her years.” These are but a few of the many accolades from faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni, trustees, donors, and community members who have had the privilege of knowing and working with Kim Eckart over the past two years. Upon graduation, Kim became the alumni intern for the University President's Office. This past year, she has continued to assist the President even as she assumed the duties of Administrative Assistant to the Vice President for Business Affairs. She also has assumed the responsibility this past semester as interim secretary to the Board of Trustees. Kim has served as host to myriad dignitaries, donors, alumni, and academic guests at the President's Guest House. She has arranged dozens of special events, presentations, banquets, and small gatherings for the entire campus. She has worked closely with each of the senior officers of the University to provide appropriate records, receipts, and registrations that keep Ohio Wesleyan running smoothly. She has done all of this, and more, without drawing any attention to herself or her efforts. Even with all these significant tasks and responsibilities, Kim has been able to support, promote, and be present at nearly every event sponsored by the chaplaincy, Religion department, and service learning: mission teams and wilderness ministry programs, project presentations, special events, academic lectures, and workshops.

Ohio Wesleyan would have been quite a different kind of place over the past two years had Kim not been able and willing to do all that she has done for all of us. Deeply grounded in her faith; deeply knowledgeable about how the entire University functions; gracious and elegant in her demeanor, Kim Eckart is the epitome of the heart and soul of Ohio Wesleyan.

**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. Andrea Colvin*

With quiet dignity, a depth of cross-cultural experience, and a brilliant capacity for the synthesis of cultural contractions, Dr. Colvin graces our campus community with her scholarship, her profound insights, and her gentle but rigorous approach to learning. These attributes abound in all aspects of her life. In the classroom, she effectively nudges her students toward that pivotal “aha!” moment when the language finally clicks for them. In her local community, she leaves for campus early, so that she can stop by the home of a young mother with newly-born twins in order to allow the mother to take a reprieve. In her church, she sings in the choir with a beautiful voice, and assists with the translation of difficult musical lyrics. And on Spring Break this year? She travelled with a group of Ohio Wesleyan students to the city dump of the capital of Nicaragua, working with local families in the United Methodist Project Chacocente. She helped them relocate to a newly established village, building homes and hopes for a new life based on education and self-productivity.

A co-faculty/staff advisor later reported, “She was an absolute rock! She was and is always interested and engaged with the students; she is one of the kindest, most compassionate and caring individuals I have ever worked with, and that is a very high bar at Ohio Wesleyan! She stepped up again and again in what turned out to be a challenging trip, in spite of her being ill for much of the week.”

Another of her Spring Break Mission Week companions wrote: “Andrea was the professor who sat at my dinner table at my freshman StART program to talk me through the ins and outs of my very first class registration. While neither of us really knew what I wanted, she was kind and cool headed the entire time, and guided me in a direction that I ended up loving. While I've never taken a class

with her, I'm running into her constantly since my major is in her department. She never fails to say hi and ask me how I'm doing. She often attends campus-wide events with the other language professors, and I love it when I see her and her faculty friends participating in the same things that my friends and I do! Our mission trip to Project Chacocente was Andrea's first mission trip ever. Andrea was the one who made friends with Walter, our bus driver. His English was about at the same level of my Spanish enough to understand, but not enough to initiate conversation. Andrea would, in her quiet way, sit down next to him at dinner, ask him about his day, and then proceed to talk to him throughout the entire meal while our English speaking team looked on and laughed awkwardly. Walter almost jumped out of his seat the first time she started talking to him, because he hadn't expected her to be able to converse. Through listening to her and having her translate, I was able to talk to Walter as well and learn things that I would never have been able to learn otherwise. Andrea is always calm, and very often quiet until something is asked of her. She is always positive and often throws witty comments in places where you would not expect them, which created many, many laughs on our team."

Whether teaching or advising, whether on campus or in the community, Andrea is a blessing to all those she meets. OWU continues to become a better place with her presence among us.

## **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 and Society. Its charter provided that “the University is forever to be conducted on the most liberal principles, accessible to all religious denominations, 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**  
**The Reverend Dr. James Stewart Leslie**  
**May 28, 1925 – October 31, 2014**  
**Chaplain Emeritus, Ohio Wesleyan University**

