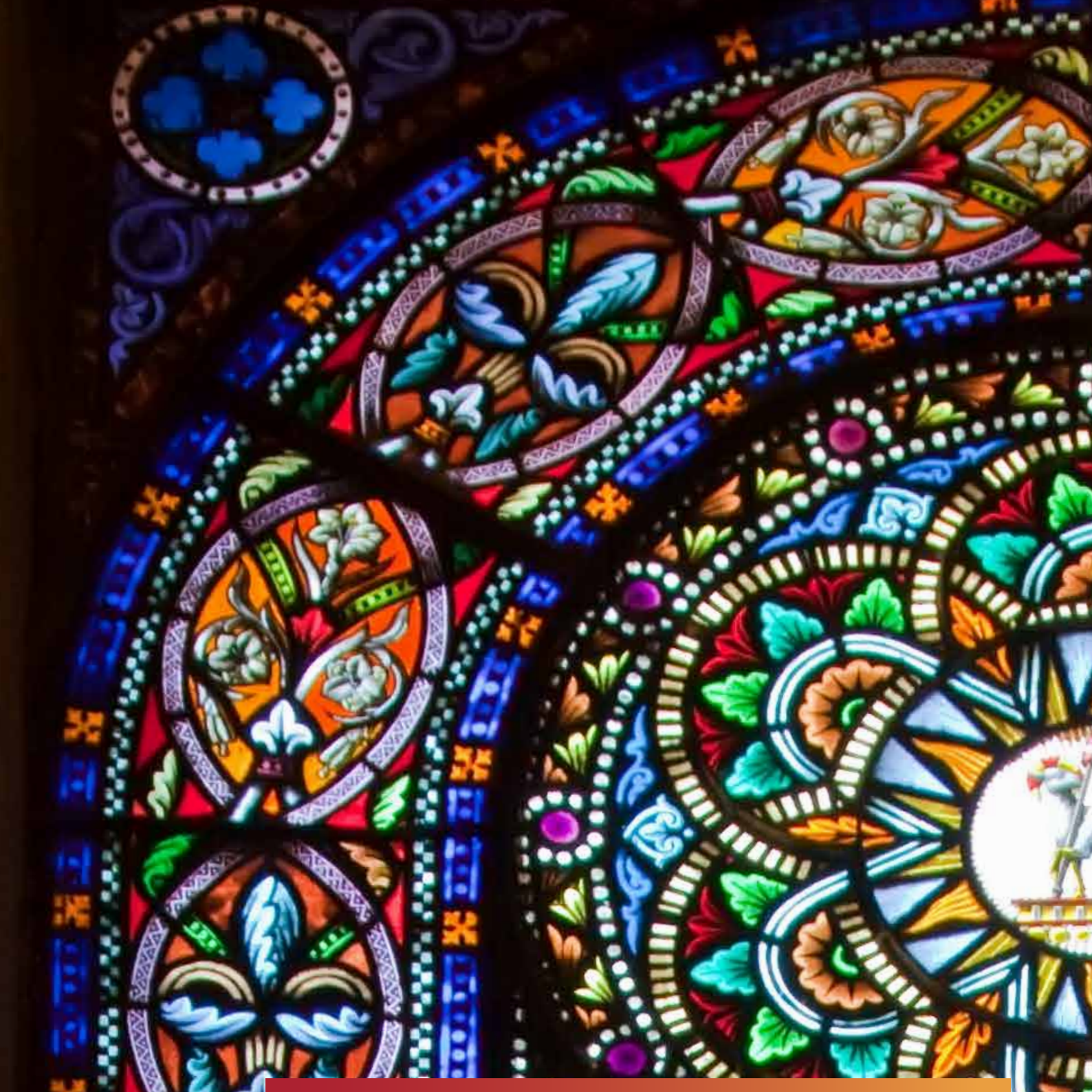


Gratitude Report *2018*



world
methodist
evangelism





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Our world is dramatically different than it was a few decades ago.



Technology and globalization have made us more connected, yet at the same time more divided. Societies all over the world are polarized by the forces of political ideology, secularism, economics, violence and religion.

In some parts of the world, such as Europe or North America, where Christianity once flourished, generations of young people are now growing up with little or no Christian memory. In other parts of the world, like Africa or South America, Christianity may be growing, but there are significant challenges such as oppression and persecution from other religions or political ideologies.

In light of these realities people need resources that encourage faithful discipleship and enable graceful faith sharing in secular environments where the church has lost its voice, and resources that speak to the pluralistic environments where Christianity is facing marginalization and oppression. Clergy need to be renewed in their understanding of the importance of evangelism and the way it intersects all the ministries of the church, and congregations need guidance, support, and encouragement in order to faithfully live out the gospel in contexts of disagreement, division, and difference.



Our Purpose:

World Methodist Evangelism offers resources and events to strengthen discipleship and equip believers to share their faith in Jesus Christ.

Our Passion:

The Wesleyan Methodist family includes 40.5 million people in 134 different countries.

Through this global network we train, encourage, and challenge Christ followers to ***live more fully*** as committed disciples of the Jesus way, to ***share their faith*** with greater love and boldness, and to ***impact their world*** with greater courage and integrity on behalf of Jesus Christ.

This past year....

Greetings in the strong name of Jesus Christ!

2018 has been a remarkable year of change and growth for World Methodist Evangelism! God has provided new opportunities while at the same time strengthening and expanding our existing work. As World Director Emeritus Dr. Eddie Fox has always said, "there is a wide door" for ministry through World Methodist Evangelism. This is as true for us as it has ever been!

You can read more about the impact of our specific ministries, but several things stand out as especially meaningful as I reflect on the past year.

» Our commitment to shaping young leaders.

- » Our Order of the FLAME covenant community is instilling the DNA of holistic evangelism into future leaders in the Wesleyan Methodist family, which will have an impact for generations to come.
- » Metanoia (ICYCE reborn!) has created a ripple effect of spiritual growth in young people as the relationships begun in Costa Rica now continue to flourish through social media and other means of connection.
- » Our Next Generation Cohort is taking shape as we gather a global network of young leaders to advise and guide WME's work to reach the next generation for Jesus Christ.
- » Our longstanding relationship with the World Methodist Evangelism Institute is molding seminarians across North America through cross-cultural evangelism experiences and teaching.

» **Our commitment to creating resources and cultivating new opportunities for collaboration.**

- » Embrace: Showing and Sharing the Love of Jesus, our new evangelism teaching resource, has been received with overwhelming enthusiasm across the globe and we are excited to distribute it beyond our teaching seminars in 2019.
- » Our collaborative relationships with churches and organizations across the Methodist Wesleyan family and beyond is enabling us to expand our impact for Christ in new and exciting ways as never before.

All of this excites and encourages me as we move into 2019, but the most meaningful aspect of all is seeing lives transformed as people deepen their relationship with Christ or discover that relationship for the first time.

The Holy Spirit is moving across our planet in ways both large and small, visible and invisible, and we are blessed at WME to have a front row seat for the Spirit's amazing work. As you read more about our ministry, I pray you will join us in embracing what God is doing in our world and all the ways we can labor together so that the world may know Jesus Christ.

Blessings,

Kim

Rev. Dr. Kimberly Reisman
WME Executive Director



embrace | The Program

Melding personal experience and theological integrity, *Embrace* is an evangelism resource that equips people to show and share the love of Jesus in a way that is authentic and natural. It sets out six essential values that lie at the heart of authentic faith-sharing: **humility, clarity, prayer, integrity, worship, and urgency**. These values remain constant no matter where in the world we live. Through the metaphor of embrace, Christ followers are offered a new way of envisioning our "stance" or "way of being in the world." Though our practices may change from place to place and time to time, no matter where we are or in what kind of culture we live, the values of embrace form the foundation for everything we do as we show and share the love of Jesus.



Embracing the Mission

Divided in to six sessions, **Embrace** provides introductory material followed by five sessions focused on the essential values. The study is designed for individual or small group use, provides basic theological and scriptural foundations for evangelism and its essential values, opportunities for both reflection and action, and guidelines for group sharing and activity. Working through these essential values enables Christ followers to connect their personal experience of faith with a holistic understanding of the gospel in a way that restores their confidence and responsiveness to the Holy Spirit as they show and share the love of Jesus in their daily lives and in their trusting relationships.



Embracing the Future

The Programs - Order of the FLAME & Metanoia

The Order of the FLAME (Faithful Leaders as Mission Evangelists) gathers young clergy and their spouses annually for holistic evangelism training, spiritual nurture, and encouragement. Each year promising young leaders from the various Wesleyan Methodist denominations are nominated to join a new class of the Order. As we gather at Epworth by the Sea on St. Simons Island, Georgia to welcome a new class, FLAME members experience four days of inspiring keynote speakers, informative break-out sessions, and meaningful small group experiences, while at the same time developing strong collegial relationships within and beyond their own denominational context.

We believe that it is of crucial importance to invest in clergy at the early stage of their ministry and find ways to continue that investment for increased fruitfulness and longevity in ministry. Our goals for FLAME members include a deepened understanding of the holistic nature of evangelism, a widened range of leadership skills, a broadened perspective on mission, and a heightened awareness of the importance of missional collaboration.

WME is blessed to currently have 2,440 members in the Order of the FLAME covenant community!



"I took away a passion for exegetical work at the heart of preaching. The world whispers in my ear 'it's all about the show' and I found my way back to scriptural foundations."

~comment from FLAME participant

metanoia



Metanoia is a transformative, faith strengthening, mission empowering, horizon expanding international gathering of young people age 18-35. Our goal is to:

- ✓ Deepen our spiritual roots so we are better able to show and share the love of Jesus Christ.
- ✓ Discover our place in the global community of believers and build relationships that extend beyond our own contexts and last long after we leave.
- ✓ Expand our vision of God's purpose for our lives and connect with others to make a difference in our world.

In 2018, building on the strength of ICYCE and emphasizing the importance of spiritual transformation, over 100 young people from over 20 countries gathered in Costa Rica to launch Metanoia.

- ✓ 20+ young people responded to a call to ministry
- ✓ Movement groups were formed to take action and raise awareness in response to issues like human trafficking, climate change, the black market selling of human organs, and homelessness.



Embracing the Future

The Programs - Convergence & RIM

CONVERGENCE

Many people in today's world seem distant from the church, but still wrestle with the deep questions of meaning and purpose found in the Gospel. Convergence is designed for pastors and lay people interested in engaging in a post-Christian culture with the saving message of Jesus Christ. **This two-week inaugural conference, scheduled for this September, will include teaching from a distinctly Wesleyan perspective.** Scholars and practitioners from our global Methodist Wesleyan movement will help us explore how to best live out our faith in contexts and communities influenced by secularism, pluralism, and a post-Christian understanding of the world..



Residency in Missions (RIM) is an immersive mission and evangelism experience designed for young adults who are called to serve beyond their home country in partnership with ministries in the Wesleyan Methodist family. RIM is a 9-12 month commitment that includes guided mentorship from mission and evangelism leadership experts. RIM also provides opportunities for host ministries to strengthen the work in their local context, while offering residents an environment in which to grow in their ministry service.

Our inaugural post will be in New Zealand.



Testimonials

I am looking forward to what God is doing in the WME ministry, since it is such a dear ministry to my heart. When we started the UMC denomination in Romania, I was looking to see if there was any passion for evangelism in this denomination. I began searching online and found the information about WME; for me, the experience meeting this vision was life-changing and gave more sense of why we chose to become Methodists. It makes even more sense now when the denomination is struggling...But what I experienced at the Metanoia showed me that there is not only hope for the Methodists, but there is the power of the Holy Spirit moving. The flame is still burning and this is so encouraging for me. I was telling this to my colleagues in ministry, and they were filled with hope.

I just want to express my gratitude once more for the blessed time spent this summer at Metanoia. I also want to send you, your family and ministry my best wishes in this Advent time!

May the hope, love, joy and peace fulfill your heart each day of your life.

Many blessings!

Cristian Istrate

“

Part of me has always wanted to be a **missionary** and to **serve** without distraction, but it seemed like something outlandish that only really brave and knowledgeable Christians did. I'm not sure I fit in either of those descriptors, but I do know I am ready to go where the **Lord** sends me. I count myself blessed for Him to have put the RIM opportunity on my path.”

”

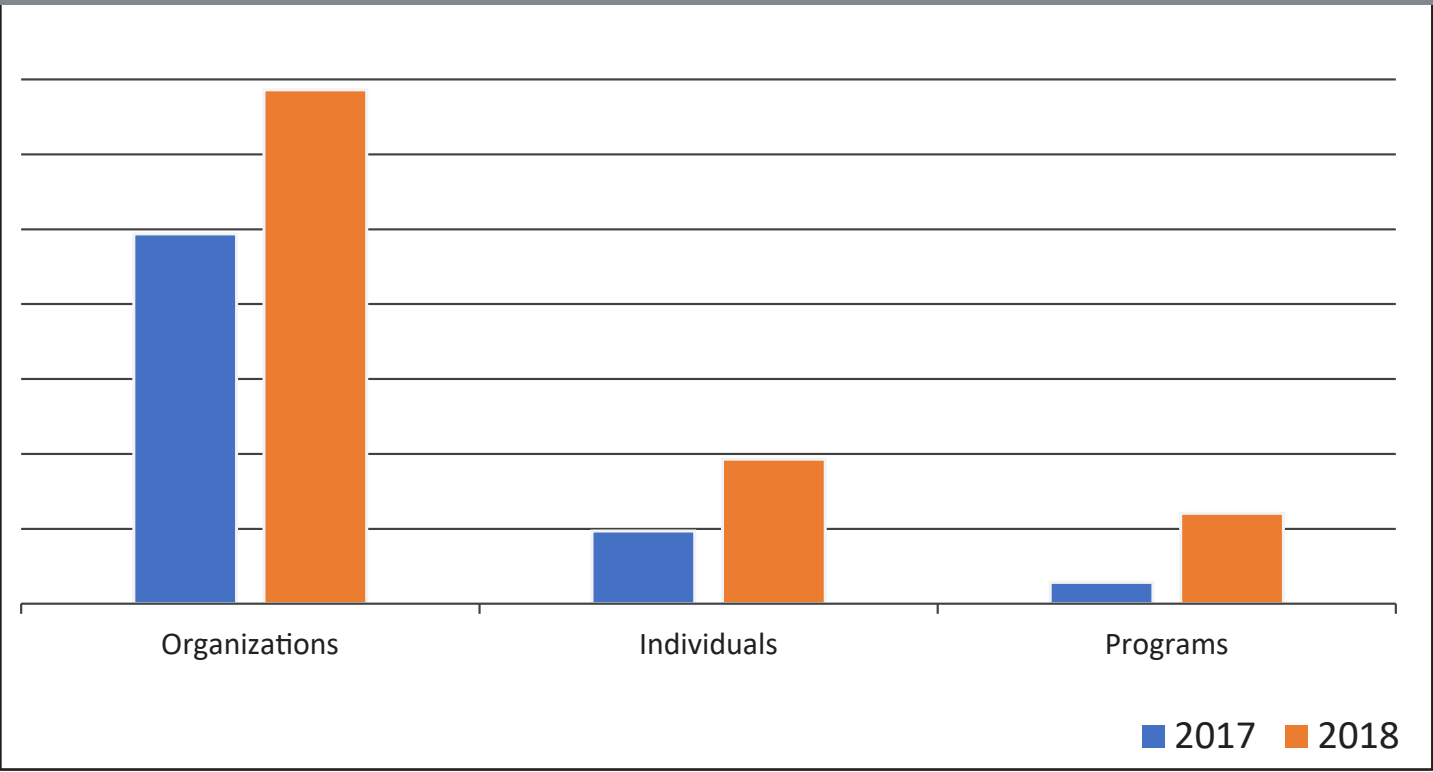
Eliza Edge
2019-2020 Resident in Mission





2018 Contributions

Contribution Comparison



Board of Directors | Embracing Experience

Bishop Ivan Abrahams
General Secretary, World Methodist Council
Lake Junaluska, NC

Bishop Bobby Best
Bishop, Ninth Episcopal District,
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Los Angeles, CA

Rev. Dr. Davis Chappell
Senior Pastor, Brentwood United Methodist Church
Brentwood, TN

Bishop Robert E. Fannin
Retired Bishop, United Methodist Church
Lakeland, FL

Rev. Dr. Eddie Fox
Retired, World Director, WME
Sevierville, TN

Bishop Paulo Lockmann
Retired Bishop, Methodist Church in Brazil
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Rev. Dr. Jo Anne Lyon
Vice President, Wesley Seminary
Indianapolis, IN

Bishop Sunday Onuoha
Founder and President, Vision of Africa
Lagos, Nigeria

Dr. J.C. Park
Pastor, Korean Methodist Church
Seoul, South Korea

Rev. Dr. Shane Stanford
Senior Pastor, Christ Church
Memphis, TN

Bishop Darryl Starnes
Bishop, Mid-West Episcopal District
AME Zion Church
Charlotte, NC

Bishop Debbie Wallace Padgett
Bishop, Birmingham Episcopal Area,
United Methodist Church
Birmingham, AL

Mr. Joe Dan Rogers
Student, Candler School of Theology,
Emory University
Atlanta, GA



Regional Secretaries | Embracing Experience

World Methodist Evangelism functions globally through the leadership of its Regional Secretaries. Regional Secretaries bring the voice of their areas into the work of WME and bring the voice of WME into work in their areas.

As part of the WME team, Regional Secretaries have the following responsibilities:

- To connect regularly with leadership in the broader Methodist Wesleyan family in their area to identify evangelism needs, challenges, opportunities, and joys.
- To guide WME in discerning, evaluating, and addressing the evangelism needs identified by the leadership in the broader Methodist Wesleyan family in their area.
- To participate in, assist in recruiting leadership, and recommend attendees for WME teaching events in their area.
- To provide short quarterly updates on activities in their area for publication in the WME newsletter.
- To promote WME events and resources.



Africa Team

East

Bishop Catherine Mutua
Methodist Church of Kenya

Bishop William Muriuki Mwango
Methodist Church of Kenya

West

Bishop Sunday Onuoha
Methodist Church of Nigeria

South

Rev. Ralph Afghan
Methodist Church of Southern Africa

Team Members

Bishop Johnwesley Yohanna
United Methodist Church, Nigeria

Bishop Uduak (U.U.) Effiong
AMEZ, Nigeria

Rev. Kimba Kyakutala Evereste
United Methodist Church
Democratic Republic of Congo

Asia Team

Far East

Rev. Dr. Chung Suk Kim
Methodist Church Korea

Southeast Asia

Mrs. Maimunah Natasha
Methodist Church of Indonesia

Caribbean Team

Rev. Dr. George Mulrain
Methodist Church of the Caribbean
and the Americas

Asia-Pacific Team

Pacific

Rev. Dr. Richard Waugh
Wesleyan Methodist Church New Zealand

East Asia

Bishop James Kwang
Chinese Methodist Church Australia

Europe Team

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Dr. Lenka Prochazkova
United Methodist Church, Slovakia

Germany

Rev. Christhard Elle
United Methodist Church, Germany

Northern Europe

Rev. Taavi Hollman
United Methodist Church, Estonia

Latin America Team

Central America/Mexico

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Methodist Church of Costa Rica

South America

Bishop Paulo Lockmann
Methodist Church of Brazil

North America Team

Bishop Darryl Starnes
African Methodist Episcopal Zion



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Cristian Istrate

Jeff Jernigan

Dan Kelly

Bishop Sundo Kim

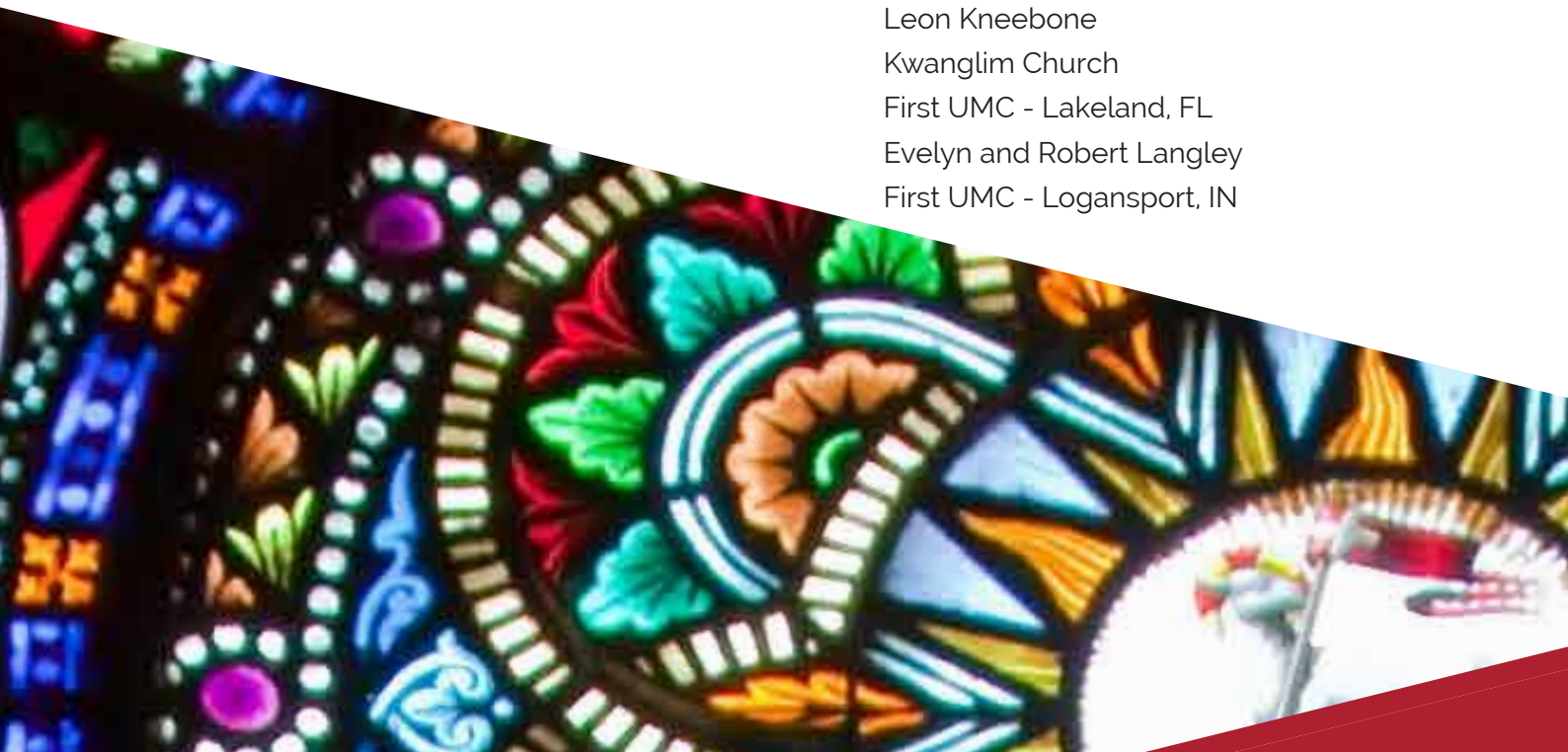
Leon Kneebone

Kwanglim Church

First UMC - Lakeland, FL

Evelyn and Robert Langley

First UMC - Logansport, IN



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Natasha and Kelsy Steele
Swartz Creek UMC - Swartz Creek, MI
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Harrison Turner
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This list contains donations received from
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