

WEST VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

FOUNDERS DAY CONVOCATION



OCTOBER 11, 2024
WESLEY CHAPEL

FOUNDERS DAY CONVOCATION 2024

An asterisk () indicates you are invited to stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE		Watson Bells
*PROCESSIONAL	Voluntary in B-Flat Major Dr. Melody Meadows, <i>Professor of Music</i> , Organ	Battishill (1738-1801)
*PROCESSION OF THE ORANGE LINE		Michael Bush '10 <i>Alumni Council President</i>
*INVOCATION		Rev. Jonathan Acord <i>Dean of the Chapel</i>
*HYMN	Gather Us In <i>The Faith We Sing #2236</i> <i>All are invited to join in singing; lyrics included on the following page</i>	Haugen (b.1950)
WELCOME		Kevin Spear '76 <i>Chair, Board of Trustees</i>
INDUCTION OF NEW TRUSTEES		Chair Spear
ANTHEM	Freedom is Coming & Siyahamba West Virginia Wesleyan College Concert Chorale Dr. R. Daniel Hughes, <i>Director of Choral Activities & Associate Professor of Music</i> , Conductor Fisher Goodwin, djembe	ed. Nyberg (b.1955)
GREETINGS		Dr. James H. Moore <i>President</i>
AWARD FOR EXEMPLARY TEACHING		Dr. Lynn Linder <i>Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
ALUMNI AWARD PRESENTATIONS		President Moore and Alumni Council President Bush
MUSICAL SELECTION	My Home Among the Hills West Virginia Wesleyan College Concert Chorale	E. W. James, Hon. '73 <i>Former Trustee of the College</i>
INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER		Chett Pritchett '99 <i>Alumni Council Secretary</i>
ADDRESS	Cultivating Global Citizens: Intercultural Competence for a Diverse World <i>General Commission on Religion and Race, The United Methodist Church</i>	Rev. Dr. Giovanni Arroyo <i>General Secretary</i>
*HYMN	As a Fire is Meant for Burning <i>The Faith We Sing #2237</i> <i>All are invited to join in singing; lyrics included on page 7</i>	Duck (b.1947)
*ALMA MATER	Alma Mater of the Mountains West Virginia Wesleyan College Concert Chorale <i>All are invited to join in singing the Alma Mater; lyrics included on page 7</i>	Wallace B. Fleming <i>Fifth President of the College</i>
*BENEDICTION		Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett <i>Resident Bishop, West Virginia and Holston Conferences, The United Methodist Church</i>
*RECESSIONAL	"Spirituoso" from Sonata a Tromba, TMV 44 Melody Meadows, <i>Professor of Music</i> , Organ	Telemann (1681-1767)

The Orange Line

Ever since 1890, students have entered West Virginia Wesleyan College, where their minds were challenged, their talents nurtured and their hearts inspired. As they completed their studies, they moved on to share their knowledge, experience and values in new settings. Former Wesleyan students have carried the spirit and substance of the College into the global community and into almost every form of human endeavor. Wesleyan's alumni have formed a constant connection between the College and the world beyond – and both College and world have been strengthened. It is appropriate on the celebration of Wesleyan's Founders Day that the heritage of the College be symbolized as a line of former students who represent more than 15,000 alumni.

I am the orange line
 My beginning was long ago.
 I have no end.
 I am perpetual.
 My source is in the
 West Virginia hills.
 My reach
 embraces the world.
 I am in America's small towns.
 I am in her great cities.
 I cross the seas.

I grow.
 I am your warm, enduring memories.
 I am your shared experiences.
 I am your friends, your teachers.
 I am your link to the past.
 I am your dreams for the future.
 Wherever you are, there too, am I.
 I am you.
 You are me.
 We --- are the orange line.

By Charles K. Dick

Gather Us In

1. Here in this place new light is streaming,
 now is the darkness vanished away,
 see in this space our fears and our dreamings,
 brought here to you in the light of this day.
 Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
 gather us in, the blind and the lame;
 call to us now, and we shall awaken,
 we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
 we are the old who yearn for your face,
 we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
 called to be light to the whole human race.
 Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
 gather us in, the proud and the strong;
 give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
 give us the courage to enter the song.

New Board of Trustee Members

Sam Fox '86 is a 1986 graduate of WVWC and received his J.D. from the West Virginia University College of Law in 1989. He is an accomplished health care lawyer with the law firm of Flaherty Sensabaugh & Bonasso, PLLC, in Charleston, WV. His areas of focus include medical malpractice defense, risk management, risk avoidance/education and health care licensing. Sam also serves his firm as Chair of the Health Care Practice Group. In 2022, he was selected by his peers as the Health Care Lawyer of the Year in Charleston as per The Best Lawyers in America. He has served the West Virginia State Bar as Chairman of the Law and Medicine Committee. He also serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Charleston where he teaches courses in Business Law and Sports Law. Outside of the office, Sam has enjoyed coaching sports including a high school soccer team that won undefeated back-to-back state championships in 2011 and 2012. In 2012, the National Soccer Coaches Association of America named him the West Virginia High School Soccer Coach of the Year. In 2015, he also coached his daughter to a state high school singles tennis championship. In addition, he enjoys spending time on the tennis courts, where he won the 2019 Public Courts Tennis Championship for his age division. While in college, he was a four-year letterman in tennis and a three-year team captain. At West Virginia Wesleyan, he was active in Theta Chi fraternity serving as its president. He was also a member of Mortar Board and Omicron Delta Kappa. His professional involvement includes the Defense Research Institute, Defense Trial Counsel of West Virginia, WV State Bar Health Law & Medicine Committee, and Saint Thomas More Catholic Lawyer's Society. His

community involvement includes The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral, and Knights of Columbus. Sam and his wife Christine have been married since 1992. Christine is an attorney serving as counsel for the Division of Probation Services with the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia. Sam and Christine have two children—Adam, an attorney with Dinsmore and Shohl, and Sarah Kate, an attorney currently serving as a law clerk for the Honorable Frank W. Volk, Judge for the United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia.

Brenda Friend '07 earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education (Multicategorical Special Education and Specific Learning Disabilities K-5, 6-A) from WVWC. In addition to teaching mathematics at Buckhannon-Upshur High School for nearly four years, she worked for the West Virginia Department of Education writing Project-Based Learning, assessments, and content standards. Brenda is an Upshur County native and has been the Assistant Controller since March of 2012. As an Enrolled Agent since 2019 and professional income tax preparer since 1991, she recently opened her own income tax business. She currently serves as Staff Council Chair.

Danette Ifert Johnson '90 graduated from WVWC in 1990 and now serves as the Provost of Kalamazoo College in Michigan. At Kalamazoo, Danette provides academic vision for the College and serves as the spokesperson for K's academic mission. Her responsibilities include development and evaluation of faculty and staff; curriculum development and evaluation; and, access for students to experiential and other high-impact learning opportunities. Danette is known to champion both faculty and students, overseeing educational affairs, activities, personnel and programs. Danette is also a peer reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). She previously served as vice provost at Ithaca College, where she was a tenured professor in communication studies and the inaugural director of Ithaca's Integrative Core Curriculum. She was previously a faculty member at West Virginia Wesleyan College and Texas Tech. She served as the executive director and president of the Eastern Communication Association (ECA), which has honored her as a distinguished teaching fellow and distinguished research fellow. An alumna of WVWC, Danette previously served her alma mater as president of the alumni council and member of the board of trustees. A lifelong United Methodist, Danette is active at First United Methodist of Kalamazoo. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in speech communication and history from WVWC, a Master of Arts in educational psychology from West Virginia University, and a Master of Arts and Doctorate in communication studies from Northwestern University.

Jesse Oldroyd is an associate professor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at WVWC. He graduated with a BS in mathematics from the University of Alaska Anchorage in 2010, and received both an MS in 2012 and a PhD in mathematics in 2016 from the University of Idaho, specializing in applied harmonic analysis. He has been at Wesleyan since 2016 and currently serves as the Chair of Faculty.

Stephen Ranjan '01 received his Bachelor's degree in computer science from WVWC in 2001 and is currently the Global Head of Digital Health for Roche Pharma personalized healthcare where he and his team are leading, co-creating and implementing the next generation of digital health concepts across the Roche Pharma functions and Roche group. Previously, he was responsible for the Roche Diabetes Care Digital Health business and driving the growth of engaged users on mySugr and the Roche Diabetes Care Platform across 20+ countries. With more than 20+ years of experience in the pharmaceutical, medical device and Health IT industry, Stephen has extensive experience driving open innovation (externally & internally) and establishing novel collaborations with customers and technology players such as Amazon, Verily and other digital health startups. Prior to joining Roche, Stephen worked at Merck, Johnson & Johnson, and Epic Systems. Currently, he is an Executive Advisory Board Member at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Business' Erdman Center, where he earned his MBA.

Freedom is Coming & Siyahamba

Oh freedom is coming. Oh yes I know.
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.
We are marching in the light of God.

The Reverend Dr. Debra Wallace-Padgett was elected a Bishop of the United Methodist Church at the 2012 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. She served as the episcopal leader in the North Alabama Conference from 2012-2024, with the addition of the Holston Conference on September 1, 2021. On September 1, 2024, Bishop Wallace-Padgett began her new assignment in the Holston Conference of the Southeastern Jurisdiction and the West Virginia Conference of the Northeastern Jurisdiction.

At the time of her election, she was the lead pastor of St. Luke United Methodist Church in Lexington, Kentucky. During her tenure St. Luke grew in membership, strengthened its infrastructure, built a \$4.5 million Ministry Life Center, and launched a multi-cultural worship service. Prior to that, Wallace-Padgett served six years as Prestonsburg District Superintendent, three years as pastor of Paris First UMC, eleven years on staff at Lexington First UMC, and two years as Director of Christian Education at Lexington Epworth UMC. She also provided leadership in a variety of roles in the Kentucky Annual Conference, Southeastern Jurisdiction, and General Church.

Bishop Wallace-Padgett was elected President of the World Methodist Council in Gothenburg, Sweden, on August 14, 2024. She has also served as President of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (2012-2016), a member of the Connectional Table (2012-2016), a member of the Commission on a Way Forward (2017-2019), and on the Council of Bishops Executive Committee (2014-2020), as well as chair of the Standing Committee on Evangelism for the World Methodist Council (2016-2024).

She is a graduate of Berea College, Scarritt College and Graduate School, Lexington Theological Seminary, and Asbury Theological Seminary.

Bishop Wallace-Padgett is married to Reverend Lee Padgett, a retired deacon in the United Methodist Church. They are the parents of two adult children, Leandra Thompson (Alexander) and Andrew Padgett, and have two granddaughters (Crindalyn and Raylena Thompson).



If you are looking for ways to donate to those impacted by the most recent hurricanes across the Southeast U.S., consider donating to UMCOR (The United Methodist Committee on Relief) or the West Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church's Response Team. 100% of donations go directly to disaster response.

UMCOR responds to natural or civil that overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. Through UMCOR, United Methodists extend loving care to people within the United States. When disaster strikes, it is local churches that provide the first response to their communities. This basic understanding—that disaster response is local—forms the foundation for UMCOR's US disaster training and response. When responding to a disaster, UMCOR provides training, financial assistance, expertise, community collaboration to churches and partners making them more resilient to disasters. Gifts to UMCOR may be made at umcmission.org/advance-project/901670 or by scanning this QR code:



The West Virginia Conference of The United Methodist Church (WVUMC) is partnering with churches in the Virginia area to provide critical aid and support. Response Teams have already headed to areas that need trees and debris cleared. Gifts to support the Response Team's efforts may be made at wvumc.brapp.com/page/donate/disaster-response-ministries or by scanning this QR code:



Alumni Awards

The Alumni Council of West Virginia Wesleyan College has a tradition of honoring individuals for professional achievement and service. The Service Award recognizes alumni who have rendered outstanding service to the College through recruiting students, assisting with fundraising, working on special projects by serving as a consultant, arranging internships, representing the College at special events, working with alumni chapters, and other contributions for the greater welfare and development of West Virginia Wesleyan. The Achievement Award recognizes alumni who have achieved status and position in their profession or who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in altruistic, philanthropic or service endeavors to their community, state or nation. Young Alumni Awards are also presented to graduates of the last 15 years in both the Service and Achievement categories.

Alumni Service Award

Adena Barnette-Miller '03 has been an enthusiastic ambassador for Wesleyan wherever she goes, and throughout her career has mentored her students in the way she was mentored by the Drs. Rupp during her time at WVWC—including sending many of her students to Wesleyan. Adena graduated from Ripley High School in 1999 and earned her undergraduate degree in secondary social studies education from WVWC in 2003. Barnette-Miller was named the 2011 WV James Madison Memorial Foundation Fellow which provided her graduate-level instruction in American constitutionalism. She has won awards including the 2021 Gilder-Lehrman Institute's West Virginia History Teacher of the Year, the 2016 WV Daughters of the American Revolution's Outstanding Teacher of American History, and third place in the 2016 National DAR Outstanding Teacher of American History contest. In 2023, DAR presented Barnette-Miller with the Woman in American History Award. She also teaches AP Microeconomics and AP Macroeconomics for the WV Department of Education's Virtual School program. She is married to David W. Miller. Their shared passions include watching Cincinnati sports and working together to create a place-based YouTube Channel entitled "WV History with Mrs. B." where they share stories about the Mountain State of West Virginia, its people, and its history. She is an ambassador for WVWC wherever she goes.

Dr. Benedict Tantillo III '74 began his Wesleyan service as an assistant football coach while studying for his Master's degree, and has continued that service by maintaining a continued presence as an outspoken and enthusiastic alumnus. His post-college endeavors were initiated as a NJ secondary-school English, social studies, and phys ed teacher which also included the start of his football and baseball student-coaching passion. In addition to all of his professional achievements that would follow, this extracurricular effort resulted in him being named NJ's 1983 Baseball Coach of the Year. That tribute occurred the year he resumed his NJ teaching career after a three-year interim return to Wesleyan with his college- sweetheart wife Barbara Tantillo '75. Here they were again part of the Wesleyan community, this time on the faculty side, with Barb in the Counseling Department and Ben as Wesleyan's assistant football coach while he attained his master's degree. Following his first retirement in 2010, an opportunity led to five additional years as Superintendent of Schools in Duxbury, MA where his revered direction led to Duxbury High School being designated as one of the top three public high schools in the state (out of 405) by The Boston Globe, the Massachusetts Department of Education commending Duxbury Public Schools for their high state-testing status, and the National Association of Music Merchants acclaimed Tantillo's Massachusetts region as one of the country's best music programs. Within three years of his term at Duxbury, he was the recipient of the 2013 Administrator Award presented by the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents and the Massachusetts Technology Committee. His lifelong advocacy of the value of education also includes all four of his children receiving their Bachelor's Degrees, all from different universities.

Alumni Achievement Award

Rhonda Holyfield Mangieri '74 is a 1974 graduate of WVWC. Rhonda was named the 94th President of The Cincinnatus Association, a 104-year-old nonpartisan and non-profit organization located in Cincinnati, Ohio. For Cincinnatus, she served as VP, Treasurer, and co-chair of the prestigious Donald and Marian Spencer “Spirit of America” Awards. She also served on the Board of Directors of the FBI Cincinnati Citizens Academy Alumni Association. She volunteers for International Friendship Inc. and she provides pro bono resume and career support for individuals and leadership development training to nonprofit organizations.

Over the years she has been recognized for her outstanding service. She received an Outstanding Pittsburgh Society of Association Executives Award and Slippery Rock University’s President Award for Outstanding Service. In 2021, she received AARP Ohio’s 2021 Andrus Award for Community Service. She has been an AARP volunteer since 2014 and has been featured in several AARP articles. For the past 36 years, she has been active in her church, teaching Sunday school, developing curriculum, serving as a youth and missions’ leader, and teaching adult Bible Studies. She is a frequent speaker, panelist, and moderator for various non-profit and civic organizations.

Lance M. Lindauer '06, MBA '07 has spent his career working across the public, private, nonprofit, and academic sectors, all of which involved roles and initiatives related to public policy, innovation, and emerging-technology, notably AI. Lance is presently the Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Partnership to Advance Responsible Technology (PART), a Pittsburgh-based non-governmental organization dedicated to integrating responsible and ethical technology and innovation into solving global problems via research, education, and consultation. Along with co-founding PART, Lance worked at the RAND Corporation for 10 years, holding roles in National Security (Director of Operations for the National Defense Research Institute) and Innovation Architecture (Principal Consultant). Lance is also Founder and CEO of Lindauer Holdings where he advises clients in areas such as AI, finance, healthcare, and defense manufacturing, and is also Co-Founder and Partner at Genus Research Group, a firm dedicated to emerging-technology research and public sector engagement. In prior roles, Lance has been a private consultant for state and federal public policy and business operations; an Adjunct Professor of Intelligence Analysis at the collegiate level, and served in the U.S. Treasury Department. He holds a Six Sigma Black Belt in lean consulting.

Young Alumni Achievement Award

Dr. Rebekah Honce '16 matriculated to the Integrated Program in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center to pursue her doctoral degree following her graduation from WVWC in 2016. There, she joined the research team of Dr. Schultz-Cherry in the Department of Infectious Disease at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Her pre-doctoral work focused on investigating influenza virus and coronavirus pathogenesis, transmission, and evolution in high-risk hosts to develop more effective therapeutics for the most vulnerable. She successfully defended her dissertation in 2020. Currently, Dr. Honce is finishing an NIH-sponsored postdoctoral fellowship in the laboratory of Dr. Botten at the University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine. Here, she works with rodent-borne arenaviruses where she is untangling the viral and host determinants of disease to identify novel targets for next-generation therapeutics. In her future independent laboratory, Dr. Honce hopes to examine interconnectedness of host, virus, and environment as it relates to zoonotic spillover to better predict and prepare for the next pandemic. Through her professional affiliations with the American Society for Virology and as coordinator of the Burlington, VT chapter of Science on Tap, she is involved in communicating and clarifying scientific findings to the public and policymakers. Outside of laboratory, you can find her hiking with her rescue dog Maple, trying to teach tricks to her two tabby cats, or concert-going with her partner Dr. Chris Skinner '14.

Phyllis J. Smith '13 interned at WDTV in Bridgeport, WV during her time at Wesleyan. She was hired as a weekend reporter in her junior year at Wesleyan. She continued to work there for two years, eventually becoming a full-time reporter and anchor. Phyllis learned the ropes at WDTV and met some of her closest friends. During her time at WTAP,

Phyllis won four Ohio Associated Press awards, one West Virginia Broadcasters Association Excellence in Broadcasting award and one Virginias Associated Press award. Other awards include: Best Anchor Small Market West Virginia Broadcasters Association 2024 first place, Best Producer Ohio APME 2022 second place, Best Broadcast Writing Ohio APME 2022 second place, Best Anchor Ohio APME 2021 second place, Best Producer Ohio APME 2021 second place, and Best Producer Virginia's AP Broadcasters 2021 second place. She has been at WTAP for nine years and enjoys being the 6 and 11 p.m. anchor and producer in her hometown of Parkersburg. Smith has been the emcee for several charitable organization events. Smith represents Wesleyan wherever she goes in a positive light.

My Home Among the Hills

There's a land of rolling mountains
Where the sky is blue above
And though I may roam,
I hurry home to friendly hills I love.
Where moonlit meadows ring
with the call of whippoorwills,
always you will find me
in my home among the hills.
And where the sun draws rainbows
In the mist of waterfalls and mountain rills.

My heart will be always
in the West Virginia hills.
There autumn hillsides are bright
with scarlet trees.
And in the spring the robins sing,
while apple blossoms whisper in the breeze.
And there is music in the flashing streams,
and joy in fields of daffodils,
laughter through the happy valleys
of my home among the hills.

Rev. Dr. Giovanni Arroyo

A native of Puerto Rico, Arroyo migrated to New York City as a young boy where he recognized and answered his call into ministry at Knickerbocker United Methodist Church in Brooklyn, New York.

Beginning his ministry in the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Arroyo was one of three chaplains at Bellevue Hospital in New York City during the Sept. 11 attacks.

Arroyo was recruited to the Baltimore-Washington Conference (BWC) to help in a new Latino church start in 2004. Currently, he is an Elder of the BWC where he chairs the conference Hispanic/Latino ministries and is an advisor to the Racial Advocacy team, Call to Action Team and Intercultural Competency team.

In 2019, Arroyo was invited to join the UMC's General Commission on Religion and Race as General Secretary, where he is the team leader responsible for overseeing all programmatic initiatives and resources of the agency worldwide.

Arroyo has developed training and curriculum around intercultural competence, conversations on race, and institutional equity. He facilitates groups using different methodologies across the globe and relates to the ongoing development of GCORR work in the Central Conferences. Over the last eight years, Arroyo has administered 80 projects as the agency grant administrator for the CORR Action Fund.

Arroyo holds a Master's of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary, Master of Science in Management from the University of Maryland, Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health from the University of the Cumberland, Doctor of Ministry on Transformational Leadership in the Wesleyan Perspective from Wesley Theological Seminary in partnership with Cambridge University: Methodist House of Studies in the United Kingdom and a Pastoral Care Skills Certificate from Blanton-Peale Graduate Institute of Mental Health and Religion.

For Rev. Dr. Giovanni, the most important amid his journey is *to love the people and be in a relationship with the people.*

As a Fire is Meant for Burning

1. As a fire is meant for burning
with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission
giving glory to God's name.
As we witness to the gospel,
we would build a bridge of care
joining hands across the nations,
finding neighbors ev'rywhere.

2. We are learners; we are teachers;
we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers;
we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle loving actions
we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, listening spirit
we would live to God's delight.

Alma Mater of the Mountains

Alma Mater of the mountains
West Virginia Wesleyan
At thy magic, mystic fountains,
Noblest dreams of life began.

We, thy children, bow before thee;
We, thy children, now adore thee;
And pledge God, who watches o'er thee,
Thou shalt fill the ample measures of His plan.

Members of the Concert Choral

Soprano

Anna Bohrer
Savannah Dennis
Laura Gatewood
Amelia Hughes
Dakota Johnson
Jessica Nuzum
Dejanae Powell
Leigh Rice
Kimberly Skinner
Julianna Stark
Sydney Stewart

Alto

Madison Austra
Allison Blankenship
Katelyn Bowen
Samaria Coffman
Jordan Groves
Payton Hill
Sadie Nichols
Paula Rincon
Caitlyn Sullivan
Mallory Szerokman

Tenor

Theoren Chevalier
Fisher Goodwin
Adrian Legg
Benjamin Long
John Spellman
Daniel Velez

Bass

Tyler Dockery
Sadie Huynh
Aaron Mabry
Julius Pretlow
Ezekiel Williams
Gerik Walsh



*Thank you to members of the Wesleyan Service Scholars Program
for serving as ushers for today's Founders Day Convocation.*

GENEROUS SUPPORT

*The Robrbough Memorial Organ, given in memory of Etta Maude Lynch Robrbough,
Class of 1892, by her son, the late G. I. Robrbough, Class of 1923*

*The Datha and Gene Smith Chapel Endowment, established in 2003,
provides funding for Chapel upkeep and maintenance*

William '58, Hon. '05 and Mara Linaberger Watson '58 for funding of the Schulmerich g5TM Electronic Bells