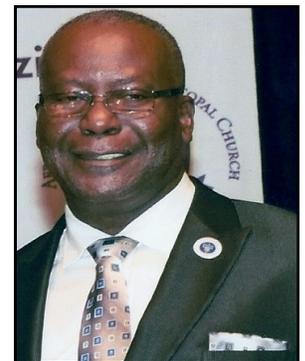


**Northwest Texas Conference Lay Organization****Northwest Texas Lay  
Organization Newsletter****Ellis Elected NWTCLay Organization President****Special points of interest:**

- Ellis elected President of the Northwest Texas Conference Lay Organization
- The 200 Club is formed to help Paul Quinn College
- NWTCLay Christmas Gala 2014

The Northwest Texas Lay Organization met on Saturday, August 23, 2014 and elected its Executive Board of Officers for 2015-2016. The Executive Board Consists of Roosevelt Ellis, Junior -President; Cherry Boggess - First Vice-President; Thomas Gilbert - Second Vice-President; Sheryl Banner - Recording Secretary; Mia Gamble - Assistant Recording Secretary; Sandra Gilbert - Corresponding Secretary; Vernon R. Clarke, Jr.-

Treasurer; Marilyn Griggs - Chaplain; and Frank Ingraham - Director of Lay Activity. Three positions were appointed by the Newly Elected President and they were: Dollye Starr-Thomas - Financial Secretary; Royce B. Smith - Director of Public Relations; and Jean Woods - Advisor. Donnie T. Davis still remains as Paul Quinn District President and Ronald Dansby as Greater Fort Worth District President.

**Roosevelt Ellis, Jr.**

“This will be a season of unity for our organization,” President Ellis requests.

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**The 200 Club**

One of the new committees formed by the 2015-2016 Executive Board of Officers is The 200 Club to Support Financial Efforts at Paul Quinn College.

The 200 College chief purpose is to help raise funds for Paul Quinn College. Individuals are asked to pledge a total of \$200 per year to this entity where a combined amount will be given at the Annual Conference.

Mrs. Donnie Thomas Davis was elected chairperson. To make contributions to the 200 Club, please contact her at 254-535-1158. Your effort will be greatly appreciated in this endeavor.



Sue Roseburry  
AKA  
Momma Sue

## Christmas Gala

The Northwest Texas Conference Lay Organization held The Anvil Awards Christmas Gala on December 22, 2014 at the Lee Lockwood Library & Museum in Waco, Texas. Entertainment was provided by our very own Cherry Boggess and Lynda Mathis, The Gospel Sons

of Waco, Texas along with Sue Roseburry as the featured artist.

Recipients of the Anvil Award were: Tanechea Merida of Wayman Chapel AME Church, Temple, Texas; Sherry Williams of Trinity AME Church, Waco, Texas; City Council Woman Kelly Allen Gray

of Fort Worth, Texas; and Shirley Langston from Waco, Texas. The received the Anvil Awards for outstanding community service to their respected communities. We are proud o the efforts of The Northwest Texas Conference Lay Organization.

## PAUL QUINN COLLEGE LAUNCHES INAUGURAL RELIGIOUS STUDIES PROGRAM:

*“Our new Religious Studies program is designed to enable those who have been called in any denomination or faith to construct institutions that are both theologically and economically viable.”*

-- Classes Start January 2015  
DALLAS C Dec. 18, 2014 - Paul Quinn College is excited to announce the launch of its inaugural Religious Studies program, an inventive area of study that will step outside the box of which most collegiate religious degree programs tend to fit. Classes in the program start in January in conjunction with PQC’s spring 2015 semester.

“Paul Quinn College’s new Religious Studies Program puts it on the cutting edge of education in a world where diverse religions provide meaning, inspiration and con-

trovery in our human culture,” said Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, chairwoman of Paul Quinn’s Board of Trustees and presiding prelate of the Tenth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Bishop McKenzie applauded Paul Quinn’s President Michael J. Sorrell, Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Kizuwanda Grant and the program’s new chair, the Rev. Dr. C. Dennis Williams, for taking the bold step of instituting the program at the college.

The program will introduce students to a thorough theolog-

ical and biblical platform within the context of the African American experience, and focus on guiding students to become critical thinkers and problem solvers.

“Our new Religious Studies program is designed to enable those who have been called in any denomination or faith to construct institutions that are both theologically and economically viable,” President Sorrell said.

[www.pqc.edu](http://www.pqc.edu) and clicking on the “Apply” tab for more information. Full story found in the Christian Recorder January 2015



Scholarship Recipients

12 young women received scholarships at the women Conference of India in

Hydrabad to attend Paul Quinn College. Thank you to Bishop John Bryant, Senior

Bishop AME and Rev Cecilia Bryant & Bishop Vashti McKenzie.

## Duke, Paul Quinn and Abilene Christian University do poverty-busting in Dallas

Back in September 1963, with MLK's "I Have a Dream" speech still reverberating through the nation, Duke University began admitting black undergraduates for the first time. More than 1,000 miles west, tucked into a corner of still intensely segregated Waco, Paul Quinn College was constructing residence halls, classrooms, a library and a science building as it pushed to build a black middle class. Today, as the nation pays tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the two schools will lock arms in a unique academic partnership aimed at fighting intransigent urban poverty. It's a partnership no one would have imagined even a decade ago — and one with a mission MLK would heartily endorse. "Duke Immerse at Paul Quinn College" kicks off on the campus of historically black Paul Quinn, which moved to Dallas in 1990. Its goal is a bold one: to help students from both schools sharpen their community-building tools as they work to secure a

level social and economic playing field for all. The idea grew out of efforts by the Quinnites, as they call themselves, to fight a plan to expand a landfill near the campus and its Highland Hills neighborhood in southeast Oak Cliff. Paul Quinn dubbed its efforts "We Are Not Trash" and enlisted expert help from Duke to help create the most effective campaign possible. With an assist from the Blue Devil academics, Paul Quinn students helped stop the expansion — and learned a lot about the legacy of environmental hazards in neglected neighborhoods, a topic that we too have addressed in our "Bridging Dallas" North-South Gap" editorial project. The Duke students prepared for the immersion program by joining Paul Quinn students last summer in hands-on work in the low-income neighborhoods around the school. Starting today, participants from the two schools will study alongside one another in urban problem-

solving. The fundamental question is one that flows directly out of MLK's legacy: How do we create a better environment for everyone and get people out of unhealthy ones? Urban poverty-busting work attracted another academic institution, Abilene Christian University, to partner with the nonprofit City-Square and put down roots in southern Dallas two years ago. While still getting their coursework done — some of it in Dallas classrooms and some online — Abilene Christian's Justice and Urban Studies Team students, or JUST, use their talents to fight poverty in South Dallas. Abilene Christian's goal is to recruit honors students, whether their major is art, biology, economics or Spanish, and challenge them to help change the world — then to bring those experiences to bear on their studies. The Dallas-based students seek innovative ways to combat homelessness, crime and educational roadblocks. And they have exceptional role models: City-Square

has led the way on fighting poverty for more than 25 years.

What better textbook than working in impoverished neighborhoods? For example, last summer, Abilene Christian students helped drive food delivery routes to low-income apartments. No classroom description of poverty's impact on children compares with actually seeing three children, ages 10, 7 and 5, pick up their food and realizing that the 10-year-old is the in-charge caregiver while the parents are away at work.

Abilene Christian, Duke and Paul Quinn are to be commended for launching students on the path of servant leadership that MLK preached. In a world with so much work still to be done, it's a blessing to see young people stepping up.

Full story found at: <http://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/editorials/20150118-editorial-duke-paul-quinn-and-abilene-christian-university-do-poverty-ing-in-dallas.ece>

## Unity Breakfast at Founder's Day

The Tenth District Lay Organization will host a Lay/Clergy Organization Unity Breakfast on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at 7:30 A.M. The Breakfast will be held at

the Waco Convention Center, 100 Washington Avenue, Waco, Texas

The theme for the occasion is: Working Together to Build A Cohesive District.

Bishop Vashti Murphy-McKenzie will serve as the guest speaker for the event.

Ticket Donation is \$50.00.

Please see President Ellis

(254-624-5299) for tickets.



Bishop McKenzie to speak at Unity Breakfast

***Mission Statement:***

*The Lay Organization of the Northwest Texas Conference shall teach, train, and empower its members for lay ministry, global leadership and service following the tenets of Jesus Christ*

***Purpose***

*The purpose of this organization shall be to organize and train the laity of the African Methodist Episcopal Church so that each lay persons may maximally utilize their God given abilities and skills to improve and extend the kingdom to create happiness, peace, and harmony among its members*

We're on the web <http://www.nwtclo.org>

## Snapshots from Christmas Gala

