

2017 - 2018

SYNERGY
Wesley
FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT



The Synergy Wesley Foundation is a
diverse and inclusive United Methodist
campus ministry providing a supportive
space for college students to build
authentic relationships and community,
grow in faith through study and
conversation, develop as leaders, and
serve alongside their neighbors to
transform the world.

"Thank you for supporting the Synergy Wesley Foundation with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness! Your partnership is transforming the lives of young leaders at The University of Texas at Dallas, Collin College, and Richland College. Your support helps students as they explore their faith, discover their gifts, grow as leaders, and become equipped for lifelong ministry. In this annual report, you will see what our ministry looks like day-to-day, how students are impacted, and the ways they make an impact on their campuses and the wider community. We are blessed to be in ministry with you!"



**BRITTANY BURROWS,
CAMPUS MINISTER &
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



OUR SPACE

Our storefront space off Synergy Park Boulevard adjacent to the UTD campus serves as the hub for ministry that is incarnational, meeting students where they live and attend class.

OFFICER TEAM

Wesley is a student-empowered and student-led ministry. Our leadership team is comprised of student officers and interns who envision, plan, and facilitate ministry programs. Student leaders attend a weekly team meeting and take shifts providing hospitality to peers in our space throughout each week. Students are also encouraged to pursue leadership opportunities in local churches and organizations.





OUR PROGRAMS

Our programming includes worship, bible study, free weekly lunch and dinner, retreats and leadership conferences, mission trips and local volunteering, fellowship events at the center of campus, and an internship program for students exploring a call to ministry.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Wesley Wednesday

We meet weekly on Wednesday nights at 7pm to enjoy a free meal, fellowship, worship, and to engage in discussion about faith and life. We often host guest speakers to facilitate conversations about faith, spirituality, and social justice.

Bible Study

We host a weekly bible study for students to study passages for one hour through an inclusive lens.

Worship & Lunch

Students are encouraged to participate in a local church. On Sundays, we provide rides from the UT Dallas campus to Arapaho United Methodist Church. After worship we eat free lunch together, often provided by church volunteers.

SPECIAL GUESTS



Dr. Ben Wright
Christians, Capitalism, and Slavery



Rev. Dr. Michael Waters
Race and Christianity



Rev. Jack Soper
Advent and Lent Studies



Rebecca Garrett
Drum Circle Leader



Eric Czacowski
Worship Leader



Elsbeth Allen Glaubitz
Project Transformation



Bouie Stewart
Go Camp



Rev. Jessica Wright
Courage and Renewal



Matt Johns
LGBT+ and Faith





DRUM CIRCLE

Rebecca Garrett, Director of Worship at White Rock UMC, came to lead our annual drum circle at the Plinth on the UTD campus.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wesley had a booth at the Chess Plaza at UTD on Ash Wednesday to bless and administer ashes to college students and faculty.





FLIP THE SCRIPT

In October, the officer team attended "Flip the Script", a two-day retreat about vocational discernment and prophetic storytelling, hosted by the Center for Leadership Development.

FALL RETREAT

Synergy Wesley had a combined fall retreat/mission trip with Denton Wesley and The Wesleyan at A&M Commerce. Students painted two houses with FUMC Bedford, slept and worshipped at Lakewood UMC, and volunteered at Oak Lawn UMC's Dallas Pride disability viewing area.





MISSION TRIP

In February, Wesley took a group of students to Victoria, Texas with the NTC Center for Missional Outreach and Labors for Neighbors to work on roofs that had been damaged during Hurricane Harvey.

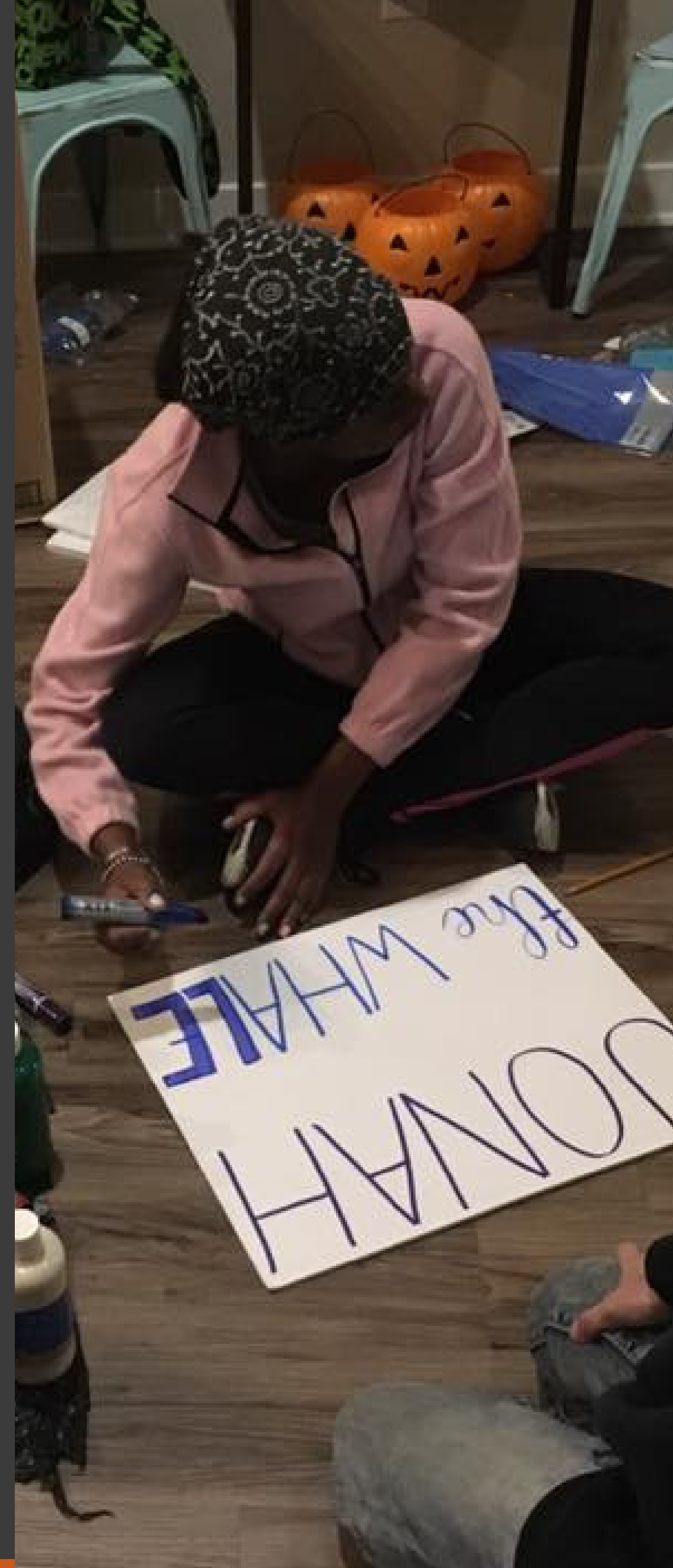


MESSAGE OF HOPE

Synergy Wesley students painted messages of hope on the wood panels covering the shattered glass windows that were shot at Arapaho UMC.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Along with our recurring events, Wesley offers a multitude of ways for fellowship on and off campus. This year, Synergy Wesley participated in UTD's homecoming parade with a Jonah & the Whale float, we hosted a monthly game night in our space, brought students on a seminary visit to Perkins, and much more!



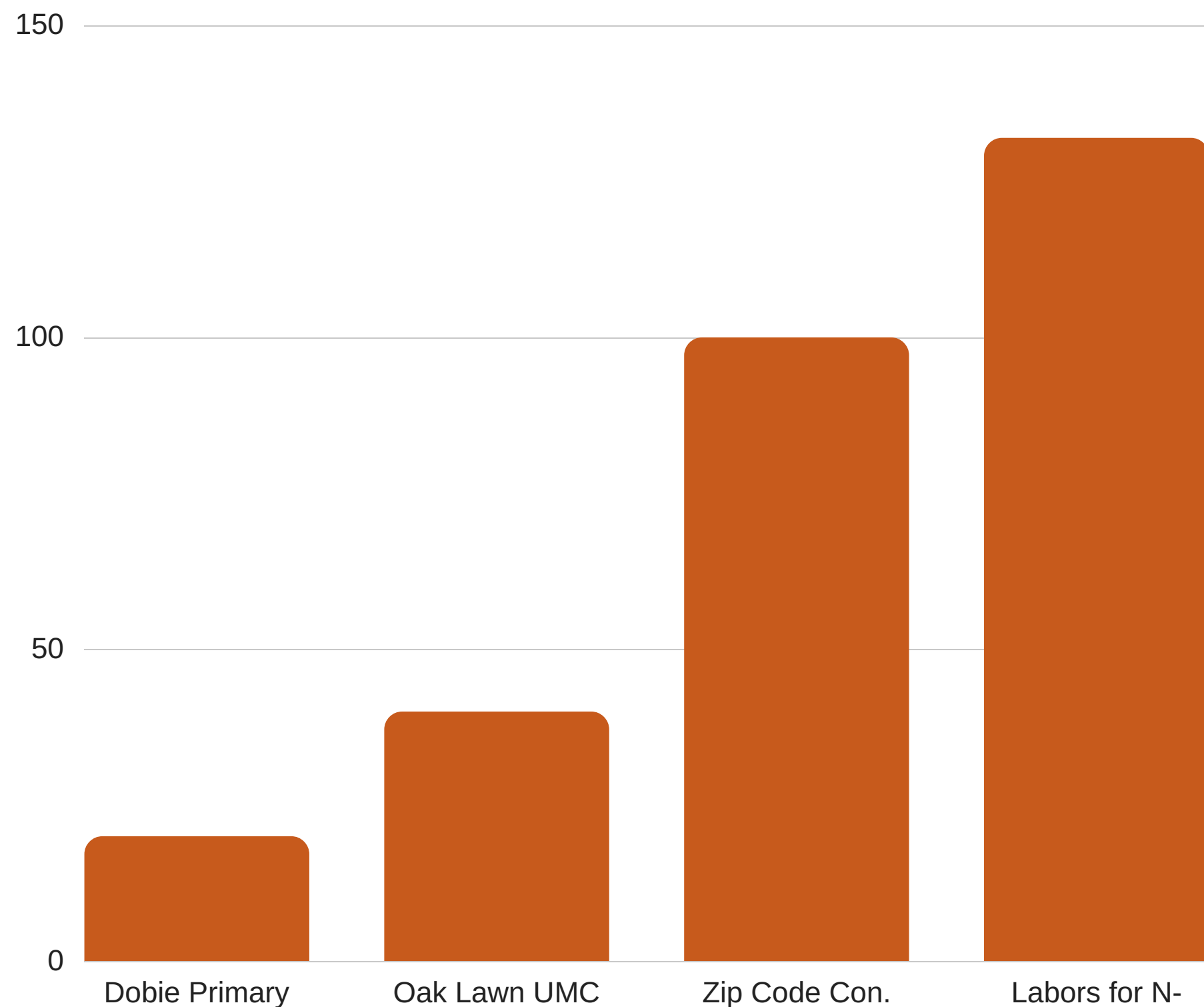


EMPOWERED TO LEAD

In addition to leadership through Wesley, students are empowered for missional service and leadership roles in local churches and community organizations.



SERVICE PROJECTS



This year, Synergy Wesley students volunteered at the following organizations for a total of **300+ service hours.**

Dobie Primary
Oak Lawn UMC
Labors for Neighbors
Zip Code Connection

Wesley students also teamed up to fundraise for various organizations including Justice for our Neighbors, Church at the Square, Trans Women of Color Collective, and more.



Hear from Wesley students,
past and present...

ELIXAH TAYLOR

"I am thankful for Wesley because it is a home-away-from-home for me. The support I've gotten from this group and the opportunities I've had because of it have helped me grow so much and I don't know who I would be without it!"

RACHAEL MUKWEYI

"I am thankful for Wesley
because it is a
community that welcomes
questioning and is a
source of joy"





NATHAN CORDELL

"I'm thankful for Wesley
because they've shown me
what God's mercy actually
looks like and provided me
with a spiritual family on
campus."

TIMOTHY MONTEQUIN

"I am thankful for Wesley
for giving me the
opportunity to ask hard
questions and
empowering me to use my
gifts to do His work in
the world."





ABIGAIL DURDEN

"Wesley gave me the best example of community I've ever experienced. Brittany is amazing and everyone at Wesley is supportive of each other. I was encouraged to find the truth within myself and truly listen for God's plan in my life."



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Consider supporting Wesley in the coming year:

Sign up to cook lunch for us!
<http://bit.ly/2JSzzlR>



#GIVINGTUESDAY™

Want more info? Contact
brittany@synergywesley.org

SynergyWesley.org/Give