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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Church and university celebrate partnership that spans 113 years

FORT WORTH, Sept. 10 – Polytechnic United Methodist Church will host the annual Texas Wesleyan Sunday on Sept. 19 at 10:30 a.m. There will be a reception for food and fellowship immediately following the service. Texas Wesleyan Sunday is a longstanding tradition between the church and the university, and it is free and open to the public.

“It’s a time when the two institutions get together to celebrate their relationship,” said Polytechnic’s Rev. Georgia Allen. “It keeps the bonds tight.”

During the service, the church Chancel Choir will perform and Wesleyan President Harold G. Jeffcoat will deliver brief remarks to the congregation and campus community.

Polytechnic is located at 1310 S. Collard St., on Wesleyan’s historic campus. Students, alumni, faculty and staff have been a part of the congregation, for several years, joining other members from the Southeast Fort Worth community in prayer and fellowship. The church’s ties with Wesleyan were strengthened further last year, when the congregation transferred ownership of the church building to the university. A portion of the building will be used to house a center for Christian ministries, classrooms, and office space for the English, humanities

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and religion departments, and the congregation will continue to serve the community and the university through church services and Christian outreach. The renovations to the church, originally built in 1952, are scheduled for completion during the 2005-06 academic year.

Texas Wesleyan University was founded in 1890 as Polytechnic College, a United Methodist institution with a tradition in liberal arts and sciences. A year later, Rev. C. A. Evans organized Polytechnic United Methodist Church, under the direction of Wesleyan's founder, Bishop Joseph S. Key. Key envisioned an institution of higher learning with an on-campus church. The first services were held alongside classes in Wesleyan's main building. For more information on Texas Wesleyan Sunday, contact the Texas Wesleyan's Office of the President at (817) 531-4401 or Polytechnic United Methodist Church's main office at (817) 534-0278.

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