

## **Announcement of the retirement of Randall Adams – The Rev. Dr. Asa Lee, Dean of Campus Life – November 30, 2020**

Dear Wesley Community,

There is an old hymn that begins with the line, “Time is filled with swift transition, none on earth unmoved can stand”. That certainly sums up this year, but also sums up the feelings here at Wesley. It is with mixed emotions that I announce the retirement of our own “earth mover”, Randall Adams.

Randall has been a member of the Wesley community for 32 years, arriving in the late summer of 1988. Randall came to us from a dairy farm by way of California. After driving cross country, Randall and Gail lived on campus in Carroll while he started his work in facilities. Back then the Wesley Campus was only a few decades old. There was no NRH and Kresge Hall was undergoing major renovation to accommodate the Gallery, Board Room, and Elderdice Hall. He has seen the campus’s growth, expansion, and managed its everchanging face to the community and the world.

Since those days over 30 years ago, Randall has proven himself to be an instrumental part of the growth and development of the Wesley Campus and community. He has done everything on this campus from paint walls to replace pipes. He has accommodated our requests to move furniture and has, on many occasions, stopped floods, held back rains, turned on the heat, and allowed cool winds to blow. Our buildings and grounds have been in good hands due to his extensive network of contractors and vendors. He has done all this with a gentle and kind spirit and a can-do mentality. Many times, I have seen him solve the unsolvable problems of managing 50 year buildings. For that, we are all grateful!

In reflecting on his service here, Randall reflected in part:

*I have about one more month of full time employment here and it weighs on me that my work here has not been completed, believe me, there continue to be break downs and work order requests. The last 8 months under this COVID cloud have been especially hard, I never would have imagined my last year would be like this. The campus appears to be a ghost town, I miss the hustle and bustle of the campus. Rest assured, the buildings and grounds have continued to be maintained in top notch condition in preparation and ready for whatever comes next. I feel confident that The Seminary will be left in capable hands as I make the transition to retirement.*

*Gail and I plan to travel more, work at landscaping our yard and garden and to get back on my bicycle. Also note that I have been stockpiling wood for our fireplace in anticipation of sitting by the fire watching the snow fall. This will be a first, as you know I have, over the last 32 years, been on campus during a snow storm leaving Gail stranded at home alone, sometimes up to 3 days while I plow the lot and driveways, and attending to student needs. It’s been great to serve you, I will miss you and I love you all.*

We have to know the definition of commitment and integrity in Randall Adams. Join me in celebrating his 32 years of service to the Wesley community. More information will be forthcoming on our safe celebration of his time.

Well Done Randall!

*Rev. Asa J. Lee, D. Min.*