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PART III

AWARDS, REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

AWARDS

EDUCATION AWARDS

ROBERT RAIKES VOLUNTEER TEACHER AWARDS

CHILDREN'S TEACHER: JOY CLENDENING

Ocoee United Methodist Church

Joy was nominated by Sue Dalbey, Director of Family and Children's Ministry at Ocoee. Joy teaches in the Sunday school. The Children's Ministry has grown from one child 18 months ago to 12 children in Sunday School and 12 children in Children's Church.

Ocoee United Methodist Church is a church working very hard to revitalize. The challenges of revitalization make Joy's ministry very unique. It is one set of challenges to teach a Sunday school class every week, when you know you will have a classroom full of children. However, Joy was never sure how many children she would have, or if she would even have one child. Yet, she was fully prepared each Sunday for a full classroom.

God has truly blessed our Children's Ministry due to Joy's faithfulness to the program. When the children walk into "Mrs. C's" classroom, they see and they experience someone who truly loves them. Joy does not stop with the children that can come to the church, she brings her neighborhood children to church with her each week. She is always taking care of the flock.

ROBERT RAIKES VOLUNTEER TEACHER AWARDS

YOUTH TEACHER: LIZ JENKINS

First FUMC - Orlando

Liz was nominated by Josh Swarsel, one of her students. Liz teaches one of the youth Sunday school classes. Helen Keller wrote that "The highest result of education is tolerance." In today's world of conflict and prejudices, I find no better haven for Christian tolerance and education than Mrs. Liz Jenkins' classroom. From the moment I first met her, I have had nothing but positive experiences with this wonderful teacher and storyteller. She has never been unprepared, and her lesson plans are both stimulating and challenging, often going above and beyond the standards set for youth education at FUMCO.

Liz consistently challenges our class to "think outside the box" in matters concerning our own spiritual growth and both Methodist and other Christian traditions. A dear friend once told me that a teacher has many students, but a

student only has one teacher, and I am proud to have Mrs. Jenkins as that teacher.

ROBERT RAIKES VOLUNTEER TEACHER AWARDS
ADULT TEACHER: JOHN KIRST
First UMC - Orlando

John was nominated by Les & Helen Dyer students on the Pendergrass Class. John has taught this adult class for many years. Whenever available, he is readily sought as a visiting teacher for other adult classes at First UMC. Regardless of the materials chosen by the class, he is able to present the subjects in a manner which is both enjoyable and educational. He spends a great deal of time in preparing lessons to ensure that both class members and visitors leave feeling uplifted.

Even in less than perfect health, John can be found most Sundays leading a class of about 50 active "young marrieds" (not mostly retired). He is an inspiration in living Christian Discipleship to all members of his church.

ALICE W. LOCKMILLER AWARD FOR
EXCELLENCE AND CREATIVITY: SHARON KNAPP
Edgewater United Methodist Church, Port Charlotte

Sharon was nominated by her pastor, Rev. David Blood. She is the teacher of the Sunday school. This is a small ministry that is growing under Sharon's love and guidance. She believes kids come in all sizes and are people under development. Sharon believes kids need the kind of spiritual guidance that helps them put their faith into action in everyday life and live that faith inside and outside the church walls.

Her creativity and leadership ability makes it easy for others to become enthused and follow her lead. Sharon has established and modified Bible curriculum to fit the needs of children of all ages. Her latest challenge was to revamp and create a new Sunday school Program called "KidZone" which will focus on an innovative model for all children using drama, puppets, skits, and then break into age appropriate Bible lessons.

EVANGELISM AWARDS

GRINDHEIM-SIMS AWARD: REV. CANDACE LEWIS
New Life Community Church, Jacksonville

The Grindheim-Sims Award is given annually to the pastor of a small membership church who has distinguished themselves through their efforts of evangelization and church growth. The recipient this year went to the Rev. Candace M. Lewis, pastor of New Life Community Church in Jacksonville. The New Life Community Church had the largest number of persons received on profession and re-affirmation of faith of any Florida Conference congregation 250 members and less. With a membership in January of 2000 of 113, they have

added 38 persons on profession and re-affirmation of faith. Worship attendance stands at 100.7% of their membership. In addition to steady and substantial growth in ministries of mercy and evangelization, the Rev. Lewis has led her congregation in establishing the House of Mercy Church, also in Jacksonville.

The Grindheim-Sims award, given by Dr. Rose Sims, honors the memory and ministry of Oscar Grindheim and James Sims Sr.

DENMAN EVANGELISM AWARD
LAY: JUDY WINONA STAMPS, First UMC, Oviedo
CLERGY: DR. JOSEPH RICHARD MACLAREN, JR.,
University Carillon UMC, Oviedo

The Denman Evangelism Award is presented annually to a United Methodist Lay and Clergy person in each Annual Conference for outstanding work in Christian Evangelism. This award is named for the late Dr. Harry Denman, distinguished lay evangelist whom Dr. Billy Graham called "my mentor in evangelism." The awards are made possible by The Foundation for Evangelism, which was founded in 1949 by Dr. Denman.

The 2001 Denman Awards in the Florida Conference were presented to Judy Winona Stamps and the Rev. Joseph R. MacLaren, Jr. Nominations were solicited and received by the office of Operation Evangelization, after which a committee selected the awardees.

Judy Stamps is a member of First UMC of Oviedo and, according to her pastor, is "the heart and soul" of that church. A winsome witness to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, Judy is bold to offer Christ in her church and community.

The Rev. Joseph MacLaren, senior pastor of University Carillon UMC, also in Oviedo, is a personal evangelist, offering Christ both as a pastor and as an evangelism leader in the Florida Conference. Joe was the organizing leader of Operation Evangelization, as well as the leader and inspiration that led to the development of the Celebrate Jesus Mission which has re-vitalized many congregations and led hundreds of persons to Christ.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY AWARDS

EULALIE GINN OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD: DAVID E. JONES
Florida A&M University, Tallahassee

David E. Jones is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Jones of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He has been a very active participant in nearly every aspect of FAMU Campus Ministry including the Ministry Team (Leadership Team), Men in Prayer, Campus Ministry Ensemble, Bible Study, Worship, worked as an office assistant, and his volunteerism is outstanding. You will also find him at the Mid-week prayer time every Wednesday morning at 7:15am.

It is rare to find David missing from any Campus Ministry activity or event, and when he is absent you can believe that he has more than likely shared some ideas with those in charge. David is not the kind of student that seeks to be involved in everything, but he loves the fellowship of the Campus Ministry Community and does what he can to ensure that programs are successful.

David has been involved beyond Campus Ministry in the Business life of the FAMU's world-renowned School of Business and Industry, where he is pursuing a degree in Management consulting.

David hopes to graduate from Florida A&M University in the future with a Master's degree in Business Management, seek a job in that area, marry his college sweetheart, and continue his work for the Lord.

[Dr. Eulalie Ginn came to work in the Florida Conference in 1946 as the Director of the Wesley Foundation at the University of Miami, and shared responsibility for coordinating the State Methodist Student Movement. She joined the Conference Council on Ministries staff in 1962, where she served as Associate Council Director for Higher Education and Campus Ministry and Church and Society until her retirement in 1976. Dr. Ginn died on April 30, 1990.]

**LINA H. McCORD INTERN
BLACK COLLEGE FUND**

Rupert Thomas, Jr. is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Rupert and Maud Thomas, Sr. of Raytown, Missouri. He is a member of St. James United Methodist Church in Kansas City, Missouri.

Rupert is a senior at Philander Smith College majoring in biology. His professional goal is to be a pediatrician. "I feel that it is my duty to be in service to those in need, no matter what their financial status may be, because we are all God's children."

In his hometown, Rupert served on the Mayor's Youth Task Force and president of the United West Indian Youth League. He is involved in various activities at Philander Smith College. In addition to being on the Dean's List, he serves as President's Ambassador and Vice-President of the Political Science Club.

For more information, please contact Joreatha McCall Capers, The Black College Fund Office, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, PO Box 871, Nashville TN 37202-0871; phone (615) 340-7378.

FRANCIS ASBURY AWARD: BISHOP CORNELIUS L. HENDERSON

The Francis Asbury Award is given annually to an individual who has made an extraordinary contribution to United Methodist ministries in higher education. The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry invites each annual conference to honor one recipient with this prestigious lifetime achievement award. The

Florida Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry has posthumously named Bishop Cornelius L. Henderson as the recipient of the 2001 Francis Asbury Award.

Bishop Cornelius L. Henderson was graduated from Clark College, Atlanta, Georgia in 1956, and received a Master of Divinity degree from Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, in 1959. In 1965 he received a Master of Sacred Theology degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. Bishop Henderson received the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Clark College, Gammon Theological Seminary, and Bethune-Cookman College; he was also awarded the honor Doctor of Laws degree from Dillard University.

Bishop Henderson's pastoral ministry in the North Georgia Annual Conference included service in the local church, as District Superintendent, and on the General church level. He also served as President/Dean of Gammon Theological Seminary and as a Board of Trustee member for numerous colleges and universities.

His passion for evangelism impacted the lives of thousands of college students. Bishop Henderson gave messages at over fifty colleges and universities across the United States. For twenty-five consecutive years he was a keynote speaker during the Bethune-Cookman College Religious Emphasis Week.

The Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry is forever indebted to Bishop Henderson for his leadership, service and dedication to the young adults of our Conference.

¹REPORTS

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES

VISION STATEMENT: The Conference Council on Ministries seeks to be a vital and welcome aid to the local church facilitating its role in responding to the call of Jesus Christ in making, nurturing and equipping disciples (1995).

MISSION STATEMENT: The Conference Council on Ministries assists the local church in discovering, facilitating and implementing Christian ministry (1995).

¹ Budgets found in the Reports section are not necessarily approved as requested. For final action on all budget matters, please see the report of the Council on Finance and Administration.

CAMP MINISTRY TEAM

Vision Statement: The Camp Ministry Team will oversee the summer camp program.

Mission Statement: To provide an experience where children and youth can build significant relationships with others and God.

FOCUS: To provide a Christ-centered camp environment. (Grades 4 through 12)

GOALS: To help campers know Christ as friend and Savior is our primary objective. Other objectives: To help campers better understand their role as members of the faith and disciples of Jesus Christ. To encourage campers to become participants within their local church. To help campers learn to live with and appreciate themselves and others. To encourage campers to better appreciate God's wonderful world and their responsibility to the environment. To offer campers the opportunity to build relationships with Christian young people from throughout the state.

Other goals: To keep registration fees for camp at a minimum. To develop a 5 year financial plan and pursue alternative methods of funding camp. To promote and publicize camp through the Camp Endowment Fund. To develop a means of financially supporting ongoing repairs, replacement and improvement of Summer Camp Ministry.

For 2001, nine weeks of regular camp are scheduled along with: Environmental Camp (South Florida, two weeks), Creative Sprit Camp (two weeks), Water Sports (two weeks), Senior High Group Week, Appalachian Trail hike and Wilderness Weeks (three weeks). A weekend of Camp Orientation is held for new children campers and parents. The total number of participants at Camp were 3652 and over 240 adult volunteers. 234 scholarships were given for summer camp totaling \$21,955. In addition, Camp Ministry offered administrative/staff support for ministry/programs which may include (but are not limited to) the following: all of the above events, annual conference planning, local church training and resourcing.

Approximate % breakdown of budget: Summer Camp - 98.67%; Admin. - 1.33%.

Total Camp Ministry Funding Request for 2002: \$226,400

CHURCH AND SOCIETY MINISTRY

Vision Statement: Through the Grace of Jesus Christ, the Church and Society Ministry Team shall work with and through local United Methodist congregations to engage in ministries to meet the needs and challenges of society.

Mission Statement: The Church and Society Ministry Team will be faithful to the authority of Scripture and be shaped by the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church in assisting local congregations through communication, technology, resources, education and advocacy.

The short term goal of the Church and Society Ministry Team is to set up a resource network of task forces each formed around one issue for which the group will research the issue, prepare information for local congregations and be the advocates for this issue. To disseminate information in a timely manner, the Ministry Team will publish a newsletter and maintain a web page. The medium term goal of the Church and Society Ministry team is to maintain an ongoing network of electronic and printed resources to make available current information on social and justice issues to persons in local congregations.

In 2000, Church and Society supplied resources to the Council of Bishops' Initiative on Children and Poverty; assisted Real Luv Weekend in which 455 youth and adults participated; gave 13 grants to community ministries implemented by local congregations, missions and agencies; supported advocacy on the issues of Anti-Casino, gambling, farm workers, jail/prison ministries, environmental concerns and disabilities; provided financial assistance to Florida Impact and Florida Council of Churches.

STAYING CONNECTED: The Ministry Team will continue its support of Florida Impact to aid the conference in legislative advocacy on issues that it supports surrounding children and poverty, the disenfranchised and the powerless. Support of the Florida Council of Churches provides the Conference opportunity to work with other judicatories on such issues as the farm workers ministry, immigration issues, children and poverty, care of God's creation, advocacy and other common concerns. The Ministry Team will maintain connection with both the General Board of Church and Society and the Southeastern Jurisdiction on programs such as Holy Boldness, Peace with Justice, Shalom Zones, and Cherishing the Creation.

LOCAL CHURCH/AGENCY GRANTS: Church and Society will offer grants to encourage local congregations to be in ministry and service to the powerless in all areas that need the arm of justice. It will also support the need for ministry to the incarcerated.

TASK FORCE RESOURCES & LEADER DEVELOPMENT: Provide administrative staff support for ten issue-focused task forces; produce a Peace with Justice resource booklet for local churches; maintain web site support to enhance better communication throughout the Florida Conference; support the Council of Bishop's Initiative on Children and Poverty; Environmental Advocacy; issue leadership development to keep the ministry team on the cutting edge and develop the resources needed for local congregations to stay current on social and justice issues.

MINISTRIES' SUPPORT: Provide administrative staff support for all the task force meetings, design teams for retreats, total team meetings, and the distribution of the newsletter. The Ministry Team will develop resources and educational materials as mandated by the Annual Conference on critical issues such as the Persecuted Church, Hate Crimes and others as directed.

Approximate % breakdown of budget: Staying Connected – 31%; Local Church/Agency Grants – 48%; T/F Resources & Leader Development – 15%; Ministry Support – 6%.

Total Church and Society Funding Request for 2002: \$54,140

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Vision Statement: The vision of the Discipleship Ministry Team is to inspire and assist local churches in proclaiming the gospel and responding to the call of Jesus Christ in making, nurturing and equipping disciples.

Mission Statement: The Discipleship Ministry Team will respond to those needs of the local churches for creative leaders, cutting edge resources and opportunities for spiritual formation and training which can be provided more appropriately by the annual conference.

Short term goals of the Discipleship Ministry Team include: Setting up and launching networks in the areas of children's ministry, elementary schools in churches, singles ministry, and strengthening the Sunday Schools. Medium term goals of the Discipleship Ministry Team include; resource networking groups for leaders in children's ministry, Christian education, single's ministry, changing to meet the cultural changes facing the church; seek ways to enhance the training for leaders of age level groups such as older adults, children's and singles.

In 2000 Discipleship Ministries sponsored 23 retreats/workshops with 6900 total participants from 14 districts, 30 scholarships totaling \$5,500 were given for training. In addition, Discipleship Ministry offered administrative/staff support for ministries which may include but not limited to the following: annual conference worship task force, fourteen of the above retreats, summer camp, local church training and resourcing. Three networks were set up in different areas of the conference in children's ministry; a Single's Adult Task force was set up to address this ministry issue and a joint task force with Church & Society was set up for Older Adult Ministries. In addition 16 local congregations received training in their local church.

RETREATS/WORKSHOPS: Minister's Mates, Mature Years Retreat, Scouting Retreats, Totally Me, Camp Orientation, United Methodist Association of Preschools (UMAP) Conference, Family Camping Retreats; Discipleship

Weekend, Children's Summer Camp; Confirmation Convocation; Disciple Bible Study Training.

AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS: Alice W. Lockmiller Award and the Grinheim-Sims Award were given at Annual Conference and 50 scholarships for training to local, conference and national training events.

RESOURCES FOR SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES: Disciple Bible Study, United Methodist Association of Preschools (UMAP), Networking setup and gatherings for specialized ministries in local churches, Teacher Certification, Annual Conference Worship, mentoring/consultant ministry, resourcing local congregations.

MINISTRY SUPPORT: Administrative support for meeting costs, task force and design team expenses sponsored by this ministry team.

Approximate % breakdown of budget: Retreats, Workshops – 49%; Awards, Scholarships – 25%; Specialized Ministries – 19%; Ministry Support – 7%

Total Discipleship Funding Request for 2002: \$32,000

HEALTH AND WHOLENESS MINISTRY TEAM

Vision Statement: The Health and Wholeness Ministry Teams seeks to bring about physical, mental and spiritual wholeness and acceptance of all persons, enabling them to become disciples of Jesus Christ.

Mission Statement: The mission of the Health and Wholeness Ministry Team is to provide resources and training to motivate and empower local congregations to be in ministry with persons in the area of child care, older adults, health care, handicapping conditions. The Ministry provides a direct relationship between the Annual Conference and Health and Welfare Institutions.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF RESPONSIBILITIES: The Florida Annual Conference

DIRECT SERVICE MINISTRIES: Camp Pioneer, a camping ministry at the WWW Camp for mentally challenged adults; Deaf/Disabled Ministry Retreats, a training and networking event for local church leaders in special needs ministries; Parish Nurse Ministries, promotes parish nurse ministries in local churches and Health and Wholeness Retreat, an occasional event that provides training and networking for all special needs ministries.

MINISTRY TEAMS: Deaf Ministry Team, volunteers who serve in this ministry in the local church; Disabled Ministry Team, volunteers who serve in this ministry in the local church, and Volunteer Coordinator of Interpreters for the Deaf, who

provide this service at annual conference and other conference and district events.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND TRAINING EVENTS: National Association of Health & Welfare Ministries Membership, National Association of Health & Welfare Ministries Annual Workshop, National and Southeastern Jurisdiction United Methodist Congress of the Deaf-- are venues for persons to receive training and motivation in these special needs ministries.

PERSONS WHO ARE SERVED (NUMBERS IF AVAILABLE): Members of the United Methodist Local Churches, Districts and Conference as well as the community of God at large.

VOLUNTEERS USED (SOURCES AND NUMBERS IF AVAILABLE): Many from various groups within and outside the United Methodist Church.

FUNDING SOURCES (INCLUDE AMOUNTS): Solely dependent on the Florida Annual Conference.

MAJOR PROGRAM EMPHASIS FOR 2000 (INCLUDE DESCRIPTION): To continue to provide resources and training to motivate and empower local congregations to be in ministry with persons in the areas of child care, older adults, health care, handicapping conditions and to provide a direct relationship between the Annual Conference and Health and Welfare Institutions.

FUTURE GOALS: (1) To re-establish the importance of the Golden Cross Offering which directly helps our districts, provides grants for Health & Wholeness related ministries of our local churches and assists our health related institutions; (2) To lift up our health related institutions and their importance to our United Methodist Church; and (3) to continue in the tradition of John Wesley, in his book "Primitive Physick" and in his sermons, established for today's United Methodists the interconnectedness of health with spiritual, mental, and physical well-being.*

MAJOR NEEDS:

- (1) Active support from the Conference, Districts and Local Churches.
- (2) Development of better communication between the Conference and Local Churches which would enable effective ministry cooperation.

*From Congregational Health Ministries Resources Packet, H&W Ministries Program Department, General Board of Global Ministries

Approximate breakdown of the budget: Administration, 14.6%; Direct Service Ministries, 46.7%; Ministry Teams, 16.7% and National Association and Training Events, 22%

Total Health and Wholeness Funding Request for 2002: \$15,400

HISPANIC MINISTRY TEAM

Please refer to pages 315-322 of the 2000 Conference Journal for the Comprehensive Plan for Hispanic Ministry which was approved by the 2000 Annual Conference. A meeting of the Hispanic Plan Task Force was held Saturday, January 13, 2001, at which time a Chairperson, Magali Borbon, was elected for the newly organized Hispanic Ministry Team (See also "Additional Reports of the Conference Council on Ministries).

Total Hispanic Ministry Team Funding Request for 2002: \$125,000

MISSION MINISTRY TEAM

Vision Statement: The Florida Conference Mission Ministry empowers local congregations and ministries to be disciples of Jesus Christ who are joined through a covenant to heal the hurts and build the hopes of people in their communities and around the world.

Mission Statement: The Florida Conference Mission Ministry Team will facilitate local congregations, ministries and individuals through encouragement and education by providing opportunities and strengthening relationships to discover Jesus Christ in all persons, even to the "least of these." (Matthew 25)

The long-term goal is to be faithful to God's calling and to The United Methodist Discipline to help churches achieve the expectations of a church, i.e., to minister to persons in the community where the church is located, to provide appropriate training and nurture to all, to cooperate in ministry with other local churches, to defend God's creation and live as an ecologically responsible community, and to participate in the worldwide mission of the Church. The mid-term goal is to raise the awareness of every pastor, layperson, youth and child of the rich mission opportunities through the Florida Conference, and to evaluate the mission ministries we support. The short-term goal is to equip, train, and/or encourage at least one ministry in every church in the Florida Conference for mission beyond itself.

ADMINISTRATION: Supports the task forces in Mission Ministry for meetings and travel and the Conference Mission office for printing and mailing in support of these ministries.

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT: Provides educational seminars and network opportunities for small churches and churches in transition. Church Development opportunities are found through the Fellowship for Small Membership Churches.

COMMUNICATION: Provides the local churches with the means for education and information about mission opportunities and on-going mission projects through print, visual media, and the Internet; for the execution of District training seminars for local church mission leaders, and for covering the expense for itinerating missionaries, and transportation to the annual SEJ Mission Conference. Mission Communication is covered under these ministries: Cultivation and Education; Mission Communication; Itineration of Mission Speakers, and SEJ Mission Conference.

ETHNIC MINISTRIES: Provides salary support, programs, education and office expense funding for ethnic minority ministries. Among the task forces supporting local churches and missions are: Haitian Committee on Ministry and Native American Ministry.

MISSION INITIATIVES: Provide a means for the Florida Conference to establish, develop and strengthen relationships between UM churches, Districts, and the Florida Conference with the Methodist Church in Cuba and in Haiti, through the implementation of the Cuba/Florida Covenant and the Haiti/Florida Covenant.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES: Involves local churches in ministry together with people in need, by providing direct services such as food, clothing, financial assistance, summer camp, daycare and after-school programs, consultation and outreach education, and advocacy for and with people in poverty. Their main goal is to equip and involve United Methodists in hands-on ministry with people in need. Thousands of volunteers give of their time and talent for which they receive spiritual renewal as they minister to people in need. The Fellowship of Outreach Ministries offers education and consultation services for mission initiatives within the Conference. These ministries include: Action Ministries Plus, JA; Christians Reaching Out to Society, WP; Madison County Cooperative Ministry, TL; Halifax Urban Ministries, DL; Indian River Regional Outreach Ministries, ME; Miami Urban Ministries, MI; Specialized Urban Ministries, WP; Tampa Urban Ministries, TM; United Methodist Cooperative Ministry-Suncoast, SP; Wesley House Community Centers, MI; and Consultation , Research and Implementation of Outreach Ministries.

VOLUNTEER MINISTRIES: Support the task forces that coordinate mission opportunities for local churches to respond to their call to mission at home and abroad. When disaster strikes in the Florida Conference, the coordination of volunteers is essential for a sensitive response. When disaster strikes outside the Florida Conference, the coordination of volunteers provides for a compassionate response. These ministries include: United Methodist Volunteers in Mission and Florida United Methodist Disaster Response.

Approximate % breakdown of budget: Administration – 2.2%; Church Development - .7%; Ethnic Ministries – 16.5%; Mission Communication – 2.6%; Mission Initiatives – 2.2%; Outreach Ministries – 72.2%; Volunteer Ministries – 3.1%.

Total Mission Ministry Funding Request for 2002: \$256,490

CONFERENCE ADVANCE MISSION SPECIALS

(Items **bolded** are additions/changes)

1. Alfalit International, Inc. (Florida Programs Only); 2. Branches Ministry (Miami) **3. Carver Heights Ministry (Leesburg); 4. Celebrate Jesus, Inc.;** 5. Church in the Community Program, Childs Park UMC, St. Petersburg; 6. Cooperative Parish Ministry and Group Ministries: Greensboro Project (Tallahassee), Gainesville Group Ministry (Gainesville); 7. Ethnic Local Church Concerns; 8. Cuba/Florida Covenant 9. Florida United Methodist Seminole Ministry; 10. Goodwill Industries in Florida; 11. Habitat for Humanity Projects in Florida; 12. Haitian-Hispanic Ministry Fund; 13. Haitian Committee on Ministry; 14. Haitian Ministry, Church & Community Worker (Miami) 15. Jim Russo Prison Ministry; 16. Madison County Cooperative Ministry (Tallahassee); 17. Migrant Ministry Projects: Lee County Mission, Inc.; Wahneta Hispanic Migrant Ministry; National Farm Worker Ministry (Florida); **Lakeland District Mission Ministry;** Immokalee Neighborhood Service Project; United Child Care Centers, Inc. (Wahneta and Zolfo Day Care Centers); 18. Refugee Ministries; 19. Riverside House, Miami; 20. Society of St. Andrew; 21. Tampa United Methodist Centers; 22. United Methodist Disaster Response; 23. United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM); 24. Urban Ministries: Halifax Urban Ministries (Daytona Beach), Specialized Urban Ministries (Ft. Lauderdale), Action Ministries Plus, Inc. (Jacksonville), Miami Urban Ministries (Miami), United Methodist Cooperative Ministries/Suncoast (St. Petersburg) and Christians Reaching Out to Society, Inc. (West Palm Beach); 25. Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc.; 26. Wesley House, Key West; **27. The Shepherd's Way, Ft. Lauderdale**

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY TEAM

Vision Statement: The Young Adult Ministry Team will assist local churches in making disciples of Jesus Christ among young adults by serving as an advocate for young adult ministry and leadership, by providing opportunities for networking and fellowship among young adults, and by connecting local leaders with available resources as they seek to provide ministry to young adults in their communities.

Mission Statement: To encourage young adult leadership and equip young adults for ministry; to listen and interpret the needs of young adults in their faith journey, and to assist the church in developing ministries to meet those needs by providing resources and training opportunities for local churches seeking to

enhance their ministries to young adults. To sponsor at least one event each year specifically geared to young adults.

GOALS: Explore ways to assist local churches in improving or creating young adult ministries, and providing a means by which that information can be shared. Develop connections among leaders of young adult ministries in local church throughout the Conference. Encourage young adult representation on conference committees. Plan and organize a Young Adult Retreat for Spring 2002.

Approximate % breakdown of budget: Retreats/Workshops - 80%; Admin. - 20%

Total Young Adult Funding Request for 2002: \$10,000

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

Vision Statement: The Conference Council on Youth Ministries seeks to be a vital and exciting instrument which enables the local church to hear, respond to and disciple youth as they follow the call of Jesus Christ.

Mission Statement: The Conference Council on Youth Ministries assists the local church in their youth ministry by offering to equip and train others in issues related to youth, improve communication at the conference, district and local levels, and provide exciting opportunities in ministry and mission.

Short-term goals of the Conference Council on Youth Ministry include: to continue to provide quality evangelistic and discipleship opportunities for the youth of the local church including; retreats, training events and mission opportunities. Another goal is to continue to use current technology to increase the level and the variety of communication among youth and youth workers. A long-term goal is to improve the credibility of youth workers within the Florida Conference by promoting educational opportunities and dialogue with other professionals in ministry.

In 2000, the Conference Council on Youth Ministries sponsored 3 retreats/workshops with 2314 total participants. In addition, the Conference Council on Youth Ministries offered administrative/staff support for ministry/programs, which may include (but are not limited to) the following: all of the above events, annual conference planning, local church training and resourcing.

RETREATS/WORKSHOPS: Real Luv, Youth Ministry Spring Training, Conference Youth Event, Crosstrainers, Discipleship Weekend.

Approx. % breakdown of budget: Retreats/Workshops - 85%; Admin. - 15%.

Total Youth Funding Request for 2002: \$36,500

CAMP FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Vision Statement: To see more people encounter Christ at camp and in retreats through the use of the camp facilities.

Mission Statement: To provide adequate camping and retreat facilities in a setting conducive to the ministry and mission of The United Methodist Church.

Goals: The Camp Facilities Committee meets regularly during the year to study, prioritize and make recommendations for short and long term projects for the camps and Life Enrichment Center. The Camp Facilities Committee continues to explore avenues for capital improvements for our facilities.

Operation and maintenance of three outdoor ministry sites: (1) Warren W. Willis United Methodist Camp, Leesburg; (2) South Florida Camp, Labelle and (3) Lake Asbury Retreat Center, Green Cove Springs. The subsidy requested will continue to provide significant financial assistance to the camps in the midst of yearly insurance premiums, operating expenses and current debt service. The outdoor ministry of the Camp Facilities Committee offers a diversity of programs, spiritual growth experiences, recreation and leadership development opportunities. It is inclusive of sex, age and race in an outdoor retreat-type setting.

One hundred percent (100%) of the amount budgeted goes to cover camper insurance (accident), general insurance (liability), and current debt service.

Total Camp Facilities Funding Request for 2002: \$120,000

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST COMMUNICATIONS

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATE COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES

Vision Statement: Through the sharing of information, promote a sense and spirit of connection among the conference's family of local churches and individual members; motivate disciples to be active in ministry and mission; and create a vital and constant, positive presence within the community, enabling individuals to be successful in their Christian ministry.

Mission Statement: Through a combination of advanced and traditional communication techniques, communicate with local churches and individuals accomplishments throughout the conference and the world through their efforts; reflect the value of the connectional system of The United Methodist Church; inform local churches of resources within the conference, both those provided by the Council on Ministries and others; assist local churches in enhancing their communication efforts; and maintain a strong, conference-wide media relations

program that creates public awareness of the ministry, missions and leadership of United Methodists.

Scriptural Basis: "Don't hide your light! Let it shine for all." (Matthew 5:15, 16; The Living Bible, Paraphrased)

Short-term Goals:

- Redevelop the Florida Conference Web site.
- Enhance "The Florida United Methodist Review" through design update/increasing number of pages.
- Conduct a subscription campaign to increase readership of "The Florida United Methodist Review."
- Coordinate and implement a Florida Conference co-marketing effort to support United Methodist Communications' Igniting Ministry national media campaign, which will begin September 2001.

Mid-term Goals:

- Begin coordinating communications-specific training sessions and workshops and conducting communication consultations with churches and districts.
- Develop information technology workshops as an extension of communications-specific training.
- Begin developing and implementing a strategic plan to educate local church members about giving to the church (i.e. benevolence education, interpretation and promotion).
- Produce materials to market resources available to local churches through the Conference Council on Ministries.
- Update crisis and disaster communications plans.

Long-term Goals:

- Develop a network of communications professionals to act as resources and assist local churches in their efforts.
- Develop a media campaign that includes production of radio, television and print public service announcements and purchase of air time to help reach people in the community.
- Develop communications resources to help churches reach out to people in their communities and educate them on communicating with people in all phases of their involvement with a church family (from visitor to member).
- Produce promotional materials and utilize other communications tools to promote existing and new conference-wide and Council on Ministries initiatives.
- Produce and implement communications tools related to church-wide issues.

2000 Accomplishments:

- Increased regular communication to local church pastors on current church events and issues through the distribution of news releases and stories by e-mail.

- Established three internet newsgroups to facilitate discussion among conference clergy.
- Further defined the role of e-mail communication to clergy and established policies regarding it to increase effectiveness.
- Surveyed local church communicators to determine their communications needs in preparation for development of training sessions and workshops.
- Coordinated media and crisis communications efforts related to crises surrounding local church pastors and workers.
- Helped coordinate the “No More Playing Church” motivational training experience, a first-time initiative attended by more than 2,200 clergy and laity, as part of the Dare to Share Jesus 2000 Florida Annual Conference Event.
- Produced 24 issues of “The Florida United Methodist Review.”
- Increased subscriptions to the “The Florida United Methodist Review” by approximately 750.
- Assisted other ministry areas with production of communication materials (summer camp, Evangelism, Journal committee).

2002 Initiatives: Florida United Methodist Communications initiatives may include (but are not limited to) the following:

STRENGTHENING COMMUNICATION TO CONFERENCE

CHURCHES/MEMBERS: Produce and enhance “The Florida United Methodist Review,” continue to enhance the conference Web site, implement a strategic plan to educate local church members about giving to the church (i.e. benevolence education, interpretation and promotion). (82%)

RESOURCING THE LOCAL CHURCH: Coordinate communications-specific and information technology training sessions and workshops, conduct communications consultations for local churches/districts, develop communications materials that market Conference Council on Ministries resources, continue coordinating training opportunities on a variety of church-wide issues at the annual conference event as needed. (5%)

POSITIONING THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY: Continue coordinating the Florida Conference co-marketing effort to support United Methodist Communications’ Igniting Ministry national media campaign, distribute releases on conference issues/events as they arise, update crisis and disaster communication plans that foster effective communication between multiple groups - churches, the public, etc. (5%)

MINISTRY/PROGRAM SUPPORT: (8%)

Florida United Methodist Communications Corporate Communication Initiatives
Funding Request: \$123,000

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST RESOURCE CENTER

Mission Statement: The Florida United Methodist Resource Center will connect the congregations of the Florida Conference with a variety of media resources to assist them in Christian ministry.

Short-term Goals: Continue to update the center's collection of video resources and promote the center's service to local church pastors and church leadership through the Internet and regular mailings.

Mid-term Goals: Develop promotional materials to advertise resources available through the center and begin redesign of the center's physical arrangements.

Long-term Goals: Review the Resource Center's operation and research opportunities to better resource local churches.

2000 Accomplishments: Helped conference churches purchase a license from the Motion Picture Licensing Corporation at a discounted group rate, provided periodic announcements and updates concerning video resources available through the center on the conference Web site, provided nearly 704 videos to more than 178 clients.

2002 Initiatives: Initiatives of Florida United Methodist Resource Center may include (but are not limited to) the following:

RESOURCING THE LOCAL CHURCH: Purchase video and non-video resources for inclusion in the center's collection, develop a more cost-effective method of supplying churches with a list of available resources (for example: on disk or online). (58%)

PROMOTION OF THE CENTER: Develop communications tools to promote the center. (14%)

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT: Reorganize resources and renovate facility to upgrade center's effectiveness as a resource to the local church. (14%)

MINISTRY/PROGRAM SUPPORT: (14%)

Florida United Methodist Resource Center Funding Request: \$7,000*

*This amount may be offset by the income generated from the loan of resources to local churches.

FUM Communications Corporate Communication Initiatives: \$123,000

Florida United Methodist Resource Center: \$7,000

Total FUM Communications Funding Request for 2002: \$130,000

ETHNIC LOCAL CHURCH CONCERNS

Vision Statement: The committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns envisions a church that is pluralistic and inclusive in character and witness through faithful obedience to Jesus Christ.

Mission Statement: The Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns seeks, through the grace and power of Jesus Christ, to enable Florida local churches to recognize the integrity of the multi-cultural roots of current and potential membership, nurturing a spirit of unity and openness in our diversity.

The long-term goal of ELCC is to nurture racial and cultural diversity in the Florida Annual Conference by strengthening the congregations and ministries of ethnic local churches and missions. The risk is for these churches to lose their identity, and for the larger church to lose the richness of cultural and spiritual diversity as these churches enter the larger church. The purpose of ELCC is to promote diversity without losing Christian unity in worship, celebration, and song. The medium-term goal to the year 2006 is to continue encouraging the larger church to become culturally inclusive, embracing diversity in worship, leadership style, evangelization, and administration in the local church. The short-term goal is to train and equip local church laypersons, youth, children, and pastors to provide ministry to children, youth, and adults in their communities.

In 2000, Ethnic Local Church Concerns provided partial scholarships for approximately 300 ethnic laypersons (many of them children/youth) and pastors to attend leadership training events. ELCC funds also assisted many youth in receiving music, film, and television production instruction from industry experts that would enable them to participate more fully in the music/worship program of the church. In addition, partial scholarships allowed many children and youth to participate in conference camping programs.

LAITY AND CLERGY TRAINING, YOUTH CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS: These funds make it possible for local church laity and clergy to participate in training workshops in order to equip and strengthen local church congregations. Local church children and youth are able to participate in the conference camping program through partial scholarships, making it affordable for them to benefit from this ministry.

LOCAL CHURCH GRANT SUPPLEMENT: Maintains funds in the ELCC conference grant account. Together with the annual ELCC special offering, grants are distributed to local churches demonstrating ministry initiatives in their communities.

PROMOTIONAL PUBLICATIONS: These publications are produced to communicate the support services such as camping and training promotional materials, to local churches in the conference.

ADMIN/PROGRAM SUPPORT: Covers cost of Committee to meet, postage.

Approximate % breakdown of budget: Training Events/Camp Scholarships – 78.4 %; Local Church Grant Supplement - 5; Promotional Publications – 8.3%; Administration/Program Support – 8.3%.

Total ELCC Funding Request For 2002: \$30,000

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL LEADERS

Vision Statement: One of the primary tasks of the Annual Conference is to provide leaders, clergy and lay, for the local congregations. Spiritual leaders are needed to make disciples.

Mission Statement: We will develop a learning experience that will provide a network for spiritual and knowledge learning. These experiences will offer ongoing, transforming growth opportunities through seminars, retreats, and a reading bibliography.

Short-term goals of this learning opportunity would include: Compile a consolidated list of learning opportunities within the conference. This booklet will be produced that lists where, when, cost and who it benefits. The listing would also include all conference programs, district programs, leadership groups offering workshops and seminars within our conference as well as local church programming. An email and mailing list would be compiled to keep participants updated. Medium term goals: Offer custom packages of experiences enabling Spiritual Leaders to focus on specific learning goals.

In 2000 Spiritual Formation and Leader Development Ministries offered many learning opportunities similar to what this experience will cover. Spiritual Formation and Leader Development Ministries have been redesigned without a full time Conference Staff person.

Approximate % of breakdown of budget: Non-Staff Compensation (Workshop Leaders, Consultants) - 60%; Administrative and Supplies (Books, videos, printing and postage costs for brochures, advertising) -- 40%.

Total Spiritual Leaders Funding Request for 2002: \$45,250

CCOM MINISTRY BUDGET

(Note: Budgets are not necessarily approved as requested. For final action on all budget matters, please see the report of the Council on Finance and Administration.)

	2000 <u>Budget</u>	2001 <u>Budget</u>	2002 <u>Proposed</u>
Camp Ministry Team ²		223,400	226,400
Church and Society Ministry Team	54,140	54,140	54,140
Discipleship Ministry Team	32,000	32,000	32,000
Events Ministry Team	232,400	0	0
Health & Wholeness Ministry Team ³		15,400	15,400
Hispanic Ministry Team		125,000	125,000
Mission Ministry Team	329,840	290,380	256,490
Young Adult Ministry Team ²		9,000	10,000
Youth Ministries, Council on	36,500	36,500	26,500
Camp Facilities Committee	143,000	143,000	120,000
Communications Committee	130,000	130,000	130,000
Ethnic Local Church			
Concerns Committee	22,000	22,000	30,000
Leader Development ⁴	10,250	10,250	0
Spiritual Formation ⁴	45,000	45,000	0
<u>Spiritual Leaders, Learning Opps⁴</u>			<u>45,250</u>
Total CCOM Ministry Budget	1,035,130	1,136,070	1,071,180

CCOM ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

	2000 <u>Budget</u>	2001 <u>Budget</u>	2002 <u>Proposed</u>
CCOM Administration	49,000	49,000	49,000
Staff Compensation/Benefits	<u>806,260</u>	<u>806,260</u>	<u>805,000</u>
Total CCOM Admin. Budget	855,260	855,260	854,000
Int. on Leesburg Sewage Plant Loan		40,000	40,000
Disaster Preparedness and Relief ⁵			50,000
<u>Contingency Reserve</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
GRAND TOTAL CCOM	1,950,390	2,091,330	2,075,180

² Standing Rule Change: Funding from dissolved Events Ministry Team Budget

³ Standing Rule Change: Funding from Mission Ministry Team Budget

⁴ Leader Development/Spiritual Formation Combined: Learning Opportunities for Spiritual Leaders

⁵ Start up Funding for Disaster Response. Account to be replenished by management costs from disaster funds.

**ADDITIONAL REPORTS OF THE
CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES**

CUBA/FLORIDA COVENANT TASK FORCE ANNUAL REPORT

In this period of time the Task Force members met twice (August '00 and March '01) at Leesburg Enrichment Center on Friday afternoon, evening and Saturday morning each time.

Of the 14 Florida districts, there was representation of 12 districts at these meetings. The 2 District representatives missing were from Miami and Deland districts.

The Task Force secretary resettled to New Jersey and a new secretary, Renee Kincaid, was appointed. The Caravan Guidelines were finished and distributed to all members. Last inclusions to the Guidelines are the "Welcome Guides" for visitors from Cuba to Florida and from Florida to Cuba. On-going revisions are made to keep this document updated.

District Activities: Sister church relationships continue to grow with exchange of letters, photos, prayers between sisters/brothers from Cuba and Florida, list of church priorities, etc.

West Palm Beach – In the summer of 2000, members of 3 churches went in a caravan mission to visit their sister churches in Pinar del Rio. Three pastors came from this Cuban district to attend seminary programs and go through Ministry Assessment.

Jacksonville/Deland – A caravan of 3 went to Havana in May '00. Details are being working out on who will take charge of working with Isle of Youth.

St Petersburg – In June & July '00, mission trips went to Matanzas from 3 churches (7 persons). Two Pastors from Matanzas visited St Pete and received donations to rebuild collapsed temple. St Pete has 12 churches which have partnered with churches in their districts. Annual Conferences '00 & '01 were attended by St Pete missions.

Tallahassee/Gainesville – Leroy Irwin, Tallahassee District Coord., is helping build interest in the Gainesville district. There were mission trips from Tallahassee to the Central district for Annual Rally '00 & '01 and 2 more mission trips. Cuban pastors returning from studies at Garrett visited churches in the district. Twenty-seven Florida church relationships have been established with 16 Central district churches. In April '01, they had an evangelistic crusade called "Cuba para Cristo" with special guests from Cuba, Otto Sardinas, Covenant/Caravan Coordinator, a musical group (8 young Cubans)"Nuevo Pacto

(New Covenant) and the Central DS. They visited 15 churches in that district in a week.

Lakeland/Sarasota – Two churches went to Annual Rally '00 (Rally '01 was cancelled) . Video of the Agramontino churches was sent to Lakeland churches. New Sarasota District Coordinator was appointed in 2001. The Agramontino DS visited the districts in '01 & visited many churches. Being a dynamic speaker, he was invited back to do revivals. A caravan of 4 people went to Agramontino district on a mission trip.

Orlando – New FI District Coordinator was appointed and attended the March '01 Task Force meeting.

Melbourne – There are 13 Melbourne sister-church relationships with 12 Holguin churches. Annual Rally '00 & '01 were attended and the missionaries visited several churches. Ft. Pierce and Vero Beach churches went in March '00.

Ft Myers/Miami – Ft Myers District Coordinators went to Annual Rally '00 at Holguin-Norte.(no report on Rally '01 & activities, as Ft Myers District Coord. did not attend last meeting). Of the 11 churches in this district 8 have sister churches with Ft Myers churches. There has been no activity from Miami district. A new District Coordinator was appointed in 2001.

Tampa/ Leesburg - Sierra Maestra Lay leader visited Tampa in May '00. Two pastors from this district visited Tampa coming back from Garrett in August '00. In Jan. '00 there was a mission trip to sister church Niquero from Bayshore members (6) . Sierra Maestra district was divided in half at the Cuban Annual Conference '00- the Sierra Maestra side and the Santiago de Cuba/Guantanamo side with still one DS. A 3 person-team went to Annual Rally '01 and visited both district and many churches. Leesburg churches have sister relation- ships with 6 Sierra Maestra churches. Tampa churches have 14 sister churches in Sierra Maestra.

Montes de Sion Band Floria Tour 2000 -- This project was started by Rev. Thom Shafer. He requested that the Marianao Church (Havana) band be part of the presentation at the Florida Annual Conference 2000. Bishop Pereira gave his approval and a tour of different Florida churches was scheduled for the band to play while they were here. This was an awesome project that was successful thanks to the great organization of Rev. Jacquie Leveron, and the cooperation of many churches and the individual participation as bus driver of the Ft Myers District Coordinator, Bill Roy. A video tape of Bishop Pereira's sermon and the Band and dancers presentation at the Annual Conference were made available.

Visit of Bishop Pereira's secretary, Alicia Góngora, to Florida -- She was invited to attend the March '01 Task Force meeting as the Bishop's representative and then she visited different Florida districts, speaking to church groups. She was

received with great enthusiasm from all. This was a sister-church-relationship enhancing visit.

FLORIDA HAITIAN COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

As Matthias Claudius stated in his song:

We plow the fields and scatter; The good seed on the land.
But it is fed and watered; By God's almighty hand.
He sends the snow in winter, The warmth to swell the grain,
The breezes and the sunshine, And soft, refreshing rain.

The Haitian Committee on Ministry is moving forward by the grace of God. The Mission Churches have known exceeding growth throughout the Florida Conference. We have fourteen Haitian Missions. The members become more and more aware of the doctrine, polity, and history of the United Methodist Church. The devoted and hard working Haitian Pastors have done their utmost to promoting the kingdom of the Master. Thanks be, for those who have surrendered their lives for the Gospel's sake.

JOY. During the past year a new pastor had been appointed to Avon Park Mission. Rev. Luc Joseph, comes to us from the Evangelical Church of Haiti. He is leading this Mission to a higher ground. Praise the Lord!

CELEBRATION. The Haitian Ministry did celebrate the new millennium - 20 years of ministry among the Haitians in the Florida Conference. The event was held at Fort Pierce Haitian Mission. The presence of God was really felt on that day. All the Mission Churches were in attendance. The Lord has been good to us over the years.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

- A few training events were done in the area of discipleship and evangelism.
- A team had the opportunity to travel to Haiti. The purpose was a twofold one: attending the installation ceremony of Raphael Dessieu, brother of Luc Dessieux, as the new President for the Methodist Church of Haiti, and developing a new sister relationship or covenant between Haiti and the Florida Conference. That dialogue is still in process. In the near future a trip to Haiti shall lead to further discussions for the welfare of that wonderful initiative. Thanks to all who were in attendance.
- At this coming Annual Conference, the Rev. Jacques E. Pierre will be ordained as an Elder. Congratulations to him!
- The Haitian Committee was concerned about the young people. Therefore, youth president was elected to work with all the youth belonging to the Haitian Missions. A youth rally will take place in Tampa in July to help those youth in their spiritual, physical, and emotional needs. A big "thank you" goes to the Haitian Ministry for a grant which will allow the youth to participate in that spiritual event.

OBJECTIVES. The Haitian Committee along with the Haitian National Network are working diligently toward the translation of some parts of the book of Discipline. It is a wonderful project. That translation will be done in French so that other speaking French countries might benefit from that masterpiece. That work was possible through a grant received from the GBGM. Thanks to that board. The FHCOTM did appreciate the work of our late Bishop, Cornelius Henderson. Thanks to him! He was very supportive of the Haitian Ministries. He has left footprints all over the Florida Conference. May he rest in peace!

As the song writer's says: "God works in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform." The good Lord sends a new Bishop to us, the Rev. Timothy Whitaker. May God bless him as he is taking the mantle of the Florida Conference. The Haitian Committee welcomes and wishes him all the best for the years ahead. Thanks to all those who have labored with us over the years and let us continue to proclaim the good news of salvation by "DARE TO SHARE JESUS".

Submitted by The Rev. Montreuil F. Milord, Chair

HISPANIC MINISTRY TEAM A NEW ERA FOR THE HISPANIC WORK IN FLORIDA CONFERENCE

In order to respond to the fast growth of the Hispanic population in several areas of Florida, and faithful to the call of our Lord Jesus to reach all people in need, the Annual Conference in its session of 2000 recommended and approved a Comprehensive Plan for Hispanic Work. The approval of this plan marked off the beginning of a new era for ministry with Hispanic people in our Conference.

1. According to the plan, the old Hispanic Committee on Ministries ended its function in January 13, 2001 to make way for the Hispanic Assembly, the Hispanic Ministry Team, and a Hispanic Coordinator.
2. The Hispanic Ministry Team met on February 24, 2001 to finalize the details and job description for the position of Hispanic Coordinator. A Searching Committee was formed and started its work to find a person for the position. After working for more than two months the recommendations were sent after the second week of May to the Executive Committee of the Conference Council on Ministries for final decision.
3. In all this process of transition we have had the valuable help and support of the key persons: Dr. Larry Rankin and the Chairperson of the Conference Council on Ministries: brother Bill Walker. Our deepest gratitude to both of them.
4. Work done during the last year 2000- 2001 includes:
 - a. Family Camp at Life Enrichment Center, Leesburg on September 2-4, 2000. Attendance: 364. Theme: "United in Love".

- b. Five Youth meetings in different areas of Florida from January – May 2001.
 - c. Retreat for Youth. Orlando, May 12, 2001.
 - d. Seminar for leaders with youth (Module III – Hispanic National Plan). Kissimmee, May 19, 2001.
 - e. Two seminars on Evangelism: Lakeland (for north area) and Miami (South Florida).
 - f. Seminar on: “Pastoral Counseling” in Miami last November 2000. We had the resource sent by the Board of Discipleship on the person of: Rev. Rebeca Radillo.
 - g. Orientation session about Hispanic work in Fort Myers District during its Leadership Event.
 - h. Course on Methodism in Spanish. Miami Christian Enrichment School 2001.
 - i. Meetings with the District Superintendent and leaders of Sarasota District for developing Hispanic work in their district and explanation of the Hispanic National Plan.
5. A new year is before us. That means new challenges. We are anticipating a historical session of the Hispanic Assembly on September 2001.
 “Thus far the Lord has helped us” I Samuel 7: 12b.

IGNITING MINISTRY TEAM

Brothers and sisters in Christ, my name is Ted Schiller and I am a member of the Florida Conference Igniting Ministry Team. It's nice when members of the family of God can get together at conference on occasions such as this. We are a family called United Methodists. We have a family crest and it bears the cross of Christ and the flame of the Holy Spirit. One of our not so distant relatives had an experience with that cross and flame. He described the experience in a magnificent understatement as, “*I felt my heart strangely warmed.*” The flame of the Holy Spirit warmed his heart and many others of his day that caused a spark to ignite in them a passion for Christ. That passion burst into flames in England and Whaled and set other nations in the British Isles on fire for our Lord.

The sparks from that fire were carried, as if in a jet stream, to this land and blazes burned like Florida brush fires across this new country. Over the years that followed, many became members of the family of God in this new land. But, like many families, some of them have left home, and some have left even the family. Today, according to best estimates, over 33 million Americans alive today have either left the family are orphaned, spiritually homeless, never having a family called the church.

Thankfully, God is still warming hearts. Actually, God has begun to build a fire under the United Methodist Church. For the first time in its over 200 year history, the United Methodist Church will launch a massive four year television advertising campaign directed to the millions of unchurched in the United States, beginning in September of this year.

The television advertising will do little more than make the unchurched receptive to what you will be asked to do. You will be asked to take action and so an important work. Remember three words: **Invite, Welcome, Disciple**. Those words are verbs, words of action, the action words of Igniting Ministry. My colleagues will tell you more about each of those action words and how each of you and those in your home churches can become a part of the Igniting Ministry.

This advertising campaign is not designed to help fill your empty pews. It is not a quick fix, cure-all solution for all the spiritual ailments in our general church and your local churches. It is not another top-down program. It is not a brainchild of another think-tank. It is not the magic bullet to slay the demons and dragons of this world. This campaign has only one purpose. The purpose of this campaign is to make Disciples of Christ. That is and always has been our mission.

After realizing my human condition, God has taught me to pray: *“Lord, equip me and prepare my way.”* Please appropriate that prayer for your involvement in Igniting Ministry effort, because I truly believe that God can and will use this advertising campaign and all of the other resources that have been made available, and will be made available, to help prepare the way. It is up to you, it's up to us, to allow the Lord to equip us and all others who are willing to so the work to Invite, to Welcome and Disciple. We should and must prepare ourselves.

Every local church can participate in this effort. Before we can participate we must be equipped to do so. The resources are ready. The equippers are ready. At some point, the question will be raised: *“Are you ready?”*

May hearts be strangely warmed and receptive to whatever you do to bring others home to be with the family. By God's grace maybe we can experience a new Pentecost as we participate in the work of the Igniting Ministry.

Ted Schiller, Florida Conference Igniting Ministry Team

KLERGY KIDS

The first Klergy Kids Retreat this past November was attended by 100 children and youth and 35 leaders and parents of young children. The Miami District Youth Band that you heard this morning and last night provided the music for the weekend. So often clergy kids experience the church as an entity that “takes away” those they love. It is our dream that they experience the community that is ours in Christ. This was a great weekend for experiencing that community. I would encourage you to encourage the children and youth living in your parsonages to attend next year's weekend planned for January 11-13, 2002. The blue brochure for the weekend can be found in your packet.

Martha Gay Duncan and Sally Campbell Evans, Co-Chairs

OUTREACH MINISTRIES OF THE FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

HALIFAX URBAN MINISTRIES, INC. (HUM): HUM provides emergency assistance to hungry, homeless and low-income people. Assistance includes hot meals, non-perishable food bags, shelter, laundry, showers, baby care items, and financial assistance for rent and utilities. HUM is the FEMA provider for the county.

Total Budget: \$474,207

Mission Ministry: \$20,000

ACTION MINISTRIES PLUS, INC. (AMP): AMP works with local United Methodist Churches and other groups. AMP provides summer camp for children from low-income families; provides meals, other emergency needs and Sunday worship service for homeless individuals and families; and consults with churches about how to be in ministry in their neighborhoods.

Total Budget: \$112,500

Mission Ministry: \$21,000

INDIAN RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES (IRROM): This program serves as a coordinating agency with migrant workers, refugees and other minorities, addressing issues of direct services, medical needs, immigration, education and social concerns.

Total Budget: \$19,250

Mission Ministry: \$3,250

MIAMI URBAN MINISTRIES, INC. (MUM): Miami Urban Ministries' mission is to be a catalyst and partner for the development of strong outreach ministries in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. In collaboration with local congregations and faith-based organizations, MUM develops individual leadership and organizational capacity to transform the communities in which we live. Miami Urban Ministries has six priorities that guide the work: 1) increase economic development; 2) develop children and youth; 3) strengthen multi-cultural understanding; 4) reduce violence in our neighborhoods; 5) advocate for social justice; and 6) assist people in emergencies. Current programs include: OASIS Youth Program including Spring Break Camp; Emergency Services Network; Outreach Coordinators Roundtable discussions; and coordination of the MUMBrella of District wide ministries.

Total Budget: \$148,000

Mission Ministry: \$20,000

WESLEY HOUSE FAMILY SERVICES: Wesley House Family Services offers child care resource and referral, child care financial assistance, early childhood and foster parent education and training as well as in-home services to families and children throughout Monroe County, Florida.

Total Budget: \$6,061,175

Mission Ministry: \$6,300

UNITED METHODIST COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES / SUNCOAST, INC. (UMCM): UMCM seeks to assist and support local churches to be in ministry and mission in their communities. UMCM seeks to give concrete expression to the love and compassion of our Lord Jesus Christ to persons facing adversity in life. This is accomplished through service, advocacy and education. Programs include Southeast Asian Preschool and Christian Ministry, English To Speakers of Other Languages and Adult Literacy, After-School Tutorial Program-Childs Park UMC, Summer Enrichment Day Camp-Childs Park UMC, Emergency Food Pantry, Refugee Ministries, Family Support Services, Transportation Services, and Homeless Outreach Ministries.

Total Budget: \$301,227

Mission Ministry: \$20,000

UM COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES OF MADISON COUNTY CHURCH AND COMMUNITY WORKER (Tallahassee District): The Church and Community Worker serves as director of the United Methodist Cooperative Ministries in Madison County, working with small membership churches to assist them to effectively address the needs of the churches and the community through activities and programs at the "Co-op" Community Center and outreach ministries in the community.

Total Budget: \$36,250

Mission Ministry: \$15,000

TAMPA URBAN MINISTRIES (TUM): Tampa Urban Ministries focuses on the problems in urban communities caused by transitional conditions or demographic changes. It provides consultations to small churches in addressing the needs of those most affected: ethnic minorities, children, young adults, women and elderly living in poverty. It reinforces ongoing ministries, facilitates support for new evangelism and outreach programs, and promotes ecumenical coalitions with churches and advocacy to other agencies to improve delivery of services to communities and the needy.

Total Budget: \$21,000

Mission Ministry: \$21,000

CHRISTIANS REACHING OUT TO SOCIETY (CROS): CROS works with local churches and other groups; advocates on behalf of the poor, abused and homeless; provides day camp, vacation bible school and residential camp for children from low-income families; operates five food pantries servicing thousands; has a hot meal program; has an after school snack program and a Haitian outreach program.

Total Budget: \$483,891

Mission Ministry: \$21,000

SPECIALIZED URBAN MINISTRIES (SUM): SUM is a pro-active catalyst among the churches of Broward County seeking to identify unaddressed needs in the community and draw together the resources required to deal with them helpfully.

SUM will birth organizations that effectively minister to the persons in need whatever the culture or economic level. Priority is given to needs for emergency assistance (including homeless families), affordable and available child care (including after school), healthcare, prison ministry, affordable housing, safe places for youth and care for the homebound elderly and disabled. SUM is reorganizing around a new Board of Directors. No Budget is currently available but the scope of work in 2002 should be about the same as in 2001.
Mission Ministry: \$15,500

UMVIM (UNITED METHODIST VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION)

Bishop, on behalf of UMVIM Florida Annual Conference, Welcome.

UMVIM is alive and well and doing great Mission Ministries. In 2000 over 80,000 volunteers went on Mission and several thousand were from Florida Annual Conference.

We have done ministry throughout the Global Village. We have fed the hungry and taught them how to feed themselves. We have clothed the naked. We have drilled wells so they can have a cool drink. We have done Bible Schools, built churches and schools, taken Medical teams around the world and helped to heal the sick. The list goes on.

Two new ministries are "Visions of Love"; a radio Devotional and The Rev. Dr. E. Keith Ewing will be the Host. We invite churches to participate in Sharing Jesus our Christ.

We are giving certificates to all churches that send out teams to do mission. One of our major jobs is to help enable churches to do Volunteer Mission Ministry and we are ready to do just that.

A special Gift of \$5,000.00 was given to the KNOCK, the UMVIM Medical Newsletter in Honor of Tom Griner, Director, for his work in recruiting and enabling team in helping others to serve and help feed the poor and do ministry in the name of Jesus Christ. This money has been directed to defray the expense of the publication of the "Knock" of the United Methodist Fellowship of Health Care Volunteers.

We work with GBGM and SEJ and continue to be the Vision and Mission Ministry of today. Tom, we applaud your accomplishments and pray for your continued success.

Submitted By Tom Griner and Wally Mulder

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
Recommendations for 2001
(Approved at the Special Session, October 5, 2000)

Recommendation No. 1

It is recommended that the 2001 salary of each district superintendent be set at \$70,968, an increase of 0 percent (\$ 0) above the 2000 salary, and that retirement and other benefits be adjusted and paid accordingly.

It is further recommended that each district superintendent be reimbursed for business travel at the IRS allowable rate (for 2000 this is 32.5 cents per mile) and other business expenses. This includes the cost of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in the district, out of the district and for cabinet purposes. The estimated amount necessary to cover these reimbursed expenses shall be included in the conference budget.

Recommendation No. 2

It is recommended that the mileage allowance for all persons traveling by automobile for conference meetings be set at the IRS allowable rate, plus tolls. Actual expenses for travel by other means will be reimbursed up to, but not exceeding, the above mileage rate.

The per diem for conference meetings shall be an amount equal to the cost charged at the Leesburg Life Enrichment Center (for 2001 this is \$20.25 for three meals). In clearly unusual, hardship situations, the president of the Council on Finance and Administration (CF&A), in consultation with the conference treasurer, will have authority to adjust these amounts. To qualify for per diem and travel expenses, members of the agencies must be present for the entire meeting, unless excused for emergency reasons by the chairperson.

Persons authorized to represent the conference in an official capacity in meetings beyond conference bounds may be reimbursed for actual expenses. Prior approval for such representation must be submitted to the conference treasurer by the group selecting that representative and must include instructions regarding the fund from which payment is to be made. In keeping with the spirit of good stewardship, expenses should be kept to a minimum.

Appreciation is expressed to those involved in conference business who pay all or part of the expenses they incur in the interest of reducing conference expenses.

Conference groups are encouraged to meet only when necessary business is to be accomplished. To further reduce expenses, conference groups are encouraged to schedule their meetings in conjunction with other conference events that members of the group may also be attending.

Recommendation No. 3

Housing allowances, when provided to employees of conference institutions and groups, should be based on the prevailing rental rate in the area in which the staff member is located.

Professional staff occupying conference-owned parsonages will be responsible for stewardship of the parsonages in accordance with the Florida Annual Conference Parsonage Guidelines as published in the 1980 Conference Journal, page 331.

Recommendation No. 4

It is recommended that the Fair Share formula be used to determine the apportionment of all budget areas except for Clergy Support (a new apportionment item proposed in recommendation number 5 below).

The Fair Share formula is based on the following items reported in the statistical tables compiled by the conference statistician:

- Column 43/48Pastor/Associate Salary
- Column 38.....Deacon/Diaconal Compensation
- Column 39.....Staff Compensation
- Column 37.....Current Expenses for Program
- Column 40.....Current Operating Expenses

The total amount spent in each local church on the items in these six columns is divided by the total amount spent on these items for all conference churches. This calculation determines each local church's fair share percentage or "decimal." This decimal is then multiplied by the total amount listed for all areas (except Clergy Support) in the conference budget to determine the amount each local church is asked to give.

Each district is asked to ensure that the total amount of apportionments for the local churches in that district is given to the conference. The district may decide how the apportionments in that district will be given by its churches to achieve 100 percent of that district's total apportionments.

Apportionments should be given in full and on a timely basis. Local churches are encouraged to give 10 percent of each apportionment item per month during the first 10 months of the year.

Recommendation No. 5

It is recommended that a new apportionment called Clergy Support be established. This apportionment will include funding for identifiable items in the conference budget that benefit active and retired clergy, such as clergy pension, disability and health care; district superintendent salaries, benefits and expenses;

and costs related to the administration of our Episcopal area, Board of Pensions and Board of Ordained Ministry.

It is further recommended that the Clergy Support apportionment for each church be determined according to the fair share formula (as defined in recommendation 4).

It is further recommended that any Clergy Support apportionment not given by a church during the year be carried forward into the next year and added to that church's apportionment for Clergy Support.

Recommendation No. 6

It is recommended that the conference no longer provide a subsidy to local churches for the cost of health insurance for active clergy beginning Jan. 1, 2001. Instead, the conference is expecting churches to pay 100 percent of that cost through monthly health insurance bills. Every church will be required to participate in the conference health insurance program for each appointed full-time clergy on staff and pay a blended rate that is based on all premiums for base plans.

Recommendation No. 7

(As amended) A team of informed lay and clergy persons be assembled by the Bishop to study the work of the print shop and compile the figures for past years, and that \$25,000 be added to the budget to address these concerns and a report to be brought back to the Annual Conference.

Recommendation No. 8

It is recommended that any expenditure of funds will be in accordance with the provisions of the Book of Discipline and the Standing Rules of the Florida Annual Conference. No groups will obligate conference funds in excess of the anticipated income for its budget. Amendments to a budget to accommodate pressing needs must be proposed to CF&A for consideration within the context of available funds and other conference priorities. See particularly Standing Rule VII.C and IX.E.

Recommendation No. 9

It is recommended that the Christian Education Sunday offering be designated for the work of Christian Education in each district and that the district Council on Ministries or comparable agency administer the funds raised in each district.

Recommendation No. 10

It is recommended that the conference no longer include an amount of \$100,000 for Barnett Lodge renovation costs as a Debt Service line item in the 2001 budget of the Conference Service and Administration. It is anticipated that payments for the renovation of Barnett Lodge will be paid in full by the end of 2000.

It is further recommended that the conference include a line item providing \$250,000 for current and future capital improvements. Authorization to spend these funds will be made jointly by CF&A and conference trustees. Any funds not spent during the conference year will be carried forward in a designated fund for this same purpose.

Recommendation No. 11

(Recommendation Failed)

Recommendation No. 12

It is recommended that all groups receiving funds through the conference budget meet to prepare their budget requests and submit them to the conference treasurer prior to Feb. 1, 2001, unless an exception is made by the CF&A executive committee. Groups that have designated or other funds available to them will provide that information when submitting their budget requests.

Each group's budget will include an explanation of each line item and justification for the amounts requested. The proposed budget must show the signature of the chairperson or secretary of the group and the date of the group's budget planning meeting. All budget requests shall be consistent with the conference standing rule (VII.D) pertaining to zero-based budgeting.

The CCOM, Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, and Committee on New Church Development and Redevelopment will submit their budget proposals to CF&A for inclusion in the conference budget.

Recommendation No. 13

(Recommendation Failed)

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Standifer, President, Council on Finance and Administration

2001 FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE BUDGET

Approved 10/5/2000

	2000 Budget	2001 Budget	Notes
Connectional Church			
World Service and Gen Church	5,084,123	5,551,419	
Jurisdictional Church	230,995	227,326	
Total Connectional Church	5,315,118	5,778,745	
Florida Conference Budget Areas			
Conf Council on Ministries			
Discipleship	32,000	32,000	
Church & Society	54,140	54,140	
Missions	309,840	290,380	
Health & Wholeness		15,400	
Events (non-camp)	9,000	9,000	
Ethnic Local Church	22,000	22,000	
Council on Youth	36,500	36,500	
Camp facilities, etc.	143,000	143,000	
Leesburg sewage plant loan		40,000	note 1
Summer Camp Program	223,400	223,400	
Communications	130,000	130,000	
Leader Development	10,250	10,250	
Spiritual Development	45,000	45,000	
Hispanic Ministry Team		125,000	note 2
CCOM Staff & Admin	855,260	855,260	
Contingency	60,000	60,000	
Total CCOM	1,930,390	2,091,330	
Higher Ed & Campus Ministries			
Campus Ministries	778,718	778,718	
Colleges	537,000	537,000	
Salaries and Admin	242,000	165,000	
Total HE & CM	1,557,718	1,480,718	note 3
Other Programs			
Operation Evangelization	118,000	88,810	
Status and Role of Women	3,860	3,860	
Religion and Race	5,000	12,250	note 4
Archives and History	11,000	11,000	
Board of Lay Ministry	21,075	21,075	
Counseling Network	28,325	28,325	
Total Other Programs	187,260	165,320	

Total Conf Benevolences	3,675,368	3,737,368 note 5
Church Development		
New Church Starts	675,813	675,813
Total Church Development	675,813	675,813
Conf Services and Admin		
Annual Conf Admin	62,800	62,800
Annual Conf Session	136,250	136,250
Administrative Cmtes	16,100	16,000
General Services	394,025	552,250 note 7
Board of Trustees	290,000	250,000
Capital Reserve Fund		250,000 note 8
CF&A	342,896	385,900 note 9
Print Shop		25,000
Debt Service	100,000	0 note 10
Contingency	80,000	80,000
Total CSA	1,422,071	1,758,200
Clergy Support		
Board of Pensions	18,000	18,000
MRPF	56,014	0 note 12
CPP	1,062,000	1,180,000 note 12
BPP	58,000	62,000 note 12
Special Grants	50,000	50,000
Pensions Support	50,000	50,000
Ministerial Retiree Benefits		120,000 note 12
Clergy Health Ins Supplement	2,300,000	0 note 13
Ret Clergy Health Ins Supplement		1,250,000 note 13
Area Administration	152,921	171,300 note 14
Board of Ordained Min	239,400	239,400
Sustentation Fund	25,000	20,000
DS salaries & benefits	1,152,521	1,253,500 note 15
DS & Cabinet expenses	147,800	149,900
Equitable Compensation	425,000	500,000 note 16
Total Clergy Support	5,736,656	5,064,100
Anticipated apport shorfall	328,193	0
Florida Conf Budget	11,838,101	11,235,481
conf budget inc \$512,025 error	11,326,076	
Total Apportioned Budget	17,153,219	17,014,226

Notes to 2001 Budget

note 1	estimated interest only on loan
note 2	approved at Annual Conference in June
note 3	requested budget revised down by HE&CM
note 4	requested amount for 2000 but mistakenly left out
note 5	Conf benevolences would be apportioned together and allocated according to percentage
note 7	increase reflects actual projected overhead costs including some reallocated costs from trustees
note 8	designated for current capital expense and/or set aside for future capital expense
note 9	increase reflects actual projected costs
note 10	completely paid in 2000
note 12	as accepted in report to June Annual Conference
note 13	as recommended by insurance committee; see rec. # 6
note 14	includes Episcopal misc expenses (like housing)
note 15	moves cost of health ins from Districts to Conf.
note 16	equitable comp increase to cover health ins increase and additional funds for 1 yr health ins transition

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION REPORT TO THE 2001 FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In working to prepare a 2002 budget for recommendation to this Annual Conference, the Council on Finance and Administration has prayerfully sought to strike an appropriate balance between realistic funding possibilities and genuine needs for administration, compensation, ministry and mission. This has been a challenging task. As you will see in the following material, CF&A encourages adoption of nine recommendations which include a recommended budget for 2002 of \$17,242,673. This is a 1.3% increase over the 2001 budget.

This recommended budget includes a 14% projected increase in the cost of health insurance for conference employees, a 3% increase in the salaries for District Superintendents, a 6% increase in our General and Jurisdictional Church apportionments, a decrease in funding for new church starts, a small overall decrease in conference services and administration, a small overall increase in clergy support, and a small reduction in all conference benevolence areas. A pie chart has been included which shows the breakdown of the 2002 budget should it be adopted as CF&A has recommended.

With much of the budget increasing at a rapid rate, CF&A faced an especially difficult and painful struggle to keep the entire budget from growing at an unreasonable pace. In the budgeting process, CF&A has been acutely aware of several issues, including: 1) the effect of apportionments on congregational vitality; 2) a slowing or uncertain economy; 3) the dramatic rise in the Florida Conference's share of General Church apportionments; and 4) relatively slow growth (on average) in membership and finances in our churches conference-wide. CF&A did not want to recommend increasing apportionments at a rate significantly higher than the anticipated rate of growth of giving and membership in our churches. In the view of CF&A, such action would have been neither wise planning nor good stewardship. As a result CF&A did not simply accept all funding requests for 2002 as presented. In many cases, the amount recommended by CF&A is less than what was initially requested. In some areas which CF&A directly oversees, there were targeted reductions in administration, compensation, and service. CF&A is recommending a reduction from what was requested in all areas of Conference Benevolences. The specific amounts CF&A recommends for the various budget areas of the conference can be found in the worksheet entitled "2002 Recommended Budget Detail."

Apportionments provide many specific benefits and tangible cost savings to every congregation. Apportionments help fund the cost of our Warren W. Willis conference camping facilities at Leesburg, the Life Enrichment Center, as well as much of the programming, planning and preparations for summer camp and weekend experiences for children, youth and adults. Apportionments also help provide scholarship money for those who want to go to camp but can't afford it. Without apportionments there would be no one to handle arrangements for clergy and lay employee health care, no one to make sure the pastors are equipped and fit for ministry, no one to oversee pension funds, and no quick effective UM response to disasters – earthquake, hurricane, flood, tornado. Without apportionments, when your church wanted to take a United Methodist Volunteers in Mission trip, you'd have to start from scratch – no lists, no contacts, no suggestions, and far fewer UM places to go. Apportionments help provide opportunities for leader development and spiritual development, as well as church resources in Creole, Spanish, Korean and other languages. Our apportionments help to start new churches so we can increase our ability to touch the lost, needy, and unchurched. Apportionments assist in funding Wesley Foundations and campus ministry programs to reach out to college students in every major college and university in the state. Apportionments assist in funding local missions and outreach programs across the Conference. Apportionments fund clergy death and disability insurance at a price far lower than each church could negotiate on its own. Apportionments help fund retired clergy health care in a cost-efficient and convenient way. Apportionments help provide informed and appropriate information to churches on legal matters, personnel issues, property concerns, tax questions, and other mundane affairs of operating a not-for-profit organization in a complex and suit-happy society. Apportionments enable us to do these and many, many other things. Together, through our

connected congregations, we United Methodists accomplish what no single church, district or annual conference ever could hope to do alone.

As you look at the next few pages you will find the 2002 budget presented in several different ways:

- There is a worksheet entitled “2002 Requested Budget Detail” showing the amounts requested of CF&A by various agencies of the Conference. This requested budget worksheet includes the general and connectional church apportionments assigned to Florida (which we cannot reduce). It also includes amounts for the Conference services, administration, and clergy support that have already been reduced in targeted areas by CF&A from amounts originally considered. The “2002 Requested Budget” is not what CF&A is recommending.
- CF&A recommends adoption of the budget described in the worksheet entitled “2002 Recommended Budget Detail” and summarized in the one-page worksheet entitled “2002 Budget Summary as Recommended by Action of CF&A.”

The following items are part of the Council on Finance and Administration report:

1. A set of nine “Recommendations for 2002.”
2. A “2002 Requested Budget Detail” worksheet – for your information only.
3. A “2002 Recommended Budget Detail” worksheet – CF&A encourages adoption of these budget and apportionment amounts.
4. A pie chart illustrating the 2002 recommended budget and apportionments.
5. A “2002 Budget Summary as Recommended by Action of CF&A” one-page worksheet which summarizes the information in the Recommended Budget Detail worksheet.

We hope this information is helpful and informative.

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Recommendations for 2002

Recommendation No. 1

It is recommended that the 2002 salary of each district superintendent be set at \$73,100, an increase of 3.0% (\$2,132) above the 2001 salary of \$70,968, and that retirement and other benefits be paid accordingly.

It is further recommended that each district superintendent be reimbursed for business travel at the IRS allowable rate (for 2001 this is 34.5 cents per mile) and other business expenses. This includes the cost of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in the district, out of the district, and for cabinet purposes. The estimated amount necessary to cover these reimbursed expenses shall be included in the conference budget. In keeping with the spirit of good stewardship, expenses are to be kept to a minimum.

Recommendation No. 2

It is recommended that the mileage allowance for all persons traveling by automobile for conference meetings be set at the IRS allowable rate, plus tolls. Actual expenses for travel by other means will be reimbursed up to, but not exceeding, the above mileage rate. The per diem for conference meetings shall be an amount equal to the cost charged at the Leesburg Life Enrichment Center (for 2001 this is \$20.25 for three meals). In clearly unusual, hardship situations, the president of the Council on Finance and Administration (CF&A), in consultation with the conference treasurer, will have authority to adjust these amounts. To qualify for per diem and travel expenses, members of the agencies must be present for the entire meeting, unless excused for emergency reasons by the chairperson.

Persons authorized to represent the conference in an official capacity in meetings beyond conference bounds may be reimbursed for actual expenses. Prior approval for such representation must be submitted to the conference treasurer by the group selecting that representative and must include instructions regarding the fund from which payment is to be made. In keeping with the spirit of good stewardship, expenses are to be kept to a minimum.

Conference groups are encouraged to meet only when necessary business is to be accomplished. To further reduce expenses, conference groups are encouraged to schedule their meetings in conjunction with other conference events that members of the group may also be attending. Appreciation is expressed to those involved in conference business who pay all or part of the expenses they incur in the interest of reducing conference expenses.

Recommendation No. 3

Housing allowances, when provided to employees of conference institutions and groups, should be based on the prevailing rental rate in the area in which the staff member is located. Professional staff occupying conference-owned parsonages will be responsible for stewardship of the parsonages in accordance with the Florida Annual Conference Parsonage Guidelines as published in the 1980 Conference Journal, page 331.

Recommendation No. 4

It is recommended that the Fair Share formula be used to determine the local church apportionment for all budget areas. The Fair Share formula is based on the following items as reported in the most recent year-end statistical tables compiled by the conference statistician:

- Column 37 Current Expenses for Program
- Column 38 Deacon/Diaconal Compensation
- Column 39 Other Staff Compensation
- Column 40 Current Operating Expenses
- Column 43/48..... Pastor/Associate Salary

The total amount spent in each local church on the items in these columns is divided by the total amount spent on these items for all conference churches. This calculation determines each local church's fair share percentage or "decimal." This decimal is then multiplied by the total amount listed for all areas in the conference budget to determine the amount each local church is asked to give.

Each district is asked to ensure that the total amount of apportionments for the local churches in that district is given to the conference. The district may decide how the apportionments in that district will be given by its churches to achieve 100 percent of that district's total apportionments.

Any Clergy Support apportionment not given by a church during the year shall be carried forward to the next year and added to that church's apportionment for Clergy Support.

Apportionments should be given in full and on a timely basis. Local churches are encouraged to give 10 percent of each apportionment item per month during the first 10 months of the year.

Recommendation No. 5

It is recommended that any expenditure of funds will be in accordance with the provisions of the Book of Discipline and the Standing Rules of the Florida Annual Conference. No agencies, individuals, or groups will obligate conference funds in excess of the anticipated income for their budget. Amendments to a budget to accommodate pressing needs must be proposed to CF&A for consideration within the context of available funds and other conference priorities. See particularly Standing Rule VII.C and IX.E.

Recommendation No. 6

It is recommended that the Christian Education Sunday offering be designated for the work of Christian Education in each district and that the District Council on Ministries or comparable agency administer the funds raised in each district.

Recommendation No. 7

It is recommended that all groups asking for funding in the 2003 conference budget meet to prepare their budget requests and submit them to the conference treasurer prior to January 15, 2002, unless an exception is made by the CF&A executive committee. Groups that have designated or other funds available to them will provide that information when submitting their budget requests.

Each group's budget will include an explanation of each line item and justification for the amounts requested. The proposed budget must show the signature of the chairperson or secretary of the group and the date of the group's budget planning meeting. All budget requests shall be consistent with the conference standing rule (VII.D) pertaining to zero-based budgeting.

The Conference Council On Ministries, Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, and Committee on New Church Development and Redevelopment will submit their budget proposals to CF&A for inclusion in the conference budget.

Recommendation No. 8

It is recommended that the Conference Board of Trustees study the impact of construction of the Heritage Building (which was approved at the 1997 session of Annual Conference) including funding for ongoing operations, maintenance, and staffing costs of the building. Construction will be initiated upon agreement between CF&A and Trustees of adequate available funding sources for the costs of construction and operation of the building.

Recommendation No. 9

It is recommended that the 2002 Conference budget and apportionments as described in the worksheet entitled "2002 Budget Summary as Recommended by Action of CF&A" be adopted.

Recommendation No. 10

It is recommended that a special commission be named by the Bishop and Conference Lay Leader to engage in a comprehensive study of all capital needs of the Florida Annual Conference (including, but not limited to: the Heritage Center, renovation of the United Methodist Building, capital upkeep needs at the Life Enrichment Center and Conference Camps, possible land purchases next to the Warren W. Willis Youth Camp) and their financing, and to present the findings and recommendation of this commission to the Council on Finance and Administration, Conference Trustees and Council on Ministries as soon as possible with the purpose of a joint recommendation to the 2002 Annual Conference.

Until said comprehensive study and plan are presented to the 2002 Annual Conference for action, no major capital undertakings will be engaged, except under the most unusual circumstances, which could include purchase of 19.1 acres of land next to Warren Willis Camp and the construction of the Heritage Center Building, with the approval of the Conference Trustees, the Council on Finance & Administration and Council on Ministries.

Respectfully submitted, Bob Standifer,
President, Council on Finance and Administration

REPORT OF THE PRINT SHOP STUDY TASK FORCE
June 1, 2001

RESPONSIBILITY

From the minutes of the special session of the Florida Annual Conference held in Leesburg, FL, October 5, 2000: “. . . moved that a team of informed lay and clergy persons be assembled by the Bishop to study the work of the print shop and compile the figures for past years, and that \$25,000 be added to the budget to address these concerns and a report to be brought back to the Annual Conference.” The motion was approved.

Following the one day session, though critically ill, Bishop Cornelius L. Henderson suggested the following Print Shop Study Team which was later confirmed by Bishop J. Lloyd Knox: Chair, *Ed Dinkins, Thom Shafer, Robert Young, John Dowell Joseph Ha, Jacques Pierre, Luis Salgado, Vivien Postell, Keith Ewing* and Randy Casey-Rutland, *ex offico*. Career makeup of the Task Force: retired clergy having printing and business background; active clergy, one a District Superintendent and another a local church pastor; two active successful business men with knowledge of printing; one owner and operator of a Tampa print shop similar in size to the Conference Print Shop and President of Florida Conference United Methodist Men; retired business man having operated a print shop; retired public school teacher with extensive Annual Conference leadership and business knowledge; Administrative Assistant to the Bishop, and the Conference Treasurer. John Dowell was elected Vice Chair and Vivien Postell Secretary.

TASK FORCE PROCESS

In the first hour of Task Force deliberations, it was evident there were strength, experience, insightfulness, printing knowledge and spiritual commitment to be good stewards of God's resources. At no time in our discussion was there a pre-determined mind-set either way. There was a strongly felt, and expressed, desire to be open and receptive to issues and conditions related to the operation of the Conference Print Shop. Through prayer, the Task Force sought God's guidance and the leadership of the Holy Spirit that the Task Force might arrive at a pleasing recommendation.

Numerous consultants' reports, financial data, minutes of various Task Force meetings where the Print Shop was discussed, reports, recommendations, and historical as well as current operational information from Don Heishman were considered, studied and discussed.

On the first meeting day, the Task Force visited the print shop and received a guided tour by staff with time for questions and answers. The Print Shop was advised about a week in advance of our visit.

Don Heishman was invited to appear during this first meeting to provide information regarding the history and operation of the Print Shop. With a concerned and committed spirit, Don spent nearly two hours providing valuable information and insight that was very helpful to the Task Force. In later discussions, reference was often made to Don's report and comments.

Much financial data received considerable discussion. Conflicting, and/or contradicting, financial information had to be sorted through for a more accurate picture. It is difficult to determine accurate financial figures for most of the first two decades of Print Shop operation. Beginning in the late eighties, there is a clearer record of financial activity. To secure a more precise, longer term, of financial operations than those reported in following paragraphs, would require the hiring of experienced auditors for many months at considerable expense. This Task Force believed this to be unnecessary.

In 1998 and 1999 printing consultants were engaged to study the Print Shop operation. To determine if reports continued to be reasonably relevant, our print shop owner member of the Task Force visited the print shop prior to our first meeting. It was decided that this Task Force did not need to hire additional consultants with more costs for the Annual Conference.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Under the leadership of John J. Rooks, CCOM (Conference Council on Ministries) Director, in 1970 the print shop was started. Don Heishman was hired to work in the Print Shop and give support assistance. Original printing concerns were to support small and/or rural churches. Operating out of the UMB (United Methodist Building), the Print Shop rapidly grew with work orders, equipment, personnel and space occupied. Such growth was made possible through the dedicated leadership of Don Heishman, Conference churches' and agencies' support, and guidance of CCOM directors. Across the years the Print Shop has operated under the CCOM with no budget line item in either the Council or Annual Conference budgets. Cost over-runs were simply charged wherever possible in the Council budget.

There is no official record of the Print Shop ever having been organized, budgeted or operated as an agency of the Conference. However, Annual Conference records of support in early years established a positive relationship of service and ministry. The print shop finances were in the CCOM budget from 1971 through the 1988 Journal.

Don Heishman has retired, and we wish for him happiness and good health. We know that he will be serving the Lord as long as possible.

When all annual operating costs, salaries, benefits, accounting, income and payments related to the financial operation of the Print Shop are considered there have been only a few years when the Print Shop "broke even". While the Print Shop

was never intended to “make money”, it has been the desire of the Conference that this activity earn sufficient income so as not to be a financial drain on the Conference. In the Minutes of the Personnel Committee, September 25, 1985 is this statement: “Print Shop: It was agreed that the priority of the print shop should be first to the Annual Conference work, then District and then Local Church business and that the department needs to stand on its own – not to lose nor to make money.”

All of the financial loss is not solely the fault of the Print Shop. There have been mistakes by the Annual Conference, CCOM as well as the Print Shop. Had there been closer cooperation, supervision and action related thereto, financial losses would have been less. In several years the gain/loss figures were close to operating costs.

Two illustrations: cost of printing the Journal greatly increased, and delayed its publication when an employee retired. Prior to retirement, this employee (not associated with the Print Shop) had prepared large sections of the Journal before it went to the printer. Upon retirement of this employee, all this research and preparation fell on the Print Shop, for which it was not prepared, financially or with staff. Equipment was purchased that need or space justified.

QUEST

With our responsibility as a Task Force, and with the preceding information in mind, the Task Force's Quest was to answer the following question: Is the Print Shop part of the core values of the Florida Annual Conference? If it has been, is it currently? Because of the limited financial resources of the Conference, facing increasing financial demands and the necessity of establishing priorities for ministry, can the Print Shop be considered as one of the core values of the Conference?

When the Print Shop operation was started, most of United Methodism functioned under structural programs for small, medium and large churches. There was little room or need for diversity. Printed materials were prepared and distributed in relation to size and setting of the local church. Its program agencies functioned in structural response to the general church program. Programs are no longer handed down. Each church is free to strategize to determine its own needs. Two local churches in the same community may have differing needs and programs. Currently each local church, and the program agencies of the church, have broad power to diversify ministry in response to personal spiritual needs of the community and Conference. Printing needs vary from church to church. More and more printing is being done locally.

In 1970 the primary means of word processing was the typewriter and mimeograph machine, or linotype (hot type) and commercial press. “Cold type”, pre-computer, word processing was just beginning.

Today we have fantastic technological advances in word processing; nearly every office has one or more computers and printers, fax machines, E-mail, digital phones,

Palm units, satellite hard and software, and an abundance of competitive “fast print” shops. In small churches and rural settings this technology is available. Pastors and laity communicate faster than “News at Noon”. Program agencies of the church readily correspond through E-mail. Because of new technologies and competition, printing cost has not increased with inflation. Commercial printing, inflation considered, is far less expensive today than thirty years ago.

Decades back, it was common for large businesses to have “in house” print shops. However, today, most such print shops have long disappeared due to technological advances, increased costs for such operations, risk management, strong competition for the printing dollar and effective “out-sourcing”.

When the purchase of real estate is considered, one word appears again and again: location, location, location. For the successful operation of any business, for profit and not-for-profit, one word should be used: management, management, management. With increasing frequency in recent years, especially 1998-2001, this condition has received attention from Conference leaders to Print Shop personnel. From comments by Bill Walker, CCOM director, written August 22, 2000, “It is important for me to make clear that Print Shop personnel see themselves engaged in a ministry, and are not comfortable with business comparisons, and that is a clear distinction between our perspectives. As a general statement, the view of personnel is that if there are losses in operation, then the value given the local churches and conference justifies the loss.” While we respect and appreciate the desire of the Print Shop personnel to be in ministry, this Study Team cannot ignore the consequences of operating at a financial loss. When there is a financial loss, a more urgent priority may go unfunded.

Information provided to this Task Force leads us to two conclusions with respect to managing the Print Shop. First, the expertise and time required for management precludes the Council Director from fulfilling this responsibility. Second, under our current system, we do not foresee the ability to provide for effective management and operation without adding to the cost of personnel, equipment and occupancy expense. These conclusions are supported by E. Keith Ewing and Randy Casey-Rutland who were appointed by Bishop Henderson to supervise the operation of the Print Shop following the October 2000 special session of the Annual Conference. Concern for a “break even” financial operation has been expressed by those within as well as outside the Print Shop. Our reading of records and minutes recorded over the years indicate the Conference has often deferred to the optimism of Print Shop staff who have stated: “Next year the print shop will be self supporting”. Sometimes conditions were placed on the statement, such as: “If . . .”; “Provided . . .”; “With new equipment. . . “. As stated earlier, some of the losses were not totally the responsibility of the Print Shop. In this time frame there have been several “break even” years.

Previously, in this order, the Council on Ministries, Cabinet and Council on Finance and Administration have voted to close the Print Shop. However, this Task Force, in

its deliberations, did not consider these votes in our Quest to answer the question: Is the Print Shop part of the core values of this Conference? The following financial information is provided for consideration in making a decision.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

This Task Force requested Dr. Ransom E. Casey-Rutland, Conference Treasurer, to request the Conference auditors, Baylis & Company PA, CPAs, to provide a statement which indicates relative accuracy of recent years' financial statements regarding the Print Shop. The following statement was provided for our study.

"Our audited numbers for the print shop accounts for 2000 are \$227,405 in revenue, \$305,948 in expenses, leaving a net loss of \$78,543 for 2000. This would bring the cumulative net loss to \$297,625." Edie Yates, Baylis & Company PA, CPAs.

Whether earlier figures are absolutely correct is an unknown. However, the report of the auditors, Baylis & Company, indicated their figures were substantially in agreement with the reports compiled by the Conference Treasurer's office.

RECOMMENDATION

In light of technological advances, programs with changing methods of implementation, current printing industry dynamics, critical shortage of Conference financial resources, increasing economic liability for the Print Shop, risk management, and the necessity to be good stewards of God's resources, is the Print Shop a vital mission of the Florida Annual Conference?

It is the recommendation of the Print Shop Study Task Force that the Annual Conference discontinue operation of the Print Shop, and that a committee appointed by the Bishop, the Council on Finance and Administration, and Conference Trustees be authorized to dispose of Print Shop equipment and inventory.

Respectfully submitted, Edward L. Dinkins, Jr., Chairperson

2002 Florida Conference Budget Detail (As Approved)

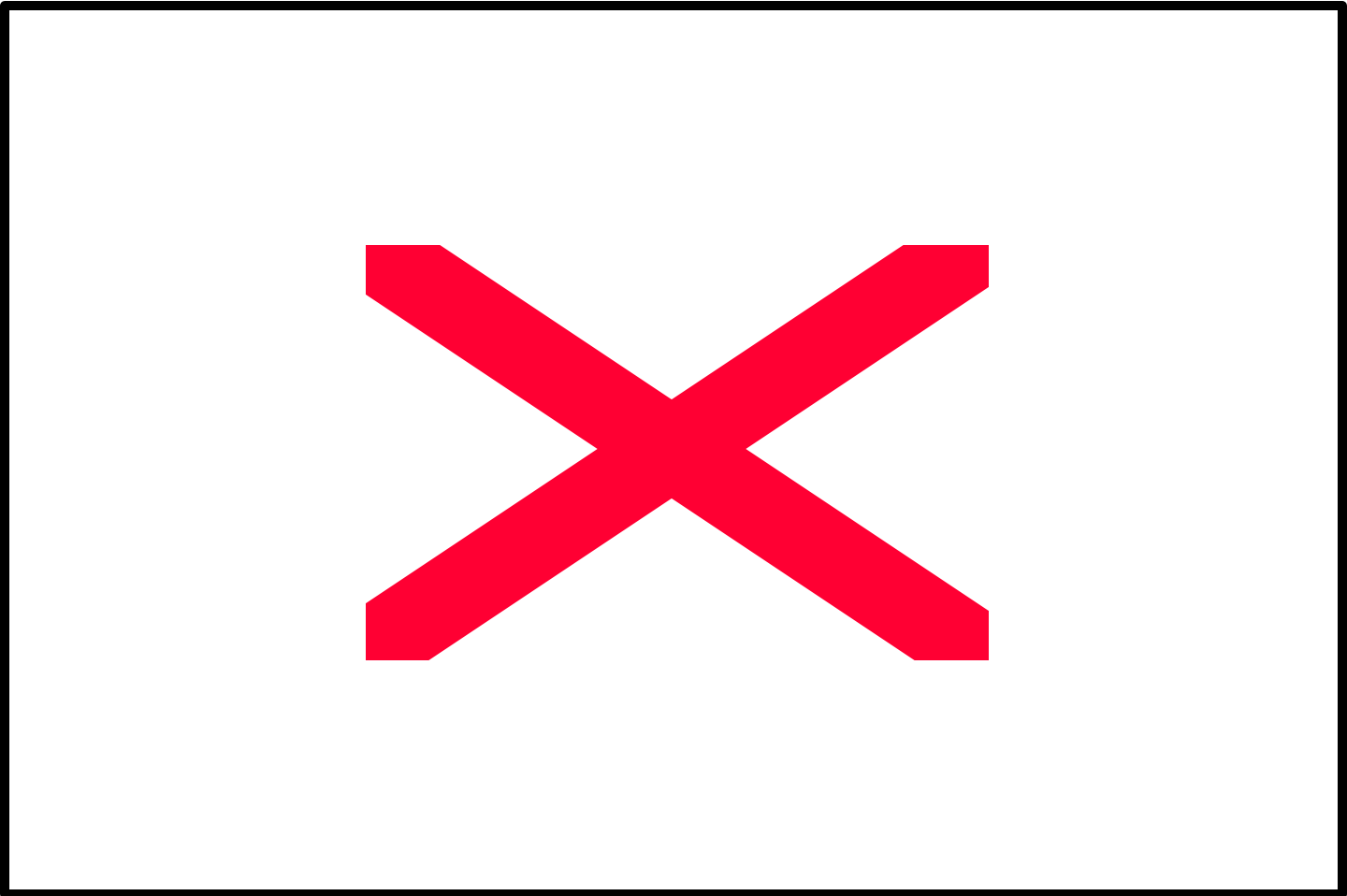
	2000 Budget	2001 Budget	2002 Approved Budget Detail	2001- 2002 Dollar Change	2001- 2002 Percent Change	Percent of Total Budget
Total Connectional Church	5,315,118	5,778,745	6,127,048	348,303	6.0%	35.29%
Florida Conference Budget Areas						
Conference Council on Ministries						
Discipleship	32,000	32,000				
Church & Society	54,140	54,140		See	Note 1	Below
Missions	309,840	290,380				
Health & Wholeness	N/A	15,400				
Events (Young Adult)	9,000	9,000				
Ethnic Local Church	22,000	22,000				
Council on Youth	36,500	36,500				
Camp facilities	143,000	143,000				
Leesburg sewage plant loan	0	40,000				
Summer Camp Program	223,400	223,400				
Communications	130,000	130,000				
Leader Development	10,250	10,250				
Spiritual Development	45,000	45,000				
Learn Opp for Spiritual Leaders	0	0				
Hispanic Ministry Team	0	125,000				
Disaster Prep/Relief	0	0				
CCOM Staff & Admin	855,260	855,260				
Contingency	60,000	60,000				
Total CCOM	1,930,390	2,091,330	2,049,503	-41,827	-2.0%	11.80%
Higher Ed & Campus Min						
Campus Ministries	778,718	778,718	817,917	39,199	5.0%	4.71%
Colleges	537,000	537,000	541,000	4,000	0.7%	3.12%
Salaries and Admin	242,000	165,000	199,000	34,000	20.6%	1.15%
Total HE & CM	1,557,718	1,480,718	1,557,917	77,199	5.2%	8.97%

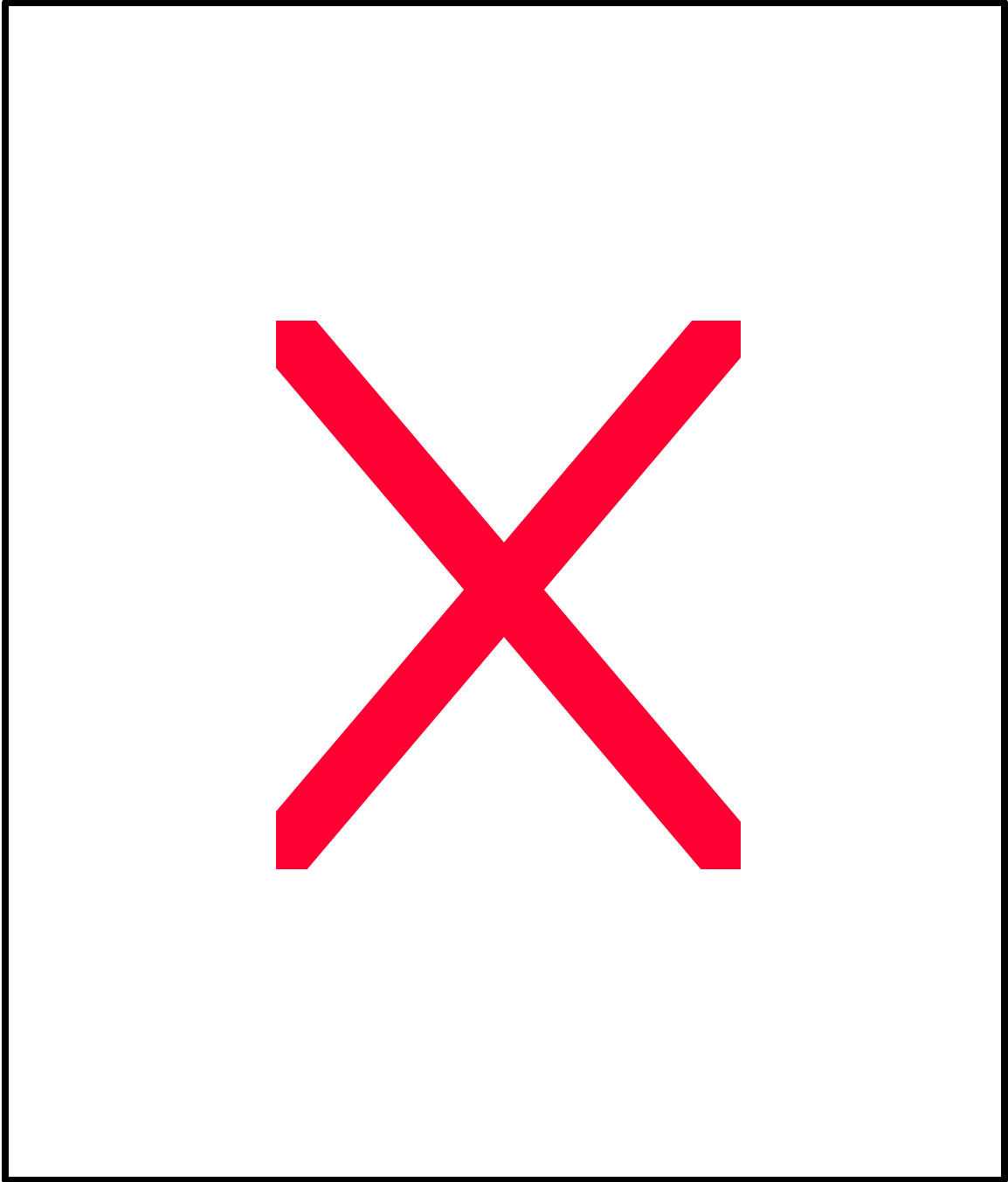
	2000 Budget	2001 Budget	2002 Approved Budget Detail	2001- 2002 Dollar Change	2001- 2002 Percent Change	Percent of Total Budget
Other Programs						
Operation Evangelization	118,000	88,810	87,034	-1,776	-2.0%	0.50%
Status and Role of Women	3,860	3,860	3,783	-77	-2.0%	0.02%
Religion and Race	5,000	12,250	12,005	-245	-2.0%	0.07%
Archives and History	11,000	11,000	10,780	-220	-2.0%	0.06%
Board of Lay Ministry	21,075	21,075	20,654	-421	-2.0%	0.12%
Counseling Network	28,325	28,325	27,759	-566	-2.0%	0.16%
Total Other Programs	187,260	165,320	162,015	-3,305	-2.0%	0.93%
Total Conf Benevolences	3,675,368	3,737,368	3,769,435	32,067	0.9%	21.71%
Church Development						
Gainesville Group Ministry	N/A	N/A	14,400	N/A	N/A	0.08%
New Church Starts	675,813	675,813	627,528	-48,285	-7.1%	3.61%
Total Church Development	675,813	675,813	641,928	-33,885	-5.0%	3.70%
Conf Services and Admin						
Annual Conf Admin	62,800	62,800	35,300	-27,500	-43.8%	0.20%
Annual Conf Session	106,250	136,250	120,600	-15,650	-11.5%	0.69%
Administrative Committees	16,100	16,000	16,000	0	0.0%	0.09%
General Services	394,025	552,250	539,500	-12,750	-2.3%	3.11%
Board of Trustees	290,000	250,000	237,500	-12,500	-5.0%	1.37%
Capital Replacement Fund	0	250,000	250,000	0	0.0%	1.44%
CF&A	342,896	385,900	420,000	34,100	8.8%	2.42%
Print Shop	N/A	25,000	40,000	15,000	60.0%	0.23%
Debt Service	100,000	0	0	0	N/A	0.00%
Contingency	80,000	80,000	90,000	10,000	12.5%	0.52%
Anticipated apportionment shortfall	328,193	0	0	0	N/A	0.00%
Total CSA	1,720,264	1,758,200	1,748,900	-9,300	-0.5%	10.07%

	2000 Budget	2001 Budget	2002 Approved Budget Detail	2001- 2002 Dollar Change	2001- 2002 Percent Change	Percent of Total Budget
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Clergy Support						
CPP	1,062,000	1,180,000	1,200,000	20,000	1.7%	6.91%
MRPF	56,014	0	0	0	N/A	0.00%
BPP	58,000	62,000	0	-62,000	-100.0%	0.00%
Special Grants	50,000	50,000	50,000	0	0.0%	0.29%
Pensions Support	50,000	50,000	25,000	-25,000	-50.0%	0.14%
Ministerial Retiree Benefits	0	120,000	120,000	0	0.0%	0.69%
Clergy Health Ins Supplement	2,300,000	0	0	0	N/A	0.00%
Ret Clergy Health Ins Plan	0	1,250,000	1,250,000	0	0.0%	7.20%
Board of Pensions	18,000	18,000	18,000	0	0.0%	0.10%
Division of Ministry Office	167,400	167,400	225,975	58,575	35.0%	1.30%
Division of Ministry BOOM	72,000	72,000	100,500	28,500	39.6%	0.58%
Equitable Compensation	425,000	500,000	451,000	-49,000	-9.8%	2.60%
Area Administration	152,921	171,300	184,100	12,800	7.5%	1.06%
Sustentation Fund	25,000	20,000	20,000	0	0.0%	0.12%
DS salaries & benefits	1,152,521	1,253,500	1,281,000	27,500	2.2%	7.38%
DS & Cabinet expenses	147,800	149,900	151,000	1,100	0.7%	0.87%
Total Clergy Support	5,736,656	5,064,100	5,076,575	12,475	0.2%	29.24%
Total Florida Conference Budget	11,808,101	11,235,481	11,236,838	1,357	0.0%	64.71%
Total Apportioned Budget	17,123,219	17,014,226	17,363,886	349,660	2.1%	100.00%
Note 1: The sum of the individual program areas exceeded the total approved, so the amount budgeted for each individual CCOM program area will be the decision of CCOM as long as the sum does not exceed the total approved.						

2002 Florida Annual Conference Budget Summary (As Approved)						
	2000 Budget	2001 Budget	2002 Approved Budget	2001- 2002 Dollar Change	2001- 2002 Percent Chg	Percent of 2002 Budget
General and Jurisdictional Church Apportionments						
World Service	2,579,863	2,873,585	3,041,224	167,639	5.8%	17.51%
Ministerial Ed Fund	1,151,683	1,219,515	1,272,163	52,648	4.3%	7.33%
Black College Fund	444,481	466,289	491,377	25,088	5.4%	2.83%
Africa University Fund	99,481	104,362	109,983	5,621	5.4%	0.63%
Episcopal Fund	502,889	563,837	616,643	52,806	9.4%	3.55%
General Admin Fund	192,158	232,034	260,732	28,698	12.4%	1.50%
Interdenominational Coop	66,215	91,797	93,702	1,905	2.1%	0.54%
Mission Initiatives	47,353	0	0	0	N/A	0.00%
Jurisdictional Conference	230,995	227,326	241,224	13,898	6.1%	1.39%
Total Gen and SEJ Apportionments	5,315,118	5,778,745	6,127,048	348,303	6.0%	35.29%
Florida Conference Budget Areas						
Conf Council on Ministries	1,930,390	2,091,330	2,049,503	-41,827	-2.0%	11.80%
Higher Ed & Campus Min	1,557,718	1,480,718	1,557,917	77,199	5.2%	8.97%
Operation Evangelization	118,000	88,810	87,034	-1,776	-2.0%	0.50%
Status and Role of Women	3,860	3,860	3,783	-77	-2.0%	0.02%
Religion and Race	5,000	12,250	12,005	-245	-2.0%	0.07%
Archives and History	11,000	11,000	10,780	-220	-2.0%	0.06%
Board of Lay Ministry	21,075	21,075	20,654	-421	-2.0%	0.12%
Counseling Network	28,325	28,325	27,759	-566	-2.0%	0.16%
Total Conf Benevolences Apportionment	3,675,368	3,737,368	3,769,435	32,067	0.9%	21.71%
New Church Starts Apportionment	675,813	675,813	641,928	-33,885	-5.0%	3.70%
Conf Ser & Admin Apportionment	1,720,264	1,758,200	1,748,900	-9,300	-0.5%	10.07%
Clergy Support Apportionment	5,736,656	5,064,100	5,076,575	12,475	0.2%	29.24%
Fla Conference Budget	11,808,101	11,235,481	11,236,838	1,357	0.0%	64.71%
Total Apportioned Budget	17,123,219	17,014,226	17,363,886	349,660	2.1%	100.00%





[A complete copy of the audit of The Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church can be obtained by contacting the Florida Conference, Office of Financial Services.]

FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	<u>2000</u>	December 31, <u>1999</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
CASH AND CASH INVESTMENTS	\$ 8,887,911	\$ 5,040,741
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	8,045,524	5,907,573
PREPAID EXPENSES	178,506	3,383,536
NOTES AND MORTGAGE NOTES RECEIVABLE Note E	2,802,013	3,813,934
INVESTMENTS		
Affiliated organizations, Note B	11,597,924	11,401,631
General Board of Pensions, Note D	40,102,921	36,206,708
Other, Note C	360,421	354,860
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT , net, Notes A and F	9,986,097	10,111,313
OTHER ASSETS	<u>179,899</u>	<u>226,169</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$82,141,216</u>	<u>\$76,446,465</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 5,510,383	\$ 4,557,430
Deferred revenue, Note H	5,161,251	4,063,316
Funds held as agent, Notes A and G	25,940	327,986
Premium finance agreement, Note H	<u>-</u>	<u>1,658,514</u>
Total liabilities	<u>10,697,574</u>	<u>10,607,246</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted, Note A:		
Unrestricted	-	-
Net investment in property and equipment	9,789,366	9,850,809
Board designated:		
Conference reserve	1,740,227	1,557,870
Self-insurance, Note H	1,770,964	1,569,775
Other designated	<u>1,212,967</u>	<u>888,473</u>
Total unrestricted	14,513,524	13,866,927
Temporarily restricted, Notes A and J	55,691,720	50,733,994
Permanently restricted, Notes A and K	<u>1,238,398</u>	<u>1,238,298</u>
Total net assets	<u>71,443,642</u>	<u>65,839,219</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$82,141,216</u>	<u>\$76,446,465</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	Years Ended December 31,	
	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
REVENUE		
Contributions:		
Conference benevolences	\$ 2,941,862	\$ 2,908,685
Conference service and administration	5,291,154	5,015,221
Other contributions	745,449	817,640
Self-insurance program	8,136,191	6,721,712
Interest income on loans and cash investments	247,777	510,956
Net investment return, Notes B, C, and D	8,771,353	7,637,565
Gain (loss) on disposal of assets	18,206	96,252
Fees for services and other income	<u>7,987,336</u>	<u>6,258,300</u>
 Total revenue	 <u>34,139,328</u>	 <u>29,966,331</u>
EXPENSES		
Conference benevolences	2,528,464	2,671,381
Conference service and administration	5,876,015	5,424,981
Other benevolences	1,244,819	1,529,569
Self-insurance program	7,445,343	6,111,821
Minister reserve pension benefits	3,845,977	3,092,715
Insurance disability and death benefits	1,133,805	971,175
Depreciation	535,225	
Reserve for self-insurance claims	547,418	
Costs of services and other expenses	705,817	638,188
	<u>5,219,440</u>	<u>4,752,819</u>
 Total expenses	 <u>28,534,905</u>	 <u>25,740,067</u>
 INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	 <u>\$ 5,604,423</u>	 <u>\$ 4,226,264</u>

THE COMPONENTS OF THE INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets	\$ 646,597	\$ (777,021)
Increase (decrease) in temporarily restricted net assets	4,957,726	4,973,777
Increase (decrease) in permanently restricted net assets	<u>100</u>	<u>29,508</u>
 NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	 <u>\$ 5,604,423</u>	 <u>\$ 4,226,264</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

DIVISION OF MINISTRY

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

As we enter the second quaddrenium in which the Board of Ordained Ministry is combining the work of the previous Boards of Diaconal Ministry and Ordained Ministry, there is an exciting melding of perspectives and efforts of the deacons, elders, lay persons and, for the first time this year, local pastors who are members of this Board. It's a diverse and hard working group that represents the Conference well in the work that it does.

In our November meeting this year, we reviewed the materials for one person requesting consecration as a diaconal minister, one for certification in a particular field of ministry, two for associate membership and deacons orders, twenty for probationary membership and commissioning, eighteen for local pastor, and twenty-nine for full connection and elders orders. Of those, fifty-three were interviewed in our meeting at the end of January. In addition, we interviewed five individuals requesting transition from the office of diaconal ministry to full connection and deacons orders.

Added to the three existing Reviewing Teams on the Board – Personal Growth, Preaching/Teaching, and Theology – has been a fourth called the Leadership Team. This addition reflects a specific emphasis on the part of the Board in helping to develop strong leaders for the church. A Conference Relations Committee also has been added to the structure of the Board, and is responsible for evaluating and making recommendations relative to any changes in clergy relationships with the Annual Conference.

Probably the most significant new development in the Board's process is that related to psychological assessment. With last year's retirement of Dr. Dick Burnette, the Board has contracted with Lutheran Counseling Services in Winter Park to oversee the assessment process. In addition to the instruments completed by candidates for ministry, there is now an interpretive interview with a licensed psychologist and a pastoral counselor that is part of the process. We appreciate the patience of those who must travel long distances to Winter Park while we are in the process of identifying two or three other locations around the state to make the process as convenient as possible for everyone.

We are also excited about a new Probationary Mentor Process designed as a support, continuing education, and spiritual growth opportunity for commissioned ministers – those on both the deacon and elder tracks – during their three-year probationary period before applying for full connection status.

In addition to interviewing and making recommendations for candidates seeking various relationships with the Conference, the Board of Ordained Ministry is also responsible for training candidacy mentors and district committees on ministry,

providing structure and leadership for the annual School of Ministry, maintaining contact and visiting students from the Florida Conference who are in seminary, and finding ways to give individuals who may be experiencing a call from God into fulltime Christian service opportunities to explore that call.

I extend my respect and appreciation to the forty-eight members of the Board of Ordained Ministry who take seriously the tasks with which we are charged. And certainly we could not do our work effectively without the extremely competent, detailed, and compassionate support of David Dodge, Executive Director of the Division of Ministry and his Administrative Assistant, Winnie Dean.

I am in my ninth year as a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry, and am grateful to the Annual Conference and to the members of the Board for the privilege of leading this important process in the life of the church at the present time. Please know that your prayers for wisdom and discernment, for God's guidance and direction are always deeply appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Bushong, Chairperson

RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

The Board recommends to the Annual Conference the following newly certified professional:

Stephanie CAMPBELL – Christian Education

RECOMMENDED FOR ELDER IN FULL CONNECTION

Gary Douglas BULLOCK
Age 55; married; Berea College; Asbury; Leesburg District, Candidate for Elder.

Donald Burke CORBIT
Age 51; married; Asbury College; Asbury; Ft. Myers District, Candidate for Elder.

Dwayne J. CRAIG
Age 37; married; Bethune Cookman College; Duke; West Palm Beach District, Candidate for Elder.

Magrey R. DEVEGA
Age 28; married; Eckerd College; United; Tallahassee District; Candidate for Elder.

Victoria Grace GUTHRIE
Age 39; single; Latrobe University; Eastern Mennonite; Leesburg District; Candidate for Elder.

Craig S. HAMMOND
Age 38; married; Houghton College; Asbury; Miami District; Candidate for Elder.

Moses H. JOHNSON, Jr.
Age 34; married; Bethune Cookman College; Gammon; Sarasota District;
Candidate for Elder.

Margaret Baleh KARTWE
Age 44; single; American Baptist College; Gammon, Leesburg District; Candidate
for Elder.

Sara L. MCKINLEY
Age 45; married; University of Bristol; Candler; West Palm Beach District;
Candidate for Elder.

Brett M. OPALINSKI
Age 29; married; Sanford University; Candler; Lakeland District; Candidate for Elder.

Jacques E. PIERRE
Age 36; married; Trinity University; Candler; Lakeland District; Candidate for
Elder.

Jennifer Ruth STILES-WILLIAMS
Age 30; married; Wesleyan Macon; Candler; Jacksonville District; Candidate for Elder.

Carolyn Hall WILLIAMSON
Age 29; married; Converse College; Duke; Orlando District; Candidate for Elder.

Timothy S. WRIGHT
Age 31; married; Florida Southern College; Duke; Melbourne District; Candidate
for Elder.

RECOMMENDED FOR DEACON IN FULL CONNECTION

Lynn BATISTA
Age 42; married; Barry College; Garrett; West Palm Beach District; Candidate for
Deacon.

Juanita BRYANT
Age 32; single; University of North Carolina; Garrett; West Palm Beach District;
Candidate for Deacon.

Gary GRAY
Age 47; married; Stetson; Texas Christian University; St. Petersburg District;
Candidate for Deacon.

Bonnie LATTIMER
Age 58; married; Berry College; Garrett; St. Petersburg District; Candidate for
Deacon.

Barbara POTTER
Age 53; married; Penn State; Garrett; Tallahassee District; Candidate for Deacon.

RECOMMENDED FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Carlo Fernando SEVILLA
Age 46; married; Instituto Biblico;
Garrett; Miami District.; Candidate
for Deacon's Orders.



RECOMMENDED FOR PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP

Lawrence W. ARMBRUST
Age 56; married; Central Bible College;
Nazarene Theological; Sarasota District;
Candidate for Commissioned Minister.



Jon-Marc Edwin BEAVER
age 27; single; Florida State University;
Asbury; Tampa District; Candidate
for Deacon's Orders.



Mark E. BECKER
Age 45; married; US Naval Academy;
Duke; Gainesville District; Candidate
for Commissioned Minister.



Steven David BRUNS
Age 25; married; University of Florida;
Asbury; Melbourne District;
Candidate for Commissioned Minister.



Kevin CALHOUN
Age 39; married; University of Florida;
Candler; Melbourne District; Candidate
for Commissioned Minister.



Jeffrey Scott HENDERSON
Age 36; married; Stetson; Asbury;
Melbourne District; Candidate
for Commissioned Minister.



Harry H. HOLLOWMAN
Age 43; married; Auburn University;
Candler; Ft. Myers District; Candidate
for Commissioned Minister.



Robert E. LAIDLAW
Age 52; married; Western Carolina;
Asbury; Tallahassee District; Candidate
for Commissioned Minister.



Amber W. MASSINGILL
Age 26; married; Furman, Duke;
Gainesville District; Candidate
for Commissioned Minister.



Paul B. MASSINGILL
Age 27; married; University of Texas;
Duke; Gainesville District; Candidate
for Commissioned Minister.



Linda F. TICE
Age 42; single; University of Florida;
Duke; Orlando District; Candidate
for Commissioned Minister.



**RECOMMENDED FOR LOCAL PASTOR
LICENSING**

Deborah Louise ALLEN
Warren W. BENNETT
Debbie HALCOMB
Casey Allen NEELY
William E. PETERSEN
Hettie CAROL ROBERTS
Mark A. WEIGT

Susan Skinner BARON
George BREWER
Tyler P. MONTGOMERY
Deborah Jane NELSON
James A. RIDDLE, IV
James E. WALKER

RECOMMENDED FOR RECOGNITION OF ORDERS

Jacob A. ATUAHENE-NSOWAAH
Age 47; married; University of Ghana; Union; The Methodist Church, Ghana;
Candidate for Elder.

Samuel Lee WRIGHT
Age 48; married; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; American Baptist
Church; Candidate for Elder.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND

The Ministerial Education Fund apportionment supports a fundamental part of the connectional ministry of the United Methodist Church. It enables all local churches throughout the Conference to assist persons who are candidates for ministry. With the contributions made by members of the churches, during 2000, your Board has been able to assist persons up to \$3,000 per year. This help is often crucial for candidates, many of whom give up other careers to enter the ministry. These are the guidelines which the Ministerial Education Fund Committee uses in administering these funds:

1. Ministerial Education Funds (MEF) will be made available to all certified candidates who are attending seminary. Local Pastors in Course of Study schools may receive scholarship assistance from MEF, as can persons attending License to Preach School. MEF funds may also be used to provide scholarship assistance to local pastors and deacons, licensed by the Board of Ordained Ministry, who are enrolled in an ACPE-approved CPE program.
2. MEF student aid money will be made available to certified candidates for Diaconal Ministry who are enrolled full-time in a master's degree program. The same MEF repayment process will be used for diaconal ministers coming to Florida from other conferences as is used for ordained ministers. No MEF grants will be used for professional certification.
3. MEF continuing education grants will be made available to Diaconal ministers to help finance their two annual continuing education units on the same basis as such funds are made available to ordained ministers.
4. Certified candidates for diaconal ministry taking the foundational studies shall be entitled to MEF assistance on the same basis as local pastors attending the course of study.
5. Distribution of MEF receipts is 90% for student aid and 10% for continuing education.

Ministerial Education Fund:	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>
Apportioned to local churches	1,103,879	1,151,683
Received from local churches	906,769	950,650
75% of MEF apportionment monies received are sent on to the General church for		
Seminary students	680,077	712,988
Prior-year apportionment adjustments =	<u>(2,267)</u>	<u>172</u>
Total sent to General Church	677,810	713,160

25% of MEF apportionment monies received are kept in the Florida Conference for student aid and Continuing Education	226,692	237,663
Prior-year apportionment adjustments =	<u>(58)</u>	<u>2,151</u>
Total Florida Conference Funds available	226,634	239,814
For Student aid (90% of retained funds)	203,971	215,833
For Continuing Ed (10% of retained funds)	<u>22,663</u>	<u>23,981</u>
	226,634	239,814
Use of retained funds		
Student Aid		
Amount available from prior years		
Received from other sources (non-apportionment)	111,370	195,454
Current year allocation	97,829	6,159
Disbursed for	203,971	215,833
Available for future use	<u>(217,717)</u>	<u>(200,967)</u>
	195,454	216,479
Continuing Education		
Amount available from prior years	36,070	41,188
Received from other sources (non-apportionment)		
Current year allocation	22,663	23,981
Disbursed for CE	<u>(17,545)</u>	<u>(20,675)</u>
Available for future use	41,188	44,494

CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL REPORT

The Florida Chapter of the Christian Educators Fellowship seeks to support, nurture, and encourage professionals in the area of Christian Education in the Florida Conference and strengthen Christian education in local congregations, districts and our conference. As the second largest chapter in United Methodism with many educators involved only in their local clusters, this chapter has worked to accomplish our purpose in many ways.

Our banquet and meeting at Annual Conference in Lakeland, 2000 was an enjoyable gathering of members and friends joining together for a lunchtime event. The outgoing officers: President, Brinda LeBleu and Vice President of Membership, Bob Hutchinson were recognized. Nancy Ewing of Grace United Methodist Church in Cape Coral was elected President, and Deanna Trice of Christ United Methodist Church in Ft. Lauderdale was elected Vice President of Membership.

Many of the members of CEF were in attendance at the Discipleship Weekend at Leesburg in September 2000. The chapter fall meeting was held on Friday evening. With the large number of persons commuting for just the day on Saturday, it was suggested that next year's meeting be held on Saturday, during the lunch hour.

In October 2000, at least 11 persons from the Florida Chapter attended the National Christian Educators Conference in San Diego, CA. It was a time to renew friendship, build new ones and share successes and failures with others. The conference provided numerous workshops and plenary sessions, an array of worship experiences and a variety of resources for reviewing. Delia Halvorsen continues to serve on the National CEF Board of Directors, and we are proud she is a part of our chapter.

The district clusters and interest clusters have been involved in numerous gatherings for the purpose of support, exchange of ideas, and education.

The officers who led our chapter this past year include: Nancy Ewing – president, Deanna Trice – vice president of membership, Laura Roy – secretary, and Jean Taylor – treasurer, and Carol Sue Hutchinson as the conference staff.

It is our prayer that the Lord will continue to guide our efforts as we seek to provide Christian education opportunities through which persons may come to know and grow in Jesus Christ and the power of His Holy Spirit.

Nancy L. Ewing, President

THE BOARD OF PENSIONS AND HEALTH BENEFITS

Your Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits (CBOPHB) is dedicated to the mission of the Florida Annual Conference to go and make disciples. We feel that one way we assist with this effort is to insure our Preachers and Lay Employees of this Annual Conference that their retirement, health care and incapacity needs are well taken care of. This allows the Preachers and Lay Employees to go about the business of being the church without worry about times of physical need or when they retire. The CBOPHB is composed of twenty-one dedicated members: fourteen lay persons and seven clergy, along with ex-officio persons, consultants and liaisons. CBOPHB members serve not only as members of the Pension Board but also share their gifts on the Health Committee and the Preacher's Relief Board. These members work hard to provide management for substantial amounts of funds and real property. The CBOPHB could not do its work if it weren't for the capable and devoted efforts of David Dodge, Executive Director and Dr. Randy Casey-Rutland, Conference Treasurer. In addition, we appreciate the diligence and dedication of Jenny DiLorenzo and Winnie Dean as a part of our ministry team. We are grateful for

their long hours and wisdom as they assist us in our duties to the Annual Conference.

The following helps us determine the Past Service Rate for those with retirement credits for years prior to 1982:

The Florida Conference Average Compensation (CAC):
2001 -- \$49,976 2002 (projected) -- \$50,997

The Denominational Average Compensation (DAC):
2001 -- \$42,233 2002 (projected) -- \$42,930

The CBOPHB submits four reports for action:

Report I – Past Service Rate

The CBOPHB recommends that the Past Service Rate for 2002 be \$561

The 2002 Rate is equal to 1.1% of the 2002 CAC. This recommended increase is made possible by a recent actuarial analysis by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. The 2001 Past Service Rate was \$550.

Report II – Special Grants

The CBOPHB recommends special grants for Humberto Carrazano, Richard Johnston, William Johnston, Walter McMullen, Deborah Parsons, and Donald Rock.

The CBOPHB recommends continued special grants for former lay employees of the Florida Annual Conference: Janet Hardin, Elizabeth Hogan, Eugene Hogan, Leroy Northup, Clara Spencer, and Mary Winslow. The rate per service year is set according to a formula based on 50% of the Conference Past Service Rate. The rate per service year for former lay employees is projected to be \$280.50 for 2002.

Report III – Apportionment Recommendation for 2002

The CBOPHB recommends the Apportionment for Pension and Health Benefits Programs, amounts that are required to meet the needs of the pension and health benefits programs of the annual conference according to ¶ 1507 of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church – 2000, include the health insurance supplement and the funding for the reduction of retirees health insurance unfunded liability. The health insurance supplement currently is included in the Conference Clergy Support apportionment. The Apportionment for Pension and Health Benefits would be apportioned to the local churches by a formula determined by the Conference Council of Finance and Administration and would include the current policy of prior claim on unpaid amounts by the local church for the following years.

The CBOPHB recommends the following amounts with referral to the Council of Finance and Administration as necessary to fund the Apportionment for the Pension and Health Benefits Programs for 2002:

APPORTIONMENT FOR PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAMS:

Retiree Health Insurance Supplement	\$1,250,000
Ministerial Retiree Benefits Fund (MRBF)	\$ 120,000
Comprehensive Pension Program (CPP)	\$1,200,000
Special Grants	\$ 50,000
Pension Support Fund	\$ <u>25,000</u>
TOTAL	\$2,645,000

Report IV - Housing/Rental Allowance Resolution

Relating to Housing/Rental Allowance for Retired or Incapacitated Minister of the Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church

WHEREAS, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church and functions through Ministers of the Gospel who are duly ordained or licensed; and

WHEREAS, the practice of The United Methodist Church is to provide a parsonage or a housing/rental as part of the gross compensation for each of its active ordained or licensed ministers; and

WHEREAS, pensions paid to retired and incapacitated ordained or licensed ministers of The United Methodist Church are considered as deferred compensation and are paid to said retired and incapacitated ordained or licensed ministers in consideration of previous, active service; and

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized that the Florida Annual Conference is the appropriate organization to designate a housing/rental allowance for retired and incapacitated ordained or licensed ministers who are members of this Florida Annual Conference;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. An amount equal to 100% of the pensions payments received during the year of 2002 be and is hereby designated as a housing/rental allowance for each retired and incapacitated ordained or licensed minister of The United Methodist Church who is or was a member of the Florida Annual Conference at the time of his or her retirement.
2. This housing/rental allowance shall apply to each retired and incapacitated ordained or licensed minister who has been granted the retired relation or placed

on incapacity leave by the Florida Annual Conference and whose name and relationship to the Conference is recorded in the Journal of the Florida Annual Conference and in other appropriate records maintained by the Conference.

3. The pension payment to which this housing/rental allowance applies shall be the pension payment resulting from all service of such retired and incapacitated ordained or licensed minister from all employment by any local church, Annual Conference or institution of The United Methodist Church or of a former denomination that is now a part of The United Methodist Church, or from any other employer who employed the minister to perform services related to the ministry and who elected to make contributions to the pension funds of The United Methodist Church for such retired ministers' pension.

NOTE: On August 20, 1996, President Clinton signed into law the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996. This legislation contained a provision that ensures that pension benefits designated as housing allowance for retired clergy are not subject to self-employment Contributions Act (SECA) tax.

Retired clergy will continue to avoid paying taxes (either income or SECA taxes) on the portion of their pension that is used to provide housing and housing related expenses. The amount excluded cannot exceed the smallest of the following amounts:

- the amount actually spent for housing including, but not limited to: maintenance, utilities, furnishings and taxes;
- the fair rental value of the housing including the fair rental value of furnishings and appurtenances such as a garage, plus the cost of the utilities; or
- the amount of the taxable portion of the pension benefit received from the General Board.

The General Board reports to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) the full amount distributed to a retired clergyperson, even though all or a portion of that amount may be excluded from income. The clergyperson will receive from the General Board a Form 1099-R. This form will reflect the amount of money the clergyperson received from the General Board.

A retired clergyperson who is excluding the eligible portion of the clergy pension from income as housing allowance should attach a copy of the Form 1099-R to the federal tax return and also add an explanatory note. The note should state something similar to the following:

"I received \$x,xxx from the General board as reported on the attached 1099-R. I did not include that amount on Line 16b because it has been excluded under the provisions of IRC Section 107 as a rental allowance exclusion. As a retired United Methodist clergyperson, I am entitled to take this rental allowance exclusion."

The General Board receives many questions from surviving spouses asking about whether or not they are able to use the housing allowance exclusion. The IRS has ruled that the exclusion applies to clergy only. Thus, upon the death of a retired clergyperson and assuming the filing of a joint tax return, the surviving spouse may exclude from pension income any housing costs paid for during the life of the clergyperson. Costs, which were paid for after the death of the clergyperson, may not be excluded from pension income.

If you received a distribution from the General Board and you rolled over that distribution to an individual Retirement Account (IRA) or another 403 (b) annuity, you may not be able to claim the rental allowance exclusion against any of the payments you receive from that IRA or section 403 (b) annuity.

IRS Publication 530 will also be useful to you regarding the housing allowance exclusion. This note was contained in "Pension Notes – January 1999" published by the General Board and is being provided with the understanding that the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and its constituent corporations, their members, officers and employees are not engaged in rendering legal, accounting or professional services. If legal advice or other professional assistance is required, the services of a competent professional advisor should be sought.

Rod McClarnon, Chairperson
Jeanne Davis, Secretary

Board of Pensions
Statement of Financial Position

Assets	As of 12/31/1999	As of 12/31/2000
Conference Endowment Fund	4,534	5,157
Deposit Service Account (DSA)	18,229,042	20,734,520
Past Service Funding Account (PSFA)	17,492,415	18,668,523
Conference Superannuate Endowment Fund	253,546	288,345
<hr/>		
Total invested with GBOPHB	\$ 35,979,537	\$ 39,696,545
Rate Stabilization Fund (at FUMF)	514,813	529,882
Cash on hand	430,011	633,587
<hr/>		
Total Net Assets at close of year	\$ 36,924,361	\$ 40,860,014
 Income		
MRPF/CPP Apportionments received	1,506,013	1,749,532
Defined Benefit Annuity Reserve special distribution (to PSFA)	3,028,958	2,910,234
United Methodist Publishing House	22,773	23,207
Chartered Fund	515	539
Interest Income (in all 4 GBOPHB accounts)	3,637,901	4,676,878
General Superannuate Endowment Fund distributions	31,117	34,526
MPP arrearages income from churches	-	9,705
FUMF earnings (to Rate Stabilization Fund)	28,939	15,069
<hr/>		
Total Income	\$ 8,256,216	\$ 9,419,690
 Expenditures		
BPP Premiums	57,134	57,378
CPP Premiums	914,041	1,036,888
Past Service Funding Account Adjustments (from PSFA)	564,866	225,879
Special Grants	43,624	42,888
Funding years of service rate Changes (from PSFA)	2,505,911	3,620,098
Clergy Health Insurance	33,120	454,000
Pension Support		39,539
Prior years adjustment		7,367
<hr/>		
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,118,696	\$ 5,484,037
Net increase (decrease) in assets	\$ 4,137,520	\$ 3,935,653

JOINT COMMITTEE ON INCAPACITY

The Florida Annual Conference provides incapacity benefits through the Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP). When a participant has been approved for incapacity status and has been certified as incapacitated by the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits - Medical Review Board, the applying participant will begin to receive compensation at the rate of 40% of the Denominational Average Compensation (DAC) on a monthly basis and an additional 10% from the Basic Protection Plan (BPP). The 2001 incapacity rate is \$21,116.50.

For Benefit year 2002 and beyond, the Incapacity Benefit will equal 70% of Plan Compensation capped at 200% of DAC. The minimum Incapacity Benefit will be 40% of DAC. These benefits are also coordinated with Social Security Benefits. As of 2002, BPP is no longer in effect because of the enhancements of the CPP. As the DAC increases the CPP benefit will increase proportionately. In addition, there is a 3% annual increase each July, provided the benefit was in effect by the previous December 31.

The Joint Committee on Incapacity has approved continuing incapacity benefits for the Conference Year 2001-2002 for the following persons: Larry P. Dinning, Frank Edwards, Thomas P. Ettinger, Carol E. Green, Albert Hicks, Don McMillan, Chilton W. McPheeters, S. Dwight McQueen, Jr., Russell Moore, George Spencer, Robert L. Sterner, and Lois Anne Haines Wolfe. The Joint Committee on Incapacity asks the Conference members to keep these persons and their families in your prayers.

Rod McClarnon, Chairperson
Jeanne Davis, Secretary

INSURANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Conference Committee on Insurance makes the following recommendations:

- a. The Florida Conference continues with the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits HealthFlex program for 2002.
- b. The Florida Annual Conference budget for 2002 for retiree medical and life insurance program shall be set at \$1,250,000.00.
- c. Cigna is to continue as our carrier for the Basic Life Insurance Program. Minnesota Mutual is to continue as carrier for the Supplemental Life Insurance Program and will be paid 100% by each participant without Conference funding.
- d. The Florida Conference will continue with the American Dental Plan, the Dental insurance coverage for 2002.
- e. The firm of AON Consulting shall continue to serve as Agent of Record for the Life Insurance Program.

National trend rates for health insurance continue to be in double digits, with under age 65 rates now at about 13% and retiree supplemental insurance rates being at the 15-18% range. Through the careful management of our plan by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, and through conservative decisions by your insurance committee, we have been able to hold our trends below the national average. However, we are now at the point where the continued options we have chosen are beginning to catch up with the national trends. Your insurance committee will continue to work closely with the Conference and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits in attempting to find ways to corral costs while maintaining quality coverage.

At last year's meeting of the Annual Conference we presented a plan to deal with our unfunded liability for retiree health insurance. The Conference affirmed that plan and it is now in place. It included the following items:

- a. Setting up a separate account at the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits that would be funded through earnings from the Deposit Account of the Florida Conference at the General Board. The initial deposit is \$600,000 and that is to be increased by 7.9% each year.
- b. There was to be a new apportionment established called the Ministerial Reserve Benefits Fund and in 2001 that was to be for \$120,000.
- c. Each retiree would be charged \$10 per month for his/her retiree premium. If a spouse was also covered there would be an additional \$10 per month fee.

Each of these elements is in place and will be of significant assistance to funding this liability. However, because of the national trends in health insurance we will have to continue to monitor this issue. A recent valuation completed by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits indicates that the liability continues to grow at an alarming rate. Your Health Insurance Committee and your Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits is working on other actions that will need to be taken to be sure that we keep control of this issue. A set of recommendations will be presented at the 2002 Annual Conference. It is anticipated that this will be an ongoing pattern of constantly readjusting the plan to respond to the changes in the health care industry.

One of the ways in which we can help control the cost of our program and also provide a very beneficial benefit for our participants is in the area of disease management. At the most recent HealthFlex Summit, a meeting of all groups participating in the General Board's health plan, a presentation was given on a possible phase-in program of disease management. It would initially focus on cardiac diseases and diabetes and then move to a second phase of asthma and low back pain. The Summit voted to move ahead on this program and you will be hearing more about it in the future in mailings from the General Board.

Two other areas that the Summit voted to move ahead on are the offering of long-term care and vision care. Both of these will be voluntary programs that will

provide specific benefits in their respective area. More details will become available in the future on these two programs.

Your chairperson and David Dodge, Executive Director of the Division of Ministry, represent the Florida Conference at the semi-annual meetings of the HealthFlex Summit. The next meeting is scheduled for September 6-8, 2001 in Chicago. There are now twenty-four annual conferences and four Boards, agencies and institutions of the church enrolled in HealthFlex. The newest addition to HealthFlex is Florida Southern College. Additional annual conferences and groups are exploring the possibility of joining HealthFlex, which now insures more than 25,000 lives.

Your Insurance Committee is a hard working dedicated group of people who are striving to strike the correct balance between quality and cost. Much appreciation is due to this group of people who give willingly of their time and expertise. Appreciation also needs to be expressed to Dick Klima and Diana Sheran of AON Consulting for the invaluable expertise and advise they bring to the table. And, the day to day management of many of the issues related to our health insurance are ably dealt with by Mrs. Jenny Dilorenzo in the Division of Ministry office.

Respectfully submitted,
T. Glenn Mitchell, Chairperson

PREACHER'S RELIEF BOARD

The Rev. Paul Morris, property manager, and his wife Ann, continue to do an excellent job of ministering to the retired ministers and families from Tallahassee to Miami as well as overseeing the upkeep of the Preacher's Relief Board housing. All the homes are well-kept and in good repair. Substandard homes have been sold and the receipts added to the funding of the Preacher's Relief Board.

The Preacher's Relief Board will host a luncheon for all the retiring pastors and their spouses at this year's Annual Conference. All of the Conference's Retired pastor's and spouses are encouraged to attend.

Following the vision of our former Preacher's Relief Board president, the Rev. Billy Pickett, we are seeking ways and means to assist the clergy of the Florida Annual Conference in planning for their retirement needs earlier in their ministries so that they may more greatly enjoy the "golden years." Toward this end a large share of our time at this year's annual meeting in January was spent on this topic.

There are several "necessitous cases" among the clergy which are treated as highly confidential and are not reported to the Annual Conference.

The Preacher's Relief Board is especially indebted to the Rev. David Dodge, Winnie Dean and Jenny DiLorenzo in the Division of Ministry office for their invaluable aid and assistance throughout the year. The Conference Treasurer, Randy Casey-Rutland, deserves our gratitude in serving as treasurer of the Preacher's Relief Board.

The Rev. Lee Monroe FerDon, O.S.L. , President

COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

I am honored to serve as the new chairperson for the Commission On Equitable Compensation. The commission's goal is to help churches understand that Equitable Compensation funds are short term grants. These grants are designed to help churches continue in full time ministry as they revision their future, thus helping them to return to a self supporting status. It is our prayer as a committee, that we can be both a facilitator and an encourager in the ministry of churches in need of short term financial assistance.

The recommendations for the following year are as follows:

Guidelines

Equitable Compensation funds will be granted in accordance with the following guidelines. Only the Equitable Compensation Commission at the request of a District Superintendent may grant exceptions.

1. Who is qualified to receive minimum salary funds?
 - All full-time pastors who are not excluded in Section 2.
 - Student Pastors - maximum allowable \$3,700 from Equitable Compensation Funds with total salary not to exceed \$8,000.
 - Ministers serving those pastoral assignments of more than 125 members with an average attendance of 55 at the principle worship time. If the membership and attendance figures remain the same over a three year period, consideration will be given to the church becoming part of a circuit or part-time. The exceptions are student appointments and new church situations in the first three years of organization.

2. Who are not eligible for minimum salary support?
 - All pastors who are retired.
 - Part-time pastors are not eligible for minimum salary support except in those cases where ministry within the discretion of the District Superintendent and Cabinet warrant special support. The amount of support available will not exceed 50% of the amount available on a full-time basis.
 - Ministers on Leave of Absence.

- Associate Pastors.
 - Any ordained conference member not under pastoral appointment.
 - Those who are appointed from other Annual Conferences under Disciplinary appointment of 337.1 and 337.2.
3. To become a claimant a minister must live in the bounds of his/her parish and give full-time service to that charge. Studies pursued in an approved college or university are considered part of the work of the ministry if approved by the District Superintendent.
 4. Applications for Equitable Compensation funds are submitted twice a year and must be received by the Conference office on or before December 1 and May 1. The December 1 application requires the signature of the Chairperson of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, a Vision and Mission statement, a Treasure report for the current year to date status, request for funds by the Charge Conference and the signature of the District Superintendent. The May 1 application may be completed by the District Superintendent and submitted to the Conference office.
 5. Before a church is granted salary support, the church must conduct, or agree to conduct, a Stewardship Commitment plan.
 6. The maximum allowable for any one minister is \$5,000 per year from Minimum Salary Support funds.
 7. Assistance may not be received from both Missional Situation Funds and New Church Development Funds. Assistance may not be received from both Minimum Salary Support Funds and New Church Development Funds.
 8. Churches whose salary support is at or near minimum may apply for assistance with utilities, health insurance, or moving expenses, or from the Haitian Hispanic Ministers Fund.
 9. Churches/missions must submit a plan for ministry when making an initial application for equitable compensation funds. This plan must demonstrate the need for assistance and the manner in which the church/mission will be working to eliminate that need in a timely way.
 10. Churches/missions may receive the requested assistance for up to five years. In year six (6) the request will be reduced by 25%; in year seven (7) by 50%; in year eight (8) 75%. There will be no assistance granted after the eighth year.

Minimum Salary Recommendations

The Commission has reviewed the cost of living index and suggests the following minimum salary levels including travel.

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Full Connection with M. Div. or Equiv.	\$28,525	\$29,500
Probationary Members with M. Div.	\$28,025	\$29,000
Full Connection without M. Div. or Equiv.	\$27,525	\$28,500
Local Pastor with M. Div.		\$28,500
Associate Members	\$27,025	\$28,000
FT Local Pastor with two or more years of COS	\$26,740	\$27,800
FT Local Pastor with less than two years of COS	\$26,465	\$27,300

Other Equitable Compensation Funds

Longevity Merit Increase:

A minister who has served ably four years or more in full-time service, two of which have been in the Florida Conference, may receive an additional merit supplement to insure that the present salary is \$500 above the minimum salary level. A minister who has served ably eight years or more in full-time service, four of which have been in the Florida Conference, may receive an additional merit supplement to insure that the present salary is \$1,000 above the minimum salary base. Each minister must notify the District Superintendent who will make application to the Commission on Equitable Compensation.

Missional Situations:

Missional situations are those missions or organized churches in areas which demand an effective ministry but are not financially capable of providing such ministries without Conference assistance. There will be an annual review by the District Superintendent, the district Work Area on Missions representative and/or the District Comm. on Missions to determine if each Missional situation in the district meets the guidelines. The Associate Council Director with responsibility for missions will consult with the District Superintendents concerning each Missional situation, and will share this information with the Work Area on Missions. Upon recommendation of the Conference Work Area on Missions, the Equitable Compensation Commission will provide amounts up to \$2,000 for support. Upon recommendation of the Conference Work Area on Missions an additional \$2,000 may be granted in exceptional circumstances. Request for salary support from Equitable Compensation Commission for Missional situations shall be made by Dec. 1 and May 1 and shall accompany the Equitable Compensation Request form.

Utilities, Health Insurance, Moving Expenses:

The Equitable Compensation Commission recommends that each local church pay the Pastor's utilities and the group hospitalization premium. In hardship situations pastors may apply through their District Superintendent to the Equitable Compensation Commission for utilities and for health insurance payments not covered by the local church. The Equitable Compensation Commission will pay only 60% of the base Health Insurance plan. In areas where HMO's are available, they shall be considered the base plan.

The Equitable Compensation Commission joins with the Cabinet in recommending that each receiving church pay actual moving expenses within the bounds of the Florida Conference. Pastors at minimum salary level may apply through their District Superintendent to the Equitable Compensation Commission for funds not to exceed \$400 or 75% of the total cost if not paid by the local church.

Ethnic Parsonage Fund:

This fund is intended for the purchase and upgrading of ethnic parsonages and not for rental property or pastors living in their own homes. Application can be made through the District Superintendent for grants not exceeding \$3,600 for full time minister or \$1,800 for part-time minister.

Haitian-Hispanic Ministries Fund:

This fund, budgeted by the Conference Work Area on Missions and administered by the Commission on Equitable Compensation, provided a maximum supplement of \$2,000 for Haitian and Hispanic pastors that meet the other Equitable Compensation guidelines. As of 1993, a Haitian or Hispanic congregation that has already received a supplement for six years or more may be eligible to receive additional funds for a maximum of one more year at 100%, a second year at 75%, a third year at 50%, and a fourth year at 25%. A Haitian or Hispanic congregation that has already received a supplement for five years or less, may be eligible to receive additional funds for a maximum of five more years at 100%, an additional year at 75%, an additional year at 50%, and an additional year at 25%.

2002 Budget Request

The Council on Finance and Administration is requested to appropriate \$451,000 for the Equitable Compensation Commission for the fiscal year 2002. The Conference Treasurer shall remit funds to the District Superintendents for the distributions to the pastors as certified by the Executive Director of the Equitable Compensation Commission.

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Equitable Salaries	\$100,000	\$125,000
Longevity	\$ 12,000	\$ 15,000
Missional	\$ 75,000	\$ 76,000
Haitian/Hispanic	\$ 26,000	\$ 26,000
Church Redevelopment	\$ 75,000	\$ -0-
Pensions	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000
Utilities and Moving	\$ 17,000	\$ 20,000
Health Insurance	\$ 57,000	\$100,000
Ethnic Parsonages	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Workers Compensation	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Administration	<u>\$ 1,500</u>	<u>\$ 1,500</u>
Grand Total	\$451,000	\$451,000

David K. Rawls, Chairperson
David A. Dodge, Executive Director

BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY

CONFERENCE LAY LEADER REPORT

At last year's Annual Conference I was honored by your selection as your Conference Lay Leader. Since then I have worked to complete my training and orientation for this office and have done my best to faithfully represent the laity whenever I have been called to serve. In so doing, I have been privileged to meet many of the wonderful people in our Conference and to see the positive work of Lay Ministry in all areas of the church.

As your Conference Lay Leader, I chair our Conference Board of Lay Ministry which is comprised of its officers, the Presidents of the United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women, the Directors of Lay Speaking and Lay Renewal, Representatives of our Conference Ministry Teams in each age group, along with our 14 District Lay Leaders and several ex-officio members, including the Bishop, his Cabinet Liaison and the Conference Council Director. Our immediate past Conference Lay Leader, Mary Alice Massey, also continues to be a member of the Board which has representatives from virtually every area and section of our Conference.

All of us mourn the loss of Bishop Cornelius L. Henderson who provided our Conference with dynamic leadership, however, the work and ministry of the Conference have continued under the able direction of Interim Bishop James Lloyd Knox, who arranged for a short, one day retreat in early March with our entire Board, the Bishop and his cabinet. Now we look forward to the arrival in early April of our new Bishop, Reverend Timothy Whitaker and his wife, and to our next Annual Conference. In the meantime, the strong and effective work of our individual Lay Ministries has continued.

Our Conference is fortunate to have such a strong support ministry as United Methodist Men under the leadership of its President, John Dowell. They are a showcase that shines throughout the men's ministry of our denomination. This past year, almost 4,000 men and women came our Leesburg Life Enrichment Center for either a couple's retreat in the Spring or for a number of men's retreats in the Fall. These retreats were a life-changing experience for many who attended.

In addition, the UMM will continue to join colleagues from two adjacent conferences to sponsor the Annual Bishop's Invitational for Christ held in Tallahassee each Summer. Further, the UMM held its first ever All Singles Retreat last October. This special event was open to all single men and women of all ages. It will be repeated again this Fall as an addition to the many other programs provided by the UMM.

The United Methodist Women have long been a major force in the life of our church. Under the leadership of President Annie Wood and ministry through on-going training events, retreats, and the Annual Women's Conference have continued and have never been more vital to the work of the church.

Our Lay Speaking Ministries (LSM) and its outstanding Director, Glenna Kyker Brayton, continue to lead at the national level, serving as a model for many Conferences and Districts. Its Summer training event has continued to double in size ever since the first in 1997. Also, our Conference Committee on LSM has translated its basic course into Creole, Korean and Vietnamese. A Spanish addition, translated by Alabama/West Florida volunteers, was a by-product of activity in our Conference. In March LSM completed Phase II of a leadership development program, hosting a multi-lingual, multi-cultural event for 50, including Florida's District Directors and many from across the southeast jurisdiction. Future missions will include carrying this leadership program out to other countries (i.e., Korea, Haiti, Cuba Dominican Republic, and Vietnam). Contact your District Director of Lay Speaking Ministries if you are interest in becoming a part of this exciting ministry.

One of the most fulfilling ministries in our Conference is that of Lay Renewal. Its new Director, Wayne Storey, has provided able and effective leadership for this work which provided Lay Ministry programs at 15 different United Methodist Churches across our Conference this year.

Our Conference ministries in education continue to be provided by two excellent United Methodist Colleges in our Conference - Florida Southern College and Bethune-Cookman College, many of whose graduates are actively involved in the life, work and ministry of our church. As your Lay Leader, I have been privileged to serve on the Board's of both Colleges and have been impressed by their commitment to provide their students with an outstanding faith-based undergraduate education.

As your Lay Leader, I have enjoyed the opportunity to participate in the ministry of our southeastern jurisdictional Lay Leaders which sponsors an outstanding laity Conference held each July at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. In addition, I serve as a member of the National Association of Conference Lay Leaders which provides occasional opportunities for Conference Lay Leaders across our denomination to share ideas, information and encouragement in the work of our church.

I deeply appreciate all of you, both lay and clergy, who have continued to support me with your prayers and encouragement and all of the former Conference Lay Leaders who have provided me with their advice and support at all times. I especially appreciate Reverend Walter Edwards, our Cabinet liaison, and Reverend Keith Ewing, the Bishop's Administrative Assistant, Mr. Bill Walker, Conference Council Director and our Conference Administrative Assistant, Barbara Holden, who provides our Boards with staff support in addition to her many other duties.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Conference Lay Leader. I will continue to work hard in the service of our church and to meet our many high expectations.

Terrell Sessums, Conference Lay Leader

UNITED METHODIST MEN

Partners in Ministry is a call to all in the United Methodist Church. Its call is inclusive and it includes laity and clergy alike putting their collective shoulders to the task before us – doing God's will. This is a call the U.M.M. really accepts in a partnership environment with our Lord Jesus Christ and through the leading of the Holy Spirit. We stand ready, willing to do our part.

Our job is to labor, to pray, to worship, to witness and to serve people everywhere. Our relationship as men of the church is to be a blend of Divine Inspiration and human perspiration. As we partner together things begin to happen as our labors become fruitful. Men and women from across the Conference come to our retreats at Leesburg to walk with Jesus. Some 900 kneeled at the altar during our retreats to dedicate their lives to Christ and make Him Lord of their lives.

United Methodist Men pray. Throughout our Retreats men are praying. In worship, around the cross on campus, under the trees of the beautiful and tranquil grounds, in their rooms, men are lifting their hearts up to God in prayer.

We worship – oh, do we worship - nine times during the life of each of our retreats we come together to praise God by music and the spoken word.

When the retreat is over, we often wish we could just stay there and continue experiencing these special times. But reality sets in. We must leave – leave to share what we had – to witness the Leesburg experience – to share Jesus. I pray we as U.M.M. will do even better in the future witnessing what happened to us during these weekends.

Then the call takes us to serve others. With our hearts filled with the Holy Spirit helping others is natural. Men by their nature will do service. Whether around the church, at a soup kitchen, helping the less fortunate with work on their homes, on and on – Christian men will be there in service. It is truly amazing to see how God uses the U.M.M. to touch lives of other men.

In June the Alabama-West Florida, South Georgia and Florida conferences came together for the second Bishops Invitational for Christ's Men. It was a great day in Tallahassee as men sang, prayed and worshipped together. Our late Bishop Henderson was the keynote speaker and he blessed us with his powerful preaching. In August 2002 we'll do it again. Only the name is going to be changed to "Men's Rally for Christ."

Last October the first ever Florida Conference Singles Retreat took place at Leesburg. This group was fired up for Jesus and we will have our second one October 26, 27 and 28 this year. This retreat is open to all singles – men and women of all ages.

The John Wesley Fellow Award, the highest award given by the General Commission of the United Methodist Men, was awarded to our past Conference President, Mr. Russ Tabbert. The award is bestowed upon a person who has given exemplary service to the Church. Certainly this describes Russ Tabbert.

Again the budget for our Missions, Ministries, and Scholarships was achieved this year. Over \$55,000 were donated at the U.M.M. retreats this past year. These monies went for seminary student scholarships, the Jim Russo Prison Ministry, our Children's Home, Lay Renewal Program, Foundation for Evangelism, the Scouting Program and several well-deserving mission projects.

In closing I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the Conference Committee for allowing me to serve this outstanding ministry called the U.M.M. It is truly one of the premier and humbling experiences of my life. God is Good.

John Dowell, Conference President, UMM

FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN "Why Mission?"

"Why Mission?" Being a mission organization for over one hundred thirty years is a humble, exciting, and enriching feeling of gratitude to the many members that have shown their love for Christ in the caring of those less fortunate, marginal people through out the world. God's love is mighty and powerful in touching lives as the women continue this gift of their service in ministry to women, youth and children.

During the Annual Conference 2000 the Conference Executive Committee was privileged to present to Dr. Oswald P. Bronson for the 25 years he has been associated with Bethune-Cookman College, a Special Mission Recognition. We salute Bethune-Cookman as they continue in that spirit of Mary McCleod Bethune and the work to provide a religious experience with higher education.

The Conference elected officers attended the South Atlantic Regional School of Christian Mission, in June, at the Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center at Blackstone, Virginia. Thirteen officers were in attendance. Each officer attended classes on one of the three Mission Studies for the year. Officer training/updates of information pertaining to the work of United Methodist Women was included in the curriculum. Study Group Leaders for our Conference School also attended and was certified to teach in School of Christian Mission.

In July, the United Methodist Women held the Florida Conference School of Christian Mission at Florida Southern College. We are grateful to Florida Southern College and their employees who year after year provide services to enable United Methodist Women to experience the hospitality and availability of one of our United Methodist Institutions. Over 650 women, men, youth and children from around the Florida conference, attended. The theme "Sowing Seeds of Bounty" included the following studies:

Paul's Letters to the Corinthians
God's People in an Urban Culture
Children of Africa

Study group leaders from around the country including Bishop Bob Fannin led these studies. We are fortunate to have several Study Group Leaders from our Florida area including those in diverse languages that are indicative to our conference. The emphasis of the School of Christian Mission for members of United Methodist Women is two-fold:

1. The global mission of the Church and the responsibility of Christians within it.
2. The training for leadership and membership and for the promotion and interpretation of the PURPOSE and total program of United Methodist Women.

These are implemented through an integrated program of mission education, spiritual renewal, Christian social action and program planning. In addition the school includes worship, a learning center, focus groups, leadership training, membership promotion, and a learning experience of the United Methodist Mission program worldwide. We were privileged to have Jan Winfield, Executive Secretary for Leadership Education, Women's Division, The General Board of Global Ministries to lead the Conference and District Mission Teams in additional leadership education.

The School of Christian Mission is planned to enable ALL United Methodist to be more informed about the mission areas of the Church. Classes are available for laity and clergy adults, youth, and children. Scholarships are provided for newly ordained Pastors for one of their first two years serving as Pastor of a Local Church. Continuing Education Units are available for those Pastors attending the School of Christian Mission. Childcare is available for preschool children. Classes are available at the weekend event in English, Spanish, Haitian, and Korean languages.

During the School of Christian Mission a Ruby Special Mission Recognition was presented to the newly elected President, Southeastern Jurisdiction CORE Planning Group, 2000-2004, Betty Sue Mason of the Tampa District.

The 2001 School of Christian Mission will be held at Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, July 23-26 and weekend event July 26-29. The studies for 2001 will be,

Spiritual: Courageous Women in the Bible,
Geographic: Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos: Lands and People
General Issue: Global Health Care and Christian Response-ability.

The annual Spiritual Enrichment Retreat was held in September at the Holiday Inn, Daytona Beach Shores with the Rev. Barbara Ibarra as retreat leader. "Sands of Time" was the theme for the weekend. A time of "Tides Washing the Soul" as we Remembered our Baptism, opened the first session with a spiritual remembering of the beginning of our Christian walk. Additional sessions included The Vastness of God's Mercy, Shall We Gather, and Fresh Breezes from God. Although a hurricane was moving through the Florida area, a beautiful, blessed renewal of our faith was experienced by all in attendance.

A special "Writing Workshop" was held in the fall for the Korean-American Women and we were pleased that Eun Mi Cho, Korean Coordinator was in attendance for this unique training event.

The Twenty-seventh Conference Annual Meeting of the Florida Conference United Methodist Women was held November 11 at Branscomb Auditorium, Florida Southern College. Nearly 650 women were in attendance to celebrate "Why Mission." A time of praise and singing was lead by "Celebration" a praise band from the Indian River City United Methodist Church, Titusville. We were pleased to have Bishop J. Lloyd Knox introduce Ms. Marion Derby, a retired missionary. Other missionaries (active and retired) were presented with a Gift in Mission card for their service to the United Methodist Church.

Bible reflections were presented by Helen Sweatt, Mission Coordinator, Membership Nurture and Outreach and followed by a Celebration of Holy Communion. The Rev. Kathleen Phillipsborn of the Tampa District was the Celebrant.

Ms. Cheryl Trent, Assistant General Secretary, Section of Membership & Organizational Development, Women's Division, the General Board of Global Ministries was the keynote speaker for the day. Ms. Trent's message was two-fold, "What is Mission" and "Why Mission". Jesus message, "I have come that they might have life abundantly". Our goal of mission to women, children and youth does matter.

The Pledge to Mission for 2001 in the amount of \$745,000 was approved along with the proposed Budget for 2001 in the amount of \$1,023,550.

Officers elected were Lois Fritch, Chairperson, Committee on Nomination, 2001-2002, Clara Sivert, and Melvena Nagbe, Members, Committee on Nominations, Class of 2004.

Roberta Lau, out-going Member of the Southeastern Jurisdiction CORE Planning Group was presented with a Diamond Special Mission Recognition. Other outgoing officers presented with Special Mission Recognition were Debbie Grey, Chairperson, Committee on Nominations and Gladys Barcelo, Member of the Committee on Nominations.

A National Gathering of Teen, College/University Women was held in St. Charles, IL December 28-31. The Theme of the Event "Young Woman, Rise Up!" with the scriptural basis Mark 5:22-24, 38-43. The purpose of this one-time National Gathering of Teens and College/University Women in United Methodist Women was to generate and sustain support, interest, and momentum for the emerging programs with Teens and College/University women in the organization of United Methodist Women. This purpose was to be accomplished through:

- Dynamic and Creative Worship

- Bible Study and Spiritual Growth

- Opportunities to explore....

 - Social Justice Issues, Advocacy, and Action

 - Issues Facing Teens and College/University Women

 - Mission Education, Involvement, and Action

 - Exciting Fellowship and Supportive Community

 - Leadership Development for Teens, College/University Women and

 - Adult Sponsors

 - Resources for Continued Exploration, Participation, and Growth.

Through the organization of United Methodist Women, God is calling teens and college/university women to rise up and claim their rightful place alongside their older sisters in the organization. Each young woman must personally respond to this call and challenge herself to grow in the Christian faith, broaden her understanding of the history and traditions of the organization, commit herself to the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women, and pledge to continue the legacy of women organized for mission in the 21st Century.

Of the 800 participants we were pleased to have 3 Teens, 4 College/University Women, 3 Chaperones, 2 Planning Committee members and 2 Workshop Leaders in attendance. As a result of this incredible experience the Florida Conference is sponsoring a similar event for Teen, College/University and young women (up to 25 years) to be held December 28-29, 2001 at the United Methodist Life Enrichment Center in Leesburg. We encourage ALL local units to sponsor sending several Teens, College/University and young women to participate in this event, "Young Woman, Rise Up." Chaperones will be required for those under 18 years of age.

We are indeed grateful and give praise and thanksgiving for the many United Methodist Women in the Florida Conference that through their;

- Prayers, by experience growth and renewal in their relationship of God

- Time, to respond to human need through study, action and reflection

- Gifts, to share in the global ministries of the church.

The United Methodist Women of the Florida Conference sent gifts of \$821,596.31 to the Board of Global Ministries for the mission of the Church. In addition many thousands of dollars were given to local and community mission. "Praise be to God" for the women who respond to the call of the mission of the Church.

The Southeastern Jurisdiction held a President's Consultation in January at the Scarritt Bennett Center in Nashville. I was privileged to attend along with the other Conference Presidents of the Jurisdiction and the CORE Planning Group as we explored the emphasis for the next quadrennium which will be the Visitation, Mission Today programs and the Membership Campaign.

In February the Conference Committee on Nominations offered the Annual Training for all District Members of Committee on Nominations. The training included the Constitution and Bylaws, and seeking biographical information of perspective members to hold office in the organization. This is an ongoing effort to provide a file for seeking leadership through the years

The training consists of:

1. Gaining an understanding of the program and organizational form of the units and the responsibility of each office;
2. Work throughout the year to discover new leadership and recruit women for leadership roles in the Conference and District organization;
3. Ensure that the elected leaders and members of the Committee on Nominations reflect the diversity of and are representative of the membership with the organization;
4. Secure leaders for subgroups as requested by the Executive Committee;
5. Make nominations to fill vacancies that occur during the year.

It has been my privilege to serve as the Conference President this last four years. It has been rewarding and challenging but I have been encouraged by the members of the Florida Conference with their dedication to respond to "Why Mission" in the organization of United Methodist Women. The dedication of each woman is a response to God's call to "go and make disciples of Jesus Christ" as they focus on the ministry to women, children and youth. We must continue to minister to the needs of love and justice to all persons. We have a heritage of over 130 years and must insure that heritage by bringing the younger generations into the mission field. Telling the stories of your involvement and the necessary work in mission through the years can do this. You are faithful volunteers in the service of our Lord and Savior. May you continue to be blessed in all your Christian endeavors.

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28: 18-20.

Anna J. Woods, President

A MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

As a Member of United Methodist Women, I affirm and support the PURPOSE:

- The organized unit of UNITED METHODIST WOMEN shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

I assume a part in the support of UNITED METHODIST WOMEN's work in the local unit, in the community, across the nation, and around the world. I pledge:

- My prayers, that I may experience growth and renewal in my relationship to God and to my sisters and brothers;
- My time, that I may respond to human need through study, action and reflection;
- My financial gifts, that I may share in the global ministries of the church through UNITED METHODIST WOMEN.

I aspire to educate myself about the mission work of UNITED METHODIST WOMEN:

- Subscribe to and read Response magazine
- Participate in annual mission studies
- Attend schools of Christian mission
- Participate in the Reading Program
- Attend unit, district and conference events
- Participate in program and training activities

I aim to engage in critical analysis and active listening, being open to differing views and perception.

LAY RENEWAL

The Florida conference is one of the few conferences that has its own director of lay renewal. This allows us to receive request and assign lay witness missions right here in Florida.

Please stop by the lay renewal & lay witness table to learn more about lay witness missions: a lay witness team under the leadership of a sr. coordinator comes to your church at the invitation of the pastor and board, stay in your homes and present the lay witness program. A lay witness is an entire weekend event = a happening for the local church including programs for children-youth and adults. There are renewal & growth opportunities in general session-small groups – coffees and luncheon meetings.

The foundation of a lay witness mission is the personal testimony of team members. One may argue the bible, one may argue the theology, but one has a difficult time arguing the personal testimony of another individual. We share what Jesus is doing in our lives. (the mountain top & valley times) not what he should do in yours. We are not preachers but witnesses.

Stop by the table and pick and meet our director, Wayne Storey. We are the table with the sign "a changed heart" next to the Lay Speakers table.

When I think of a lay witness mission, I think of a young man from Sarasota that arose from the altar and went to the nursery to pick up his wife. She took one look at him and she asked, what in the world happened to you? He said, I will tell you when we get home- as it turned out, he had found the peace that comes when one receives forgiveness and when one releases the bitterness and hatred he had carried for years.

The lay witness mission is the best-kept secret in the Florida conference and bishop we need your support to help spread the word about the lay witness program.

Rodney Akers, Sr. Coordinator for Wayne Storey, director

**FLORIDA CONFERENCE LAY SPEAKING MINISTRIES [LSM]
Report to Annual Conference, May 30, 2001**

Bishop Whitaker, members of the cabinet, and brothers and sisters in Christ, I report on behalf of the Lay Speakers of this conference.

Each District has –or will have – a working committee on LSM. Would all district directors please stand and be recognized? Thank you.

Administered through the office of the Conference Council Director with grants from the General Board of Discipleship [Divisions of Ethnic Local Church Concerns and Discipleship Resources], LSM sponsored translations of *The Basic Course in LSM*. Using the translations as core material, Hispanics, Koreans, Haitians, and Anglos participated in a multilingual pilot project for leadership development that can impact the entire United Methodist Church.

The cadre of bilingual Lay Speakers returned to their districts, cluster, and local churches to lead a servant leadership course in the languages of the people, which include Creole, Spanish, and Korean. The Vietnamese course will be available soon.

Originally conceived as a way "to empower...laity to engage in more effective evangelistic ministry as contemplated by the last three General Conferences" [original grant, 1999], the project quickly grew to include the entire United Methodist connection, i.e., far beyond the Florida Conference to other nations. Even though the

LSM is a viable program for equipping laity for witness and mission as suggested in the national plan for Hispanic ministries, few members of ethnic congregations attend the district and conference training events. Reasons cited are limited English proficiency, finances, transportation, and time away from families. The conference committee on LSM proposed to do as Wesley commanded: Take the ministry to the people.

It was apparent that if the basic LSM course were taught in their first languages, fervent evangelists and servant leaders not fluent in English will be better equipped to share the gospel, strengthening laity in ethnic local churches for witness and mission. They will also gain a fresh sense of the value of the denominational connection, which is new to many. [Wesleyan theology appeals to those raised in other denominations with a less loving and less forgiving definition of grace.]

We encourage you to get a copy of *El Interprete* next September to see representatives of the multilingual team on the cover.

Enthusiasm for the project is growing. District-wide events have been scheduled or are planned for Orlando, Tampa, Melbourne, and Miami to meet spiritual leadership needs of the community – unchurched and non-United Methodists as well as UM's.

A summary of findings and recommendations for more programs such as this will be published soon through the General Board of Discipleship.

Assisting with the multilingual training were Pat and Barrie Rommes of Alabama/West Florida Conference who developed a supplemental packet for course leaders. The Spanish edition was commissioned by the A/WF director of Hispanic Ministries conference after attending the first Spanish language class in Florida. That edition is now available through Discipleship Resources. The Creole edition [in press] was translated by the Rev. Jacques Pierre, Lakeland. The Korean translation team [in press] was led by Joseph Ha, WPB. Rev. Sabrina Tu, St. Petersburg, is leading the Vietnamese team.

The vision is strong; the need is great. LS's continue to prepare to lead, care, and communicate.

We invite you to visit our table and the prayer garden, both sponsored by the LSM.

Respectfully submitted by Glenna Kyker Brayton, PhD
Conference Director of Lay Speaking Ministries, Florida Annual Conference.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE AGENCIES, BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The 2001 Annual Conference Event promises to be a time of excitement for the Florida Annual Conference. We welcome as the presiding Bishop of the Florida Area, Bishop Timothy W. Whitaker. We anticipate his leadership among us cast in the style of a pastoral theologian. The Florida conference extends a warm welcome to Mrs. Melba J. Whitaker as she shares in life of the Florida conference with her husband. The conference looks forward to many years of ministry with the Whitakers.

We are pleased to have as our conference preacher, Bishop James R. King, Jr., of the Louisville Area. Bishop King presides over the Kentucky and Red Bird Conference. He will preach on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

Wednesday evening of conference highlights The Bishop's Initiative, Hope for the Children of Africa. At this service the Annual Conference offering will be received. This offering is dedicated to the construction of the Bishop Cornelius and Mrs. Dorothye Henderson School in Mozambique. Mrs. Henderson will be with us in this service as we celebrate the ministry of Bishop Cornelius L. Henderson among us.

Thursday evening will be the heartening service of Ordination as we rejoice with those women and men who have responded to God's call upon their lives.

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings, we will begin with worship led by persons from our conference. We welcome the leadership of the Reverend Clarke Campbell-Evans, the Reverend Candace Lewis and Mr. Joseph Ha.

The 2000 Annual Conference recommended that the 2002 conference session be held at Bethune-Cookman College. Unfortunately, the college facilities will not be ready to host this session until the year 2003. Therefore, your program committee makes the following recommendations:

- 1) Annual Conference 2002 be held in Lakeland, Florida, and
- 2) Annual Conference 2003 be held in Daytona Beach, Florida, at Bethune-Cookman College.

The 2000 Annual Conference asked the committee to investigate holding sessions at various locations in the state. A task force is in the process of compiling data that will enable a comprehensive report to the 2002 session. In addition, the committee has formed a task force to study the feasibility of holding sessions at Florida Southern College in an effort to reduce the cost of Annual Conference sessions.

Finally, we welcome the Reverend Thomas L. Shafer as the Annual Conference coordinator who puts together all the physical arrangements for conference. This is his first year to serve in this capacity. Our appreciation is expressed to him for his many hours of labor on our behalf.

Respectfully submitted,
E. Keith Ewing, Chair, Annual Conference Program Committee

ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROCEDURES AND AGENDA REPORT

The following is recommended for approval:

1. The authority for procedure of the 2001 Florida Annual Conference is the following: (a) the 2000 Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church; (b) the Standing Rules of the Florida Annual Conference, 2000 Journal; and (c) Robert's Rules of Order.
2. An "Order of the Day" is adopted for those times when specific persons are available for presentation to the Annual Conference.
3. The printed program found in the 2001 Florida Annual Conference Welcome Packet is recommended to be the agenda for the 2001 Annual Conference. Any member of the Annual Conference who wishes to be recognized shall stand at his/her place and wave the brightly colored card found in the Welcome Packet. When the Bishop recognizes that person, he/she goes to the designated numbered microphone and addresses the conference. The person must state his/her name, clergy or lay, and the name of the local church, district or conference organization he/she represents.
4. A written report may be found in the Welcome Packet for those groups who require no conference action.
5. A consent calendar may be found in the Welcome Packet for all reports requiring vote of the conference but no verbal report to the conference unless the conference requests particular items be removed from the consent calendar.

E. Keith Ewing, Agenda Chairperson

COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

The Commission on Archives and History looks eagerly to the future and the construction of the Florida United Methodist Heritage Center. Fund raising continues, and we are optimistic that groundbreaking can take place in the near future. We look forward to the day when we will be able to house our archives collection in a suitable environment.

The Archives received thirty gifts during 2000, including the communion field kit that belonged to Dr. Paul Hortin, two collections of church commemorative plates, records of the Preachers Relief Board 1885-1918, several additions to the postcard collection, and ten local church histories.

In the past year the Archives has answered approximately one hundred requests for information from churches and individuals.

Members of the commission continue to be available to local churches and to districts for workshops for local church historians. "Memory and Ministry: Caring For Your Church's Heritage," video produced by the General Commission on Archives and History, is available for local churches and other organizations interested in managing and preserving their records.

The Commission was represented at the annual meetings of the SEJ Historical Society, the SEJ Commission on Archives and History, the Historical Society of the United Methodist Church, and the General Commission on Archives and History.

Nell Thrift, archivist, was elected president of the SEJ Historical Society and was also elected to the SEJ and General Commissions on Archives and History.

The Florida Conference Historical Society held its tenth annual banquet during the 2000 Annual Conference. Elizabeth Howell, former missionary to Japan, presented a program on her experiences there. Everyone interested in the heritage of Florida Methodism is encouraged to become a member of the society.

At the 2001 session of the Annual Conference special seventieth-anniversary recognition will be accorded Franklin Carwithen and A. Dale Hagler, who were ordained in 1931.

Members of the conference who are celebrating the twenty-fifth and fiftieth anniversaries of their ordinations will also be recognized:

Ordained in 1951

Robert E. Brown
R. Charles Boggs, Jr.
Billy D. Case
Ezra Everett

DeWitt T. Farabee, Jr.
Hubert E. Floyd
Dan M. Gill
David C. Groves

W. Paul Lanier
Morrell S. Robinson
S. Harry Russell

Ordained in 1976

John M Bartha
Stan Beatty
Elwyn R. Burke
Frederick C. Bonsteel
Gordon L. Bowman
James M. Brazzell
Anne L. Burkholder
Thomas C. Ettinger

Marsha Wiggins
Frame
David M. Gill
Michael C. Loomis
George P. Lutz
S. Dwight McQueen, Jr.
Bruce A. Mitchell
Gary E. Myers
Michael C. Oliver

Cheryl R. Pingel
John R. Powers
John C. Sanders
Gary A. Spencer
Randy J. Strickland
James F. Tynan, Sr.
Bruce G. Williams
Eric M. Young

Twenty-four anniversary churches will be recognized:

150 years (1851)	Salem, Havana
125 years (1926)	First, Reddick; Pleasant Plain, Gainesville
100 years (1901)	Murray Hill, Jacksonville
75 years (1926)	Albright, St. Petersburg; Asbury, Orange Park; Bowden, Jacksonville; Concord Park, Orlando; First, Coral Gables; Flagler Beach; Garden City, Jacksonville; Good Shepherd, Lakeland; Grace, Tampa; Kirkman Road, Orlando; St. Andrew, Ft. Lauderdale; Sellers, Miami; Trinity, St. Petersburg
50 years (1951)	Coral Way, Miami; Hollywood Hills, Hollywood; Oceanview, Juno Beach; St. John's Tampa
25 years (1976)	Christ, Venice; Heritage, Clearwater

Banners from the anniversary churches will be displayed on the floor of the conference.

Ivan Corbin, Chairperson

CELEBRATE JESUS

- "Go into the world, go everywhere and announce the message of God's news to one and all"
- "When you knock on a door, be courteous in your greeting. If they welcome you be gentle in your conversation. If they don't welcome you, quietly withdraw."
- "We are intimately linked in this harvest work. This is a large work I've called you into, but don't be overwhelmed by it. Give a cool cup of water to someone who is thirsty, for instance. The smallest act of giving and receiving makes you a true apprentice. You won't lose on a thing."

Now, I believe Celebrate Jesus is an avenue of obedience to just what you heard me read. Go everywhere and announce the message of God's good news to one and all. During a Celebrate Jesus Mission YOU can be a missionary. For a week you can learn BY DOING how to

Talk about your faith, how to tell your story

How to pray with a seeker

How to see with God's eyes, how to care with God's heart.

Sharing the love of God with people outside the walls of the church is a life changing experience. Yes, it is hard at first, but the more you do it, the easier it becomes and God honors your obedience- God grants you the presence of the Holy Spirit and joy that overcomes your fears.

Celebrate Jesus generates leaders, kindles passion for evangelism and discipleship, particularly in the lives of the missionaries, therefore in the churches of the missionaries.

For the churches HOSTING a Celebrate Jesus Mission a new outlook takes shape., The church family begins to look OUTSIDE its own walls and begins to intentionally reach out to those who are untouched and needful of the touch of Jesus, People are all at different levels in their journeys of life- particularly in their faith journeys.

You may be a seed sower for someone
or you may be the waterer of the seed
or you may be the one who does the fertilizing of the seed
or you may be the one who sees the first sprout, the first bloom of new life.
WHAT A PRIVILEGE!

We feel Celebrate Jesus is developing God- inspired strategies to spread the gospel and do Kingdom building.

We have two missions this summer, Leesburg, June 23-30 and WPB, July 28-Aug 4. WE STILL NEED MISSIONARIES both weeks. It is not too late for you to make an applications- you would be joining others from all over the US, UK, Haiti, & Cuba.

We also need prayer partners, CJ cannot be done without a saturation in prayer from the beginning.... And we need financial partners, we are non- profit and only receive funds through applicant fees and donations.

It is our prayer that God will stir in your heart and you will answer as it is been quoted by Dag Hammarskjold....

"For all that HAS BEEN, thank you.....and for all that WILL BE....YES!"

Submitted by Karen Taylor, Executive Director, Celebrate Jesus

CONFERENCE COUNSELING NETWORK

Purpose Statement: The purpose of the Florida Conference Counseling Network is to provide professional counseling for United Methodist clergy and their families and church lay employees and their families. The Conference Counseling Network Committee serves as an advocate for Network Counselors, where appropriate, thereby supporting the mental health well being of our clergy, lay employees, and their families.

Mission Statement: Our mission has a single focus, which is to support, enhance and further the Conference Counseling Network ministry.

When you need a professional counselor, who do you call? A Network Counselor! The purpose of the Florida Conference Counseling Network is to provide professional counseling for United Methodist clergy and their families and church lay employees and their families. The Conference Counseling Network

Committee serves as an advocate for Network Counselors, where appropriate, thereby supporting the mental health well being of our clergy, lay employees and their families.

Network Counselors, to be included in the Network, are interviewed and evaluated, must provide documentation of professional credentials and agree to reduce their fees. All counselors report their activities for the Network twice a year. The reports do not disclose names of clients, only the numbers of persons assisted with information as to whether clergy or laity. No clients are ever identified by name.

Subsidy assistance is provided where costs for counseling exceed the ability of the client to pay. In 2000 thirty-one subsidies were granted to twenty-eight people for \$6,270. The average fee reduction provided by Network Counselors was \$23 per hour.

Clergy members and church lay staff are mailed a Directory of Network Counselors annually. They are encouraged to keep this handy booklet for referral when the need arises. Also they may inquire with their respective District Superintendent's offices, the United Methodist Center receptionist or a member of the Counseling Network Committee, to find a Network Counselor in their area. In the near future, the information found in the Directory will be available on the Internet.

The vital service being provided through the Counseling Network is revealed by the following statistics for the reporting period of November 1, 1999-October 31, 2000.

Number of Network Counselors: 79
Number of persons counseled: 300
Number of counseling hours provided: 2,353.5
Estimated amount of savings to clients from fee reduction: \$23,535.00

Sincere appreciation is due to Mrs. Jean J. Vanderslice who has served the Network as Coordinator through its fifteen years of existence and service.

Leslie M. Avchin, Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON COURTESY
"Twas the Night Before Conference"

Twas the night before Conference, when all through Lakeland Center
Many people were stirring, getting ready for us to enter.
Over 1,000 United Methodists from all over the state
Descending upon this fair city. May 29th was the date.
The banners were hung on the stage round with care
Daring all to share Jesus, a true, earnest prayer.

Our first order of business was to welcome our leader
Bishop Timothy Whitaker and he couldn't have been neater.

His lovely wife Melba was here with him too
What a wonderful couple, gracious through and through.
We had a reception and it was really quite grand,
The line snaked around the room to shake the holy hand.

And then it was Wednesday, time for business and voting
We all came to the session out workbooks each toting.
When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But a long, yellow kayak from the D.S.'s so dear.
Saint Nick's transportation was red, metal sleigh
His eight tiny reindeer leading the way.
Bishop Whitaker, however, will also be on the go
His Kayak and pick-up and cabinet in tow.
On Witten, On Burkholder, On Clarke Campbell-Evans,
On McClellan, on Schafer and none others - my heavens!
What a great group of leaders, God with them so near
Clergy, if you don't like your appointment, there's always next year.

We've had spirit filled worship and Bible Study galore
Clarke, Candace, and Joseph were prophets for sure.
Our tribute to Bishop Henderson and his wife Dorothy
To honor them both by raining money,
For a school that they dreamed to be built in Mozambique.
\$180,000 raised, a great start as we seek
To reach out to the children and value their lives.
To share with them love through the Lord Jesus Christ.

We also can't forget to thank the energetic Bishop King
What a joy to have him share with us, inspiration he did bring.
Last night as we licensed and commissioned and ordained
48 new brothers and sisters to serve, their gifts our conference gained.
And the God for the music, a variety of styles,
Exodus 15 from Miami, the Children's Home and organ and choirs.
The Rev. Lee Lallance led us in singing and praise
It was truly a blessing, adding much to our days.

This is so much to say and a lot to remember
But I need to wrap it up before this December.
So let me just say we are grateful to all
Who worked very hard and answered the call.
To make 2001's conference a giant success
To empower each one of us as we live on a quest.
To be the kind of Church that God wants us to be
Embodying the slogan of Igniting Ministry.
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors, they will come
Let us welcome all with God's love & not just some.

Bishop Whitaker, again, you have lead us so well
As pastor, scholar, new friend we can tell,

This partnership begun will be a great one indeed
God will work through us all and provide what we need.
To build up the Kingdom, to share mercy and grace
Making disciples of Christ, may He shine through our face.
And now I exclaim as I wrap us this rhyme
"Merry Conference to all and we'll see you next time!"

And of course there's Mary Harris, leader of the sign language interpreter's team.
Their wonderful service and dedication is beautiful and highly esteemed

Submitted by Beth Farabee

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY

The Florida Annual Conference grieved this year over the passing of our beloved Bishop Cornelius L. Henderson. Bishop Henderson valiantly fought a brave battle against multiple myeloma, which took his life in December 2000. He was in excellent spirits until the end and still continued to encourage the Florida Conference to persevere in fulfilling his dream. Mrs. Dorothy Henderson was his constant support through the illness. The Committee on Episcopacy speaks for the Florida Conference in wishing Mrs. Henderson well and supporting her with our prayers. We express sincere appreciation to Bishop J. Lloyd Knox who has led us in a magnificent way since the untimely death of Bishop Henderson. The entire conference is grateful for his dedicated leadership.

Since Bishop Henderson had only been able to serve less than three months of the new quadrennium, the College of Bishops determined it would be in the best interests of Florida, and the Southeastern Jurisdiction, to call a special session election. This took place at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina in February 2001. We were pleased to be informed that from that conference, Bishop Timothy W. Whitaker was selected to be the Resident Bishop of Florida.

We are excited about Bishop Whitaker's leadership as we face many challenges and opportunities to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ in today's world. The Committee on Episcopacy welcomes Bishop Timothy and Mrs. Melba Whitaker and pledges our help and support in the years to come.

Faithfully, Kathleen C. Rydell, Chair

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

VISION STATEMENT: Higher Education and Campus Ministry is the United Methodist Church at work on Florida's college and university campuses, raising up a new generation of Christian leaders.

MISSION STATEMENT: Higher Education and Campus Ministry is developing Christian Disciples on Florida's college and university campuses by:

- Calling students into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Training them to become servant leaders
- Sending them out to serve God through the local church
- Encouraging the development of Christian community
- Affirming and supporting the relationship between the Florida Annual Conference and Florida's United Methodist-related institutions of higher education: Bethune-Cookman College and Florida Southern College

Campus Ministry Units:

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Tallahassee

Budget Request: \$87,351.00

Current % of Total Campus Ministry Budget Funded by Florida Annual Conference: 49%

The purpose of FAMU Campus Ministry is to provide ministry opportunities to over 12,000 students, faculty and staff. The budget request will provide funding for the following: Campus Minister's salary and benefits, part-time support staff salary, campus ministry programs, and property maintenance (parsonage property value \$90,000.00 Wesley Foundation property value \$180,000.00) FAMU campus ministry programs include: pastoral counseling/care, Church-related vocational counseling, weekly worship service, student and faculty discussion format luncheons, bible studies, leadership training, spiritual formation encounters, evangelism outreach, retreats, mission opportunities, seminary interviews, small group fellowships, educational scholarships and fellowship activities.

Florida State University, Tallahassee

Budget Request: \$138,064.00

Current % of Total Campus Ministry Budget Funded by Florida Annual Conference: 63%

FSU Wesley Foundation is dedicated to bringing the Gospel to Florida State University's 38,000 students, faculty and staff. The budget request will provide funding for the following: Campus Minister's salary and benefits, support staff salary, staff intern program, campus ministry programs, as well as building maintenance on the Wesley Foundation, Chapel, and parsonage (Wesley Foundation and Chapel property value \$2,400,000.00 parsonage value \$150,000.00) FSU Wesley campus ministry programs include: freshmen outreach program, student internships, pastoral counseling/care, weekly traditional worship service, weekly praise and worship service, bible studies, fellowship dinners, campus evangelism, prayer ministry, mission trips, small groups, Church-related vocational counseling, community service opportunities,

Upper Room residential student staff, praise band, prayer garden, drama team, and fellowship activities.

University of Florida, Gainesville

Budget Request: \$108,695.00

Current % of Total Church Budget Funded by Florida Annual Conference: 30%

University United Methodist Church & Student Center is a unique combination of both church and campus ministry student center. Its purpose is to focus on the spiritual needs of the University of Florida's 51,500 students, faculty and staff, as well as the surrounding Gainesville community. The budget request will provide funding for the following: Minister's salary and benefits, church support staff salaries, church and student center ministry programs, property maintenance of church, student center and parsonage (Church property value \$3,300,000.00; parsonage value \$130,000.00.) Ministry programs include: providing pastoral counseling/care for both church and student center, weekly worship services, bible study groups, Sunday school classes, retreats, small groups, evangelism outreach, mission trips, community service opportunities, Church-related vocational counseling, Maranatha Choir, handbell choir, Upper Room residential student staff program, leadership training, and fellowship events.

University of Miami, Miami

Budget Request: \$127,482.00

Current % of Total Campus Ministry Budget Funded by Florida Annual Conference: 64%

Miami District Campus Ministry is offering Christ to the more than 50,000 students, faculty and staff of the University of Miami. The budget request will provide funding for the following: Campus Minister's salary and benefits, support staff salaries, campus ministry programs, building maintenance for University of Miami Wesley Foundation and parsonage (Foundation property value \$773,000.00; parsonage value \$197,000.00) Campus Ministry programs include: pastoral counseling/care, "The River" weekly worship service, weekly coffee house, bible studies, small groups, mission trips, prayer group, drama group, dance team, praise band, community service projects, evangelism outreach, Church-related vocational counseling, Upper Room residential student staff, leadership training, Christian library and fellowship activities.

Stetson University Wesley Foundation, DeLand

Budget Request: \$62,907.00

Current % of Total Campus Ministry Budget funded by Florida Annual Conference: 62%

The Wesley House at Stetson University is dedicated to sharing, deepening and enriching the Christian faith of Stetson's 2,600 students, faculty and staff. The budget request will provide funding for the following: Campus Ministry Director's

salary and benefits, campus ministry programs, and Wesley Foundation building maintenance (property value \$530,000.00.) Campus Ministry programs include: pastoral counseling/care, weekly worship service, bible studies, prayer ministry, small groups, drama and puppet ministry, mission trips, evangelism outreach, spiritual retreats, community service projects, fellowship dinners, coffee house, Upper Room residential student staff, leadership training, Church-related vocational counseling, Christian library and fellowship activities.

University of Central Florida Wesley Foundation, Orlando

Budget Request: \$66,905.00

Current % of Total Campus Ministry Budget Funded by the Florida Annual Conference: 38%

The Wesley Foundation seeks to minister to the 32,000 students, faculty and staff of the University of Central Florida. The budget request will provide funding for the following: Campus Minister's salary and benefits, campus ministry programs and parsonage maintenance (parsonage property value \$111,000.00) UCF ministry programs include: pastoral counseling/care, weekly worship service, bible studies, small groups, small group leadership training program, mission trips, community service projects, evangelism outreach, fellowship dinners, Church-related vocational counseling, student leadership training, staff intern program and fellowship activities.

University of South Florida – Crosswinds, Tampa

Budget Request: \$63,718.00

Current % of Total Campus Ministry Budget Funded by the Florida Annual Conference: 58%

The Crosswinds campus ministry has the opportunity to reach the University of South Florida's 40,000 students, faculty and staff on four campuses throughout the central gulf coast area. The budget request will provide funding for the following: Campus Minister's salary and benefits, support staff salary, ministry programs and building maintenance for the Wesley Foundation and parsonage (Crosswinds property value \$250,000.00; parsonage value \$150,000.00.) Crosswinds provides the following programming: pastoral counseling/care, student leadership training, weekly worship service, small groups, prayer teams, bible study, mission trips, evangelism outreach, service projects, drama team, residential staff team, Church-related vocational counseling and fellowship activities.

Jacksonville Campus Ministry

Budget Request: \$25,750.00

Current % of Total Campus Ministry Budget Funded by the Florida Annual Conference: 25%

Jacksonville Campus Ministry is an ecumenical ministry that serves over 13,000 students, faculty and staff at the University of North Florida. A total of six Protestant denominations support this ministry. The budget request will provide funding for the following: Campus Minister's salary and benefits, support staff salary, and ministry programs. Campus Ministry programs include: pastoral counseling/care, worship services, bible studies, student leader scholarships, leadership training, mission trips, fellowship discussion dinners, drama productions, community service projects, prayer breakfast and fellowships activities.

Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers
Budget Request: \$35,000.00

The requested funds will allow the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry in cooperation with the Fr. Myers District, to establish a Wesley Foundation at Florida's newest state university – Florida Gulf Coast University. Programs will be run in cooperation with local United Methodist congregations and include the following: pastoral counseling/care, small group outreach to new university apartment complexes, weekly worship opportunities, bible studies, community service projects and fellowship activities.

Grant Money
Budget Request: \$50,000.00

Ecumenical ministries are eligible to apply for a grant up to, but not more than the amount received from any other single denomination, including local churches. The grant is not to exceed \$8000.00. All campus ministries may apply for grants of up to \$5000.00 for new ministry programs on the basis of their creativity. The purpose of this program is to stimulate new ministry ideas. The deadline for submitting request for these grants is June 1, 2002, and they are required to have matching funds.

Student Conferences
Budget Request: \$7,000.00

The Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry sponsors a yearly state-wide United Methodist Student Movement Retreat at the Warren W. Willis United Methodist Camp. This event was first organized in the 1930's. There is no substitute for the vitality that comes from intercollegiate relationships among Christian students. This retreat gives college students from 12 Florida campus ministries and local church congregations the opportunity to grow spiritually, share ideas and enlarge their circle of Christian peers.

Campus Ministry Staff Intern Grants
Budget Request: \$30,000.00

This Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry Staff Intern Grant Program is designed to assist campus ministries in creating full-time staff-intern positions. These internships give college graduates an opportunity to gain valuable experience and training in both practical and theoretical aspects of ministry. They dedicate one year of their lives to learning about and experiencing full-time Christian service to college students. It is the desire of the BHECM that these interns will discover and use their spiritual gifts, develop theologically, and gain practical ministry training. Many of these young people intend to pursue positions in church-related ministry as a career.

United Methodist Colleges

Since its inception, the United Methodist Church has demonstrated a deep commitment to learning and higher education. We share a rich heritage of quality academics strengthened by Christian values. United Methodist educational institutions are true to the principles of a liberal arts education, which exposes students to a wide range of disciplines. More importantly, they teach young people to create a vision of themselves as leaders and achievers so they can apply their faith and education to a career that enriches their lives. The Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry strongly recommends continued financial support to our two Florida Annual Conference United Methodist-related colleges: Bethune-Cookman College and Florida Southern College.

Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach

Budget Request: \$113,000.00

(Bethune-Cookman receives additional funding from the Black College Fund)

Florida Southern College, Lakeland

Budget Request: \$428,000.00

BHECM Administration

Short-Term Goals:

- To conduct yearly evaluations of campus ministries for the quality of their performance, the integrity of their mission, fiscal responsibility/annual audits, and their response to the missional goals of the United Methodist Church.
- To provide young adult ministry resources to local United Methodist Churches.
- To focus on providing campus ministers with new resources and continuing education events to enrich their ministry to young adults.
- To promote the United Methodist Student Day Offering, The Black College Fund, and scholarship and loan opportunities for United Methodist students. The BHECM will administer scholarship funds rebated from the General Church.
- To promote the Eulalie Ginn Foundation for Higher Education, which seeks to help campus ministries build financial endowments and assist local boards in fund-raising training.

- To provide local campus ministry boards of directors with a board training program and handbook.
- To continue publication of our new bi-annual BHECM Florida Conference Newsletter which provides resources for local churches and persons in ministry to collegians.
- To conduct a yearly property management survey for each campus ministry building under our guardianship.
- To work with Bethune-Cookman College and Florida Southern College to develop publicity posters and materials to promote United Methodist higher education.
- To present to the Council on Finance and Administration the financial needs for adequate support of the colleges, Wesley Foundations, and ecumenical ministries related to the Annual Conference for apportionment to the churches within the conference.
- To encourage the establishment of loan and scholarship funds in the Annual Conference and local churches, and to administer the scholarship funds of the Annual Conference.
- To facilitate the formation of a United Methodist Student Movement Florida Conference Leadership Team.

Medium-Term Goals:

- To conduct extensive on-site visitations and evaluations of campus ministry units twice each quadrennium, including detailed interviews with students, local board of directors, and campus staff.
- To continue building a new network of ministries to community college campuses by encouraging and resourcing local church congregations to reach out to campuses not currently served by a Wesley Foundation.
- To interpret systematically to the conference, districts, and all local churches the conference programs of campus ministry and United Methodist-related colleges, encouraging their support and participation.
- To study current and developing trends in campus ministry for the creation of new outreach models.

Administration:	\$ 13,000.00
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 65,000.00
Property Maintenance	\$100,000.00
Contingency	\$ 15,000.00
Resource Development	\$ 5,000.00
Property Acquisition - USF	\$ 16,000.00
HECM Funding Request for 2002:	\$1,557,917.00

**HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WESLEY FOUNDATIONS OR ECUMENICAL CAMPUS MINISTRIES**

**UNIVERSITY
OF FLORIDA**

Agnes Adegbidi
Hector Adegbidi
Jenny Alexander
Jim Alexander
Wendy Alexander
Becky Ambrose
Fred Brenneman
Janice Brenneman
Crista Capps
Kate Davis
Rosellen Dedlow
Doug DeMichele
Pam DeMichele
Elizabeth Denlinger
Courtney Denoff
Pam Dixon
Beau Dusseault
Mary Ruth Elfe
Christina English
Tom Fanning
Ray Feinberg
Rob Fields
Sam Flood
Glenda Gable
Mike Garrison
Barry Graves
Janice Graves
Bethany Hansen
Dennis Hansen
Sally Hansen
Marty Horner
Helen Howard
Robert W. Jackson
Doug Johnson
Beth Keith
Brice Keith
Lauren Keith
Anne Lawson
Michael LeGrande
Michelle LeGrande
Tim Leslie
Courtney Littlefield

Geraldine McClellan
Missy McClellan
Lorraine Mott
Ashley Nixon
Sarah Nixon
Victor Okine
Andy Oliver
Amy Palmer
George Palmer
Amy Perkins
Jim Perkins
Patti Perkins
Heath Petersen
Pamela Petersen
Rick Petersen
Jaime Petrushak
Thomas Price
Pat Samuel
Carolyn Scheaffer
Dick Scheaffer
Lauren Simpson
Kim Simpson
Luke Smithers
Emory Springfield
Jennifer Springfield
Molly Springfield
Tim Sterling
Tommy Todd
Tania Wadhwa
William Yeager

STETSON

Jonathon Bailey
Laura Berg
Beth Bertrand
Jody Burris
Wayne Curry
Melissa Delker
Alan Goff
Barbara Grelle
Wayne Hanks
Conya Hartman
Linda Hidek
Janet Kelley

Becky Kruse
Casey Neely
Bill Ottinger
Kim Rathburn
Troy Ray
Mike Rea
Kim Marie Sawyer
Barbara Strecker
Owen Stricklin
Marlene Wright
Michael Wycuff

**UNIVERSITY
OF MIAMI**

Kim Adams
Drew Anderson
Sharon Austin
Jon Baldessari
Betty Batey
Willie Blanco
Mark Caldwell
Stephen Hoffman
Eloise Johnson
Mercedes Johnson
Linda Burton
Steve Clark
Margaret Cox
G. Gilyard-Ingraham
Craig Hammond
Pratt Hardley
Michael Hutcherson
Gertrude Jarrett
V. Legge
Delano McIntosh
Charles Mitchell
Rene Ramirez
Juan Ramos
Phil Sageser
Airet Silva
Alma Twitchell
Mary Susan Ward
Charles Winebrenner

FLORIDA STATE

Guy Brewer
 Rachel Edwards
 Manny Fernandez
 Brad Foster
 Germain Fritchman
 Elaine Geiger
 Natalie Glover
 Susan Habib
 John Harrington
 David Hodges
 Tim Jones
 Maryann Karkenny
 Adam Kincaid
 Wayne Maxwell
 Gabriel Mnayarji
 T. J. Moroney
 Dean Morphonios
 Joni Morphonios
 Barbara Pearce
 Jack Pearce
 Richard
 Quackenbush
 Carolyn Shackelford
 Michael Shockley
 Linda Simmons
 Elaine Smith
 Jack Stroman
 Art Ulrich
 Freddy Williams
 Terry Williams

FLORIDA A & M

Kimberly Ames

Richard Andrews
 Lawrence Barriner
 Edna Bennett
 Delores Dean
 Ronald Downing
 Richard Flamer
 Cornelius Ann Floyd
 Stephanie George
 David Hodges
 David Jones
 Ronald Lumpkin
 Shelita Nelson
 Ermine Owenby
 Bill Rhoads
 Barbara Stiles
 Joseph Stiles
 John Stroman
 Charles Weaver
 John Willis

**UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL FL**

Bill Anderson
 Cheryl Bottom
 Carol Christopher
 Ron Christopher
 Matt D'Angelo
 Evelyn Dunn
 Parry Dunn
 David Falls
 Holly Falls
 David Griffith
 Kristin Keen
 Liz Kohlmyer

Mike Mullens
 Meade Owens
 Dick Paradise
 John Powers
 Sarah Roland
 Tom Tanenbaum

**JACKSONVILLE
CAMPUS MIN.**

Bill Baldwin
 Guy Brewer
 John Hill
 Evelyn Penney
 Thom Shafer
 Gee Sprague
 Wayne Wiatt

**CROSSWINDS
USF WESLEY
FOUNDATION**

Carol Baker
 Burt Blomquist
 John Denmark
 Mark Dummeldinger
 Clark Edwards
 Tonya Eichenberger
 Ted Fielland
 Rob Harding
 Steve Haulman
 Alan Hevner
 Allen Johnson
 Marvin Moore
 Charlie Pritt
 John Shively

**NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT AND
CHURCH REDEVELOPMENT**

NEW CHURCH START BUDGET REQUEST FOR 2002

Pastoral Compensation for new churches: The Annual Conference will provide to districts clergy compensation for new churches within each district up to the Denominational Average Compensation plus health insurance and pension on the following basis: first 12 months, 100%; second 12 months, 65%; third 12 months, 30%. The D. A. C. for 2002 will be \$42,930 (salary, travel and housing). Health insurance is estimated at \$7,000 and MPP/PPP at \$5,500. The maximum

possible compensation for 2002 is estimated to be \$55,430 at 100%, \$36,030 at 65% and \$16,630 at 30%.

Dis- trict	100% Compensation		65% Compensation		30% Compensation	
	Jan-May	June-Dec	Jan-May	June-Dec	Jan-May	June-Dec
DL		64,680				
FM		32,340				
GN		32,340				
JA			22,523	10,510		9,695
LA						
LE					6,925	9,695
ME		16,170			6,925	
MI	69,300			63,063		
OR	23,100	32,340		21,021	6,925	
SP						
SR					6,925	
TL						
TM		32,340		21,021	6,925	
WP					6,925	
Total	92,400(1)	242,550(2)	22,523(3)	115,615(1)	41,550(4)	19,390(3)

TOTAL PASTORAL COMPENSATION: \$534,028

(1) Six new ministries launched in 2001:

Ponte Vedra, Jacksonville Bch. – Launched 1/1/01 @ ½ support @ 65%
 La Nueva Iglesia, Miami
 El Portal, Northeast Miami
 Cities Ministries, Miami
 Postmodern Community, Orlando

(2) Eight new ministries projected for June 2002:

Enterprise, DeLand
 World of Golf, St. Augustine
 Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers
 Gilchrist County, Gainesville
 Satellite in Fellsmere, Melbourne (1/2 support)
 Coconut Grove, Miami
 Avalon, Orlando
 NW Hillsborough, Tampa

(3) Two ministries launched in 2000:

River of Life, NE St. Johns County, Jacksonville
 Ponte Vedra (satellite of Beach UMC), Jacksonville (1/2 support),
 Launched 1/1/01
 New Covenant, Leesburg (Launched 12/1/99)

(4) Six new churches launched June 1999:

New Covenant, Leesburg (Launched 12/1/99)
Grapevine, Melbourne
Lakeside Fellowship, Orlando
Bay Life Community, Sarasota
Grace Community, Tampa
Fort Lauderdale Hispanic, West Palm Beach

Seminar for Clergy interested in/appointed to new church launching: A seminar in June 2002 will be provided in Lakeland for newly appointed pastors appointed to launch new churches. Pastors who have been nominated by their district superintendent and screened by the executive director of church development will participate in the five day National Institute of New Church Development at Duke in August, 2002.

Funding: \$12,000

Financial Assistance to Districts launching new missions: Beginning in 2002 districts that launch new missions will receive assistance in the amount of \$15,000 a year for a maximum of three (3) years to help with facilities, supplies, programs, part-time pastoral support and other costs. The following missions are projected to begin in 2002: Hispanic, Pierson, DeLand District; Edgewater Hispanic, Fort Myers District; Philippino Mission, Melbourne District; Mexican/American, Greensboro, Tallahassee District.

Funding: \$60,000

Contract with Percept: To provide demographic data necessary for making church development decisions. By the Conference being a client of Percept, Percept services to local churches such as Ministry Area Profile and Revision are available at discounted prices.

Funding: \$13,500

Gainesville Group Ministry (Editor's Note: This ministry and funding was added at the 2001 Florida Annual Conference. See Daily Proceedings, report of the Council on Finance and Administration for detail.)

Funding: \$14,400

Meetings of Committee: The Committee meets in January, May and October to conduct the business of church development. There are twenty-three (23) members of the committee.

Funding: \$ 8,000

Total New Church Start Request: \$641,928

THE ORDER FOR DISBANDING SEVERAL CONGREGATIONS OF THE FLORIDA CONFERENCE

Carol Conner: Bishop Whitaker and delegates to the Annual Conference. The Committee on New Church Development and Church Redevelopment has as one of its responsibilities to report to you for your action on the discontinuation of local congregations that have made the decision to disband. I certify that the five following congregations have each voted in a duly called church conference to disband and have instructed that all property and assets be transferred to other United Methodist entities; that the remaining members have been transferred to churches of their choices; that the Cabinet has voted concurrence with the discontinuation of these congregations; and that the Committee on New Church Development and Church Redevelopment has confirmed the decision for these congregations to disband:

First, Daytona in the DeLand District

A group of Methodists began meeting in Daytona Beach in April 1877. Later that year, led by the Reverend T. W. Pearson, they were chartered and in 1886 became the First Methodist Episcopal Church, with Jeremiah Pastorfield appointed minister. Through the years the church has sponsored four other churches: Community in Daytona, Port Orange, Christ in Holly Hill and St. Andrews in Daytona.

Riverview in the Jacksonville District

In 1950 Riverview was sponsored by the Main Street Church and its pastor, W. J. Churchwell. The church was chartered in 1951, with Ira I. Meadows as the first appointed minister. Construction of the sanctuary was financed by the Livingston Fund.

Coconut Grove in the Miami District

In 1911 Allapattah Temple Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the Baby Temples sponsored by White Temple, was organized in Miami. In 1926 Silver Bluff Methodist Episcopal Church South, later Feaster Memorial and then Christ, was organized. These two churches merged in 1987 to become Christ Allapattah. The Methodist Episcopal Church of Coconut Grove was organized in 1915, soon changing its name to Grove Temple Union. In 1928 its building was dedicated as Bryan Memorial in memory of William Jennings Bryan, who donated the land, planned the building and attended the church. In 1995 Christ Allapattah and Bryan Memorial merged to form Coconut Grove.

Concord Park in the Orlando District

Services at Concord Park Methodist Episcopal Church South began in 1926 in a tent. The first minister was Henry Bullock, assistant at First Church, which had

sponsored the new congregation. Harry Waller was the first full-time minister. In 1932 during the pastorate of John W. Branscomb, the old Fairville Church building was moved to land adjacent to the church and its members transferred to Concord Park. Over the years it has shared facilities with Spanish, Korean and Haitian congregations.

Belmont Park in the St. Petersburg District

Belmont Park in Clearwater traces its roots to a revival meeting led by R. L. Hodnett of First Church in 1924. The church, known then as Second Methodist Episcopal Church South, was organized in 1925 and the building constructed in a day. The first full-time minister was E. L. Davis.

Bishop Whitaker: The before mentioned congregations were organized as a part of Christ's Holy Church and of The United Methodist Church. They were God's gifts for a season. We are thankful for the many ways they have served the mission given to them by Jesus Christ. They have accomplished their purpose. We declare that these are no longer United Methodist congregations and are now disbanded. If you concur, you will vote yes. In dying these congregations are providing resurrection and new life for other congregations through transfer of members and resources. Christ's holy Church is of God, and will be preserved to the end of time, for the conduct of worship and the due administration of God's Word and Sacraments, and the maintenance of Christian fellowship and discipline, the edification of believers, and the conversion of the world. Let us pray.

Adapted from The United Methodist Book of Worship

NOMINATIONS REPORT

(See Part I, Conference Administration, Quadrennial Committees, Boards and Agencies)

OPERATION EVANGELIZATION

Operation Evangelization supports the annual conference vision "to provide a vital United Methodist congregation of faithful disciples of Jesus Christ at every strategic location within the bounds of the conference and to provide competent, learning pastoral leadership for these congregations."

It pursues this purpose by:

- ◆ Providing training, resources, and consultation services in evangelization in conference, district, and congregational settings;
- ◆ Offering training support for congregational leaders in equipping their laity in personal faithsharing;
- ◆ Partnering with key annual conference leaders in building knowledge in long-term, effective evangelization strategies;
- ◆ Offering staff and office support to Celebrate Jesus and other efforts to reach unchurched people in Florida;

- ◆ Coordinating the growth goals of the annual conference through the monthly reports of worship attendance and professions of faith, etc.

Goals:

The ultimate goal of Operation Evangelization is to equip and empower congregations for more effective reaching of the unchurched people in Florida. To this end Operation Evangelization goals include the re-vitalization of plateaued and declining congregations into disciple-making communities of faith.

Criteria:

The evaluation of congregational and conference leaders that they have been well served by the training and consultation services offered.

Evidence of direct assistance from Operation Evangelization to congregational efforts to reach out and receive unchurched people.

Allocation of Resources:

The major portion of the 2002 budget is allocated to professional and support staff. In addition to resources, travel, and support of the consultation services offered, the major amount of money will provide for subsidizing the faith-sharing training in the remainder of the 14 districts.

2000-2001 Evaluation

This year saw the meeting of the original goal to offer the “New Wineskins for the New Wine” seminar in every district, with more than 2800 people attending in local church teams. Antidotal evidence reveals a significant impact in many congregations, particularly in small and mid-size congregations. In addition 22 local church consultations and other events have been held.

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
2002 Operation Evangelization Budget	\$108,395	\$124,960
Received from the Foundation for Evangelism		25,000
Total Requested from Conference Budget		\$99,960

Roger K. Swanson, Executive Director

COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE

Vision Statement: The Florida Conference Commission on Religion and Race envisions a biblical nurtured, experienced, matured, diverse, and inclusive Florida United Methodist Church as a conduit, in union with the general church, to be a living example to the world in carrying out God’s plan for humankind.

Mission Statement: The mission of the Florida Conference Commission on Religion and Race (CCORR) is to carry out the guidelines and fulfill its mandate as stated in the 1996 “Book of Discipline”, Section IX, Paragraph 640. In fulfilling its mandate, the CCORR will provide the necessary functions for maintaining the connectional relationships within the Florida Conference and with agencies and

institutions of The United Methodist Church, and challenge those structures to provide full and equal participation of racial and ethnic constituency in the total life and mission of the Church in ensuring and furthering racial inclusiveness.

Activities involve: monitoring, surveying districts and churches for needs determinations, training and sensitizing local church coordinators and others who are identified in social psychology issues surrounding human behavior and belief systems, travels to conferences and area effecting cultural change, developing activities for understanding cultural differences, mailing informative material, sponsoring/supporting on or more culturally diverse activities/events per annual conference, and supporting community culturally diverse activities.

COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE
Report To The Florida Annual Conference, MAY 31, 2001

The Conference Commission on Religion and Race (CCORR'S) has its authority from 2000 Book of Discipline, Paragraph 640.1, 2002, and 2008.

Rather than dwell on the composite of functions mandated for CCORR, I will highlight CCORR's activities over the past year. During the past year, the CCORR placed emphasis on activities designed to "Increase Awareness" and "Raise the Consciousness" of our UM brothers and sisters in Christ on "Racism" and its deadly effects within our church, and its impact on our daily lives at home and in our communities.

Our goal as we began these activities was not to "Encounter" or create "Guilt Ridden" provocations within participants. We did not want to create anger within anyone to the extent that it would cause negative reactions or feelings about our church. So, we designed workshop activities as "Informational" and created participant involvement activities for impact experiences.

We began these workshops on February, 2000, with the Gainesville District and concluded the workshops in January, 2001, in the Melbourne District. During the workshops participants were given and discussed the definition of "Racism" as defined in our book of Discipline. In addition, they were given and discussed a handout with information showing Florida as being a chief state with the largest number of known "Hate Groups" in operation. Much such information was included in individual packets. Over 800 persons were in attendance at our workshops throughout the 14 Districts of the Florida Conference.

Also, on May 4-5, 2000, at our South Camp facility in Alva, FL, the CCORR provided two days training to 26 persons on "Facilitator Training." At no cost to participants. The purpose of this training was to train persons in facilitation methods and procedures to lead group discussions on sensitive issues involving "Racism" and "Cultural Differences."

The CCORR's membership is mandated by the "Discipline" to consist of representatives from each district within the Conference and to be highly culturally/ethically diverse. Some districts are not represented on the CCORR. In addition, we are seeking Native Americans and Asian representatives on CCORR.

Submitted by, Dr. Arnett Smith, Jr., Chair

PROPERTY/CASUALTY/WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE PROGRAM REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION: The purpose of this report is to present the status of the Conference-wide property/casualty/workers' compensation insurance program. The program officially entered into its 5th year of operation on December 31, 2000. It includes coverage for the Conference Headquarters, the District offices, all local churches, church-affiliated schools and pre-schools, our camps, and the Children's Home (for Workers' Compensation only). The program is self-contained (i.e. operates solely from premiums collected from insured entities). As you will read below, the program continues to operate successfully.

2. THE SELF-INSURANCE INSURANCE COMMITTEE: Since its inception, a lay member committee, made up of persons knowledgeable in large commercial insurance programs, has guided the self-insurance program. Frank Furman, a successful insurance executive, continues to serve as committee chairperson. The other serving members are:

- Rev. David Brazelton: Tampa District Superintendent and Cabinet liaison.
- Rev. Paul Butler: Conference chancellor, senior pastor, lawyer (specializing in insurance defense).
- Mr. Errol Campbell: Current CF&A member, Administrative Chair of a local Church, Library Director of Evaluation & Treatment Center.
- Mr. Jack Inman: Retired attorney, past President of third party administration business- Workers' Compensation, past Florida State legislator.
- Mrs. Jessica Mann: Current CF&A member, CPA.
- Mr. J. Ed Smith: Retired Comptroller of Hillsborough County, past CF&A member, Treasurer of the Tampa District Board of Mission & Church Extensions.
- Rev. Robert Standifer: Pastor, current President of Council on Finance and Administration (CF&A).
- Mr. Don Works, III: Attorney, Specializing in Employment Liability.
- Mr. Morgan Wright: Past CF&A president, Church Business Administrator.
- Dr. Keith Ewing: Administrative Assistant to the Bishop
- Dr. Randy Casey-Rutland: Conference Treasures-Business Administrator.

3. THE RISK MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT: The Risk Management Department is funded entirely from the premiums received from insured entities. Jim Severance continues to serve as Risk Manager. He is ably assisted by

Jenny Albritton. One of Jenny's main responsibilities is premium billing and collection for both Property/Casualty and Workers' Compensation. The Risk Manager reports to the Conference Treasurer.

The Risk Management Department is service oriented. Services provided include:

- Answers to Coverage and/or Claim Questions
- Insurance Program Presentations
- Premium Billing & Collection
- Program Renewal
- Situation Investigation/Report
- Advice to SPPR, Ad. Council, Trustees...
- Review of "Outside User" Agreements
- Help With Local Church Policies and Procedures
- Attending Mediations, Hearings, Depositions, Trials
- Coordination of Recoveries for Large Losses
- Subrogation (i.e., claim cost recoveries)
- Property Appraisal Coordination
- Crisis Management

4. YEAR #5 RENEWAL: The insurance market at the time of renewal for Year #5 was described as "hardened" (i.e., having become more expensive) even for large programs with good loss records. Our loss experience was however, poor due mostly to the large property losses experienced in 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000. The expected impact on our program was a significant premium rate increase. After rigorous negotiations by our broker, and considerable work by the Insurance Committee, a year-to-year 18% rate increase was obtained.

NOTE: This is the first rate increase for the Conference-wide program in four years. We were fortunate to incur such a small increase given our poor loss ratios and the hardened market conditions that existed. Most large accounts received rate increases of 25% or more.

5. PROGRAM STATUS: The Conference program is described as being "self-insured". For our program, this means that the initial cost of each claim is paid by, first the local church's deductible, then as required by the Conference Loss Fund, and then, if required, by excess insurance. We self-insure part of each claim to reduce the cost of our excess premiums. Ideally, if our claim costs are kept low, we will achieve overall savings.

Several program changes were made for Year #5. They are as follows:

- Our self-insured retention for each property loss was increased from \$50,000 to \$250,000. The Self-Insurance Committee increased the Loss Fund to account for this added exposure.
- The physical damage deductible for each auto claim was increased from \$500 to \$1000. The Church deductible remains at \$500.
- A surcharge was imposed on schools and pre-schools to offset the increased liability exposure.

- The per building deductible for windstorm damage in Dade, Broward, Monroe, Palm Beach, Lee and Collier was increased from \$2500 to \$5000. This is a good alternative compared to the usual windstorm deductible that runs between 2% and 5% in Florida. Keeping the % windstorm deductible out of our program was a significant accomplishment.

6. CASH RESERVE ADEQUACY: Self-insured insurance programs are required to have "adequate" cash reserves accumulated to pay for "ultimately" expected claim costs. Professional actuaries include factors for unexpected claim value increases as well as factors for claims that have occurred but not yet reported, when they perform calculations to determine financial reserve requirements. Our actuaries, Financial Risk Analysts, conducted a reserve requirement analysis as of December 31, 2000. They concluded the following regarding our cash reserve requirements:

<u>Confidence Level</u>	<u>Cash Reserve Requirements</u>	
	<u>Undiscounted</u>	<u>Discounted @ 6%</u>
53%	\$2,823,347	\$2,449,731
75%	\$3,568,710	\$3,096,460
95%	\$4,771,457	\$4,140,046

As of December 31, 2000, our actual cash balance was \$3,969,763. In Addition, our excess carriers owed the Conference approximately \$544,000 for claim payments made temporally by the Conference in excess of our self-insured limits. This means that our cash reserves continue to be *more-than-adequate* to pay all expected claim costs. The industry confidence level standard is 75%.

7. CLAIM STATISTICS: Overall, our claim frequencies have remained relatively constant. Incurred costs for Property/Casualty claims are ranging between \$700,000 and \$800,000 per year. Property claim costs have exceeded liability claim costs for every year except Year #1. For Workers' Compensation, we continue to have very few "lost time" claims. Workers' Compensation claim costs are ranging between \$500,000 and \$650,000 per year. Our latest modification factor is 0.81.

8. LARGE PROPERTY CLAIMS: With the exception of Year #1, we have incurred at least one large property loss during each policy year. Amounts paid on these large losses have far exceeded the property values reported by the churches. If these churches had been insured as an individual entities, their property policies would have paid far less because the maximum amount paid would have probably been limited to submitted values.

9. LARGE PROPERTY LOSS CONSULTANT: Our large loss experience clearly indicates that churches who experience large losses need extra help when dealing with excess carriers, their adjusters, and recovery in general. We

are in the process of retaining an experienced large loss coordinator to aid/coordinate the large claim recovery process. This person would report to the Risk Manager and be paid on a time and expense basis. He would have the following responsibilities:

- Be onsite within 24-hours after the loss.
- Explain the coverages to Church representatives.
- Tell the Church what to expect and when.
- Explain the Church's responsibilities.
- Be an advocate for the Church.
- Stay involved with the claim process.
- Attend all claim meetings.
- Provide guidance and direction to the Church.
- Interact with the General Adjuster for the Church.
- Keep communication channels open and clear.
- Maintain meeting notes, (especially) action item requirements
- Expedite the claim settlement process.
- Smooth-out any unclear coverage questions.

NOTE: The Conference Loss Fund will pay the expenses of the large claim consultant.

10. **COVERAGE POLICY:** From time-to-time, the Risk Management Department is approached by organizations requesting coverage under the Conference-wide program. When such a request is received, those making the request are asked if their program comes under the control or management of the Conference (i.e., is the organization requesting coverage affiliated with the Conference?). If Conference affiliation is proven, coverage is offered. If affiliation is not present, the organization is advised to contact our broker who can help them acquire coverage outside the Conference program. This approach screens-out organizations who operate independently of the Conference and ensures that all of our insured entities are in some way "formally" linked to the Florida Conference.

11. **ACTIVE LITIGATION:** Six liability claims are in active litigation at this time. For each complaint, we have retained an attorney to defend both the local church and the Conference.

12. **UNPAID PREMIUMS:** Each year, some churches are unable to completely pay their property/casualty premiums. For Policy Year 2000, seventeen (17) churches in eight (8) Districts did not pay their entire Property/Casualty premiums. This unpaid premium issue (which amounts to approximately \$50,000/year) has been discussed with the Cabinet. If the Cabinet cannot provide funding, the Self-Insurance Committee has decided that the shortfall will be absorbed, if possible, by the program. Being able to absorb a shortfall of \$50,000/year would be possible using interest being earned on our cash reserves. This assumes that our cash reserves are not significantly depleted by claim payments. Ideally, every church pays their entire premium amount.

13. PROPERTY APPRAISAL PROGRAM: Year #5 is the last year of the five-year Conference-wide property appraisal program. This year, churches in the last three Districts (i.e., Lakeland, Orlando, & Gainesville) will be appraised. Once the churches in these Districts are appraised, we will have consistent appraised values for all Church buildings in the Conference. Some of these appraised values are, however, five years old. The Self-Insurance Committee is considering ways to keep the appraised values current (i.e., representative of the current cost to replace). This might involve using localized cost-of-building escalation factors to adjust existing appraised values. Such adjustments would be made depending on the age of the last appraisal (i.e., Miami District appraisals were conducted in 1997). Adjustment might also be accomplished by conducting sample re-appraisals in each District and then applying the increase factor to all District churches. **NOTE:** The amounts paid for our large property claims indicates that our current property values are significantly understated.

14. OUT-OF-COUNTRY TRAVEL COVERAGE: The Conference-wide insurance program does not adequately cover persons/groups traveling outside the country on missionary/church-related trips. Out-of-country coverage (i.e., known as - Foreign Mission and Outreach Insurance) is available through the GCFA in Evanston (1-800-221-8552). The cost of this insurance is based on the number of persons traveling. Coverages provided include:

- Commercial General Liability
- Commercial Auto Liability
- Accidental Death and Dismemberment
- Endemic Diseases
- Repatriation
- Travel Assistance

Coverage can be arranged by contacting the Risk Management Department or by calling the program coordinator at GCFA. Please consider purchasing this coverage before traveling out-of-country!!!!

COMMISSION ON STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

Vision Statement: The vision of the Florida Conference Commission on Status and Role of Women shall be to challenge the Florida Conference, including its councils, boards, committees, commissions, institutions and connectional structures, to a continuing commitment to the full and equal participation of women in the total life and mission of the Church, sharing full in the power and in the policy-making at all levels of the Church's life.

Mission Statement: The Commission on Status and Role of Women will foster an awareness of issues, problems, and concerns related to the status and role of women, with special reference to their full participation in the total life of the

Church at least commensurate with the total membership of women in the Florida Conference.

The short-term goal is to become an active, viable and trained commission after three years of inactivity, and to monitor and suggest guidelines for action, when appropriate. The medium term goal is to participate in connectional programs initiated or recommended by the general commission and to utilize the resources available from the general commission as needed.

COMMISSION ON STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN Report To The Florida Annual Conference

A report of the Commission on the Status and Role of women is found on page 77 in the workbook. We invite you to read it and share it.

The commission has adopted as its theme, "Women Living the Connection," Paragraph 641 in the 2000 Book of Discipline. "There shall be in each Annual Conference, including the Central Conferences, a Conference Committee on the Status and Role of Women."

A frequently asked question of the Commission centers around the need for two United Methodist organizations related to women: the Commission On The Status And Role Of Women & United Methodist Women. United Methodist Women local units have grown out of the history of women's leadership in mission. United Methodist Women serve on the behalf of persons locally and globally on mission projects and related programs about human needs. The Commission the Status & Role of Women works within the United Methodist Church on behalf of the women within the United Methodist Church. Along with our district purposes, the Commission and United Methodist Women work cooperatively from time to time in areas that affect women within the United Methodist Church.

The membership of this commission includes at least one member names by the Conference United Methodist Women. The Commission serves women and the church in three ways; Advocate, Catalyst, and Monitor.

As and advocate, we speak on behalf of women so that they may claim their rightful place in decision-making areas in the church. Our advocacy aims to ensure that the church benefits from the wisdom, life's experience, and perspectives of women.

As a catalyst, we work simultaneously within the structure of the church and with women. We seek to raise awareness of ways in which women are not fully included in the life of the church and to spark new perceptions and ways of being women in the church.

We have shared part of role as monitor on Wednesday.

The Discipline includes among the basic membership of the commission that there shall be representation from each district. These district representatives will gather data about the elected leadership in the district. It is the responsibility of the Commission to be informed about the status and role of all women in the total life of church.

I invite all clergywomen to stand as you are able. We celebrate that three out of the fourteen District Superintendents are women. This is the largest number of women District Superintendents in this conference 21%. We celebrate the 1st and only women elected Bishop in the Southeastern Jurisdiction and she is from the Florida Conference.

I invite all the lay women to join the clergywomen who are standing, as you are able. I invite each person who is seated to look around you. The women who are standing represent a pool of potential leaders in our districts and the conference.

Another Disciplinary responsibility of the Commission is to focus on the major priority issues related to women, which may include sexual harassment policies and procedures, and to enlist the support of the bishop, cabinet, and conference staff in policies, plans, and practices related to those priorities.

A letter dated "Spring 2001," on Council on Finance and Administration letterhead regarding Local Church Policy Statement and Misconduct of a sexual/gender Harassment and Misconduct of a Sexual Nature was sent to every local church.

District representatives on the commission will ask each local church, "Do you have a local church policy statement on Sexual/Gender Harassment and Misconduct of a Sexual Nature?" *We hope the answers will be yes.*

In closing I will share a quote from one of the General Secretaries of the General Commission of Status & Role of Women. She says, "*We will continue to strengthen women's leadership abilities, affirm, and empower women who are leaders. Educating women and men to recognize and name subtle and insidious behaviors that reflect qualities on the basis of gender, not only language inclusiveness, but power inclusiveness- will continue as well. Our goal is to see women's contributions not as interruptions in our community life but as valued reflections of more complete participation of God's children. A woman standing affirmed as God's valued daughter can face myriad struggles with strength and courage. The Florida Conference Commission on the status in Role of Women.*" – "*Women Living the Connection.*"

Joyce Waldon Bright
Chair, Commission on the Status & Role of Women

TRUSTEES, FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Report To The Florida Annual Conference

Responsible for all Conference owned real property: Land, Buildings, Facilities, Vehicles, Equipment

Proposed 2002 Budget:

- \$237,5000 Trustees
- \$250,000 Capital Replacement Fund (administered in conjunction with Council on Finance and Administration)

Responsible for about \$17.5 Million of Property

- Warren W. Willis Youth Camp
- Life Enrichment Center
- Lake Asbury Retreat Center
- South Florida Camp-LaBelle
- Conference Center Building
- Episcopal Office
- Episcopal Residence
- 12 Higher Education & Campus Ministry bldgs and Parsonages
- 3 Conference Staff Parsonages
- Vehicles and Equipment in Lakeland
- Conference Owned Cemeteries and other land

Recent Action

- Completed \$500,000 sewage treatment facility for LEC and Youth Camp
- Completed \$100,000 refurbishing of Conference Center Building, Episcopal Office, and Episcopal Residence
- Demolished small building and restored land near Episcopal Office

Robert R. Barber, for the Conference Trustees

HERITAGE BUILDING REPORT

We are happy to report that gifts and pledges to the Heritage Building Campaign, now has a total of \$468,378.41. Our goal is \$600,000.00.

Individuals who have given gifts have made these gifts possible, including the gift of \$225,000 to honor R. Ira Barnett, and the individual rooms including the last room available which will be given in honor of past and present laity leaders.

Churches have been asked to give \$500.00 each. Approximately 375 churches have responded. If our 400 churches who have not responded will do so, we can reach out goal of \$600.00.

We challenge our churches and laity to join us in providing a place to house the treasures of the past that we may look forward to a great future.

Robert R. Barber, Chairman, Heritage Bldg.

COLLEGES AND SEMINARIES

ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Greetings, Bishop Whitaker, delegates, and friends of the Florida Annual Conference. This is my fourth time to say "thanks" to the Conference for your support of the ministry of the Florida campus of Asbury Theological Seminary. "Thanks" is the appropriate word, because every student you send to us is a sacred trust between the seminary and the Annual Conference. We want to be good stewards of the lives of the women and men who come to Asbury Theological Seminary to prepare for ministry in the Florida Annual Conference.

We have just completed our second academic year, with 127 students in attendance. Of that number, 64% were United Methodist. We had a student body which was 34% female, and we had students from African-American, Hispanic, and Asian ethnic groups. We expect to grow to approximately 160 students in the Fall semester of 2001, serving students from more than 20 denominations and parachurch organizations. Because my time is limited, I only want to highlight two accomplishments from this past year.

1. We have strengthened the partnership between the Florida campus of Asbury Theological Seminary and the Florida Annual Conference. Dr. Larry Rankin is already an adjunct professor on our faculty, and he recently led a missions-immersion trip to Cuba. He will continue to provide missiological input to our students. Additionally, we will add David Dodge and Roger Swanson to our adjunct faculty in the coming year.

We have chosen these persons for three reasons: (1) their respective fields of expertise, which fit strategically into our mission, (2) their example of service to the church, which models the kind of leadership we want our graduates to have, and (3) their serving as links between the seminary and the Annual Conference. In each of these ways we envision a positive and growing partnership.

2. We have launched our Latino-Latina Studies Program (LLSP) and employed a director (Joanne Solis) to oversee this important dimension of our ministry. The LLSP includes both local and international components. Through the LLSP we are in a relationship with the Florida Hispanic Plan, and also in dialog with Bishop Pereira in Cuba about future possibilities.

Again, thank you for your encouragement and support during our first two years of ministry here in Florida. Please visit the seminary's display in the Cokesbury room. Come to the campus in Orlando and see firsthand what we are doing. And most of all, pray for us--asking God to keep us faithful to our calling.

Dr. Steve Harper, Vice President

BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE

Bethune-Cookman College is very grateful for the opportunity to submit another report to the Florida Annual Conference. We are extremely blessed to be a part of the United Methodist Fellowship of Colleges and Universities.

Bethune-Cookman College's faculty, staff and administrators continue to focus on building a successful future for our students. In December 2000, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, again, reaffirmed the College for a 10-year period. Beginning in 1960, the College has continuously maintained its accreditation status.

Our intensive recruitment efforts resulted in a dramatic increase in student enrollment. When compared with the previous year, the 2745 fall enrollment showed a seven percent gain in students. Approximately 27 foreign countries are represented in our student body including Ireland, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria, Serbia, Canada, Africa, South America, the Caribbean Islands, and from the Continents of India, Asia, especially China, and Australia. More importantly, we are making inroads toward achieving our goal of 85 percent retention of freshmen each year. Significant effort and time have been expended using technology in instructional methods, new curriculum designs, and increased mentoring and tutoring through an improved system of networking among students, faculty and staff.

Building renovation and physical development are other indicators of growth on campus. Renovation of white Hall, the administration building, is well underway. All offices have been relocated to other buildings on campus where renovations also occurred. Progress is being made in the construction of our 2500 seats auditorium, which one-day will host sessions of the Florida Annual Conference.

All ten-classroom buildings have been wired for the Internet reception. Also, within all the classroom buildings, at least two classrooms have been renovated to enable integration of modern technology into instructional courses and curriculum. All computers in the library and residence halls have Internet capabilities as well as all offices, and are well used. Students can now register on-line and the wider public can learn more about Bethune-Cookman College on our Web Site (www.cookman.edu).

Among our wide spectrum of grants and contracts, there is one that gives great pride to the College. The Development Sector was awarded the Kresge Foundation \$1.69 million grant to increase its fund raising capabilities over the next four years. It has increased its staff, and they are prepared to assume responsibilities that will achieve objectives. The College extends special thanks to those who, during the past year, gave gifts to support our efforts to assure leadership in academic excellence.

As a college of the United Methodist Church, Bethune-Cookman College continues to nurture the spiritual life of its students through dormitory Bible Study, small prayer

groups, and religious emphasis week, featuring invited pastors from our local community as well as others throughout the country.

Oswald P. Bronson, Sr., President

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

During 2000-01, Candler participated actively in the "Year of Reconciliation" a university-wide theme for Emory's special events, research, teaching and service. The university's faculty, students, alumni and the public engaged various societal issues—global, ethnic, religious and regional conflicts; race relations; health care access, delivery and financing; social justice; the environment. A high point was the Symposium on Reconciliation Jan. 25-28, 2001 featuring talks by Emory faculty member and former President Jimmy Carter; former Candler Dean, Emory President and U.S. Ambassador to Korea James Laney; U.S. Rep. John Lewis and former Southern Christian Leadership Conference President , Joseph Lowery. The reconciliation theme ran through the wonderful chapel services throughout the year. Reconciliation became as well the motif for the annual Fall Reformation Day at Candler, jointly sponsored by the Kessler Reformation Collection of the Pitts Theology Library and by the Aquinas Center of Theology (Emory University), with special focus on the Joint Declaration on Justification, signed by the Lutheran World Federation and the Roman Catholic Church in 1999. The day concluded pertinently with another fine performance by the Candler Choraliens, directed by Professor Marian Dolan. Homecoming 2001 also focused on the theme of reconciliation.

Thomas G. Long, described by Baylor University and Newsweek magazine as one of the 12 most effective preachers in the English speaking world, joined the faculty in January as the Bandy Professor of Preaching. Long has taught preaching and worship for more than 20 years, at Erskine Theological Seminary, Columbia Theological Seminary and Princeton Theological Seminary, from which he holds a Ph.D. An Atlanta native, Long has written or edited more than a dozen books, including *The Witness of Preaching* (1989), a standard preaching text; *Preaching and the Literary Forms of the Bible* (1989), and commentaries on the book of Hebrews (1997) and Matthew (1997). Since 1991 he has served as senior homiletics editor of the *New Interpreter's Bible*.

Rebecca S. Chopp, Provost and C. H. Candler Professor of Systematic Theology, has assumed the presidency of the American Academy of Religion (AAR). The AAR, the overarching scholarly association for religious studies, is an international organization with more than 9,000 faculty and researchers as members. Gail R. O'Day, A. H. Shatford Professor of Preaching and New Testament, recently became editor of *The Journal of Biblical Literature (JBL)*, the quarterly of the Society of Biblical Literature, the other umbrella scholarly religious organization. Theodore Brelsford, newly appointed as Assistant Professor of Religion and Education, has become editor of the scholarly journal for his field, *Religious Education*. In other

faculty business, Brent Strawn will join us as Assistant Professor of Old Testament. He currently teaches at Asbury Theological Seminary.

With the SEJ and United Methodism generally, Candler mourns the death of one of the university's trustees, Bishop Cornelius L. Henderson. In other "Episcopal" news, Candler welcomed two bishops-in-residence this year, Frank Kellogg Allan, Episcopal Bishop of Atlanta from 1989 to 2000 and founder of The Work of Our Hands Inc. and Marshall L. Meadors Jr., recently of the Mississippi Area and chair of the Council of Bishops' Initiative on Children and Poverty. L. Bevel Jones III remained as bishop-in-residence for another year. Emory elected two bishops to the Board of Trustees in 2000, Kenneth Carder, resident bishop for the Jackson Area and Michael Watson '74T of the South Georgia area. Also elected to the University board was Ms. Rhoda Peters, the Kentucky Conference provost for the United Methodist Church and editor-in-chief of the conference newspaper, NetNews.

Emory has received a five-year, \$3.2 million grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts to help establish a new Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Religion. "Emory aspires to make religion one of the five or six cardinal themes that suffuses its scholarship and defines its educational mission nationally and internationally," said Provost Rebecca Chopp. "Emory faculty are doing path breaking work in the study of religion and practice, religion and the professions, and comparative religions. This support will help the university become a permanent center for world-class religious scholarship." The new center will be housed at the law school and will draw the University's well-known Law and Religion Program into collaboration with a variety of other campus initiatives and institutions, including the School of Theology, the Graduate Division of Religion and the Department of Religion. John Witte, director of the Law and Religion Program and Jonas Robitscher Professor of Law, will head the center.

Candler further benefits from a \$2.5 million grant for a "Faith and the City" project, jointly undertaken with the Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta and Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA. Leading Candler in involvement in this venture to train, develop and deliver skilled, informed, articulate and morally based leadership for North America's urban centers is Dr. David Jenkins. Dr. Jenkins was previously Executive Director of the Christian Council of Metropolitan Atlanta and prior to that United Methodist Campus Minister at Duke University. See <http://www.faithandthecity.org/index.shtml>.

Two major grants from Lilly Endowment support the work of the school, \$1.5 million for the Contextual Education program, now in its third year and another for the Youth Theological Initiative (YTI) currently in planning for its eighth summer. YTI is an innovative program based at Candler, the model for similar ventures in other theological schools, "whose goal is to reconceive the way youth are viewed within society and within the church." The centerpiece of YTI is a four-week summer academy for rising seniors in high school which explores Christian Theology and Public Issues. See <http://www.emory.edu/CANDLER/yti/>.

Through another year, Candler has functioned effectively in its various endeavors -- in its teaching and courses, in the Contextual Education program, through continuing education and in research and publication -- to live out its purpose, to remain grounded in the Christian faith and to be constantly shaped by the Wesleyan tradition of evangelical piety, ecumenical openness, and social concern. It remains faithful to its mission to educate--through scholarship, teaching, and service--faithful and creative leaders for the church's ministries in the world. If you cannot come to see us and witness Candler's fidelity first-hand, then visit us online at <http://www.emory.edu/CANDLER/>.

Russell E. Richey, Dean and Professor of Church History

DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL

Duke Divinity School, which opened in 1926 as Duke University's first graduate professional school, is celebrating 75 years of preparing leaders for the transformative ministry of the church through distinguished academic and field programs for education of both the clergy and laity.

During the past fiscal year, the Divinity School received a record-breaking \$11.4 million in contributions, surpassing its original goal for the five-year Duke University Capital Campaign. Such success encouraged the university trustees to approve a revised goal of \$85 million for the Divinity School by the end of 2003, which will include funds for endowment and for building an addition, including a new Divinity School chapel.

Enrollment for 2000-01 was 484 full-time students from 32 states and ten foreign countries. Sixty percent of the student body is United Methodist, with the balance representing 37 other denominations.

The Divinity School began several new endeavors in the past year. *The Learned Clergy Initiative* is an innovative effort to help develop a new generation of strong pastors. Funded by a \$10 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., the initiative is designed to inspire vital leadership for congregations. The program includes a total of 60 three-year master's degree fellowships, six five-year Ph.D. scholarships, and a series of sustained learning opportunities to bring together clergy and lay leaders with divinity faculty and students to cultivate good habits of study, reflection and conversation.

The Duke Youth Academy for Christian Formation will hold its initial two-week residential session, July 8-21, on the Duke University campus. The academy, also funded by a Lilly Endowment grant, will accept 70 rising high school juniors and seniors of diverse races, cultures and Christian faith traditions.

The Duke Pastoral Leadership Project focuses on strengthening the quality of clergy and lay leadership across the country. Twenty separate research studies are planned, under way or, in some cases, already completed. The first five of 10 Ph.D. research fellowships—each carrying a \$15,000 stipend—have been awarded, and more than 3,000 pastoral leaders are being surveyed.

“Living a Sunday Faith in a Monday World” was the title of *Laity Weekend*, a conference designed to help people learn how to live their faith in the weekday world.

A new *Partnership* between Duke Divinity School and the Methodist Church of Southern Africa has been established. This will have a particular connection with John Wesley College, the theological school for the MCSA. Student internships and other student and faculty exchanges are being developed to enhance the education and formation of people in both contexts.

Respectfully submitted by L. Gregory Jones, Dean

FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

Florida Southern College, the state's oldest church-affiliated college, had a productive year. The college saw its highest freshmen enrollment in five years — more than 500 students — for the Fall 2000 semester.

We added new 10 new faculty members in Fall 2000, and 83 percent of our faculty has the highest degrees in their disciplines.

A gracious gift of \$500,000 from John Raymond Miller II and Eleanor Honeyman Miller allowed FSC to renovate the planetarium and install a new stargazing instrument, one of only two of its kind in the world in operation. The new Miller Planetarium was dedicated Feb. 9. Edge Hall, our original campus building, and the Polk Science Building have been fully renovated. The science building now houses new state-of-the-art science equipment.

FSC awarded honorary degrees during Fall Commencement to Florida Supreme Court Justice R. Fred Lewis, a 1979 graduate of FSC, and Plant City Attorney Robert Trinkle. Chesterfield Smith, an attorney with Holland and Knight, served as Honorary Chancellor for Founder's Day festivities in March.

The Florida Southern athletic program capped its 2000 spring season by winning both the men's and women's golf national championships. Both teams produced the individual national champions as well. It was the third straight and 11th overall NCAA Division II title for the men's team and first ever for the women's squad. Both the men's and women's cross country teams won their respective Sunshine State Conference championships, and each team also produced the SSC Individual Champion. The men's basketball team won its 15th regular season league championship and went on to capture its 16th post-season title.

Religious life is alive and well on campus. This year 25 students received the Full-Time Christian Service Grant and 20 additional students received pre-Ministerial scholarships. The 10 major campus student ministries include Beyond and Upper Room ministries (student-led worship services), and denomination groups such as Wesley Fellowship (UM), Reformed Campus Ministries and Baptist Collegiate Ministries, and special interest groups such as Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Sigma Rho Epsilon (Christian-based volunteerism) and Habitat for Humanity. There are also numerous Bible Study and prayer groups on campus. Sundays in Annie Pfeiffer Chapel offers protestant services led by Chaplain Brenda Lewis, the student praise and worship team at 11 a.m. and Catholic worship services at 1 p.m.

The Advancing-the-Flame Matching Scholarship program received \$135,000 from 67 United Methodist Churches, matched by \$104,000 from FSC for 115 United Methodist students on campus. The program has provided more than \$650,000 in scholarships during the last four years. FSC continues to honor the United Methodist connection by offering a variety of other scholarships for ministers' children and those studying for church-related service.

Thirty-five members of the Concert Chorale, directed by Dr. Larry Sledge, participated in the Spring Break concert tour from March 2 through 11. The group presented concerts in 10 different United Methodist Churches in Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina, Virginia and Washington, D.C. These students were also part of the 115 students who delighted 1,100 United Methodists at the annual Department of Music Christmas Gala honoring UM Church members in the Conference. The 2000 luncheon and matinee performance were a resounding success.

Seven ministers enjoyed a time for rest, renewal and study by taking advantage of the Minister's Sabbatical program on campus in 2000. FSC offers free accommodations on campus for five days, tickets to athletic and fine arts events, plus the use of the library and time to visit classes for all active United Methodist ministers.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas L. Reuschling, President

GAMMON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Dr. Walter H. McKelvey, President

Gammon Theological Seminary founded in 1883 is one of 13 accredited United Methodist seminaries in The United States. It is located at 653 Beckwith Street, Atlanta, Georgia.

The mission of Gammon Theological Seminary, a historically African American institution, in partnership with The Interdenominational Theological Center, is to

recruit, support and educate pastors and leaders for The United Methodist Church.

Gammon is one of six major denominations that comprise the consortium of the Interdenominational Theological Center, which is the world's premier resource for African-American church scholarship and faith based solutions to spiritual and socio-economic challenges confronting the African-American community.

Eighty United Methodists students are enrolled in degree programs from Africa, Asia and the United States. Female students comprise one-third of the student enrollment. The typical student is 30-49 years old, active in a local church, and successful in one career and preparing for a second career.

The interdisciplinary curriculum offers a holistic educational experience, integrating theological studies with preparation for the ministry. 160 courses fall into four major areas of study: Biblical Studies and Languages; Philosophy, Theology, Ethics and History; Persons, Society and Culture; and The Church and Its Mission. A variety of classes, many of which actively engage students in the ecumenical and multicultural environment on campus and in the community beyond, they encounter a preview of the diversity they will discover in serving congregations and communities after graduation. Last May a total of 22 students graduated.

Two new programs have been developed as a way to fulfill some of the special training needs of United Methodist clergy and other leaders in ministry in Louisiana and South Carolina. The Louisiana Cooperative Program of Theological Studies and South Carolina Cooperative Program of Theological Studies at Dillard University and Claflin University respectively. The program offers Master's level theology students the opportunity to earn 34 graduate credit hours of basic theological studies and additional courses during special summer intensive sessions at The ITC.

The remaining required credit hours are to be earned in residency at the ITC in Atlanta, Georgia.

Gammon/ITC is fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools in The United States and Canada and by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. We just received re-certification and received three commendations. The institution is a member of The Atlanta Theological Association.

The alumni of Gammon Theological Seminary serve the community and larger society as college presidents, professors, pastors, government officials, community leaders, chaplains, denominational executives and administrators, campus ministers and bishops. Bishop James R. King of Tennessee, Gammon alumnus, was elected to the episcopacy at the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in July and is currently serving the Kentucky Conference area. Rev.

Danita Anderson of Northern Illinois and Rev. Clarence Brown of the Virginia Annual Conference have been appointed District Superintendents.

It is with a deep sadness that this past year we celebrated the lives and times of two persons, who were very dear to our hearts, Bishop Cornelius L. Henderson, the resident Bishop of Florida, and past president of Gammon and Mrs. Bettie J. McKelvey, first lady of Gammon. Scholarships have been established in memory of both persons.

Gammon embarks upon the twenty-first century with a vision that honors its historic mission and embraces its promising future. With an international reputation for producing outstanding clergy and a long standing tradition of community outreach, we are committed to academic excellence in training leaders, teachers, and pastors with exceptional dedication to serving the church and society.

RELATED INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME *2000 – A Healing Place Under The Sheltering Tree* 92 Years of Ministry to Children and Youth

The mission of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home is to create an atmosphere, which enables children and families with special needs to experience God's love and care as presented in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. Combining Christian influence with a healing, caring, therapeutic community, the Home provides a continuum of highly specialized services designed to strengthen individual and family life.

As our mission statement proclaims the year 2000 found us providing a healing, caring, therapeutic community, "Under The Sheltering Tree." Through a dedicated Board of Trustees and many extra planning hours, we worked with new programs to better serve our youth and families and we struggled with financial issues that have plagued us for years.

Personally, those of us involved with the day to day ministry of your Home know of the physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual healing that takes place in the lives of the children, youth and families we serve. Each child, youth and family bring a special story, we firmly believe that through inspiration and prayer the Holy Spirit anoints our ministry. Through that inspiration we are creatively enabled to find purpose, meaning and healing in this ministry.

Financially: Your assistance in bringing The Home through our financial crisis brought residents and staff peace of mind. Residents were assured that with adequate financial support there would be no further cut backs or programs placed on hold. No child, youth or family would be denied services because of

our financial inability to care for them. Staff was relieved in that no further layoffs would occur giving them security to accomplish their ministry.

We have relied less on estate income and more on direct contributions.

The Financial Development Office is placing a strong emphasis on our permanent Endowment Fund, by soliciting specific planned and estate gifts. We have renewed our commitment to the lifeblood of this ministry through the Fifth Sunday Offerings received by the Local Church so that we might sustain and grow this ministry.

Buildings, Grounds and Transportation: The buildings, grounds and vehicles were well maintained giving the residents and staff assurance of being cared for. Children, youth and the families we serve especially notice the care given their surroundings; ours continues to say that this is a warm friendly place and that we value and are good stewards of what is entrusted to us.

The Board established that the cost of new buildings and programs would include additional start up funding which would be placed in our permanent endowment fund to assist with future program costs and the upkeep of our facilities.

Program and Personnel: Our mission statement says that we are "to create an atmosphere, which enables children and families with special needs to experience God's love and care as presented in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. Combining Christian influence with a healing, caring, therapeutic community, the Home provides a continuum of highly specialized services designed to strengthen individual and family life."

This "continuum of highly specialized services designed to strengthen individual and family life" calls us to care for children and youth who need not only basic care (3 hots and a cot) but who also need highly specialized services of dedicated servants as child and youth care workers, behavioral specialists, clinical social workers, psychologists, educational specialists and others.

Long Range Planning and Continuous Quality Assurance: To "create an atmosphere, which enables children and families with special needs to experience God's love and care as presented in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ" involves guidance and long range vision.

During 2000 we achieved re-accreditation from:

- The EAGLE Program of The United Methodist Health and Welfare Association.
- "The Council On Accreditation" for our counseling services for Individuals, Families, and Children; Residential Center for Children and Youth; Therapeutic Adventure Based Residential Wilderness Outdoor Service; and Child Day.

Plans are under way to revisit our Strategic Plan and set the map toward our Centennial in 2008.

As an honor to your dedicated Board and Staff who worked diligently and assumed extra duties to cover while the Home's president was laid up for half of the year and because we are a healing place Bishop Cornelius L. Henderson nominated Florida United Methodist Children's Home as "The Agency of the Year" for the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries. Bishop Henderson wrote; "I have had the opportunity to observe the ministry of our Children's Home. Not only is the Home operated in a most efficient manner, with a strong emphasis on careful stewardship of funds, but the air of caring for the children permeates every aspect of the operations of the Home." (December 1999)

As a result of a dedicated Board and experienced staff, we not only survived a difficult year – we excelled our expectations! Our finances, while still close, are improving with each fifth Sunday offering, our program has taken on new and exciting ministries, we are preparing to open a new cottage in 2001 and renovate an older cottage opening that too during 2001.

Our song expresses, not only the feelings the children, youth and families experience in their lives as they come to us, but also our corporate ministry as we see more and increasingly difficult cases with which to minister.

But on the shore line there grows a tree
with branches wide and with roots so deep.
No matter how the winds may blow,
there is a healing place to go.
Yes, there's shelter from the storm
Love flows through the branches there,
miracles are the fruit it bears
and hope rains down and fills the air
Under the Sheltering Tree.

You have provided the shelter and the operating funds to keep this vital ministry alive and growing! As we prepare for our second century of care under the sheltering trees of this campus and our ministry to children, youth and families we plan to evolve our theme of healing and care under the sheltering tree.

Two thousand was truly a milestone year in that through special gifts, bequests and through the continued prayerful assistance of the local churches in the Florida Conference and especially our donors we were able to begin relying more on our church connection than ever before! Now we must continue that great effort as we maintain program while building for the future.

During 2000, Our Fifth Sunday giving from local churches and friends of the Home allowed us to minister to children, youth and families. The local church goal for giving in 2001 is \$9.00 per member and is set for \$9.50 in 2001. This represents a minimum goal of what is actually needed. We deeply appreciate the local churches and individuals who exceed their commitment to children and thereby meet and exceed this goal. Without this assistance the Home would be experiencing financial strain. We request the historic plan be continued whereby on each Fifth Sunday and on Christmas Sunday, the church school offering and the undesignated offering (loose plate) received in Sunday worship services be remitted directly, along with special donations and gifts, to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home.

While the seeds for this healing place have been sown we rely on you to assist us in nurturing those seeds as they grow strong sheltering trees.

David McEntire, Chairperson Board of Trustees
Alexander C. Carmichel, IV President – Senior Pastor

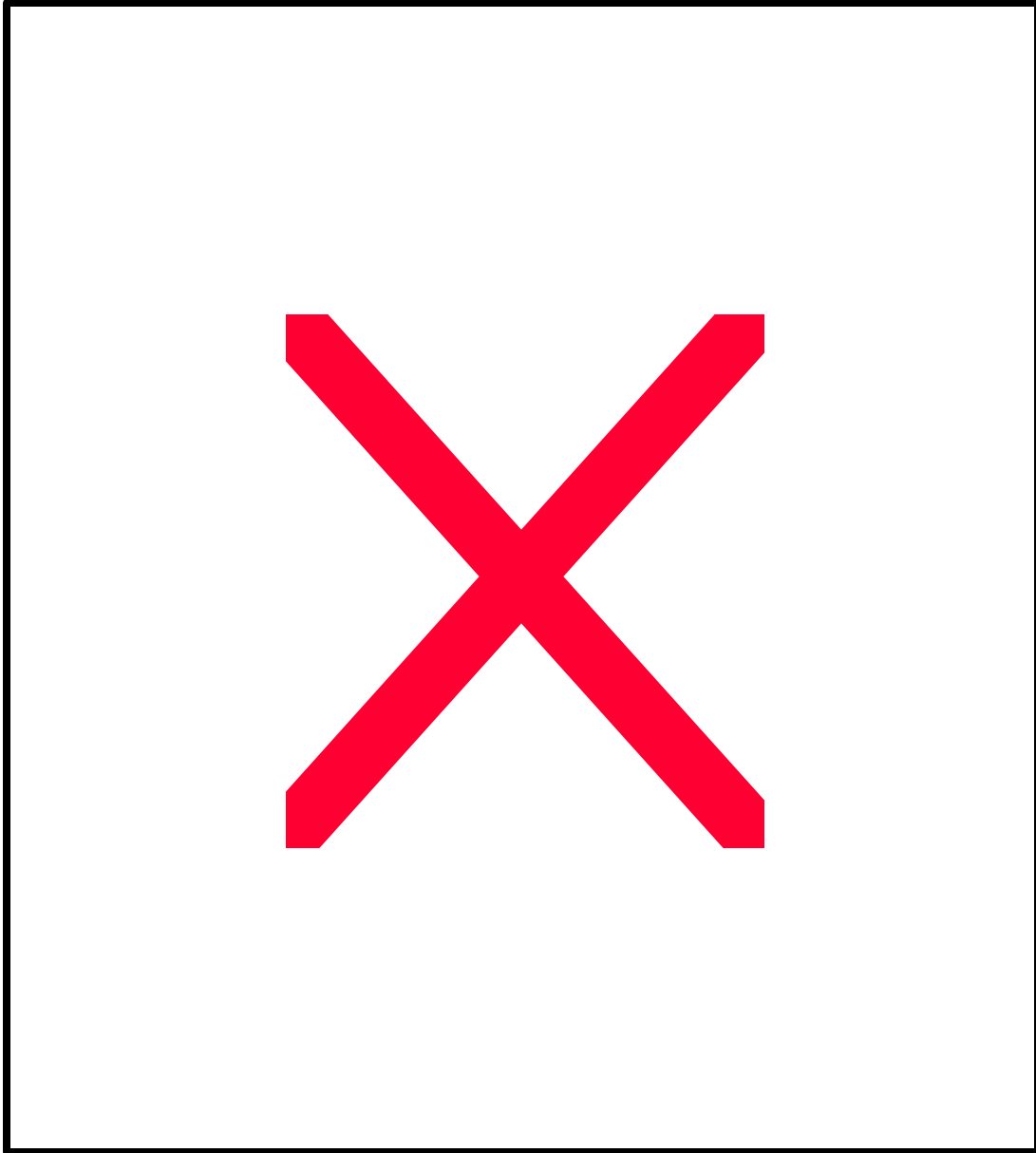
*Sometimes the water is so deep and wide. There seems no way to reach the other side.
Tossed about before the wind. It seems no use to try again.
Is there no shelter from the storm?*

*But on the shore line there grows a tree with branches wide and with roots so deep.
No matter how the winds may blow, there is a healing place to go.
Yes, there's shelter from the storm. Love flows through the branches there,
Miracles are the fruit it bears and hope rains down and fills the air
Under the Sheltering Tree.*

*Every child of God deserves a chance to see Just what the Lord created him to be.
But in the storms of life today Sometimes a child can lose his way.
But there's a shelter from the storm. Love flows through the branches there,
miracles are the fruit it bears. and hope rains down and fills the air
Under the Sheltering Tree*

*We are all the children of the Lord above It is a miracle of hope and love.
Let the children come to me. There's shelter here beneath the tree
Love flows through the branches there, miracles are the fruit it bears
and hope rains down and fills the air
Under the Sheltering Tree.*

*Let the children come to me. There's shelter here beneath my tree.
I am a shelter from the storm. God the father sent his Son
to his children everyone. And miracles can still be done
Under the Sheltering Tree*



[A complete copy of the audit of The Florida United Methodist Children's Home may be obtained by contacting the Florida Conference, Office of Financial Services or the Florida United Methodist Children's Home.]

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST CREDIT UNION

The most frequently asked question to your Credit Union is, "Am I qualified to join the credit union?" In all probability the answer is "Yes!"

"Yes!" if you're a member or an affiliate member or an associate member of a United Methodist Church within the bounds of the Florida Conference. "Yes!" if you're a clergy member of the Florida Annual Conference.

"Yes!" if you're an employee of a church or an institution of the Florida Conference or a member of one of its boards or agencies. "Yes!" if you're an immediate family member of a primary member including parents, children, spouses, surviving spouses or any other relative by blood or marriage or adoption even though such members may not reside in the same household. And "Yes!" your incorporated church may also become a member of the Florida United Methodist Credit Union.

Once you join you become the recipient of all services of the Credit Union: competitive rates on regular savings accounts which are insured up to \$100,000 per account by NCUA, (an agency of the federal government), free checking accounts with no minimum balance requirement and no limit to the number of checks you can write, low-interest loans for your financing needs, including a credit card, and access to your accounts through a network of ATM and Shared Service facilities. We can also make consumer-type loans to your church for the financing of vehicles, office equipment, chancel furnishings, sound equipment etc. at very competitive rates.

We invite you to visit us on our web site at www.unitedmethodistcu.com. You can access a loan application, fill it out at your leisure and mail it in to the credit union for a quick answer on your loan request. On our web site you can research information on new and used cars, get quotes on auto insurance and get other valuable financial information. Our site offers informative articles that are updated weekly for the benefit of our members.

Please call us at (863) 688-5563 ext. 145 or toll-free in Florida at 1-800-282-8011 Ext 145 for a membership application or e-mail us at FLUMCU-Beierle@worldnet.att.net. Come grow with us by telling your family and fellow United Methodists about our ---your---Florida United Methodist Credit Union. We think you will like our friendly, personal service.

Robert M. Temple, Jr., Chairman
Joan E. Beierle, President

THE FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST DEVELOPMENT FUND, INC.

The Florida United Methodist Development Fund, Inc. was established in 1976. The Fund is registered with the State of Florida Division of Securities as an Issuer-Dealer in a limited security.

The Florida United Methodist Development Fund's purpose is to assist the Annual Conference in its church development needs. The Fund receives investments from individuals, churches and church organizations, which are redeemable on a "demand" basis. The interest rate, 6.00% as of January 1, 2001, is set quarterly by the Board of Directors. From the accumulation of these investments, the Fund makes first mortgage loans to churches of the conference for new building construction, major renovations and property purchases. The Fund can loan up to 5% of the amount invested in The Fund, and the maximum term is fifteen (15) years. The interest rate for loans, 8.00 % as of January 1, 2001, is adjusted quarterly to 2.0% above the rate being paid to investors in The Fund.

The minimum initial investment is \$100.00. Interest is paid on March 31 and September 30 of each year. The investor can elect to have the interest reinvested or paid out by check. As of December 31, 2000, investments totaled \$33,760,543. Funds not yet loaned are deposited only in Certificates of Deposit and U.S. Government obligations. The Fund has a capital reserve of \$1,500,000, which serves as security for the investors' deposits.

The Board of Directors of The Florida United Methodist Foundation, Inc. comprises the membership of this corporation. Each director is elected for a term of four years, and service is limited to eight consecutive years.

For a copy of the Offering Circular or for a copy of the Loan Guidelines, please contact The Florida United Methodist Development Fund, Inc., at P. O. Box 3767, Lakeland, FL 33802 or e-mail: DevFund@fumf.org.

Steven Beres, Board Chairperson
Thomas W. Marston, President

THE FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION, INC.

The Florida United Methodist Foundation, Inc. was organized under the not-for-profit corporation laws of the State of Florida on July 19, 1966. Its purpose is to facilitate charitable giving to churches, institutions, boards or agencies of the Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. As such, The Foundation serves as a channel in the handling of gifts to United Methodist institutions through charitable estate planning opportunities. The Foundation is legally authorized to serve as trustee in the administration of charitable trusts created for the benefit of any United Methodist institution, local church or church

organization. It is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Members of the corporation are the lay and clergy members of the Florida Annual Conference. The Board of Directors is elected by the Conference upon nomination by the Conference Committee on Nominations. Directors are elected to a term of three years, and service is restricted to nine consecutive years.

Officers and staff of The Foundation are available, without fee, to assist local churches in establishing a Permanent Endowment Fund and Committee, in creating their own planned giving programs, and present workshops on wills and charitable estate planning on behalf of local churches, districts or other church related agencies. Additionally, officers of The Foundation are always available, without fee, to provide information, on a confidential basis, regarding opportunities whereby personal asset accumulations may be used to benefit the individual and the ministries and churches of The United Methodist Church. Information can be provided to individuals regarding the variety of charitable estate planning vehicles. These vehicles include wills, revocable or living charitable trusts, life insurance policies, gift annuities and gifts of appreciated property.

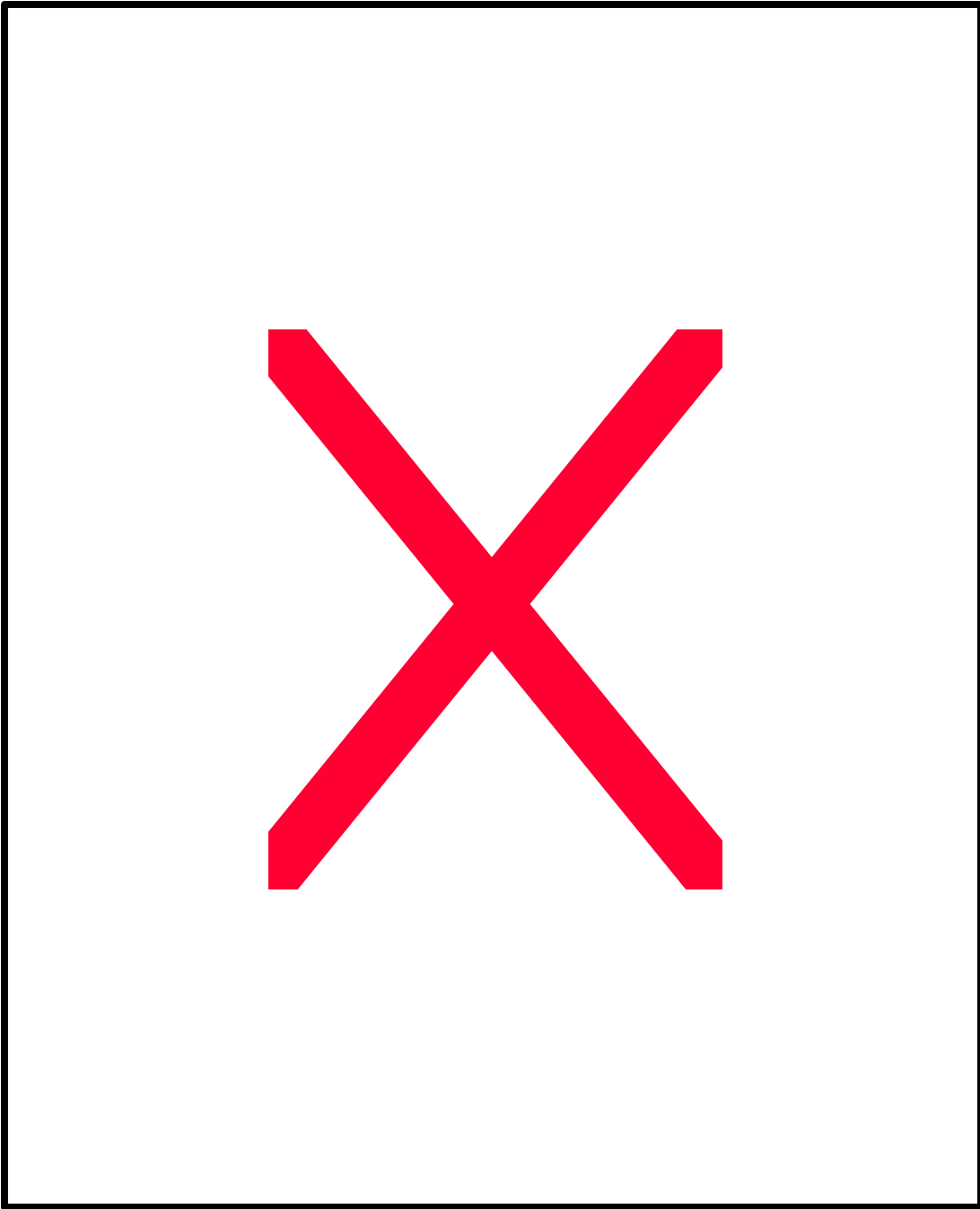
The Florida United Methodist Foundation will serve as Trustee in the management of revocable or irrevocable charitable trusts established to benefit the church or its related institutions. Trustee services include the professional management of trust assets, record keeping and reporting, accounting and the regular payment of income to the donor or other beneficiaries. The instructions of the donor(s) are faithfully observed. A small fee will be assessed in order to cover administrative expenses.

Through an Investment Management Agreement, The Foundation will invest local church, district and conference endowment funds or other permanent funds. Once an appropriate investment strategy is determined by The Foundation and the investing unit, the funds are placed under professional management. A small fee is assessed in order to cover administrative expenses. As of December 31, 2000, The Foundation managed assets of over \$ 68,446,765 (Fair Market Value) in these trusts and money management agreements.

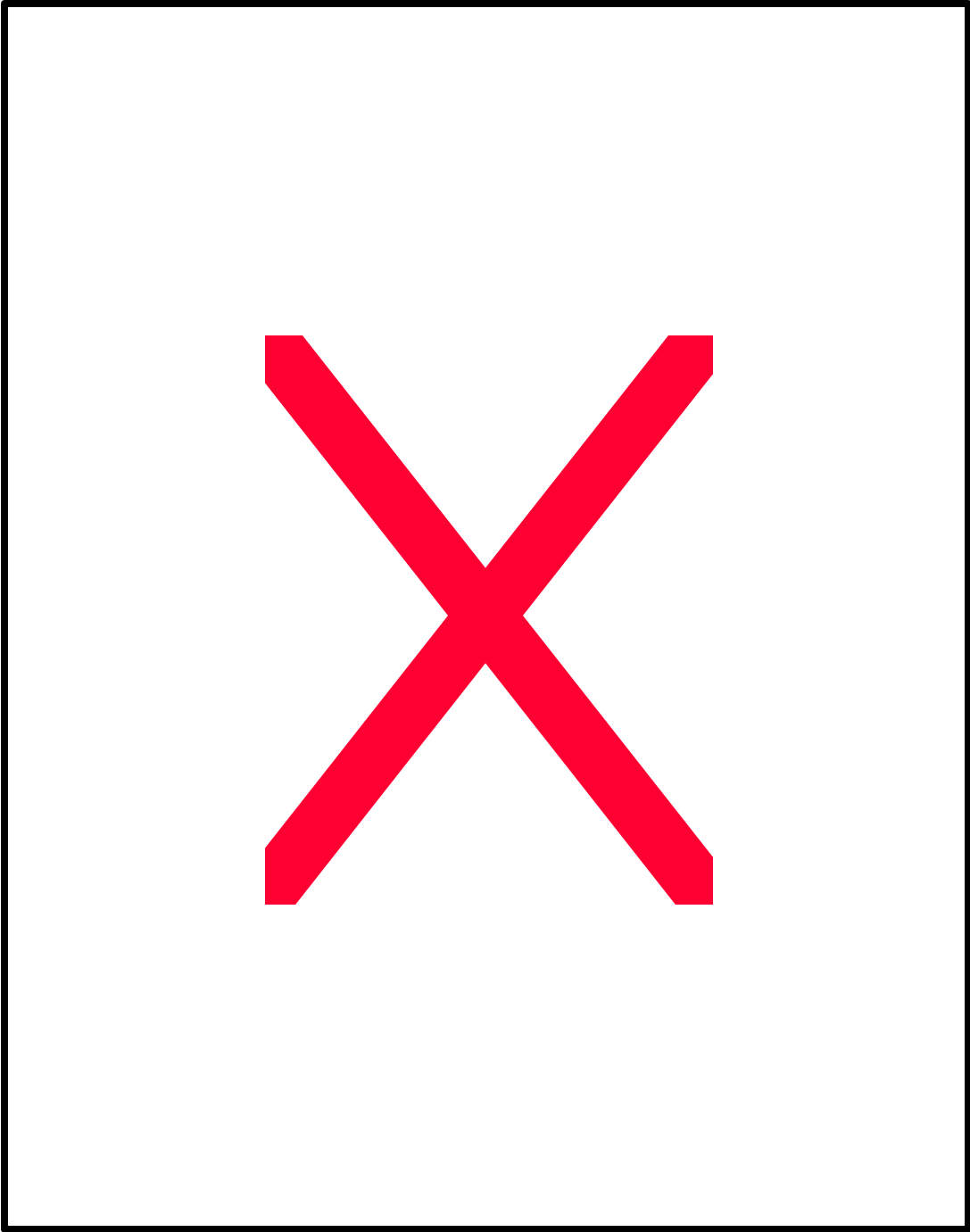
The Foundation provides Charitable Gift Annuities to individuals who wish to give a meaningful charitable gift to their church and yet also retain the security of regular income payments over their lifetime, or over the lifetime of a loved one. The Foundation assesses a small administrative fee for this service on value of the original gift; however, this fee does not diminish the value of the gift annuity to the annuitant. As of December 31, 2000, The Foundation managed over \$2,270,041 (Fair Market Value) in gift annuities.

On a short-term basis, the Foundation invests building and other designated funds received from local churches, the districts, the conference and other church related organizations in The Sharing Plan. From these funds, loans are made to the conference, districts and local churches. The investing unit receives a higher rate of interest than customarily is paid for short-term deposits and at the same time keeps its money working in the church. Through the years, borrowers have saved thousands of dollars because of the lower interest rates on their loans. As of December 31, 2000, \$ 2,678,875 was invested in The Sharing Plan.

Randolph J. Rush, Chairperson
Thomas W. Marston, President



[A complete copy of the audit of The Florida United Methodist Development Fund, Inc. and the Florida United Methodist Foundation, Inc. can be obtained by contacting the Florida Conference Office of Financial Services FUMDF or FUMF.]



THE FOUNDATION FOR EVANGELISM

The Florida Conference and The Foundation for Evangelism are partners in an undertaking that is called The Florida AC-70. The "AC" stands for "annual conference" and the "70" refers to the 70 that Jesus sent out to go ahead of him to places he intended to go. (Luke 10:1ff) He sent them on an evangelistic mission and told them "the harvest was plentiful." This is what the Bishop and Cabinet saw was also true of Florida - the harvest is plentiful. People thronging into the state who need to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Thus the Florida AC-70 effort was begun. In this effort funds are raised to support the work of evangelism in Florida and throughout the nation. The Bishop and Cabinet set a goal of \$350,000 to be raised over a five-year term. To date we have held banquets in ten of the fourteen districts. This represents 71.4% of the districts in this Conference. Our total commitment from these ten districts is \$252,279. This represents 72% of the goal. The other four districts have scheduled their banquets and these will be completed soon.

The Foundation for Evangelism is honored to participate in bringing to The Florida Conference one of the nation's outstanding leaders in evangelistic work, Dr. Roger Swanson, Distinguished Conference Evangelist. His work among you has been more than well received and is helping to make a significant contribution to your evangelistic efforts.

Of the thirteen ministries of The Foundation for Evangelism, the most ambitious is the funding of our E. Stanley Jones Professors of Evangelism in United Methodist-related theology schools. All but two of our schools now have such professors. We anticipate that these two will also have professors of evangelism in the near future. We also fund professors of evangelism at Africa University and in our Methodist Theology School in Germany. The Foundation is also funding a professor of evangelism at Asbury in Orlando. The cost of endowing one of these professorships is usually \$1.5 million.

Another of our ministries is the Denman Awards which are given at most conferences in The United Methodist Church. This award is named for Harry Denman, a great layman in our church who was the General Secretary of The General Board of Evangelism for many years and who started The Foundation for Evangelism.

Finally, we call your attention to a new endeavor that we are undertaking in cooperation with The General Board of Discipleship with whom we are affiliated. This is a resource we call WITNESS. It is a 25-week study designed as a small group experience to explore one's faith and to help one have the confidence to witness to one's faith. This resource is expected to be to evangelism in the local church what DISCIPLE is to Bible Study in the local church. The WITNESS materials are to be available through Discipleship Resources and Cokesbury stores.

Dr. Jimmie Crook, Resident Staff Minister

FLORIDA CONFERENCE KOINONIA

In the second chapter of the letter of James there is the following message in verses 14 and 17: What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has not deeds? Can such faith save him? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action is deed.

Over 520 ordained ministers – elders, deacons, and lay pastors- do not only preach about love and caring for one another; they live it as part of the Florida Conference Koinonia. For over seven decades the ministers who compose the Florida Conference Koinonia make a special donation to the surviving spouse or family of minister or spouse who has passed away. Through letters, cards, and calls by individual members of the Koinonia, grieving family members are reminded of the important contributions the beloved family member made to the ministry of Jesus Christ and the lives of individuals throughout Florida.

Upon the death of a member of Koinonia all members make a small donation to provide financial assistance as well as spiritual and emotional support to the spouse and/ or family. The combined gifts provide grants of \$2,500 to help the family during this difficult time of transition.

In each district there is a Koinonia representative to help any minister become a member of Koinonia or you can talk to any of the officers during this week. If you are under 45 you can join with no pre-payment required. If you are over 45 your district Koinonia representative will be happy to explain the stipulations.

There is the opportunity for laity to be friends of Koinonia. Although they would not receive a payment, they do contribute \$5.00 for each calling to provide assistance to the surviving spouse or family. If you would like more information or participate please contact one of the officers this week or call Sanlando. UM Church at 407-571-2101.

The other officers of the Florida Koinonia are Dr. Bob Dickinson- vice president and Rev. Richard Gantz – secretary/treasurer. We encourage each deacon, elder, and lay pastor to become part of this ministry that puts action to our words of love and care for one another.

White similar programs are being discontinued in other conferences the ministers of Florida continue to support and care for one another.

Dr. Warren Langer
President of Florida Conference Koinonia

FLORIDA CONFERENCE KOINONIA

We, the undersigned, reviewed the 2000 finances of the Florida Conference Koinonia. There is a bookkeeping error which will be researched by the secretary and resolved, to be reported at the next annual meeting. Rev. Richard Gantz is to be commended for his diligent and meticulous attention to the proceeding of the Koinonia.

Rev. Jesse Baker
Rev. Owen Stricklin

Florida Conference Koinonia

Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2000

Cash on Deposit, December 31, 1999		
Checking Account First Union Nat'l Bank	\$ 6,728.43	
Cert. Of Deposit, First Union Nat'l Bank	15,953.57	
Cert. Of Deposit, Washington Mutual Bank	17,833.92	
Florida United Methodist Foundation Managed Fund	299,466.39	
Sharing Account	<u>11,801.50</u>	
Total Assets, December 31, 1999		<u>\$ 351,783.81</u>
Cash Receipts		
Mortuary Calls \$ 38,034.00		
Annual Dues 1,917.00		
Membership Dues	1.00	
Donations	65.00	
Interest Income – First Union	29.37	
Interest Income – First Union, CD	916.03	
Interest Income – Washington Mutual, CD	1,095.11	
Florida United Methodist Foundation		
Interest Income – Managed Fund	647.67	
Capital Gains – Managed Fund	38,175.14	
Interest Income – Sharing Acc't	<u>477.42</u>	
Total Income		<u>\$ 81,355.74</u>
Cash Disbursements		
Total of Payments to 15 Beneficiaries at Death of Member or Spouse	\$ 37,433.00	
Postage, Printing, Supplies	3,632.71	
Treasurer's Honorarium	2,400.00	
Secretary	400.00	
Refund 24.00		
Miscellaneous <u>307.44</u>		
Total Cash Disbursements		<u>\$ 44,197.15</u>
Income in excess of Disbursements		<u>\$ 37,158.59</u>
Cash on Deposit, Deposit, December 31, 2000		
Checking Acc't, First Union Nat'l Bank	\$ 2,575.65	
Cert. Of Deposit, First Union Nat'l Bank	16,869.60	
Cert. Of Deposit, Washington Mutual Bank	18,929.03	
Florida United Methodist Foundation		

Managed Fund	344,712.46	
Sharing Account	<u>12,278.92</u>	
Total Assets, December 31, 2000		<u>\$ 395,365.66</u>

Florida Conference Koinonia

Membership Status

December 31, 2000

A. Total Membership, January 1, 2000	556	
Additions	<u>2</u>	
Total membership with Additions	558	

Members Removed from Membership

By Death	15	
For non-payment	3	
By request	4	
Other	1	
Total Removed for 2000		<u>23</u>
Total Membership, December 31, 2000		535

Recap of Membership

Active Clergy Members	263	
Retired Clergy Members	272	
Contributing members without Benefit	<u>4</u>	

Total Membership, December 31, 2000 539

Total Spouse members	471	
Members on Disability	5	

Dues structure and payments at death of member or spouse is summarized as follows, as of January 1, 2001:

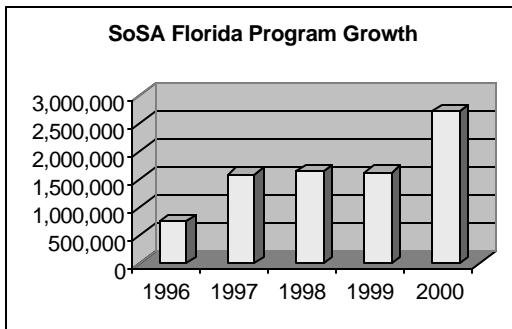
	<u>Annual Dues</u>	<u>Mortuary Fees</u>
Full Conference Member	\$5.00	\$5.00/call
Minimum Salary Member	5.00	4.00/call
Retired member	1.00	5.00/call
Probationary Member	1.00	2.00/first 4 yrs
Disabled Member	0.00	0.00
Spouse of Member	1.00	2.00/call

SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW (SoSA)

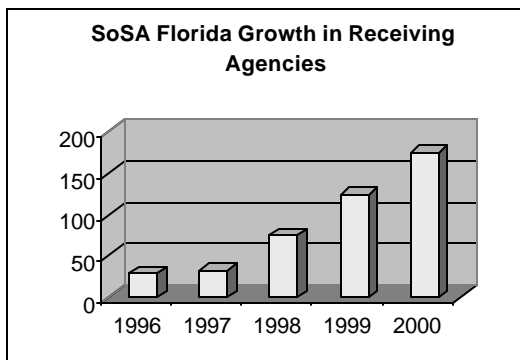
Feeding the hungry in Florida

Purpose of Programs: To feed the hungry throughout Florida while preventing food waste. (Lev 19:9-10)

Concept of Programs: Millions of pounds of nutritious but unmarketable produce are left in Florida fields and orchards after harvest. SoSA programs save this fresh produce and distributes it directly to Food Banks and dozens of feeding agencies in the state. These programs also provide an opportunity for low income individuals to help feed themselves. Produce is simply gathered up or "gleaned" after farmers and growers have completed their harvest.

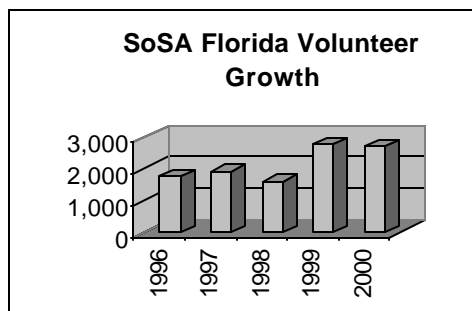


cost per pound!! Fresh produce that would



nearly all ages can do; it's fun and easy to do

- Volunteers come from church groups of all denominations and faiths, civic clubs, scout troops, college campus groups and other organizations. 1999 & 2000 surpassed the 2,700 volunteer mark
- Short term mission effort with high impact
- Begin to live out your faith, come glean with us. Dare to Share Jesus. Feed the Hungry in Florida.



To get your church involved contact: 407-650-1956 Society of St. Andrew or 800-806-0756 or P.O. Box 536842, Orlando, FL 32853-6842.

What has been accomplished ?

- Over 2.6 million pounds of food at a program cost of under 5¢ per pound last year!
- Feeding Agencies across the state have benefited
- Each agency receives the food at no cost helping to improve *their* efficiency and effectiveness
- Over 1200% growth in Gleaning Network since start-up!!
- We've increased food distribution while decreasing overall cost per pound!! Fresh produce that would otherwise go to waste is being used instead to feed hungry Floridians.
- Since beginning in 1995 SoSA's Gleaning Network has encountered tremendous growth
- The number of agencies receiving donated produce has grown each year -- helps them stretch tight budgets
- Fresh produce that would otherwise go to waste is being used instead to feed hungry Floridians
- Simple, cost effective and extremely successful - it just makes sense
- Gleaning is something people of

SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

For the Administrative Council of the Southeastern Jurisdiction the year 2000 was a year of change and transition. A new Executive Director began in May and Bishop Robert Fannin, from the Birmingham area, finished his two years of service as President of the Administrative Council with Bishop William Morris, from the Nashville area, becoming President in December. David Snipes the Business Manager/Treasurer after eleven years of wonderful service to the Council resigned to return to his home in South Georgia.

The position of Director of Ministry was filled by Joy Carr, a diaconal minister in the Mississippi Conference. She had previously served as Director of Christian Education related to Annual Conferences with the Board of Discipleship and Associate Director of the Conference Council in the Mississippi and Tennessee Conferences.

Clyde McDonald, the North Georgia Conference Treasurer for 17 years, has filled the position of Business Manager/Treasurer. He brings a varied background in city government, real estate, and business and technology to the Jurisdiction that will be of great value to our diverse organization.

Several years of planning was culminated in the establishment and filling of a new position of Director of Development and Foundation. Rev. James Hanna, an elder in the North Georgia Conference moved from Charleston, Illinois where he had been working with the General Board of Global Ministries in development. He brings a rich history of development in higher education, private consulting and service in the local church. His first task will be leading the Administrative Council in a capital funds drive and the establishment of our foundation.

A communication audit will be finished in May. United Methodist Communications is working with the Administrative Council to access understanding and future projections for the diverse ministry of the Jurisdiction. Twenty-six focus groups involving over two hundred people from around the Jurisdiction along with an extensive survey will provide a solid foundation for future development of ministry options as well as more effective connection with our constituents.

The Administrative Council continues to be committed to strengthening the local church. Our mission is to work with Annual Conferences providing support and expertise. It is our intent to enrich and supplement the work of Annual Conferences with leader development, spiritual formation and technical training in order to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

The Ministry Team is planning its work for the quadrennium around three priorities:

1. Small membership church.

2. Training and discerning of new persons for the call to ministry.
3. Ministry with the poor.

These priorities will enrich and influence the existing ministry options provided around the Jurisdiction through our seven agencies and ministry areas and will help us to create new opportunities for ministry.

The Junaluska team continues to give direction in making the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center and Residential Services a community committed to our mission of making more effective the ministry of all Christians. During the year 2000 there were 104,856 Guest/nights at Lake Junaluska, the jewel of the Southeastern Jurisdiction. The participants came for conferences, continuing education events, worship, spiritual enrichment, training and relaxation. We are a group center facility and 261 of our groups were United Methodist.

We have embarked on a program of restoration of the Lake by removing over 100,000 cubic yards of sedimentation at the cost of almost \$700,000. This was done with the help of private contributions and local organizations and an unprecedented grant of \$500,000 from the State of North Carolina.

Progress is being made with our goal to make the Conference Center a year-round facility. The first quarter of 2001 was the best in our history. There is a strong support of the ministry at Lake Junaluska from the persons who own homes around the Lake making for a good partnership.

The Southeast Jurisdictional Administrative Council continues to be the most unique agency in the United Methodist Church providing a myriad of ministry opportunities in our seven agencies, at Lake Junaluska and around the Jurisdiction. We desire to be a servant of the Southeast as well as the entire United Methodist Church. Please pray with us that it will be so!

Jimmy L. Carr, Executive Director

WESLEY GROUP HOME MINISTRIES, INC.
Statement Of Covenant Relationship

Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. is a non-profit, charitable organization, chartered by the state of Florida and operated by a board of directors. Those directors have the legal responsibility for assuring that the corporation and its affairs are in accordance with the laws of the state of Florida relating to not-for profit corporations. The Wesley Group Home Ministries charter provides that directors be elected by Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. and confirmed by the Florida Conference.

Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. has confirmed its philosophical and missional compatibility with the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church.

In recognition of this compatibility and in a desire for continued mutual support of relationship with The Florida Conference, Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. commits itself to the following:

- (1) The ongoing development of programs and services in response to the needs of persons with developmental disabilities in the tradition of ministry in the United Methodist Church.
- (2) Establishment of independent living facilities for persons with developmental disabilities.
- (3) The education of local church persons as to the needs and opportunities for ministry with persons with developmental disabilities.
- (4) Cooperating in the development of ministries offered by the local church for persons with developmental disabilities.
- (5) The regular reporting of activities of Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. The Florida Conference Health and Wholeness Ministry Team.

Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. further affirms the following:

- (1) Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. cannot and will not attempt to obligate the Florida Conference on any matters and will not hold out to any individual or group that the Florida Conference has responsibility for the actions of Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc.
- (2) Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. action through its directors, officers, staff and employees has sole responsibility for the contracts, operations, and financial or other obligations of the Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. is not an agent of the Florida Conference.

Florida Conference

The Florida Conference, as a fundamental body of The United Methodist Church, has a Commitment to serve persons in need of health and welfare ministries. In recognition of the compatibility with the philosophy and mission of Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. and in a desire for a continued mutually supportive relationship with Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. the Florida Conference commits itself to the following:

- (1) The cooperative efforts in developing programs for persons with developmental disabilities by, with, and for the local church.
- (2) The establishment and for continuation of Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. as an advance special of the Florida Conference.
- (3) The prayerful consideration and support of the ministry of Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc.
- (4) Permit Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. to use elements of the name and logo of the United Methodist Church and/or the Conference, including a reference to the relationship.

The Florida Conference further affirms the following:

- (1) The Florida conference does not assume legal responsibility for contracts, operations, or for financial or other obligations of Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc.

Any financial contributions by the conference for Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc. and the forms of such support are subject to the determination of the annual conference from time to time.

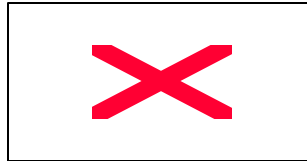
This Statement of Relationship shall be subject to review and amendment at least once during each quadrennium.

By action of the Board of Directors of Wesley Group Home Ministries, Inc., meeting on March 20, 2001.



June Johns, Chair

By the action of the Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church meeting in session in Lakeland, Florida.



Bishop Timonty W. Whitaker

Date Signed: June 2, 2001

RESOLUTIONS

[Only those Resolutions approved by the conference are printed herein.
They are printed in their amended form.]

RESOLUTION: CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

WHEREAS, Capital and violent crimes are a serious problem in society and must be addressed and punished to affirm the seriousness of the offense; and

WHEREAS, The State of Florida uses the death penalty as a punishment for capital offenses, and

WHEREAS, One of the most powerful themes of Jesus' life and ministry is that every person can become reconciled to God and live a Christ filled life, despite past evils, and the death penalty takes away such possibility, and

WHEREAS, Jesus taught that an "eye for an eye" is no longer the way to deal with evil (Matthew 5:38-39) and Peter and Paul taught early Christians not to

repay “evil for evil” or “abuse for abuse,” but to “overcome evil with good” (Romans 12:17,21; 1 Peter 3:9); and

WHEREAS, Capital punishment proclaims that we respond to violence with more violence, death, and revenge, and Jesus taught his followers to act and think in different ways; and

WHEREAS, The 2000 General Conference of the United Methodist Church calls for the elimination of capital punishment (*The Book of Discipline, Social Principles*, 2000, section 164 (A); and *Book of Resolutions*, 2000; p. 575, 576-579, 594-597, 611-612); and the plenary session of the 2000 General Conference affirmed such a position with a vote of 809-15 (United Methodist Communications); and

WHEREAS, The pain and suffering of victims of capital crimes can not be overlooked and the seriousness of the violent offense cannot be ignored,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, That the Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church urges the Executive and Legislative branches of the Florida State Government to eliminate capital punishment from criminal codes and seek alternative forms of punishment that uphold the seriousness of the crime and the sacredness of all life, at the same time seeking ways to extend support, care, and comfort to victims of violent crimes and their families,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent or delivered to the Governor of the State of Florida, members of the Florida House of Representatives, and members of the Florida State Senate. The cost of duplication and mailing shall come from the Church and Society Ministry Team. Further, members of the Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church are encourages to individually write government officials in opposition to capital punishment.

Sponsored by:

Rev. Brett Opalinski (First United Methodist Church, Sebring)

Rev. Vicky Walker (Hyde Park United Methodist Church)

RESOLUTION: GAMBLING

Whereas, the voters of Florida, in the recent years, have rejected three different ballot proposals for casino gambling in Florida; and,

Whereas, a fourth initiative is in process to amend the Florida Constitution to allow casino type slot machine gambling, at “thoroughbred horse racing tracks, harness racing tracks, jai alai frontons, and greyhound dog racing tracks;” and,

Whereas, this is being pushed by “Floridians for a Level Playing Field,” even though, as states in an editorial in the St. Petersburg Times, “The field is never

level where gamblers are concerned, because the house always wins. Always. The odds are programmed into the machines”, and,

Whereas, under the guise of tax benefits “to enhance senior citizen and education programs”, there is disregard for the tragic social costs, including more compulsive gamblers, bankruptcies, family disintegration, and suicides;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that we encourage all Florida church leaders, in all denominations, to make available to their congregations, factual information, regarding this fourth sly attempt to expand an insidious form of gambling in the state of Florida.

Be It Further Resolved, that the secretary of the Florida Conference be requested to forward copies of this resolution to our Conference Council on Ministries, and No Casinos, Inc., for action as deemed appropriate.

Submitted by: William W. Roughton, clergy member, Florida Annual Conference

2000 GENERAL CONFERENCE The United Methodist Church

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT -- I

On May 9, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 864 Yes, 57 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

Amend the Preamble to the Constitution, beginning with the third paragraph, as follows:

Insert “The United Methodist Church and its predecessors,” after “The prayers and intentions of” in the first sentence of the third paragraph and “The United Methodist Church has adopted and amended the following Constitution” following “Therefore,” in the fifth paragraph.

Delete “In harmony with these prayers and intentions, these churches do now propose to unite, in the confident assurance that this act is an expression of the oneness of Christ’s people” from the end of the third paragraph, the entire fourth paragraph and all, except the first word, of the fifth paragraph.

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, the Preamble to the Constitution would read:

The church is a community of all true believers under the Lordship of Christ. It is the redeemed and redeeming fellowship in which the Word of God is preached

by persons divinely called, and the sacraments are duly administered according to Christ's own appointment. Under the discipline of the Holy Spirit the church seeks to provide for the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, and the redemption of the world.

The church of Jesus Christ exists in and for the world, and its very dividedness is a hindrance to its mission in that world.

The prayers and intentions of The United Methodist Church and its predecessors, The Methodist Church and The Evangelical Brethren Church, have been and are for obedience to the will of our Lord that his people be one, in humility for the present brokenness of the Church and in gratitude that opportunities for reunion have been given.

Therefore, The United Methodist Church has adopted and amended the following Constitution.

VOTE: 1119 YES; 4 NO

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT -- II

On May 9, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 908 Yes, 17 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In Division One, Paragraph 1, Article I, substitute the words "have been" for "shall be" and "into" for "in" in the first sentence and "United Methodist Church" for "united" in the second sentence.

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, Paragraph 1 would read:

Declaration of Union – The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church have been united into one Church. The United Methodist Church, as thus constituted, is, and shall be, the successor of the two united churches.

VOTE: 1122 YES; 1 NO

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT -- III

On May 10, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 865 Yes, 32 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In Division One, Paragraph 3, Article III, amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

Delete “shall be” and “currently.” Insert “of The United Methodist Church are” after “Confession of Faith.” Add “at the time of their uniting” at end of sentence.

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, Paragraph 3 would read:

Articles of Religion and the Confession of Faith - The Articles of Religion and the Confession of Faith of The United Methodist Church are those held by The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Church, respectively, at the time of their uniting.”

VOTE: 1121 YES; 2 NO

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT -- IV

On May 12, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 700 Yes, 170 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In Division One, Paragraph 4, Article IV, amend by deletion and addition as follows:

Delete the second sentence, which reads, “Therefore all persons, without regard to race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, to participate in its programs, and, when they take the appropriate vows, to be admitted into its membership in any local church in the connection.” In its place, add, “The United Methodist Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred worth. All persons without regard to race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments, upon baptism be admitted as baptized members, and upon taking vows declaring the Christian faith, become professing members in any local church in the connection.”

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, Paragraph 4 would read:

Inclusiveness of the Church--The United Methodist Church is a part of the church universal, which is one Body in Christ. The United Methodist Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred worth. All persons without regard to race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments, upon baptism be admitted as baptized members, and upon taking vows declaring the Christian faith, become professing members in any local church in the connection. In The United Methodist Church no conference or other organizational unit of the Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member or any constituent body of the Church because of race, color, national origin, status or economic condition.

VOTE: 937 YES; 185 NO

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT -- V

On May 12, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 831 Yes, 45 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In Division One, insert a new paragraph immediately following Paragraph 4, which would read as follows:

Racial Justice—The United Methodist Church proclaims the value of each person as a unique child of God and commits itself to the healing and wholeness of all persons. The United Methodist Church recognizes that the sin of racism has been destructive to its unity throughout its history. Racism continues to cause painful division and marginalization. The United Methodist Church shall confront and seek to eliminate racism, whether in organizations or in individuals, in every facet of its life and in society at large. The United Methodist Church shall work collaboratively with others to address concerns that threaten the cause of racial justice at all times and in all places.

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, this amendment would become Paragraph 5. Other articles would be renumbered accordingly.

VOTE: 1111 YES; 12 NO

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT -- VI

On May 10, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 900 Yes, 15 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In Division One, Paragraph 6, Article VI, amend by deletion and addition as follows:

Delete “in” following “Titles to properties” and “upon consummation of the union” in the first sentence.

Add “formerly held by” after “Titles to properties” in the first sentence.

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, Paragraph 6 would read:

Title to Properties—Titles to properties formerly held by The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church shall be held and administered in accordance with the Book of Discipline. Nothing in the Plan of Union at any time after the union is to be construed so as to require any local church or any other

property owner of the former The Evangelical United Brethren Church or the former The Methodist Church to alienate or in any way change the title to property contained in its deed or deeds at the time of union and lapse of time.

VOTE: 1120 YES; 3 NO

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT -- VII

On May 12, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 813 Yes, 57 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In Division Two, Section 11, Paragraph 14, amend by substituting “professing” for “church” before members in (2).

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, Paragraph 14 would read:

The General Conference shall fix the ratio of representation in the General, jurisdictional, and central conferences from the annual conferences, missionary conferences, and the provisional annual conferences, computed on a two-factor basis: (1) the number of clergy members of the annual conference and the missionary conference, and (2) the number of professing members in the annual conference and the missionary conference; provided that each annual conference, missionary conference, or provisional annual conference shall be entitled to at least one clergy and one lay delegate in the General Conference and also in the jurisdictional or central conference.

VOTE: 1074 YES; 47 NO

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT -- VIII

On May 12, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 702 Yes, 168 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In Division Two, Section VI, Paragraph 30, Article I, amend by addition as follows:

Add “professing” before “lay member” (also delete “a” and make “member” plural) in first sentence and before “members” in the third sentence.

VOTE: 1073 YES; 48 NO

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT -- IX

On May 12, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 686 Yes, 157 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In Division Two, Section VI, Paragraph 30, Article I, amend by deletion and addition as follows:

Delete "two young persons under twenty-five (25) years of age" in the first sentence and "twenty-five (25) in the second sentence. In place of the deletions, add "one young person between the ages of twelve (12) and seventeen (17) and one young person between the ages of eighteen (18) and thirty (30)" in the first sentence and "thirty (30)" in the second sentence.

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, Paragraph 30, Article I would read:

The annual conference shall be composed of clergy members as defined by the General Conference, together with professing lay members elected by each charge, the diaconal ministers, the active deaconesses under Episcopal appointment within the bounds of the annual conference, the conference president of United Methodist Women, the conference president of United Methodist Men, the conference lay leader, district lay leaders, the president or equivalent officer of the conference young adult organization, the president of the conference youth organization, the chair of the annual conference college student organization, and one young person between the ages of twelve (12) and seventeen (17) and one young person between the ages of eighteen (18) and thirty (30) from each district to be selected in such a manner as may be determined by the annual conference. In the annual conferences of the central conferences, the four-year participation and the two-year membership requirements may be waived by the annual conference for young persons under thirty (30) years of age. Such persons must be professing members of The United Methodist Church and active participants at the time of election. Each charge served by more than one clergy shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are clergy members. The lay members shall have been for the two years next preceding their election members of The United Methodist Church and shall have been active participants in The United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election.

If the lay membership should number less than the clergy members of the annual conference, the annual conference shall, by its own formula, provide for the election of additional lay members to equalize lay and clergy membership on the annual conference.

VOTE: 1025 YES; 96 NO

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – X

On May 12, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 791 Yes, 71 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

3010In Division Two, Section VI, Paragraph 34, Article V, insert the word “professing” before the second use of “members.”

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, Paragraph 34 would read:

Article V. The lay delegates to the General and jurisdictional or central conferences shall be elected by the lay members of the annual conference or provisional annual conference without regard to age; provided such delegates shall have been professing members of The United Methodist Church for at least two years next preceding their election, and shall have been participants in The United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election, and are members thereof within the annual conference electing them at the time of holding the General and jurisdictional or central conferences.

VOTE: 1069 YES; 53 NO

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT -- XI

On May 10, 2000, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Cleveland, Ohio, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 778 Yes, 94 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In Division Two, Section IX, Paragraph 42, Article II, insert the word “professing” before “members.”

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, Paragraph 42 would read:

Article II. Election of Church Officers. Unless the General Conference shall order otherwise, the officers of the church or churches constituting a charge shall be elected by the charge conference or by the professing members of said church or churches at a meeting called for that purpose, as may be arranged by the charge conference, unless the election is otherwise required by local church charters or state or provincial law.