

PART III

REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT

The purpose of the Strategic Leadership Team, as defined at its formation, is to “clarify the vision of the Annual Conference, ensure this vision is accomplished, and ensure the alignment of all Annual Conference resources and ministries with the vision.”

Toward that end, the SLT began its work in 2011 refocusing the vision and mission, and articulating our purpose and values. The approval of the purpose, mission, values, and vision by the 2011 Annual Conference established the framework for the alignment of our resources and ministries. In preparation for the 2012 Annual Conference, the SLT spent several months familiarizing itself with the major ministry resources in an effort to assess where we are and define where we are going.

The SLT presented at the 2012 conference a list of four outcomes along with goals and actions related to each outcome. The approval of this list of outcomes, goals and actions gave the SLT a direction for their work. You can find an updated version of our outcomes, goals and actions (as approved in 2012 and updated to reflect new language) on the conference website www.flumc2.org under Bishop’s Corner.

In 2012-2013, the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) moved more deeply into its stated purpose around the alignment of the Conference vision and resources. This work takes place within our particular context and history, and is done with trust and confidence in the power of God and in the awareness of many gifts and strengths within our annual conference. Our work to date can be summarized in three areas: assessing the present reality; moving toward the alignment of resources; and action through seven significant next steps. (See also the [SLT interim report](#) for some foundational details.)

Assessing the Present Reality

Strategic intervention is not possible without attention to who we are as an annual conference. The following indicators are helpful in understanding our current reality as United Methodists in Florida:

- Over the last ten years (2002-2012), the membership of the Florida Conference decreased by 19%, and worship attendance declined by 15%. This is the fastest decline of any annual conference in the southeast jurisdiction.
- Over that same period, the number of churches and missions decreased 9% (from 737 to 678). This year, at the 2013 Annual Conference, we will have 670 churches and missions.
- Over the period of 2002-2012, we experienced a decrease of 73 elders (397 to 324).
- 50 of our local churches, over the past ten years, have experienced some form of public scandal or misconduct by clergy or laity, and we have experienced financial embezzlement at every level: local church, district, and annual conference.

Of course, these metrics are not the only important ones, or even the most important ones. They do however, begin to portray the present health and strength of our annual conference, and provide a rationale for strategic reflection.

A number of other factors also contribute to our present reality: the slowing of the migration of United Methodists in retirement from the Midwest and the Northeast, the aging of United Methodism and our state’s population, and a broader decline in worship attendance and church participation in all churches in the United States over the same ten year period (to read more about the broader decline in church attendance, see “[Christianity after Religion](#)” (Diana Butler) and “[You Lost Me](#)” (David Kinnaman).

At the same time, we also acknowledge external challenges that have shaped the strength of our mission during these years: hurricanes in 2004 and 2005 that damaged more than half of the local churches in our annual conference, and

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the economic collapse in the fall of 2008 that affected real estate markets and greatly diminished personal wealth and property values.

Movement toward the Alignment of Resources

In a time of significant change, institutions are called to clarify why they exist, and then determine how resources can be effectively used to fulfill their purpose. The first movement in the process of our alignment has been a shift of energy and resources to the local church as communicated by the [Call to Action](#) (General Conference, 2012). Local churches are planted in communities where diversity is present, and we acknowledge that first and foremost local churches exist for the purpose of making disciples for the transformation of the world.

This renewal of focus on the local church within our annual conference will require that we leverage the strengths and innovation of teaching churches. The Florida Conference is blessed with a number of the largest and most innovative congregations in our connection, and our work in the coming years will be to align these strengths with other local churches who wish to move toward health and vitality.

Given our missional calling and economic context, the apportionments funding by local churches will be communicated with greater clarity and transparency in the coming years. This will change the ways in which districts and the conference relate to each other, and will be for the purpose of building upon the excellent work done in previous years in the area of financial stewardship and management.

Our staffing, at the level of the annual conference, will need to be determined by the needs of the local churches and districts. At the same time, we will continue to staff and fund, at the conference level, those ministries that we do “better together”. The Florida Conference is blessed by a few significant connectional ministries and institutions that are both effective and transformative. This list would include but is not limited to our camping ministries, our children’s home, and our campus ministries.

We also see the need to make significant interventions in our ministries with young adults. This will occur through the use of technology and social media, in systems of one on one mentoring and reverse mentoring across generations through the Board of Lay Leadership, and in intentional leadership development with particular groups (for example, younger clergy of color) and in specific interests (missional leadership).

Seven Significant Next Steps Forward

The fruit of the Strategic Leadership Team, established in the last quadrennium, can be seen in the following next steps:

- Embracing the role of the District Superintendent as the “chief missional strategist” ([Discipline](#), 419). We will begin to see each district as a distinct “mission-field”; this is especially resonant with the Florida Conference context, as our districts are widely divergent in culture, population and connectional strength. Each district will be given greater flexibility in terms of committee structure.
- The creation of a Conference Resource Team, convened by the Director of Connectional Ministries, for the purpose of integrating the work of the previous “centers” in congregational excellence, new church development and clergy excellence with missional engagement and communications.
- A reduction of conference staffing in the areas of New Church Development and Congregational Excellence, the creation of a holistic office of Congregational Vitality that combines and enhances the two previous “centers” of Congregational Excellence and New Church Development, a shifting of a portion of this strategic work to the District Superintendent, and a collaboration with the Office of Missional Engagement.
- The development of a newly formed [Office of Missional Engagement](#) to address the complexity of our dynamic mission context, and to deepen multicultural and justice ministries.
- A shifting of some administrative and financial functions from the district to the annual conference. This will lead to greater consistency across districts in professional functioning, and will allow the District Superintendent to devote greater attention to missional strategy.

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- Maintaining the distinction between the Strategic Leadership Team, which is a smaller group that is advisory to the Bishop and focuses on strategic thinking and leadership development, and the re-established Conference Table (a representative group that will take the place of the previous Key Leader Connection), which is a broader conversation related to our connection and diversity across the Annual Conference.
- The Annual Conference Meeting, which is streamlined to approximately forty-eight hours at present will focus on “Becoming Disciples of Jesus Christ” in 2013, and will include two new components: diverse testimonies from United Methodists across the conference about how they are becoming disciples of Jesus Christ (click here to learn more); and two small group experiences where laity and clergy together will experience discipleship as a means of God’s grace.

As a Strategic Leadership Team, we take seriously the need to: continue honest assessment of our present reality (both the positive and the negative), the urgency to align our resources and strengths with the mission God has given us, and the authorization to make decisions that will help us, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to fulfill our mission: “To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” (Discipline, 120)

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

As the DCM, much of my work this year included supporting two major efforts: the alignment work of the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) and the training processes of the Building the Beloved Community (BBC) inclusivity initiative. Each of these moved through intense seasons of active implementation, described below.

Following the approval of the Strategic Outcomes presented to the 2012 Annual Conference, the SLT continued its work toward the outcome of “conference structures centered on fulfilling the mission.” This work synchronized with the arrival of Bishop Carter and his immersion into the Florida Conference, which allowed for timely implementation of significant realignment of human and financial resources. Please see the separate reports of the SLT and the 2014 Budget and its explanations for fuller information.

The Building the Beloved Community initiative, approved in 2010, with training beginning in 2011, reached 596 clergy in the five trainings held from February 2012 to February 2013. The expert facilitation of the consultants from VISIONS, Inc. created a safe group process for participants to grow in our capacities to recognize, understand, and appreciate similarities and differences across a variety of categories. This massive training effort will yield fruit for years as our monocultural church faces the reality of engaging an increasingly multicultural world.

Fifteen members of the conference received additional training as “Multicultural Resource Facilitators.” These new credentialed “MRF’s” include: Bill Bailey, Joreatha Capers, Will Clark, Melissa Cooper, Jaime Faberlle, Beth Fogle-Miller, Dan Jackson, Harold D. Lewis, Geraldine McClellan, Simon Osunlana, Heather Pancoast, Icel Rodriguez, Clarice Setser, and Dave Williamson. They are available to assist in the next steps. These steps will include processes for training new clergy and other conference leaders, for local congregational leadership, and for creating ongoing opportunities for learning and support.

The cornerstone tool of VISIONS is a set of Guidelines for creating respectful, safe communication wherever cultural differences are present. A copy is included in this workbook for you to consider trying – personally, and with your family, work, congregation, community and even at this Annual Conference event. I have found them invaluable in this past year as a way to “try on” some new models for our structures, to notice process and content, to think “both/and” rather than “either/or”, to differentiate between intent and impact, among other uses.

The VISIONS staff will provide a summary of the evaluations and small group presentation themes so the Annual Conference can be strategic in its efforts to improve the policies, practices, and habits where systemic bias remains. One first step in this was the revision of the racial harassment policy, and its inclusion into the Employee Conduct Policy for the Conference. There is still much work to bring our good intentions into actuality, to “walk the talk” in all

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our boards, committees, ministries and congregations, rather than just talk about the changes that someone else should make. The MRF's will explore ways to monitor our organizational progress on this, in consultation with the Committee on Religion and Race, COSROW, other interested persons, and the new Missional Engagement department.

While every year has some staff transitions to report, this year has more than usual. Many have already been reported on the website, so I will highlight some that haven't.

The responsibilities of the new Missional Engagement department will encompass the areas previously overseen by Interim Director of Justice and Outreach, Rick Bennett and Project Manager, Tammy Fisher. Rick has led those areas with grace and capability, planning well for the work to transition smoothly. Tammy Fisher also completed several years of part-time work in the areas of children's hunger advocacy and prison ministry. I am grateful for their passion and steady leadership in this season of transition in their own ministries.

This year the Conference used the services of an event planner, Rob Clifton of Conference Direct, for the logistical preparation for the Annual Conference meeting itself. I also appreciate the work of Pam Garrison and Greg Harford in redesigning the Expo to provide more ways to strengthen our connections in ministry.

There is a kaleidoscopic array of ministries that extend and support our common mission of making disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world. Many of them have submitted detailed reports that are included in this workbook. I encourage you to read those, and savor the richness of our work in a wide variety of settings, languages, and cultures.

One of the transitions I'm involved in is my own as I prepare to take a pastoral appointment. It has been a delight and privilege to serve as the DCM for these five years. I discovered that it is harder than I could have imagined actually behaving like we are part of one organization rather than a loose confederation of ministries. Aligning our reality with our rhetoric, actually doing what we say, is hard work, whether personally or organizationally.

When the Call to Action (from the Council of Bishops' work) advocated redirecting the flow of energy and resources to the local church, I absolutely supported that effort. When I discovered that I would get to be one of those resources being redirected, I had the chance to live into the commitments made years ago to serve where assigned. As with so much of life, we get repeated chances to keep our promises. I am grateful beyond my capacity to express to the staff and volunteers with whom I have been privileged to work, especially the care and support shown by Sherri Lingle and Heidi Leab. I look forward to this new opportunity to serve in a different role in our common mission of making disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world. My sincere thanks for the opportunity to have served the Conference for this past five years.

CONNECTIONAL RELATIONS

From Communication to Storytelling

A strategic shift occurred in the department this year: our emphasis is on inviting people to be a part of telling their stories and our church's story rather than communicating traditional news and information. Engaging stories about how churches and members work for the transformation of the world is our focus, and we seek and publish great stories that:

- appeal to higher values and our human need to be engaged with something larger than self;
- highlight communities of purpose and give people an empowering sense of "us";
- create patterns of stories that lift us to become evangelists for our purpose—making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world—and call persons to participate in creating a better world.

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Editor Susan Green joined the staff in May 2012, and she led our news story and feature transformation from the traditional focus to giving a voice to the stories of churches and church members making a difference in their communities and in people's lives. During the past year, the number of Florida church and member stories reprinted by denomination news services increased dramatically.

Storytelling Platforms for Churches and Members

To support its storytelling strategy, the department developed several ways for our Conference members to tell their stories.

- A new blog, "On the Move," is the home for announcing important changes in our churches and members' journeys. <http://floridaconferenceconnection.info/blogs/blog/9>.
- The local church event calendar is now available for churches to announce and promote their events and community outreach ministries. <http://www.flumc2.org/churchevents>.
- "Where I Saw God" is a new platform for sharing photo stories of where you saw God during your day. <http://www.floridaconferenceconnection.info/newsarchives/detail/4551>
- A photo contest on our Facebook page gave people the opportunity to tell their church stories in photos, and many of the photos later posted as Facebook stories about the churches' community outreach ministries. https://www.facebook.com/FloridaUMC?ref=hl#!/FloridaUMC/app_102068836552678
- Our Facebook community experienced phenomenal growth, and members began using the platform to share their church stories with others. <https://www.facebook.com/FloridaUMC>
- The conference YouTube channel, WhatAreUmcDoing? continues to expand its library of local church video stories about their missions, outreach and worship. <http://www.youtube.com/whatareumcdoing>
- Our social media and engagement strategy for 2013 AC includes storytelling opportunities on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

Dave Walter joined the staff as digital media coordinator in early 2013, and he will be key in implementing our storytelling and social media strategies, as well as leading web page management.

Don Youngs, A/V and internet coordinator collaborated with other conferences and our web hosting company on several modifications in the conference web console structure that will deliver improved performance:

- The new web console, running on a centralized code base, should give our conference office and district office database users faster returns on information. Several security upgrades will make our data even more secure.
- A new event registration module will allow us to embed the PayPal payment option in the registration page, rather than having to transfer the user to the PayPal website.
- A new email blaster will allow conference and district office staff to easily create graphic-rich email templates.

In collaboration with the Ministry Protection Department, we developed a new Insurance Reports module to make it faster and easier for local churches and extension ministries to get their insurance reports, vehicle ID cards and certificates of self insurance.

Knowledge and Information Services

The team's partnership with GCFA, in its second year, expanded its collaboration on analysis, research and reporting consulting services. Steve Loher, senior analyst, participated in the 2013 GCFA Quadrennial Training in Jacksonville, Fla., and Albuquerque, NM. The training covered changes in the processes and reporting of church statistics for the 2013-2016 quadrennial. In the plenary sessions, Steve also presented "Making Data Make Sense," on the analytical work he and Katie McNichol, information analyst, have performed for the Florida conference. The team continues to improve QA/QC procedures for data management functions.

For more information on Connectional Relations, including a staff list with contact information, go to the conference website at <http://www.flumc2.org>.

Gretchen Hastings, Managing Director

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BOARD OF CAMPS AND RETREAT MINISTRIES

The Board of Camps and Retreat Ministries (BCRM) is privileged to report that your Florida Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries continues to provide vital sites of transformative ministry. Mike Standifer, long time director of our Summer Camp program and Warren Willis Camp, was named Executive Director in December and is spearheading our efforts, along with the other site directors, staff and board, as we remain committed to our “By 2015 Strategic Vision” and continuing the trajectory of operational sustainability and programmatic growth. All four sites (Centenary Camp, Life Enrichment Center, Riverside Retreat, and Warren Willis Camp) ended the year “in the black” and able to cover all of their operational expenses. Apportionment dollars went to support scholarships, new program development to reach more people, and overall coordination of our statewide ministry. Summer campers exceeded the 4,000 mark at all four of our sites for the second year with 4,358 campers.

This past year marked an exciting time of facility growth. Construction finished in February 2012 for the Nina and Freemont Allen Campground at Warren Willis Camp. This important addition allows more Workcampers and Nomads, as well as volunteers, to come and support the ministry of Warren Willis Camp. In May 2012, construction finished on the new Lee and Linda Pearson Building at the Life Enrichment Center. This new meeting room building provides needed space for groups to meet and allows for more groups to be at the LEC at the same time. In June 2012, the renovated and expanded Barnett Lodge was rededicated and welcomed summer campers. The renovation added new dining halls, meeting rooms, office space, and a total renovation to this central hub of camp ministry. We as a BCRM continue to work with the Conference Board of Trustees and the Florida United Methodist Foundation to finish the fundraising needed to completely fund the project. In November, the LEC began major renovation of all lodging rooms to be improved with new door sweeps, ceiling fans, paint, and dehumidifiers. All sleeping rooms’ renovations should be finished by May 2013. In January 2013, Centenary Camp added three private showers with dressing areas and painted Brinks Hall. Throughout the year, Riverside Retreat repaired/rebuilt all lift stations and the wellhead to alleviate issues with potable water.

The second annual Camping Sunday was held the last Sunday in February 2013, offering a chance for each church in the conference to celebrate our camping ministry and to get congregations excited about summer camp.

In December 2012, the Conference Strategic Leadership Team charged the Board of Camps and Retreat Ministries with the coordinating authority for Conference Youth Ministry. The Conference Youth Ministry report is following:

Conference Youth Ministry Report 2012 – March 2013

Kelly Minter, Conference Connection on Youth Ministry Coordinator during 2012, kept conference youth ministry moving forward. Kelly added additional tasks to her 10 hour a week position, while maintaining her part time youth worker position at Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church. Her efforts kept annual events like Rooted and the Gathering alive and relevant to today’s youth workers.

Rooted is an annual event for youth workers run by the Florida Conference in partnership with the Youth Ministry Institute to train, equip, and connect youth workers in the Florida Conference. Rooted is for both new and veteran youth workers. There are special classes for youth workers who are new to youth ministry, new to the Florida Conference, or new to the United Methodist Church. The 2012 Rooted event was on September 17-18, 2012 at the Warren Willis Camp and next year’s Rooted event will be on September 16-17, 2013 at the Warren Willis Camp.

The Gathering is an annual opportunity for youth workers in our conference to gather, connect, and have intentional conversations that lead to a richer ministry. 2013’s Gathering event in January focused on the book “Sticky Faith” by Kara Powell and Chap Clark. The event culminated with a first ever panel discussion between youth workers and campus ministers from our Florida United Methodist Campus Ministries. This discussion is hopefully one of many to come as we continue to find ways to help today’s youth have a faith that “sticks” after they graduate from our youth ministries.

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In January, as stated above, the Conference Strategic Leadership Team charged the Board of Camps and Retreat Ministries with the coordinating authority for Conference Youth Ministry. Joel Pancoast, Program Manager at the Warren Willis Camp, was named as the new Conference Youth Ministry Coordinator. Joel Pancoast has been working in youth ministry in the Florida Conference as a youth director, and most recently as the Program Manager for the Warren Willis Camp, since 2001. His work with youth workers at camp has already proven to be a valuable connection for his initial work in this new role.

The Conference Connection on Youth Ministry (CCYM) is continuing its mission to CARE (Community Advocacy Restoration Evangelism) for student leadership. CCYM is made up of a group of student leaders. These leaders, led by Kelly Minter, design and run a student leadership retreat for local church student leaders. DARE to GROW, February 17-19, 2012 and DARE to HOPE, February 15-17, 2013 were amazing events challenging and equipping these student leaders to make a difference in their youth groups, in their schools, their communities, and beyond.

The Florida Conference continues to provide financial support to the Youth Ministry Institute (YMI). Our contract with YMI enables connection, training, partnership, and consulting that serves youth workers and local churches in many ways. YMI's executive director, Steve Schneeberger, is an advocate for connections in the Florida Conference. He provides training at our events, performs over 30 on-site visits to local churches each year, and has made himself available as a resource to Staff Parish Relations committees as a consultant for hiring youth workers.

On March 14, 2013, Joel Pancoast convened his first Youth Worker Table Meeting. Joel, Kelly Minter, and Steve Schneeberger were joined by 12 youth workers from across the state to set goals, develop strategy, and push forward the initiative of connecting, training, resourcing, and supporting youth ministry in our conference. We are blessed to have so many talented youth workers working with youth in our local churches. Show your appreciation to your youth workers and affirm their ministries as often as you can.

Camps and Retreats change lives. More people, including more United Methodists, came to our sites in this conference year than ever before. Our sites are operationally sustainable and are projected to remain so into the future. New programs have started and are growing, new and renovated buildings have emerged and the best is yet to come.

Faithfully submitted,
Mike Standifer, Executive Director, Camps and Retreat Ministries
Rev. David McEntire, Chair, BCRM

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRIES

2012-2013 Conference Year was another great one for our Wesley Foundations, Bethune Cookman University, Florida Southern College and the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries of the Florida Annual Conference. We continue to serve more students on more campuses than at any other time in our history and we continue to grow through our vision of reaching every student on every campus in each new generation.

Our focus has been on implementing our 5-year strategic plan, approved in the fall of 2010, guiding our hopes and dreams through 2015. The major goals include launching four new campus ministries, building stronger connection with local churches, hiring a full-time executive director, and establishing greater expectations for fruitful ministry in our campus ministries and excellence in leadership from our campus ministers, local boards, and BHECM itself. We made significant progress on these goals throughout the past year.

1 – A new Wesley Foundation was launched at Florida Gulf Coast University in the South West District last fall. Rev. Christy Holden and the Gulf Coast Wesley Foundation board have done remarkable work over the past year in establishing this new ministry on-campus and building a foundation of support through the district churches. They covet your continued prayers and support as they launch new ministries on-campus and reach more students in the coming academic year.

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2 – We are pleased to welcome Erik Seise as the new campus minister at Crosswinds Wesley Foundation at the University of South Florida in Tampa. Erik has served the FSU Wesley Foundation in Tallahassee as an intern, assistant director and director over the past decade. His passion for young adults and dynamic leadership will bear much fruit at USF as the university continues to grow and further strengthens its on-campus student population and culture.

3 – We commend with the excellent work of our two new campus ministers who are completing their first year. Rev. Narcie Jeter has led Gator Wesley into a new season of growth in student participation and leadership and an expansion of the mission program, including leading twenty-five students to Costa Rica over Spring Break. Rev. Erwin Lopez has brought new vision to the Central Florida Wesley Foundation in the Orlando-area. In his first year he has re-energized their worship experience and boldly and creatively expanded their outreach onto campus. Even greater things are yet to be done in both of these ministries.

6 – FSU Wesley Foundation is conducting a feasibility study for their property and aging facilities. Reaching over 600 students, Vance Rains continues to lead one of the largest, most dynamic campus ministries in The United Methodist Church. I hope you will hold his leadership and their ministry in prayer as they seek to address serious facility concerns.

Throughout the state of Florida, there are over 1 million students attending over 60 institutions. While we have much to celebrate, there is still much work to do. We continue to hear calls and distress from across the denomination regarding the absence of young adults in the church and the need for younger clergy. The Florida Annual Conference is currently a leader in campus ministry, but we can never be content to merely maintain the status quo. Even as we strengthen our existing ministries with great leaders and higher standards of accountability, such as our new missional vital signs for collegiate ministry, we know that our vision for more ministries on more campuses reaching as many students as possible is missional imperative for the church and the kingdom of God.

Thanks to our campus ministers, chaplains, and members of the BHECM for your faithful service.

Rev. Dr. Lyndol Loyd, Chairperson

Rev. David Fuquay, Executive Director

SPIRITUAL FORMATION TEAM

2012 was an especially important year of participation for the Spiritual Formation Team with Upper Room as the world-wide General Conference of the United Methodist Church was held in Tampa Florida. Former chair of Spiritual Formation, Frances Jennings and team member and artist, Joyce Estes, worked months in advance of General Conference with Tom Albin, Dean of Upper Room Ministries, to provide a beautiful welcoming Prayer Chapel and Labyrinth. The area was hosted by members of the Spiritual Formation Team through out the two weeks of conference. Delegates from around the world visited the Chapel - a place to rest, pray and discern during the two weeks of General Conference. Dr. Trudy Rankin coordinated spiritual directors from across the country to be on hand to offer one-on-one direction and prayer for anyone requesting it. This was the first time spiritual direction was available at a General Conference gathering. The opening ceremonies of the Conference began with Bishop Timothy Whitaker at the Chapel where communion was celebrated each day.

For the past two years, the Florida Spiritual Formation Team and Upper Room Ministries have sponsored a unique Two Year Academy For Spiritual Formation. Academy #32 has been a bi-lingual experience featuring both Spanish and English speaking participants. In this Academy participants, both clergy and laity, have come from islands in the Caribbean, states all over the US and Canada as well. Twenty-one of the members of the community are clergy and laity from the Florida Conference. The outstanding faculty presenters at the Academy have presented in their first language and simultaneous translation has made it possible for both English and Spanish speakers to hear the presentation in their own language. A wide array of topics focusing on spiritual formation for each individual has stretched the community in areas of Bible study, spiritual disciplines, and many facets of Christian spirituality. The community built through sharing across language uniqueness has been amazingly fulfilling and has provided opportunities for sharing that have enriched all of the participants. Two Year Academies meet four times per year.

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Small covenant discussion groups are formed from within the larger community at the beginning of each Academy and that same group meets together each evening for discussion. A gift of the Academy is that close bonds of deep sharing and truly meaningful, lasting friendships extend beyond the Academy time.

At Annual Conference each year the Spiritual Formation Team creates the Prayer Garden as a quiet place of prayer and reflection and invites all participants in the Conference to this contemplative area.

Annual conference is always a wonderful opportunity for letting members of the Florida Conference know of Spiritual Formation activities for the coming year. Names and e-mail addresses were solicited at the Spiritual Formation booth for persons wanting specific information and/or contact regarding any events sponsored by the Spiritual Formation Team. The following opportunities for spiritual growth were held during the 2012-2013 conference year:

- October – Spiritual Formation at Your Church, Dr. Steve Harper, Asbury Seminary, Orlando Campus
- February – Forgiveness, Kathy Houser, Avondale United Methodist Church, Jacksonville
- March – 5-Day Academy of Spiritual Formation, Dr. Norval Brown, speaking on Spiritual Formation and Dr. Joseph Howell, speaking on Dreams, Life Enrichment Center, Leesburg
- May – A Silent Retreat, Led by the Spiritual Directors' Team, Life Enrichment Center, Leesburg

The team has a goal of greater participation in the quality offerings sponsored though out the year. The Spiritual Formation web site at <http://flumcspiritualformation.org/> provides additional information including how to register for announced events. If you are interested in helping plan activities in Spiritual Formation, please contact, Jim Cook at jcook@trinitygmv.org.

Jim Cook, Chairperson, Spiritual Formation Team

EAST ANGOLA/FLORIDA PARTNERSHIP

In January of 2003, Bishop Timothy and Mrs. Melba Whitaker travelled to Angola, starting a partnership with the East Angola Conference that now celebrates its 10th anniversary. God has inserted us in a more-than-a-century old Methodist presence in this south-Saharan African nation. We are grateful for this mutually beneficial ministry that is bringing joy and strength to our Florida Conference, while it has helped rebuild and reenergize the mission of the United Methodist Church in East Angola.

In the year of 2012 we were able to send two mission teams to Quéssua, Malange, the first from Harvest UMC in Bradenton (June 2012), the second organized by North Naples UMC also with participation from Cypress Lake UMC in Fort Myers and John Wesley UMC in Tallahassee (October 2012). They performed different construction and repair jobs in Quéssua, delivered much-needed donations, and visited several Methodist churches and schools. Both teams were hosted by the Cuban missionaries currently serving in Quéssua, Drs. Leonardo and Cleivy Garcia (husband and wife).

Missionaries Leonardo and Cleivy Garcia continue to serve in Quéssua fully supported by our conference. They are the appointed pastors at Quéssua UMC, professors at the Quéssua Seminary (where Cleivy is also the vice-Dean), and directors of the Boys' Boarding House. We appreciate the churches and individuals who are offering financial support for our presence in Angola: currently ten local churches in our conference have established covenant relationships with these missionaries.

There are three students of the Quéssua Boarding House who are now pursuing college careers with support from Higher education scholarships granted by the Florida Conference through the Advance # 102020. With financial support from the Florida Conference and the Association of Former Students and Friends of Quéssua, a structurally sound former boarding house in the Quéssua Mission station is being renovated. This will allow the boys to relocate and open the current facility to become a residence for girls.

Our hope is that the partnership with East Angola will bless many more churches in Florida in the years to come.

In the love of Christ, Rev. Armando J. Rodriguez, Jr., Chairperson

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UNITED METHODIST VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

UMVIM Florida began 2012 with an energized leadership team, eager to share opportunities for mission and excited about the advantages of working through UMVIM and our connectional system. There is increased interest in the UMVIM Team Leader Training with four trainings in 2012. In addition, more mission teams are connecting with UMVIM and GBGM mission projects.

Our UMVIM Florida vision is to transform the world through short-term Christian mission experiences and our mission is to equip, empower and encourage the local church to experience missions. More and more we are becoming a resource that our churches are connecting with as we build stronger relationships.

In 2012, the Florida Conference sent 112 UMVIM Teams to 23 countries with a total of 1101 missionaries. In addition, 118 volunteers from 30 churches received in depth training on how to lead a team on mission.

As we continue to strengthen our ability to serve the local church, we are exploring opportunities to provide our churches with “first trip” church grants, matching project grants and scholarships for youth and minorities. We also offer guidance, consultation and assistance with trip planning and project selection. The financial support of our churches and mission teams through the UMVIM Conference Advance #100180 provides the resources for these services. The UMVIM Leadership Team continues to serve God by serving others through the service of each UMVIM Team.

Greg A. Harford, Conference Coordinator

FLORIDA CONFERENCE ADVANCE SPECIALS

The Advance is an official program of The United Methodist Church for voluntary, designated contributions. Through The Advance, one may choose to support particular, approved mission programs or mission personnel with financial gifts. One hundred percent of all Advance giving goes to the chosen mission project or ministry. Contributions to the Advance are tax deductible.

Advance Specials related to Global Relationships

METHODISTS UNITED IN PRAYER (formerly CUBA/FLORIDA COVENANT)

- Advance # 100135 supports the Cuba Methodist Seminary. \$200 covers all education expenses for one pastor for a year.
- Advance # 100070 supports Methodists United In Prayer (formerly Cuba/Florida Covenant) by covering travel costs for Cuban Christians visiting Florida and ministries related to the Covenant.

EAST ANGOLA/FLORIDA PARTNERSHIP

- Advance # 100130 supports missionaries of the Cuban Methodist Church serving in the East Angola United Methodist Conference.
- Advance # 100125 supports the feeding program of the East Angola Boarding House/Orphanage. \$30 will feed one child for a month.
- Advance # 102020 provides scholarships for East Angolan students to attend Higher Education institutions.
- Advance # 100145 provides scholarships for students at the School of Theology in Quéssua, Angola. \$1,500 per year will cover tuition for one student.
- Advance # 100090 supports the ongoing reconstruction of the Quessua Mission and churches throughout East Angola.
- Advance # 100120 supports a variety of ministries and projects related to the East Angola/Florida Partnership.

HAITI/FLORIDA COVENANT

- Advance # 102060 supports theological training for pastors in Haiti, children’s education, feeding programs, etc.

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UNITED METHODIST VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

- Advance # 100180 provides resources for training, trip planning, consultation and guidance, mission scholarships for youth, church grants and matching grants for mission experiences.
- Advance Specials related to Outreach Ministries
- Advance # 510004 – Branches (SE) seeks to partner with churches and organizations to create and expand ministries of compassion and justice in the communities of South East Florida.
- Advance # 510002 - Christians Reaching Out for Society, Inc. (AC) partners with congregations to share God's love through tangible acts and justice ministry.
- Advance # 410010 - Church & Community Connection (EC) engages local congregations in being in mission in their parishes.
- Advance # 510021 - Community Outreach Agency (NE) engages with all the churches in the district to promote outreach ministries in each parish.
- Advance # 510006 - Cornerstone Family Ministries (SC) touches the lives of over 20,000 families across the state each month through programs for children, families and seniors.
- Advance # 510025 - Grace Place for Children and Families, Inc. (SW) is a comprehensive child care and family ministry that ministers to at-risk children and families in the Naples area.
- Advance # 510016 - Halifax Urban Ministry (AC) provides emergency food assistance with “feed a family” bags of nonperishable food, with snack bags for homeless people, with daily hot meals and with daily bread.
- Advance # 102030 - Justice for Our Neighbors concentrates on providing assistance to persons needing immigration legal services.
- Advance # 510001 - UM Coop Ministries of Madison County (NW) offers a variety of services and resources for small membership churches in the area. UMCM built and manages the Florida Conference Disaster Response Supply Depot.
- Advance # 510008 - UM Cooperative Ministry/Suncoast (GC) supports local congregations to respond to critical needs in their communities and provides direct services to refugee and immigrants.

Other Conference Advance Specials

- Advance # 510000 - Alfalit International, Inc. is an ecumenical Christian literacy ministry working in Florida, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Africa.
- Advance # 510017 - Carver Heights Ministry is an educational and health ministry with at-risk children and youth of African American and Latino backgrounds in Leesburg.
- Advance # 510018 - Celebrate Jesus, Inc. coordinates clusters of local congregations to engage in relational evangelism by training and deploying local church laity and clergy.
- Advance # 112010 - Disaster Recovery coordinates volunteers, resources, and pastoral care with local congregations to prepare for and mitigate disasters.
- Advance # 510013 - Florida United Methodist Children's Home provides services to families and to children from birth into adulthood. It provides school-aged children who have been victimized by abuse, neglect or family trauma, a family-style home, education, counseling, recreation and ministry opportunities.
- Advance # 410005 - Habitat for Humanity Projects in Florida enables low-wage earner families to afford quality homes through sweat equity.
- Advance # 100110 - Haitian Committee on Ministry supports the strengthening of Haitian-American congregations in the Florida Conference through training of clergy and laity and in the formation of missions as opportunities arise.
- Advance # 510003 - Jim Russo Prison Ministry works with persons recently released from prison. It fosters Christian living values in a home and family setting.
- Advance # 510005 - National Farm Worker Ministry of Florida sponsors ministries with migrant workers and their families, through congregational life, Christian education, and life skills, vocational training, and advocacy.
- Advance # 100170 - Shade & Fresh Water is a ministry to clergy and their families dealing with transition.
- Advance # 510019 - Society of St. Andrew (the Potato Project) is a gleaning, produce distribution and hunger education ecumenical ministry that involves volunteers in gleaning farmer's fields. The food is shipped to food distribution cooperatives for the hungry people.
- Advance # 510010 - Wesley Group Homes for Adults with Special Needs, South East District, is a group home for mentally and emotionally challenged adults. Offerings support the programs and maintenance of this home.

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HISPANIC ASSEMBLY

The peace of our Savior is with all of us forever. It is an honor to present the Hispanic Assembly's Annual Report of the challenges and goals the Hispanic Assembly had during the 2012 calendar year. A new Executive Board was selected on March 2012 and we began to understand what challenges laid ahead for the Hispanic United Methodists residing in the state of Florida. The majority of our Hispanic Churches and Missions lie south of the I-4 corridor and there is a need to go further north to reach our brethren. During 2012, our Hispanic Assembly developed and assisted in several outreach programs and trained pastors and laity in diverse topics as follows:

The Hispanic Assembly participated as an active member of the meetings hosted by the Hispanic Ministry Team. A goal established was to work as a unified body for the benefit of the church and the Hispanic community in the state of Florida.

During 2012, there were numerous retreats hosted and coordinated by the Hispanic Assembly. There seemed to be an event where every member could participate, such as in retreats offered for women in the Southeast District; Lent retreats in the Southeast and Central Atlantic (Orlando) Districts; dramas during Holy Week; Evangelistic Festival (Miami); and Christmas festivals in Miami and Sebring. Each even was blessed with high attendance.

The Hispanic Youth had their retreat during The Family Camp, where more than 100 young men and women participated. A major Youth Encounter camp project consisted of all participants volunteering to groom the landscaping of an extensive area of the L.E.C. The Family Camp, a retreat the Hispanic Assembly helps to sponsor each year, had more than 266 participants during the weekend of Labor Day.

Following the National Comprehensive Plan, the Hispanic Assembly provided Module III-Liturgy and Sacraments workshop for our pastors and laity. The event was blessed with good attendance.

The Hispanic Assembly co-sponsored along with the Southeast District, the creation of the Latin-Hispanic Academy of the Annual Conference. This is a ministry whose purpose is to prepare the laity and pastors in biblical, theological, sociological, and administrative areas. In early 2013, more than 341 participants attended diverse courses and conferences, including Bishop Geoval from the Methodist University of Brazil and Dr. Justo Gonzales from Candler Theological Seminary. The opportunities of this Academy have been extended to Sebring, Leigh Heights and Orlando during 2013.

In 2013, the Hispanic Assembly is committed to provide more trainings, conferences, worship services and workshops to our pastors and laity targeting: Social Justice Programs (Human Trafficking, Immigrant Pastors); Couples retreats; Liturgy and Worship workshops; Youth Encounter 2013; Spiritual Retreats; and Christmas activities in the Southern Districts as well at the Central and Central East Districts.

It was a very productive year in 2012 for the Hispanic Faith Community of the Florida Annual Conference, but more needs to be done. We want to extend all these blessings coming from God to other locations of the Conference where we do not have a Hispanic ministry. We want to help develop more leaders with the vision of becoming pioneers in Florida to open new frontiers and provide the sweetness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our brothers and sisters in Latin communities. We are very proud of the support of the Annual Conference and our new Bishop who shares our burden for the Hispanic Community and social calls.

In His Service,

Cesar J. Villafana, O.S.L., President

HISPANIC MINISTRY TEAM

The Hispanic Ministry Team is the basic working unit to develop the Hispanic Ministries Comprehensive Plan. The three areas of responsibilities that the Hispanic Ministry Team is entrusted with are: congregational mobilization, leadership recruitment and training, and resource development. The Hispanic Ministry Team will represent the Hispanic/Latino cause before the Annual Conference Cabinet and other administrative and financial structures to gain

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access and support for its programs and initiatives and promote, advance, and advocate for leadership and ministry development in the FLUMC Annual Conference.

To accomplish these responsibilities areas, in 2012 the HMT started to work on the development of an “Academia” to equip the Hispanic/Latino leadership in our local churches and ministries of the Florida Conference with a grant of \$25,000 from GBGM Hispanic National Plan and a matching grant from the Hispanic Assembly (whose funding is through the Florida Annual Conference Connectional Ministries). Three main areas are projected in the “Academia” program: congregational development, Leadership and social justice. In September of 2012, the “Academia Latino/Hispana” launched its training workshops and regular courses in the South East District in the facilities of Coral Way United Methodist Church under the direction of Rev. Dr. Pedro Jiménez. The enrollment outcome was fantastic with 70+ local churches leaders and pastors. The regular courses for the first semester were Introduction to Bible I and II, Introduction to Theology I and II, Liturgy and Worship, Sociology I, Church Administration, and Introduction to Psychology.

The “Academia Latino/Hispana’s” short term goals are to open more accessible sites throughout our Florida Conference to reach out to the leaders of more missions and local churches. In order to accomplish this goal, the HMT has met with several district superintendents and also with local churches pastors. Their responses have been positive and as a result, in January 2013, Nuevo Pacto UMC in Sebring will be launching the first two regular courses for Hispanic/ Latino churches in the area. In addition, at Christ-Lehigh Acres, Module I (a program of the GBGM) will be launched to equip Lay Missioners in the southwest area. The Hispanic National Plan Module I will also be offered to the leadership in the South East District starting in March 2013 in the North Hialeah Hispanic church facilities.

The “Academia Latino/Hispana” will continue to expand the number of sites to outreach our leadership and pastors.

The HMT is also projecting, in the near future, to launch regular and intensive courses for English speaking leaders and pastors in the local churches and missions.

The “Academia” project needs your prayers and support to continue the expansion of the Gospel in the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church.

On April 11, 2012, the HMT Committee met to discuss strategies on the inclusivity training and review the Hispanic Comprehensive Plan.

On September 02, 2012, the HMT chair met with the Director of Connectional Ministries and Hispanic Assembly Committee to review the areas of accountability of the HMT and the Asamblea Hispana.

On December 17, 2012, the HMT Committee met to discuss the member’s classes of the committee, a report of the Academia’s current status, and the accountability of the Asamblea Hispana subcommittees.

In the Love of Christ

Rev. Gustavo A. Betancourt, Hispanic Ministry Team Chair

CREATION CARE TASK FORCE

The mission of the Creation Care Task Force is to assist United Methodist congregations in Florida to understand and fulfill our Christian commitment to care for God’s Creation and to respond to critical stresses on the environment by linking faith with actions that promote stewardship of God's Creation. God’s grace calls the Florida Annual Conference to a biblical and theological commitment to environmental health, wholeness, and holiness to reduce exploitation and foster justice now and in the future.

To this end, the Florida Conference Creation Care Task Force executed such items as the following, during 2012-2013:

1. Made presentations to local churches for an awards program recognizing local churches for their effort in environmental stewardship.
2. Maintained web pages on the conference web site that provide resources concerning theological foundations and liturgical items, programs and speakers, links to other resources for local churches, etc.

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3. Supported Sunshine State Interfaith Power and Light.
4. Presented to district training events on earth stewardship and Creation ministries.
5. Members attended and made presentations at the Southeastern Jurisdictional “Caring for Creation” conference.
6. Acted as a resource for and promoted creation care activity throughout the state.

JAIL/PRISON MINISTRY TEAM

As the Jail/Prison Ministry Team grows, we continue to expand in development of the Goals set forth in our Mission Statement to assist FL UMC churches for ministry to the incarcerated and their families:

Networking - Connecting United Methodist Churches working with the incarcerated. This provides references for returning citizens to receive spiritual support in whatever community they return.

Educating – empowering and equipping the UM churches for Jail/Prison Ministry through workshops, resources, and training.

Advocating – Advancing change and reform in our criminal justice and Juvenile Justice system. ‘Mass Incarceration/War on Drugs’, ‘Sentencing Reform’, and ‘Privatization’ are included.

Resourcing and Re-entry – Resources of materials, books, Bible Studies, and Agencies, transition homes, and churches that help inmates transition back into society; and support for their families.

The Team presented workshops increasing knowledge of re-entry efforts and criminal justice issues for adults and juveniles. We have increased partnerships with outside agencies (shelter, employment, identification, transition homes) and posted on the website for easy access for reference. We have also made great connections with FL DOC and FL Project for Accountability.

Goals for 2013 is to continue implementing plans to increase the effectiveness of ministry within the terms of our 4 Objectives (NEAR) and to continue to find and develop partnerships with GBCS and other outside agencies involved in transition, reentry, and advocacy.

Conferences and workshops attended include: FL Faith and Justice Summit, FL Juvenile Justice Summit, Jacksonville Re-entry Project, Desoto Correctional Re-entry Project, Smart Justice Workshops including Risk Assessment, Restorative Justice Workshops (both Adult and Juvenile), Human Trafficking Seminars, and FL DOC Roadmaps for Juveniles and for Adults.

Members: Bill Bailey, BJ Coryer, Steve Hart, Cheyl Jackson, Merry Kendall, Cindy Lane, Ian Lennox, Ron Luke, George Potter, Jean Russo, Mary Starkey, Jim Tofflemire, Bill Upchurch, Mary Ann Walsh, Bob Willis, Staff Liaison - Tammy Fisher, Project Coordinator for the Office of Justice and Outreach Ministries.

SUMMER MISSION INTERN PROGRAM

The Summer Mission Intern program of the Florida Conference began in 2008 with 4 interns as a partnership between the Office of Camps and Retreat Ministries and the Office of Justice and Outreach Ministries. Summer Mission Interns serve in a variety of outreach ministry settings throughout Florida, with a focus being on community day camps and United Methodist district outreach agencies. A \$2,000 stipend is awarded to each intern for their 10 weeks of service, with the cost shared equally between the conference and the church or agency receiving the intern.

Training is provided to the interns at pre-summer and mid-summer retreats as well as in-service training by the agencies. The focus is on service in communities experiencing poverty. However, the program includes time and support for reflection on vocational and spiritual goals. Supervision and mentoring is provided by conference and agency staff throughout the summer.

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In the summer of 2012, the fourth year of this program, 28 Summer Mission Interns participated at placements with Christians Reaching Out to Society (C.R.O.S. Ministries) in Lake Worth Delray Beach and Belle Glade, Grace Place in Naples, St. John's UMC in Winter Haven, BRANCHES in South Miami and Riverside Retreat in LaBelle.

Led by Harrison Thornhill, a seminary student at Candler from the East Central District, these interns participated in 2 retreats, learning activities including poverty education, a book study and the leadership of hundreds of children during this 10 week period. In 2013, we are expanding this program to 30 Interns and a weeklong residential camp, under the leadership of Shelley Denmark of St. Luke's UMC.

COALITION FOR ADVOCACY AND MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN

The Children's Coalition seeks to educate and engage local churches in prayer, advocacy, and outreach ministries for children in their communities. The Children's Coalition works with Florida Impact as a Core Partner in the Florida Partnership to End Childhood Hunger, oversees the Alice B. Lockmiller grant for churches and agencies reaching out to children and their families in economic and/or social distress, and oversees Florida Advocacy Days at Children's Week.

Partnership to End Childhood Hunger (PTECH)

At the 2008 Annual Conference, Florida United Methodists embraced the Florida Partnership to End Childhood Hunger and the 10 Point Plan to end childhood hunger in 10 years. PTECH is a strategic plan to end childhood hunger using public-private partnerships and leveraging the public investment for food and nutrition programs. To read the entire 10 point plan go to: <http://www.flimpact.org/partnership/documents/2008/2008-TenPointPlan-Full.pdf>

As a conference we agreed to:

1) Support Point #4 of the 10 Point Plan—Improve Working Families' Economic Security by developing at least one church or ministry in each of our 9 districts by Annual Conference 2009 that will assist families in getting access to federal assistance programs including ACCESS (food stamps, Medicaid, TANF, Florida Kid Care, etc.), WIC education, and Earned Income Tax Credit education.

2) Support Point #7 of the 10 Point Plan—Expand Reach of Summer Meals Programs by identifying 90 (10 per district) churches over the next 3 years that can host or assist in hosting a summer nutrition program.

The major focus in the first 4 years of the program has been to expand the summer meals program. More than half of the 1.5 million children in Florida qualify for free or reduced-price school meals and only 1 in 10 of those children receive meals during the summer. Two issues impacting the ability of children to access meals is the lack of available sites that serve lunch and lack of information about how to find sites. In 2009, a social marketing campaign began in Orange County and in 2011 it expanded to eight counties-Broward, Dade, Hillsborough, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pinellas, and Polk. As a result over \$760,000 in additional federal funds were utilized (a 5% increase over one summer) which represented nearly 220,000 additional meals and 3,500 additional children. In 2012, the campaign is going statewide. For more information about how you can get involved and how to find sites go to www.summerfoodflorida.org.

A success last year advocating for Children's rights with FL Impact was in securing state authority to provide food and safety inspections for the new, federal Afterschool Meals Program in low-income communities. This was an initial barrier for setting up services for children at risk of hunger.

Regarding Florida UMC's commitments, several churches have become ACCESS Community Partners with the Department of Children and Family Services over the past four years and we have increased our number of summer Feeding Sites, especially in the East Central district and South Central District. More churches are needed, however, to be open sites or to assist schools and other community organization in being open sites for children in the community who are going hungry.

The United Methodist Church is strategically located to be a great partner in this effort to end childhood hunger.

Florida Advocacy Days

"Show Up to Speak Out!" Florida Advocacy_Days at Children's Week 2013 was another successful event through collaboration between the FL Conference of the United Methodist Church, FL United Methodist Women, 11th

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Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and Florida Impact. Participants included our new Bishop Carter, the FL Conference Cabinet, the new AME Bishop Richardson, a member from the AL/West FL United Methodist Conference and other ecumenical representatives from Florida along with UMC and AME church members and clergy from around the state. Together, three days were spent in Tallahassee worshipping and learning together about relevant legislation issues for children's basic human needs and rights regarding health care, nutrition/hunger elimination, and low-income housing. Participants visited their legislators to speak as people of faith seeking change "for the least of these."

Lockmiller Grant

This year, Alice B. Lockmiller grants were awarded to 22 United Methodist churches totaling \$25,500. These supplemental grants ranged from \$500-\$2000 were given to churches with programs for children in their communities with the emphasis on four of the points listed from the 'Ten Point Plan'. These points were: 1) Improve Working Families' Economic Security 2) Help After-School Programs Provide Healthy Meals and Snacks; 3) Expand the Reach of Summer Meal Programs; and 4) Encouraging Healthy Food Choices.

Goals for 2013

Goals for the year include involving many more United Methodist Churches in Summer Feeding programs through partnerships with Florida Impact and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. While expansion is happening in many districts, we would like a consistent practice throughout the conference. The task force will be working with new conference leadership to continue to provide mission interns to outreach centers and churches for direct ministry to children through day camps, continue awareness and availability of supplemental Lockmiller Grants, and prepare for Florida Advocacy Days at Children's Week 2014 representing more Districts and faith based people in Tallahassee.

Chairpersons –Anne Winn and Lynette Fields, Bishop Whitaker's appointee on the Florida Partnership to End Childhood Hunger

JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

Justice For Our Neighbors welcomes immigrants into our churches and communities by providing legal services, education and advocacy. During Annual Conference last year, the government announced a new program called Deferred Action that would allow youth and young adults, who had arrived in this country as children to receive work permits, go to college or serve in the military. JFON assisted over 140 of these "Dreamers" to apply. Mayra , who had arrived in the US when she was 6 months old, wrote us a letter that said, "After 21 years of struggling, I have a Driver's license and was just accepted at Sarah Lawrence College." She will study to be an attorney. "You believed in me and encouraged me when I needed it most. I am proof that what JFON does changes lives of their clients in concrete ways. I will be forever grateful!"

Clients have come from over 55 different countries and 85% of clients have relief under current immigration laws, they simply need help to get through the maze of the immigration system, to understand the laws that apply to them and to make their application. JFON is sponsoring a Citizenship Day to assist clients who are ready to apply to be U.S. citizens and other clients include those seeking family reunification, asylum from persecution, escape from human trafficking and domestic violence. Most of the clients are already Christians. The JFON team has the chance to talk with clients about their faith and how God has walked with them. We also help people find churches in their language and pray with those in special need. One client from Bulgaria, trying to find the right words to say thank you, looked at a large picture of Jesus on the wall and said, "You have treated me the way he told people to treat each other. For that I thank you. "

Advocacy is an important part of our work and 12 prayer vigils have been held around the Conference to pray for Congressional leaders as they enter debate on immigration reform and for families that have been torn apart by current immigration laws. You can make a difference! Please contact your legislators and tell them as a United Methodist Christian, you support just and humane immigration reform. For more information go to www.JFONfl.org. Thank you for your support!

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OUTREACH MINISTRIES

The Bible is full of action words – go, proclaim, feed, welcome, heal, serve. The Outreach Ministries of the Florida Annual Conference help churches put their faith into action by serving the hungry, the homeless, children and families, immigrants and others in need. The ministries include:

Christians Reaching Out To Society (Atlantic Central District) provides feeding programs through the summer nutrition program, afterschool snacks, Caring Kitchen, meals for shut-ins and the homeless. It also provides summer day camps and a week of residential camp.

Church and Community Connection (East Central District) has refocused its priorities to the areas of hunger and working with children in poverty. It networks churches for mission, communicates mission opportunities, and supports local churches to reach out through initiatives such as feeding programs and summer programs for children.

Community Outreach Agency (North East District) assists churches in developing their own outreach ministries to serve their neighborhoods and works with children in poverty through mercy, justice and witness. They have a new director, Jim Young.

Cornerstone Family Ministries (South Central District) works to make a lasting and positive impact on children and families by nurturing bodies, developing minds, and fostering hope through Christ. Through the Children's Nutrition Program and Family Learning Partnership, it equips children and their families to navigate difficult circumstances.

Grace Place (South West District) teaches literacy, language and life skills to at-risk children and impoverished families. It provides programs for afterschool care, family literacy, and adult English language and parenting classes.

Halifax Urban Ministry (East Central District) works to prevent homelessness by providing food, financial help and other support services to those at risk of becoming homeless. Feed-A-Family Bags and the Bridge of Hope hot meal program provide food, and emergency shelter is available at the STAR Center.

Justice For Our Neighbors (Central Florida) offers welcome to immigrants by providing legal immigration services, education and advocacy in monthly clinics in three Central Florida locations.

South Florida Urban Ministries (South East District) empowers people to move from poverty to prosperity through holistic youth development, small business development and hunger relief ministries. It partners with community-based organizations, corporations and congregations to develop ministries of compassion and justice.

United Methodist Cooperative Ministries of Madison County (North West District) works with the rural communities of Madison County on elder programs, hunger ministries and sending children to camp. The agency built and manages the Florida Conference Disaster Response Supply Depot.

United Methodist Cooperative Ministries/Suncoast (Gulf Central District) works to alleviate the symptoms and address the causes of poverty through service, education and advocacy. It provides after school programs, a preschool, English language and family literacy classes, homelessness prevention and feeding programs.

Hearts and Hands Ministry (North Central) is our newest Florida UMC outreach ministry. Located in Eustis, FL, it is a variety store and food distribution network with 5 distribution sites in the district bringing food to those in need throughout the area.

Please contact your closest Outreach Minister for assistance in connecting to ministries in your community that can make a difference and share the love of Christ.

Pamela Qualls, Outreach Ministry Committee Chair

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COMMITTEE ON RELIGION AND RACE

Philippians 4:8 (NRSV): 8 Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

The Committee on Religion and Race (CORR) over the past five years has worked diligently to bring about racial diversity in the Florida Annual Conference. I am indebted to the members of the CORR who have served untiringly, giving of their time and their gifts as we struggled with issues of racism, sexism, elitism and all of the other “isms” that plague us as the people of God.

Our work together began in September of 2008 as we prepared to provide advocacy and leadership in the following areas:

Reviewing the 2003 GCORR Annual Review and addressing key areas of concern “Racism”

Bishop’s Task Team that would be responsible for a skilled consultant to provide inclusivity training

Policy on Racial Harassment

Guidelines for Cross- Racial/Cross - Cultural Appointments

We are indebted to the Bishop’s Task Team, Melinda Trotti, during her tenure as Justice and Outreach Ministries and Beth Fogle-Miller, Director of Connectional Ministries who stepped in and made things happen. We thank them for their untiring support of CORR as we embraced inclusivity training, “Building the Beloved Community,” Recognizing, Understanding, Appreciating, and Utilizing Differences at the 2010 Florida Annual Conference for its appointed clergy.

596 have now been trained, along with 14 conference clergy who have completed training provided by VISIONS, INC., to be considered “Multicultural Resource Facilitators” (MRF’s) and several more that completed some portions of that training. I am sure that you have asked “Where do we go from here?” The (MRF’s) are now in the process of developing along with VISION, INC., the ongoing training that will be available for new clergy and other conference leaders as well as introductory modules for use in local churches. Harold Lewis, Sr., will be the primary staff support for this going forward. They are also working on a communications platform so that those who want to do further work on “Building the Beloved Community” can share strategies and resources with one another. Thank you to all Clergy and Conference Staff who participated in the training.

As of July 2012 the Policy on Racial Harassment is now a part of the Employee Conduct Policy, which addresses racial harassment, sexual harassment, sexual abuse and misconduct, and computer use/electronic communications. CORR is grateful for the work of Wendy McCoy and Beth Fogle-Miller for their willingness to collaborate with us as we provided input in the shaping of the Racial Harassment policy.

We are blessed to be a part of a Church that is committed to open itinerancy based on the gifts and graces of its clergy under appointment. Recognizing that all churches are entitled to an effective ministry partnership with their pastor, the committee feels that the process for making cross- racial, cross-cultural appointments deserves immediate attention. As a first step, the committee on religion and race would like to begin by organizing a retreat for pastors serving in these appointments. The Center for Clergy Excellence in partnership with the department of Missional Engagement, is encouraged to convene a retreat to begin the building of relationships with those who have been called to serve in cross-cultural/cross-racial appointments. This time together would provide safe space to share joys, and struggles, to begin to build a supportive learning community with one another.

Many of our local churches have accepted cross-cultural or cross-racial appointments with fear and anxiety and little guidance in how to proceed with challenges, whether these challenges are real or perceived. The unique challenge of cross-cultural and cross racial appointments needs some special attention because of the unspoken, and perhaps unrecognized, biases that are present in all persons.

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It takes the collective working of the Cabinet before and after the appointment is made to provide a support group for the Pastor and consultation for the SPRC as they lead the congregation in understanding and embracing open itinerancy.

It is time for the Church to move from cross-racial and cross-cultural appointments as potential-problems, to the day that we can affirmatively celebrate the “Beloved and Diverse Community” of God in which we live and serve. I am aware of at least five (5) cross-cultural/cross-racial appointments, where Pastor’s and members of congregations have been deeply scarred, some will heal and others won’t.

The Conference Committee on Religion and Race recognize that The Bishop and his Cabinet hold the key in providing this annual conference with guidelines for cross- racial and cross - cultural appointments. We would like to ask the Bishop to consider naming A Bishop’s task force to consist of members from CORR, Conference Lay Leader, Clergy serving in CR/CC appointment, Cabinet Representatives, and other key leaders to be named by the Bishop that would present to the Cabinet as soon as possible guidelines for their review that will move this process forward.

The Directions for CORR this year will be monitoring. This monitoring will include collaborating with The Committee on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) as we monitor organizational policies, practices and systems toward the full inclusion of all cultures.

During these five years complaints of racial discrimination made by clergy and laity have been overwhelming. Complaints will be monitored and dealt with through consultation with the Bishop and other appropriate leadership to investigate and assist in its resolution.

In closing I would like to thank the Annual Conference for the opportunity to serve as the chairperson of CORR, and the members of the committee for their dedicated service over the past five years. I look forward to continuing to serve as a member of the committee. Here the words of diversity, adapted from the Poem “I Am Diversity.

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I Am Diversity
I Am Diversity, Please Include Me
I 'm present in every place you go
Depending on your lens I'm friend or foe
I'm a force to be reckoned with
Like the winds of change I move. I'm swift.
I'm present when two or more are together
If embraced I can make the good even better.
I'm not limited to age, gender, or race.
I'm invisible at times and yet all over the place.
Don't exclude me due to a lack of knowledge
Welcome me like the recruit fresh out of high school, college or seminary
Let me take my seat at the table
Even though I may be differently able
My experience, my passion the authentic me
Can help add value for your ministry.
Learn about me; improve my under-representation
And I can provide a competitive edge to the entire denomination.
I exclude no one I am strengthened by all
My name is Diversity and yes I stand tall.
Recognize me and keep me in the mix
Together there's no problem that we can't fix.
I am your best hope towards true innovation
And to many, I reflect hope and inspiration.
Your lives and ministries will continue to change
Thus the need for Diversity and Inclusion will also remain.
Do all that you can to truly embrace me
And experience life's fullness totally.
I'm the thought lurking behind the unfamiliar face
I'm the ingenuity that helps your team win the race.
I'm the solution that came from the odd question that was asked.
I stand out in the crowd when I, Diversity, am allowed to be unmasked.
I'm diversity embrace me and we'll journey far.
I'm Diversity include me and we will reach the shining star.
Coupled with Inclusion our lights burn longer
Together we are smarter, better and stronger
I am Diversity
Yes, that's who we are.

Submitted By: Members of CORR

Geraldine W. McClellan-Chair

Will Clark, Verona Matthews, Robert Bushong, Scott Farman, Dawn Worden, Lenny Schultz, Eliantus Valmyr, Michelle Blume, Regina Johnson, Erin Austin-Holliday, Mary Mitchell, Becky O'Neal, Kathy Shranko, Jamie Faberlle

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COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

At the 2012 Annual Conference, the Commission on Archives and History presented a recommendation that Key West United Methodist Church be designated a Historic Site of the United Methodist Church, and it was approved. The church has received a plaque from the General Commission on Archives and History.

The commission at its meeting in January 2013 enthusiastically voted to host the 2015 Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society meeting in Lakeland at Florida Southern College and the Florida United Methodist Heritage Center. We await the acceptance of this invitation, but planning has begun.

Work in the archives is directed by the archivist, Nell Thrift. The organizing and filing of conference records is almost complete, and volunteers continue to catalogue and label the records. The next project is local church and district records.

The archives received two prints of John Wesley that came from discards at the Old Rectory in Epworth, England. United Methodist Women records have also been added to the collection.

The commission is preparing information for local churches that will be helpful to them in writing their histories and managing and preserving their records. A booklet on celebrations is already available through district coordinators or the archivist. Information about disposition of records of churches that are closing is also available. Training for local church historians can be requested through district coordinators or the archivist.

Commission members are working to see that churches have up-to-date histories and that we have an accurate founding date for each church. We are also interested in receiving the histories of United Methodist-related institutions within the Florida Conference

The commission has a webpage that can be accessed through the Florida Conference web site, under Ministries. We also encourage tours of the Heritage Center to learn about the history of the Florida Conference to help us move forward in the 21st Century.

At Annual Conference in 2012 each of the newly ordained elders and deacons received a copy of Robert M. Temple's history of the Florida Conference, *Florida Flame*, as well as cards giving the chain of their ordinations back to Thomas Coke.

The Florida Conference Historical Society met during Annual Conference last year. Bishop Richard J. Wills, Jr., presented "Reflections on the Episcopacy" at the dinner meeting. The society is publishing a newsletter for members.

The archivist attended the annual meeting of the SEJ Historical Society in Nashville, Tennessee, last July. Ivan Corbin, chairperson, presided at the annual meeting of the SEJ Commission on Archives and History in November at Lake Junaluska. It was also attended by Nell Thrift, who along with Ivan also attended the SEJ Historical Society Executive Committee annual meeting. She is a member of the commission and secretary of the Historical Society.

Again this year the Commission on Archives and History is leading the Annual Conference in an anniversary celebration of churches and clergy.

Churches being recognized with their identifying banners are:

150 years (1863) First, Starke; Trinity, Lake City

125 years (1888) Community, Lake Como; McIntosh; First, Seffner; First, Wauchula; Franklinton, Fernandina Beach; Grace, Lawtey; Pierson; Webster

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100 years (1913)	Calvary, Lake Worth; Community, San Antonio; Dinsmore, Jacksonville; McCall's Chapel; Riverside, Miami; Scott Chapel, Melbourne
50 years (1963)	Bear Lake, Apopka; Big Pine; Calvary, Tallahassee; Emmanuel, Melbourne; Faith, Gainesville; Lake Gibson, Lakeland
25 years (1988)	Deer Lake, Tallahassee; Faith, Ft. Myers; Forest, Silver Springs; Ocala West

Clergy being recognized with certificates are:

Ordained Deacon 1943

Lee W. Davidson, Jr.
C. William Sims

S. S. Robinson
Lee R. Van Sickle

Ordained Deacon 1963

Kenneth C. Blich
Larry E. Cook
Richard E. Gantz
John S. Gatewood, Jr.
James T. Jackson
David S. Lindsay

Neal K. Long
Aldo A. Martin
Joseph S. Philbeck
J. Gordon Ralls
Richard W. Rohrer
Joseph D. Smith, Jr.

Ira Carroll Starling, Jr.
Rand Sutherland
J. William Talbott
R. Jack Taylor, Sr.

Ordained Deacon 1988

Christopher T. Akers
Thomas K. Black
Erich E. Hamm
Harold R. Hendren
Migdalia L. Icaza-Willetts
Jerry C. Johnson
Scott F. Jones

J. David Juliano
Chung Baek Kim
Jacqueline M. Leveron
Earsel L. Lewis
Philip R. Maynard
John D. Peterson
Jeanne Reames

Frank K. Reynolds
R. Phillips Short, Jr.
Linda C. Standifer
Todd H. Stube
Joseph S. Teague
J. Robert Wannall

Consecrated Diaconal Minister 1988

Bette Davis
Felicia E. Fina
Thomas C. Willetts, Jr.
Betty Foley William

Congratulations to these churches and persons who have served in their communities and appointments in answer to God's call to be in ministry and mission.

Leah Pittard, Chairperson

NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

NEW CHURCH START BUDGET REQUEST FOR 2014

2014 Support for New Churches and Missions

	<u>Part-time</u>	<u>Full-time</u>	<u>District Total</u>
AC	\$20,004	\$25,417	\$45,421
EC	\$ 20,004	\$150,163	\$170,167
GC	\$25,504	\$27,323	\$49,827
NC	\$ 0	\$45,115	\$45,115
NE	20,004	\$87,476	\$107,481
NW	\$0	\$0	\$0
SC	\$ 0	\$86,732	\$86,732
SE	\$80,016	\$90,207	\$170,223
SW	\$80,016	\$98,337	\$178,353
Block Grant	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$262,552	\$610,770	\$923,322

Testing and Training for Clergy/Laity interested in new church starts: Pastors/Laity who have been nominated by their district superintendent will be tested and trained to start a new community of faith.

Funding: \$50,000

Demographics: To provide demographic data necessary for making new church start decisions. This information is available to any group or church within the Annual Conference through the Office of New Church Development.

Funding:\$9,700

Meetings of the Committee: The Committee meets in January and September to conduct the business of new church development.

Funding:\$9,000

TOTAL NEW CHURCH START NEEDS \$1,042,022

New ministries projected to be launched in 2014

AC	Mother-daughter
EC	Multi-site: Multi-cultural
GC	Second campus (Ministry center)
NE	Parachute

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THE CENTER FOR CONGREGATIONAL EXCELLENCE LARGEST AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE IN 2012

District	Church Name	Largest 2012 AWA
SW	Grace - Cape Coral	2505
SC	Van Dyke – Lutz	2313
EC	St Luke's – Orlando	1898
NC	New Covenant - The Villages	1890
NE	Beach - Jacksonville Beach	1769
SC	First – Lakeland	1676
SE	Christ - Ft Lauderdale	1526
GC	Anona – Largo	1514
SW	North Naples	1415
SW	Englewood	1268
NC	Trinity – Gainesville	1208
NE	Mandarin – Jacksonville	1182
EC	University Carillon – Oviedo	1147
NW	Killearn – Tallahassee	1071
SC	Hyde Park – Tampa	1055
GC	Pasadena - St Petersburg	1042
GC	St Paul – Largo	970
GC	Palm Harbor	960
SC	First – Brandon	934
AC	Suntree – Melbourne	927
EC	First – Clermont	891
EC	First - Winter Park	835
NC	Grace at Fort Clarke – Gainesville	793
GC	First - Spring Hill	788
SC	Sun City Center	787
SC	St James at Tampa Palms – Tampa	773
SC	St Andrew's – Brandon	761
NC	Community - Fruitland Park	757
SC	Lake Magdalene – Tampa	750
SW	First - Punta Gorda	749
AC	First - Boca Raton East Campus	746
GC	First - St Petersburg	740
GC	Heritage – Clearwater	735
NC	Ocala West	725
SE	First - Coral Springs	724
SW	Cypress Lake - Ft Myers	708
GC	Harvest – Bradenton	695
AC	First - Port Saint Lucie	690
AC	First - Melbourne	679
NC	Morrison - Leesburg	674

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MOST INCREASED AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE IN 2012 OVER PREVIOUS 4 YEAR AVERAGE

District	Church Name	2012 AWA	AWA Incr. Above 4 Yr Avg
NC	New Covenant - The Villages	1890	334.5
GC	Anona – Largo	1514	245.3
AC	Community of Hope – Loxahatchee	642	181.5
SC	Van Dyke – Lutz	2313	141.3
NC	Community - Fruitland Park	757	131.3
NE	Mandarin – Jacksonville	1182	119.5
GC	Union Street – Clearwater	264	118.8
AC	First - Port Saint Lucie	690	110.8
SW	Edgewater - Port Charlotte	641	101.3
GC	Pasadena - St Petersburg	1042	89.3
GC	First - St Petersburg	740	88.8
GC	Parrish	392	87.8
SC	Sun City Center	787	84.8
NE	First – Starke	367	77.8
AC	Christ-by-the-Sea - Vero Beach	301	77.5
SE	Epworth – Hollywood	221	68.8
NE	Grace - St Augustine	247	63.3
SE	Sanctified New Jerusalem Haitian - Pompano Beach	275	59.8
EC	Community of Faith – Davenport	617	54.5
SC	Hyde Park – Tampa	1055	48.5
NE	Keystone- Keystone Heights	265	48.0
SE	Coral Way – Miami	176	45.3
SC	Beymer Memorial - Winter Haven	279	44.0
AC	Georgianna - Merritt Island	554	42.5
EC	Peace – Orlando	543	39.0
NE	Lakewood – Jacksonville	494	39.0
SC	First – Lakeland	1676	38.0
AC	First – Cocoa	240	36.8
SC	College Heights – Lakeland	153	36.8
NW	Deer Lake – Tallahassee	513	35.5
AC	Wesley - West Melbourne	240	34.8
SW	Estero	601	33.5
SW	Trinity – Arcadia	259	33.0
GC	Harvest – Bradenton	695	32.3
SC	Temple Terrace – Tampa	342	32.3
SC	Faith Primera Iglesia – Tampa	160	29.8
SW	First - Moore Haven	101	29.8
NC	Lochloosa	70	29.8
SE	Burton Memorial – Tavernier	180	29.3
NC	Celebration	167	29.3
GC	First – Dunedin	256	28.3

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LARGEST PERCENT INCREASE IN 2012 AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE OVER PREVIOUS 4 YEAR AVG

District	Church Name	2012 AWA	4 Yr Avg	Percent Change
GC	Union Street – Clearwater	264	145.25	81.76%
NC	Lochloosa	70	40.25	73.91%
SE	Epworth – Hollywood	221	152.25	45.16%
AC	First – Pahokee	67	46.75	43.32%
SW	First - Moore Haven	101	71.25	41.75%
AC	Community of Hope – Loxahatchee	642	460.5	39.41%
SC	St Mark – Lakeland	50	36.5	36.99%
AC	Christ-by-the-Sea - Vero Beach	301	223.5	34.68%
SE	Coral Way – Miami	176	130.75	34.61%
NE	Grace - St Augustine	247	183.75	34.42%
SC	College Heights – Lakeland	153	116.25	31.61%
NW	First - Cross City	50	38.5	29.87%
SW	Christ Community - Punta Gorda	75	58	29.31%
GC	Parrish	392	304.25	28.84%
NC	Pine - Ft McCoy	38	29.5	28.81%
NC	First – Reddick	81	63.25	28.06%
SE	Newman - Key West	48	37.5	28.00%
SE	Sanctified New Jerusalem Haitian - Pompano Beach	275	215.25	27.76%
NE	First – Starke	367	289.25	26.88%
NE	Swaim Memorial – Jacksonville	52	41	26.83%
NW	Grace – Hosford	60	48	25.00%
SE	Redland Community – Homestead	49	39.5	24.05%
SC	Faith Primera Iglesia – Tampa	160	130.25	22.84%
NW	Trenton	73	59.75	22.18%
NE	Keystone- Keystone Heights	265	217	22.12%
NC	New Covenant - The Villages	1890	1555.5	21.50%
SC	Grace - Plant City	34	28	21.43%
SE	Miami Lakes	130	107.25	21.21%
SE	Parkway - Pompano Beach	43	35.5	21.13%
NC	Community - Fruitland Park	757	625.75	20.97%
EC	Community - Daytona Beach	146	121	20.66%
EC	College Park – Orlando	111	92.5	20.00%
NW	Wacissa	66	55	20.00%
NE	Mt Moriah – Jacksonville	38	31.75	19.69%
SE	Burton Memorial – Tavernier	180	150.75	19.40%
GC	Anona – Largo	1514	1268.75	19.33%
NE	First - Green Cove Springs	65	54.5	19.27%
AC	First Hispanic - West Palm	70	58.75	19.15%
AC	First - Port Saint Lucie	690	579.25	19.12%
SW	Edgewater - Port Charlotte	641	539.75	18.76%

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MOST PROFESSIONS OF FAITH IN 2012

District	Church Name	2012 Professions of Faith
EC	St Luke's - Orlando	134
NE	Mandarin - Jacksonville	90
AC	Community of Hope - Loxahatchee	82
GC	Anona - Largo	81
SC	Van Dyke - Lutz	72
EC	University Carillon - Oviedo	63
SW	Grace - Cape Coral	60
NC	Trinity - Gainesville	57
GC	Heritage - Clearwater	55
EC	First - Winter Park	53
AC	St Peter's - Wellington	52
NE	Keystone- Keystone Heights	50
EC	First - Oviedo	50
SC	Wahneta - Winter Haven	50
SC	First - Lakeland	49
SW	North Naples	49
EC	Peace - Orlando	46
EC	First - Clermont	45
GC	Pasadena - St Petersburg	45
EC	Palm Coast	43
SW	Englewood	42
SC	St Andrew's - Brandon	42
SW	First - Cape Coral	40
SC	First - Brandon	40
SC	Hyde Park - Tampa	38
AC	Suntree - Melbourne	38
GC	First - Hudson	37
GC	First - St Petersburg	37
SE	Christ - Ft Lauderdale	37
NC	Ocala West	36
GC	First - Spring Hill	36
AC	First - Vero Beach	35
SC	St James at Tampa Palms - Tampa	34
EC	Asbury - Maitland	33
SE	First - Coral Springs	33
AC	UMC of the Palm Beaches - West Palm Beach	32
NE	Orange Park	31
EC	Coronado Community - New Smyrna Beach	31
SC	CrossRoads Community - Wesley Chapel	30
NC	Community - Fruitland Park	29

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2012 PROFESSIONS OF FAITH AS COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS 4 YEAR AVERAGE

District	Church Name	Professions Increase over Average
EC	St Luke's - Orlando	50.75
SC	Wahneta - Winter Haven	44.50
NE	Mandarin - Jacksonville	42.75
NE	Keystone- Keystone Heights	34.25
AC	Community of Hope - Loxahatchee	31.75
EC	Palm Coast	28.00
AC	First - Vero Beach	24.50
EC	Peace - Orlando	24.00
GC	First - Hudson	21.75
GC	First - Spring Hill	19.00
SE	Opa Locka	17.75
SC	CrossRoads Community - Wesley Chapel	17.50
NC	Ocala West	17.00
GC	Union Street - Clearwater	16.50
SW	North Naples	16.25
GC	Mt Zion - Clearwater	15.50
EC	Coronado Community - New Smyrna Beach	15.25
SW	Pine Island - Bokeelia	15.25
SW	Christ - Lehigh Acres	14.00
EC	First - Clermont	13.75
AC	First - Pahokee	13.50
NC	Bartley Temple - Gainesville	12.75
SW	First - Cape Coral	12.50
NE	Lake Shore - Jacksonville	12.50
SE	Burton Memorial - Tavernier	12.50
NW	Trinity - Lake City	12.25
SW	First - Moore Haven	12.25
EC	University Carillon - Oviedo	11.50
GC	Pasadena - St Petersburg	11.50
GC	Family of God - Palmetto	11.50
GC	Riviera - St Petersburg	11.25
EC	First - Winter Park	11.00
SE	Plantation	10.75
SE	Newman - Key West	10.75
AC	Christ-by-the-Sea - Vero Beach	10.50
NE	St James - Palatka	10.50
NE	Simpson Memorial - Jacksonville	10.50
EC	Edgewater	10.25
NW	First - Monticello	10.00
SW	Sun Ray - Frostproof	10.00

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LARGEST PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN 2012 PROFESSIONS OF FAITH OVER PREVIOUS 4 YEAR AVERAGE

District	Church Name	2012 POF	4 Yr Average	Percent Increase
GC	Family of God - Palmetto	12	1	2300%
NC	St Johns - Alachua	7	1	1300%
SC	Hillsborough - Tampa	6	1	1100%
SE	Carol City - Opa Locka	11	1	1000%
AC	First - Pahokee	15	2	900%
SC	Wahneta - Winter Haven	50	6	809%
SW	First - Moore Haven	14	2	700%
AC	Lakeside - Lake Worth	9	1	620%
NC	Solomon Chapel - Orange Lake	11	2	529%
SE	Opa Locka	22	4	418%
SW	First - Fort Meade	11	2	389%
SE	Burton Memorial - Tavernier	16	4	357%
SW	Christ - Lehigh Acres	18	4	350%
GC	Union Street - Clearwater	22	6	300%
NC	Bartley Temple - Gainesville	17	4	300%
NE	Simpson Memorial - Jacksonville	14	4	300%
NC	Wildwood	8	2	300%
NC	Mt Nebo - Alachua	7	2	300%
EC	Orange City	10	3	264%
NE	Ft Caroline - Jacksonville	9	3	260%
NW	Trinity - Lake City	17	5	258%
SE	Newman - Key West	15	4	253%
SW	Sun Ray - Frostproof	14	4	250%
AC	First - Vero Beach	35	11	233%
NW	Wellborn	10	3	233%
NE	Lake Shore - Jacksonville	18	6	227%
SW	Pine Island - Bokeelia	22	7	226%
NE	Keystone- Keystone Heights	50	16	217%
GC	Mt Zion - Clearwater	23	8	207%
NE	St James - Palatka	16	6	191%
EC	Palm Coast	43	15	187%
SW	East Naples	12	4	182%
NW	First - Monticello	16	6	167%
AC	Wabasso Haitian	10	4	167%
SW	First - Frostproof	8	3	167%
AC	Christ-by-the-Sea - Vero Beach	17	7	162%
SE	First - Miami	11	4	159%
SW	Crossroads - Sarasota	13	5	148%
GC	Riviera - St Petersburg	19	8	145%
NW	Tallahassee Heights - Tallahassee	14	6	143%

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OUR CONFERENCE'S 2012 MOST VITAL CONGREGATIONS BY SIZE

"The Council of Bishops has called our denomination to significantly increase the number of vital congregations. Vital congregations are found in all sizes and in every district. The following congregations have been selected according to (1) change in worship attendance and (2) professions of faith as the most vital congregations by size category in our Conference during 2012."

Size	Dist	Church Name	Senior Pastor	2012 POF	2011 POF	2010 POF	2009 POF	2008 POF	Total POF 5 yrs		2012 AWA	2011 AWA	2010 AWA	2009 AWA	2008 AWA	Change 2008- 2012
<200	NC	Celebration – Gainesville	Harry Holloman	22	9	13	20	9	73		167	156	150	139	106	61
	SE	First – Homestead	Alexis Talbott	12	21	16	4	4	57		184	202	156	149	134	50
	GC	Mt Zion - Clearwater	Michael Frazier	23	1	13	16	0	53		113	110	125	97	77	36
	EC	Community - Daytona Beach	Kenneth Zimmerman	5	7	14	10	17	53		146	136	120	114	114	32
	SE	Trinity - Lighthouse Point	Dennis Redstone	7	5	15	12	10	49		161	150	142	131	123	38
	AC	Emmanuel - Melbourne	Warren Bennett	2	18	9	12	4	45		200	202	177	166	157	43
	SE	Burton Memorial - Tavernier	Kerry Foote	16	2	5	2	5	30		180	157	149	155	142	38
201-500	SW	Trinity - Arcadia	James Wade	21	22	24	25	8	100		259	247	248	229	180	79
	GC	Parrish	Christopher Schmidt	14	28	7	3	27	79		392	356	289	269	303	89
	NE	Memorial - Fernandina Beach	Brett Opalinski	12	14	16	8	11	61		487	511	498	424	422	65
	NE	Grace - St Augustine	James Reeher	12	10	16	7	13	58		247	225	180	170	160	87
	AC	Christ-by-the-Sea - Vero Beach	Clifford Melvin	17	21	0	2	3	43		301	248	215	222	209	92
501-899	AC	Community of Hope - Loxahatchee	Dale Locke	82	50	48	53	50	283		642	676	389	385	392	250
	GC	First - St Petersburg	David Miller	37	25	23	57	14	156		740	731	705	598	571	169
	NC	Community - Fruitland Park	Michael Fordham	29	35	27	14	24	129		757	687	632	603	581	176
	EC	Community of Faith - Davenport	Scott Smith	13	19	19	24	52	127		617	605	570	628	447	170
	GC	Harvest - Bradenton	Catherine Fluck Price/ Steve Price	27	25	14	21	28	115		695	703	677	692	579	116
	AC	First - Port Saint Lucie	Wayne Williams	15	4	2	37	37	95		690	630	579	549	559	131
> 900	SC	Van Dyke - Lutz	Matthew Hartsfield	72	96	88	93	93	442		2313	2356	2248	2143	1940	373
	GC	Anona - Largo	John Stephenson	81	104	65	59	67	376		1514	1234	1281	1261	1299	215
	SW	Grace - Cape Coral	Jorge Acevedo	60	50	41	77	91	319		2505	2658	2750	2634	2388	117
	NE	Mandarin - Jacksonville	Deborah McLeod	90	72	32	45	40	279		1182	1150	1084	1024	992	190

DISCONTINUANCES

Annual Conference Motion for Voluntary Discontinuance NOCATEE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NOCATEE

June 14, 2013

WHEREAS, a duly called Church Conference was held on January 20, 2013 at NOCATEE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH in full accordance and compliance with the charter and by- laws and the laws, usages and customs of The United Methodist Church, and

WHEREAS, it was decided by those attending the Church Conference to discontinue, and WHEREAS, the Church

Conference of the NOCATEE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH voted

and directed the Trustees and/or Directors and Officers of the corporation to transfer all assets, including but not limited to all real and personal property, to the South West District, Florida Annual Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc.,

WHEREAS, the Bishop, Cabinet and all other required persons and entities have given their approval in accordance with *The Book of Discipline Of The United Methodist Church*, including but not necessarily limited to paragraph 2549, for the discontinuance of the NOCATEE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF effective April 1, 2013:

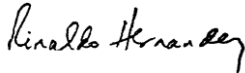
THEREFORE, I, Rinaldo Hernandez, in my capacity as District Superintendent of the South West District hereby move that:

- 1.) Nocatee United Methodist Church located in Nocatee, Florida should be discontinued, as a United Methodist Church as of June 30, 2013, and,
- 2.) All real and personal property and all other assets of any kind or nature be transferred to the South West District, Florida Annual Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc and
- 3.) All actions necessary shall be taken by the affected entities and individuals in accordance with the procedures described in *The Book of Discipline* to deliver any and all instruments and documents necessary and proper to effectuate such transfer and to do and perform all other acts necessary and proper to carry out the intent and purpose of this motion.

Motion Made To The 2013 Session Of The Florida Annual Conference

Date: May 20, 2013

By:



Rinaldo Hernandez, Superintendent, South West District

**Annual Conference Motion for Voluntary Discontinuance
Oak Crest Church, a United Methodist Church Corp. Florida Annual Conference
June 14, 2013**

WHEREAS, a duly called Church Conference was held on August 29, 2012 at Oak Crest United Methodist Church, Inc., of Jacksonville, Florida, in full accordance and compliance with the charter and by-laws, usages and customs of The United Methodist Church, and

WHEREAS, the vote of the Oak Crest United Methodist Church, Inc.'s Church Conference was 34 in favor and 5 against to discontinue, and

WHEREAS, it was decided by those attending the same Church Conference to make the effective date of discontinuance September 30, 2012 and

WHEREAS, the Church Conference of the Oak Crest United Methodist Church, Inc. of Jacksonville voted and directed the Trustees and/or Directors and Officers of the corporation to transfer all assets, including but not limited to all real and personal property, to the North East District, Florida Annual Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc., and

WHEREAS, the Bishop, Cabinet and all other required persons and entities approved the voluntary discontinuance in accordance with *The 2012 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*, including, but not necessarily limited to paragraph 2549, to be effective September 30, 2012;

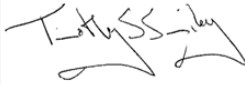
THEREFORE, I, Timothy S. Smiley, in my capacity as District Superintendent of the North East District hereby move that:

1. Oak Crest United Methodist Church, Inc. of Jacksonville, be discontinued as a United Methodist congregation as of September 30, 2012, and
2. All real and personal property and all other assets of any kind or nature be transferred to and become the property of the North East District, Florida Annual Conference, U,nited Methodist Church, Inc. including but not necessarily limited to the following:
 - a. Church: 5900 Ricker Rd.; Legal Description: 5-93 14-3S-25E 4.89 Jacksonville Heights PT Tract 16 Recd O/R 16155-330 BLK 2 BEING PARCEL 1
 - b. Parsonage: 8280 Newport Rd.; Legal Description: 5-93-3S-25E .54 Jacksonville Heights Townsite PT Lots 11 to 15, PTAL Alley, Recd O/R 16155-330 BLK 110 Being Parcel 2

and the North East District New Church Development Team is authorized to determine how best to use the property, both real and personal.

3. All actions necessary shall be taken by the affected entities and individuals in accordance with the procedures described in the *2012 Book of Discipline* to deliver any and all instruments and documents necessary and proper to effectuate such transfer and to do and perform all other acts necessary and proper to carry out the intent and purpose of this motion.

Dated: 4/30/13

By: 

Rev. Timothy S. Smiley, North East District Superintendent

Motion for Voluntary Discontinuance
Mt. Sinai United Methodist Church of Dania Beach, FL
June 14, 2013

WHEREAS, a duly called Church Council meeting was held on Wednesday January 9, 2013 at MT. SINAI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Dania Beach, FL in full accordance and compliance with the charter and by-laws and the laws, usages and customs of The United Methodist Church, and

WHEREAS, the Church Council did not formally adopt a motion to discontinue as a congregation, but did vote to discontinue worship as a congregation as of Sunday January 20th 2013 due to a lack of financial resources, and,

WHEREAS, the Board Of Church Location and Building of the Southeast District of the Florida Annual Conference approved the discontinuance of the MT. SINAI United Methodist Church located in Dania Beach, Florida as a United Methodist Church as of June 14, 2013,

THEREFORE, I, Craig W. Nelson, in my capacity as District Superintendent of the South East District hereby move that:

1. Mt. Sinai United Methodist Church of Dania Beach, FL be discontinued as a United Methodist congregation as of June 14, 2013, and
2. All real and personal property and all other assets of any kind or nature be transferred to the South East District, Florida Annual Conference, United Methodist Church, Inc. and
3. All actions necessary shall be taken by the affected entities and individuals in accordance with the procedures described in the *Book of Discipline* to deliver any and all instruments and documents necessary and proper to effectuate such transfer and to do and perform all other acts necessary and proper to carry out the intent and purpose of this motion.

May 21, 2013

By:



Craig W. Nelson, Superintendent of the South East District

BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY

REPORT OF CONFERENCE LAY LEADER

There are many things demanding our time and attention as leaders. But, is there anything as important as reaching out to someone you know to be a partner in life's journey, to be a friend in today's troubled world? Love God first; love your neighbor as yourself, and make disciples. Christ said it, God the Father expects it, and the Holy Spirit will empower, guide, and sustain us if we obey. Jesus said, "You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14 (NIV).

We must not fail as Christians to understand the difference and proper roles of laity and the appointed pastor or professional staff. The very essence of our sainthood is centered on our calling to be a priesthood of believers, to make disciples, to love God, and to love and reach out to those who do not know Him. We must not consider ministry to be only the responsibility of the clergy or consider that our role in that is merely the funding of it. Laity and clergy are equally called by God to discipleship. We live in a world that is hungry for solutions to individual life issues; solutions we have been given by our Savior Jesus Christ. We are called as Jesus' disciples, to invest our lives in the life of another and help those seeking solutions to life issues.

Jesus said, "Whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." (John 14:12 NIV) We carry the same abilities and spiritual authority that energized the early Christian movement. You and I are called to step up as the chosen disciples of Jesus, where we are planted, as they are doing in the underground church in China, the movement of the Holy Spirit in Cuba, and the explosive growth of Methodism in Africa.

Bishop Carter and I have visited many of you in your districts, churches, training events, young adult gatherings, and any other venue that allowed us to listen to and have conversation with you. We have shared our hopes and dreams; listened to your concerns, dreams, and hopes for our future as God's church. He and I are partners, as lay and clergy, brothers in Christ, who are committed to Kingdom work, being intentional about investing in each other as we seek the specifics of God's vision for the Florida Conference. We are searching for ways to effectively resource and empower you the local church to conduct the ministry God calls you to, in the community where He has planted you. We will continue to model that partnership and encourage you, the essential ingredients in this conference, laity and clergy to do the same.

We are seeking better connection with each other and better alignment with God's mission for us, better ways to do ministry, and better ways to develop leaders (lay and clergy). There is a fresh wind blowing. We in Florida live in a mission field. New missionaries are stepping forward, young and old. I have a refreshed hope in the role we can play in God's plan for His church. But it will happen because of the movement of the Holy Spirit in you, in your church, and in your community or it will not happen. I look forward to our journey together.

Russ Graves, Conference Lay Leader

LAY SERVANT MINISTRY

Coming from the General Conference in 2012, the Lay Servant Ministry received the much needed approval for a name change which better reflects what we do as Servants of God. As a body of believers, Lay Servants are encouraged to be at the forefront, first with their Pastors to be a part of the working of the local church, then with other members of Laity, presenting themselves as true Servants. Having identified via their training where God wants and expects them to serve it is but a step in the right direction for them to then work to make the Mission of making Disciples and Disciple makers a reality.

Within the Florida Conference in 2012 we saw amazing examples of our Lay Servant Directors as they planned and held at least two Lay Servant events in their respective Districts. In addition to the Basic Course in English, classes in both Basic and Advanced were held in Spanish. District wide we collectively trained over five hundred members of Laity. In August at the Annual Conference training we saw an attendance of over one hundred members of laity. When combined this represents a pool of trained Lay Servants ready to lead Bible Study, small groups, serve on local, District

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and Conference committees while bringing with them new ideas and a strong commitment to serve. It is hoped that these persons will be given the opportunity to lead and continue in their own spiritual growth.

As we look ahead, already we see a spurt of energy in the Districts and as we plan the Conference training these are the offerings: Lay Servant Basic Course in Spanish; Lay Servant Basic Course for Youth; Evangelism Today and Discipleship. The theme for this year's training event is "Taking Jesus to the Streets". It promises to be an in-depth look and a challenge to our Laity to meet believers and non-believers alike, where they are as we tell the Good News. The dates are: Friday, August 16 – August 18, 2013 at the Life Enrichment Center. Music, worship and fellowship combine to make the weekend a time of learning and sharing.

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Gwen Dube for her service within this ministry and the time she spent leading and teaching. She left really good footprints to follow and on behalf of all the District Directors, we send our appreciation as she moves on to her next area of service. There is a greater need today for laity to be prepared to share the story and spread God's Word. What a blessing it is that a Ministry already exists that provides training to prepare them for this task. Lay Servants already trained are ready to work, and those who would like to be sent out; know that we have something to offer. Look into what this Ministry has to offer. We stand ready to serve you! Let us know what areas of training you lack and we will look at ways to bring this to you.

A word to the nine District Directors who are a dedicated team of Laity leading the way in this Ministry: To all of them I offer my sincere thanks for the work they do. I am humbled to be part of this wonderful ministry and look forward with the District Directors to serving all of you in our Florida Conference.

In the Vineyard with you,

Lynn Campbell, Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministry.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST MEN

The Florida Conference United Methodist Men (U.M.M.) continues to be known for our Spiritual Retreats within the Southeastern Jurisdiction. We held two Spring Retreats for Couples and three Fall Retreats for Men in 2012. The theme for the five retreats was "Living by Faith". This was the 38th year of Couples Spiritual Retreats and the 64th year of Men's Spiritual Retreats.

The Spring Couples Retreat on March 9-11, 2012 March 23-25, 2012. At each weekend we had enrichment sessions led by our retreat speakers. We had attendance of 167 at both retreats and a total of 47 churches represented.

The Men's Fall Spiritual Retreat on October 5-7, 2012, October 12-14, 2012 October 19-21, 2012: We had a total of 468 for all three weekends and a total of 76 churches represented.

In addition to platform speakers, Bible Study was held each weekend by Rev. David McEntire and Rev. David Brazelton from FUMC Lakeland FL, and Jim Boesch deployed staff from General Commission UMM in Nashville TN offered resources and leadership presentations on all three weekends.

Ed Diaz was presented the John Wesley Fellow Award; a distinguished recognition for individuals committed to the support and expansion of UMM ministries.

The officers that assumed their duties on January 01, 2012: Gene Winland, President, Terry Ketrow, 1st Vice President, John Rogers, 2nd Vice President, Bill Fritchman, Secretary, Charlie Perry, Treasurer, The 2012 District UMM Presidents: Joe Moxley (AC) Bruce Rutherford (EC) Lou Amandola (GC) Stan Monroe (NW) Ken Blackman (SC). We had vacancies in (NC) (NE) (SE) (SW) We thank our cabinet representative Russ Graves (AC) and the UMM Conference Committee BOD: Gene Winland, Terry Ketrow, John Rogers, Bill Fritchman, Charlie Perry, John Dowell, Russ Tabbert, Rodney Akers and Committee Members: Joel Fears, Darryl Coppenhaver, Dave Smith, D.R. Walker, Don & Sue Heishman- Registrars.

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We would like to invite you to one of our Men's Retreats this fall, the first of which will include our Bishop Ken Carter as a featured Speaker. Please check our website, www.ummflconf.org or call our office at 863-858-4985 for current info and reservation information and forms. Please stop by and visit with us at the "Gathering Place" during Annual Conference and share your UMM stories with us.

This report submitted in honor of and with appreciation for the life and Leadership of Gene Winland, our Conference President, who had a stroke and went home to be with the Lord in January 12, 2013.

In His Service

John Rogers, Florida Conference UMM President

FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women is 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.

The theme for 2012 was: "THAT ALL MAY HAVE LIFE" based on John 10:10: Jesus proclaims: "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (NRSV).

The United Methodist Women National Office is now an independent agency of the United Methodist Church approved in the last General Conference; but the purpose, the focus, the advocacy for social justice and for women, children and youth, stay the same.

We communicate through "Genesis", the official Florida Conference UMW publication as well as our web site: www.gbqm-umc.org/flaconferenceumw. "Response" is also our official national magazine.

All the newly ordained clergy have been receiving an invitation to participate in our School of Christian Mission with a full scholarship.

June 1, 2, 2012 was the date for the UMW Southeastern Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting in Birmingham, AL. The theme was: "Feeding the Multitude." Annie Woods was a Vice President of the SEJ Leadership Team. On that meeting Judith Pierre Okerson was elected as a Director of the National Office for a second term, and Paulette Monroe was elected as a member of the SEJ UMW Committee on Nominations. Right after this meeting, the FL Conference officers traveled to Montgomery, AL for the South Atlantic Regional School of Christian Mission. It was held at Huntingdon College. The Study Leaders received their training and the Mission Team Officers, the Dean and Assistant Dean enrolled in one of the studies along with receiving Leadership Development Training by the National Office.

Some of our UMW were delegates to the Southeastern Jurisdiction Conference at Lake Junaluska (July 17-21, 2012) where our Bishop Carter was elected and designated to our Conference.

Our School of Christian Mission was held at Bethune Cookman University in Daytona Beach, July 27-29, 2012 (weekend), and July 30-August 3, 2012 (week). 540 participated during the weekend event, and the week including children and youth. The studies were: Immigration and the Bible, Poverty and Haiti. The children and the youth had their own studies related to these themes. During the weekend, classes in Creole and Spanish were offered as well and during the week in Korean.

August 2-5, 2012 was the National Office sponsored "Limitless: Redefine Tomorrow" event for young women. Three young women and a mentor from our conference attended.

Annabelle Bricker, a young woman from our conference was elected member of the UMW National Office Program Advisory Group.

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The Spiritual Life Retreat on September 7-9, 2012 at the Life Enrichment Center was led by Rev. Shirley Groom. The theme was: "That All May have Life", based on John 10:10.. We continue with a Mini-Retreat for teens, college/university women, led by Tonya Murphy, Director of the National Office.

Our 39th Conference Annual Meeting, November 10, 2012, was held for the first time at Clermont United Methodist Church. Almost 400 United Methodist Women, past Presidents, Missionaries, Deaconess and other special guests gathered to celebrate our mission work.

The keynote speaker was Harriett Jane Olson, General Secretary/CEO of the UMW National Office. Bishop Carter and his wife Rev. Pam Carter sent messages in a video and a letter. Rev. Bob Gibbs the NW District Superintendent and our new Cabinet Liaison was the Meditation Speaker and the Communion Celebrant. Districts/Units/ Individuals were recognized for their accomplishments in the Reading Program, Mission Today Units, Mission Studies, Five Stars Units and Rainbow Givers. We elected two new members of the Committee on Nominations, Class of 2016 and the new Chair of the Committee. We celebrated the charter of six new Units and two reorganized Units of United Methodist Women. The budget for 2013 was approved.

Thanks to all faithful United Methodist Women we were able to send over \$400,000 as part of our pledge to Mission Giving.

On January 11-13, 2013 some of our officers attended a Leadership Development Days at Lake Junaluska, sponsored by the National Office. We are getting ready for new changes in our organization.

February 16, 2013 was the second Haitian Convocation at Fort Pierce UMC.

Children's Advocacy Days, April 7-9, 2013 was another opportunity to be in Tallahassee with our Bishop Carter to receive information and to visit our legislator, to advocate for the needs of our children.

One of the changes beginning this year is the new name for the former School of Christian Mission. Now it is called: Mission U: Learning Together for the Transformation of the World. Another new is that we will have only one event: July 11-14, 2013. It will be held at Florida Southern College. The studies will be: Living Sacramentally and Walking Justly, The Roma of Europe and Poverty. This event is for ALL (children, youth, women, men, Laity and Clergy).

FAITH, HOPE, LOVE IN ACTION

Respectfully submitted,

Nelida Mora Morales, President

**MINISTRY OF THE ORDAINED
CENTER FOR CLERGY EXCELLENCE**

For the past sixteen and one-half years it has been my privilege to serve as the Executive Director of what we now call the Center for Clergy Excellence. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that I would have the opportunity to serve the Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church in such a position or for this long. I am deeply grateful to Bishop Cornelius Henderson for inviting me into this position and to Bishop Timothy Whitaker for his support for this office and my role in it. It was under Bishop Whitaker's leadership that the office transitioned from being the Division of Ministry to the Center for Clergy Excellence.

During this tenure there has been incredible change in the world, in the church, and in our Annual Conference. Within the church we have seen the transition into a new understanding of the ordering of ministry with the establishment of the permanent order of deacons. We have also seen the expansion of the voting rights of licensed local pastors, associate members and provisional members. And we have seen great advancements in technology that have allowed us to be more efficient in all of our work.

I am deeply grateful for the five chairpersons of the Board of Ordained Ministry with whom I have served: Debbie McLeod, Bob Bushong, Annette Pendergrass, Catherine Fluck Price, and Terri Hill, and to the members of the Board of Ordained Ministry who served so well during this tenure. The personal lessons I have learned because of these wonderful leaders are too numerous to count. People who have served on district committees on ordained ministry or on the board know that you cannot sit through those interviews without asking yourself the same questions that are being asked of the candidates. The opportunity for self-reflection is, at times, overwhelming, and yet so very necessary.

Now it is time for a new Executive Director to take this area of ministry to places I could not imagine. I am so pleased that Wayne Wiatt will be that person. His dedication to the kingdom, the church, to ministry and to individual clergy, combined with his highly creative skills, will enable new approaches to ministry to blossom and enhance all that we do. Along with his new Associate Director, Rrwth Ashton, I am sure that we will witness the recruitment; development and nurturing of clergy take on added dimensions.

I want to say a special thank you to Emily Oliver who served as the first Associate Director in the Center, and provided such an incredible foundation for the work to go forward as we continue to focus on young clergy. Emily did this work with a sense of grace and professionalism that is beyond her chronological age. Quickly she became known throughout our denomination as a leader in the ministry with young clergy. The reputation of the Florida Conference as a leader in the connection was raised another level because of the work that Emily provided.

As everyone knows, every highly successful system has people who are really making sure it works, and these people are rarely the faces that are seen up front. That is true for us as well. Ms. Wanda Byrd is that quiet person who faithfully makes sure that our webpage is up to date, our electronic files are continuously up to date and properly maintained, and is always doing many little extras that make us look good.

What can I say about Winnie Dean? Ask any person who has come through the process about who has helped him/her the most with staying on track and the answer will be "Winnie." In a recent orientation for the Board of Ordained Ministry the presenter repeatedly told the members of the Board that when you have a question about some process you should "Ask Winnie." As the longest tenured employee in the Conference Building, she continues to be the person everyone turns to for the history of anything. Winnie has made my responsibilities easier by always anticipating what comes next, and gently reminding me of upcoming deadlines and events. Besides being a wonderful employee she is a great friend.

Finally, I want to thank Bishop Kenneth Carter for his trust in me to serve as his Assistant to the Bishop. I look forward to this new challenge and for the opportunity to work closely with Bishop Carter. I expect that this new role for me will have its own set of adventures that are yet to be imagined.

Blessings, David A. Dodge, Executive Director

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BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

As happens throughout The United Methodist Church, the Board of Ordained Ministry went through significant changes moving into the new quadrennium. Catherine Fluck Price, the gifted leader of the BOOM for the previous quadrennium, completed her tenure and was recognized for her outstanding contribution to the work of the Board.

New leaders took responsibility in almost all the subcommittees of the Board. These leaders of review teams, interview groups, and officers of the Board make a significant difference in the life of the church and of the Board of Ordained Ministry. All these leaders serve as volunteers and give an enormous amount of time to the process of recommending candidates to be licensed, commissioned, and ordained.

The entire Board of Ordained Ministry is made up of clergy and laity, deacons, elders and local pastors. They come from diverse backgrounds, cultures, church sizes, and perspectives. At the beginning of the quadrennium, an orientation and training was held and everyone participated at a very high level of commitment. Prayer is a vitally important part of the whole process and the Board seeks guidance from God as we make the very important decisions before us.

A training event sponsored by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry was held in Dallas, Texas. As the new Chairperson of the Board, I was very grateful for the training and glad to have with me; Tim Carson, Vice-Chair, Sara McKinley, Secretary and Chair of the Conference Relations Committee, Richard Landon, the leader of the Residents in Ministry process, and David Dodge, Executive Director of the Center for Clergy Excellence.

The Board is working on two new initiatives. One is a requirement added in the 2012 Book of Discipline for candidates to complete a project before ordination in full connection as deacons or elders. A group within the Board is working out how that new requirement will be fulfilled.

The other new initiative is related to ongoing effectiveness of those already licensed or ordained. New research has been completed on the specific factors that enhance effectiveness. Resources in leadership are available to us as a Conference to assist us in growing our effectiveness as local pastors, deacons and elders. More about this new initiative will be shared over the next twelve to eighteen months.

David Dodge has been an incredible leader, knowledgeable expert, helpful servant, composed spokesman, and great friend to the Board of Ordained Ministry. As he moves into a new position of leadership in the Annual Conference, he will be greatly missed. He is looked to throughout the entire connection for his wisdom and expertise.

Thankfully, the Bishop has given the Board of Ordained Ministry another outstanding leader, Dr. Wayne Wiatt. Wayne is experienced in the work of the BOOM and we are looking forward to working with him to continue the ongoing emphasis on improving the work entrusted to us.

Respectfully submitted, Terri Hill, Chairperson

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BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED FOR ELDER IN FULL CONNECTION

Sarah R. Campbell – age 31; single; Asbury Theological Seminary; Gulf Central
Andrew P. Dancey – age 28; married; Candler School of Theology; East Central
Jaime A. Faberlle – age 41; married; Asbury Theological Seminary; East Central
Edward A. Kellum – age 43; married; Asbury Theological Seminary; South West
Nancy R. Mayeux – age 58; married; Asbury Theological Seminary; Gulf Central
Audrey B. Warren – age 29; single; Duke Divinity School; South East

RECOMMENDED FOR DEACON IN FULL CONNECTION

Kathy L. Nolasco – age 29; married; Candler School of Theology; South East

RECOMMENDED FOR PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP – ELDER

J. Todd. Bardin – age 44; married; Asbury Theological Seminary; East Central
Daniel L. Bennett – age 28; married; Duke Divinity School; Gulf Central
Lisa H. Carboni – age 45; single; Candler School of Theology; East Central
Debbie Daley-Salinger – age 50; married; Asbury Theological Seminary; South Central
Ryan W. Delaune – age 28; married; Candler School of Theology; East Central
James A. Divine – age 49; married; Asbury Theological Seminary; South East
Ryan F. Frack – age 29; married; Duke Divinity School; South Central
Susan M. Hart – age 52; married; Duke Divinity School; North East
Juana R. Jordan – age 42; single; Candler School of Theology; North West
Emily Jones Knight – age 26; married; Duke Divinity School; South Central
Esther Rodriguez – age 26; single; Asbury Theological Seminary; East Central
Donald R. Thompson, Jr. – age 44; married; Asbury Theological Seminary; North West

RECOMMENDED FOR PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP – DEACON

Elaine C. Thomas – age 61; married; Asbury Theological Seminary; Atlantic Central

RECOMMENDED FOR TRANSFER FROM ANOTHER DENOMINATION

Charles Mullens Constant - to be licensed as a local pastor

Danilo Quevedo – recommended for full connection; age 46; married; Seminario Evangelico de Teologia, Cuba; South East

TO BE LICENSED AS LOCAL PASTORS (if appointed)

Raphael Alexander Camilo

Rodolfo Casasayas

Jetro Jeune

Robert Anthony Rose

Aaron Michael Rousseau

(this list will change due to late additions)

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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 2012, your Board has been able to assist persons up to \$4,000 per semester. 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:

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 the Licensing 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.

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.

Distribution of MEF receipts is 90% for students and 10% for continuing education.

Ministerial Education Fund (MEF)	2010	2011	2012
Apportioned to local church	1,391,479	1,312,306	1,247,440
Received from local churches	967,717	990,122	978,305
75% of MEF monies received are sent to the General Church for Seminary students			
Total sent to General Church	725,788	742,592	733,729
25% of MEF monies received remain in the Florida Conference for student aid and continuing education			
Total Florida Conference Funds available	241,929	247,530	244,576
For Student aid (90% of retained funds)	217,736	222,777	220,118
For Continuing Ed (10% of retained funds)	24,193	24,753	24,458
Student Aid			
Amount available from prior years	957,522	965,172	741,821
Received from other sources (non-Apportioned)	40,933	13,060	43,427
Current Year Allocation	217,736	222,777	220,118
Disbursed for students	(251,019)	(459,188)	(606,932)
Available for future use	965,172	741,821	398,434
Continuing Education			
Amount available from prior years	78,597	91,116	92,019
Received from other sources (non-Apportioned)	2,670	2,544	1,876
Current Year Allocation	24,193	24,753	24,458
Disbursed for continuing education	(14,344)	(26,394)	(9,423)
Available for future use	91,116	92,019	108,930

COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

The Commission on Equitable Compensation exists to assist churches who are in need of financial support on a short term basis. It is our goal to see transformation come through the implementation of new vision by making disciples for Jesus Christ. The Commission's purpose is to provide short term grants that assist in this process of making disciples. 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 commission, that we can be both a facilitator and an encourager in the ministry of churches in need of short term financial assistance.

GUIDELINES FOR 2014

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.

Who is qualified to receive minimum salary funds?

All full-time pastors who are not excluded in Section 2.

Ministers serving full time pastoral assignments with an average attendance of 100 in worship. If the attendance figures drop over a three year period, consideration will be given to the church becoming part of a circuit or part-time, if the church wants to remain eligible for Equitable Compensation funding. The exceptions are student appointments and part-time pastors.

Who is 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.

Full time appointments with less than 100 in average worship attendance.

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 ¶¶346.1 and 346.2.

To be eligible, a pastor 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 is considered part of the work of the ministry if approved by the District Superintendent.

Applications for Equitable Compensation funds are submitted twice a year and must be received by the Conference office on or before November 1st and April 1st. The application must include:

The November 1st application requires the signature of the Chairperson of the Staff Parish Relations Committee.

A Vision and Mission statement as envisioned by the whole body of the church.

A Written Ministry Plan for implementing the Vision and Mission statement into the life of the church. A summary of the measurable goals accomplished to date as reflected in Evangelism, Worship, and Outreach.

A Treasurer's report, including all assets, for the current year to date status of the financial condition of the church.

A request for funds by the Charge Conference and the signature of the District Superintendent.

A copy of the congregation's Stewardship Commitment Plan.

Summary of the Measurable Goals accomplished to date as reflected in Evangelism, Worship, and Outreach.

The April 1st application (if not submitted the previous November must include all of the above requirements) may be completed by the District Superintendent and submitted to the Conference office.

All congregations receiving Equitable Compensation Grants must renew their application by the April 1st deadline. Please use the application form found at www.flumc.org and note on the application "A Request for Renewal" for the current funding year.

Additional support, up to \$2000, is available for "Missional Congregations." "Chartered Churches" with documented outreach to the poor, through service and evangelism may also apply for "Missional" support, with the approval of the District Superintendent. The church must be receiving an Equitable Compensation grant in order to be eligible for this additional support.

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Before a church is granted salary support, the church must conduct, or agree to conduct, a Stewardship Commitment plan.

The maximum allowable salary support is 20% of minimum salary.

Assistance may not be received from both Missional Funds and New Church Development Funds. Assistance may not be received from both Minimum Salary Support Funds and New Church Development Funds.

Churches whose salary support is at “The Minimum” may apply for assistance with utilities, health insurance, or moving expenses.

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.

Churches/missions may receive the requested assistance for up to five years. In year six (6) the original 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.

Any funds granted to those churches approved, will first have to pay any outstanding balances owed to the Florida Conference. Those items that must be paid in full include: a) Health Insurance premiums, b) Property and Casualty premiums, c) Pension premiums d) Workers Compensation premiums and e) “The Clergy Support” line item from apportionments. The approved funds from the grant will be used to pay the balances of any outstanding debit and the balance of the funds will come to the church.

Reimbursement Accounts: Charges receiving Equitable Compensation Funds may establish a reimbursement account up to \$2000.

Salary reduction for pension purposes: Clergy receiving Equitable Compensation funds may designate a portion of their compensation to the “Before Tax” contribution for the pension program.

MINIMUM SALARY RECOMMENDATIONS 2014

Full Connection	\$40,100
Provisional Members	\$37,900
Associate Members	\$36,720
Local Pastor with M. Div. or five years of Course of Study	\$35,650
Local Pastor with less than five years of Course of Study	\$34,700

ADDITIONAL EQUITABLE COMPENSATION INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

Missional Congregations:

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, to determine if each Missional situation in the district meets the guidelines.

The Equitable Compensation Commission may provide amounts up to \$2,000 for Missional support, and an additional \$2,000 may be granted for Haitian and Hispanic congregations in exceptional circumstances. Request for salary support from Equitable Compensation Commission for Missional situations shall be made by November 1st and April 1st and shall accompany the Equitable Compensation Request form.

Eligibility for extended Missional support: A mission must meet the following criteria to receive extended support and will be annually reviewed to determine continued compliance until they are able to establish independence. Chartered congregations are not eligible.

Provide evidence that the mission has a vision statement, rooted in the Great Commission, which actually functions to shape the decisions about deployment of people and financial resources in ministry.

Provide evidence that the pastor exerts effective leadership in casting and realizing the vision.

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Provide evidence of the mission's effectiveness in making and growing disciples.

The mission makes a number of new disciples (first time professions of faith or "restorations") at least equal to 10% of its average worship attendance.

The mission has a system of nurturing discipleship for all persons, long time Christians and newly professed ones.

The mission carries out a consistent program of teaching the stewardship dimension of discipleship including sacrificial proportionate giving by all disciples.

The mission has a worship average attendance of at least 125, or grew in attendance in the past 12 months at a rate that would project reaching 125 in no more than 5 years.

Provide evidence that the mission is taking responsibility for a greater and greater percentage of its total expenditures. The goal is financial independence in some reasonable time frame.

Transforming Congregations

Congregations that are in need of transformation, according to the Conference's definition adopted in 2003, may receive a grant of no more than \$10,000 per year for up to five years, if they cannot afford the salary of available pastors with the requisite transformational skills and leadership ability. The Cabinet will follow these guidelines in making appointments according to "fit" and will use funds from the Commission to supplement salaries if needed to achieve the "fit."

The congregation has a vision statement that actually functions to shape decisions about deployment of people and financial resources.

The vision is rooted in the Great Commission.

The projected pastor is committed to stay at the church for at least 6 years.

The congregation wants "transformation" for Missional rather than for survival reasons. They understand the need they have for transformation and agree to cooperate in transforming with the pastor appointed to lead.

The leaders of the congregation are committed to transforming. They have an understanding of what transformation is, what it is going to cost in terms of sacrifice and fundamental change in congregational life, and how long this will take.

The church is willing to re-evaluate its leadership structures and put leaders in place who are willing to implement the changes transformation requires in the local church context.

The church will enter a transformation process approved by the District Superintendent, the department of Congregational Vitality, and/or the District Committee.

A church in transformation, while experiencing fundamental and often painful change, is still a part of the UM connection. Some churches undergoing transformation may have difficulty fulfilling the following responsibilities (i.e. connectional giving, pension and health insurance contributions for pastor, property insurance, workers compensation premiums.)

*In order to receive help from the Commission on Equitable Compensation the church will affirm these as responsibilities they intend to fulfill. If the church has been unable to fulfill these responsibilities they will develop a covenant, signed by the "Leadership Team" and carry out a plan to reach annual fulfillment within 5 years. The process of transformation may temporarily cause a reduction in the number of people participating in the life of the church and a reduction in financial strength. In this situation temporary accommodation can be arranged, without lessening the church's long term commitment to fulfill their connectional responsibilities. The Superintendent recommends the church for this program in partnership with the department of Congregational Vitality.

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 \$720 in utility payments not covered by the local church. The Equitable Compensation Commission will pay up to \$5000 of the base Health Insurance plan. In areas where HMO's are available, they shall be considered the base plan.

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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 \$500 or 75% of the total cost if not paid by the local church.

Parsonage Fund:

This fund is intended for the purchase and upgrading of 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. The funds, if granted, will be paid upon the submission of receipts for the work completed to the parsonage, or the proof of a mortgage.

2014 Budget Request

The Council on Finance and Administration is requested to appropriate \$350,000 for the Equitable Compensation Commission for the fiscal year 2014. The Conference Treasurer shall remit funds to the District Superintendents and or the church as certified by the Executive Director of the Equitable Compensation Commission.

<u>2014</u>	
Equitable Salaries	\$175,000
Transformation Grants	\$10,000
Longevity	-----
Missional	\$25,000
Haitian/Hispanic	\$24,000
Pensions	\$25,000
Utilities and Moving	\$8,000
Health Insurance	\$45,000
Parsonage Fund	\$35,000
Workers Compensation	\$1,000
Administration	<u>\$2,000</u>
Grand Total	\$ 350,000

Respectfully submitted by:

Brian Carr, Chairperson, David A. Dodge, Executive Director

SHADE AND FRESH WATER

Throughout the year, the Shade and Fresh Water Board (S&FW) meets monthly to retain focus on their vision and mission. These meetings are held via conference call and face-to-face sessions. An overnight retreat is held in the fall of each year to assess the progress made and identify goals for the coming year. The board collaborates with several other conference level groups including the Institute of Preaching and the department of Clergy Excellence to address the health and wellness of Florida clergy. Additionally, an advisory board of 13 clergy and laity provide direction to the board.

During Annual Conference, Shade and Fresh Water provides activities to raise awareness of their mission and vision among clergy and laity. Shade and Fresh Water Board members have made presentations in both the clergy session and the laity session. Additionally, an exhibit space is hosted by the Shade and Fresh Water Board to talk with laity and clergy about ways that S&FW can be helpful to them. This is the main way of identifying individuals and groups interested in participating in personal and covenant group retreats.

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During the past year, Shade and Fresh Water has been able to serve the Florida Conference with personal retreat time for two pastors and facilitated one covenant retreat for a group of pastors. A total of five clergy participated in the covenant group retreat.

We know that these are not just numbers, rather they represent evidence of developing relationships; personal care being taken; community being built within clergy & clergy family; as well as fostering feelings of strength and support. Feedback from the retreat participants has been positive with statements such as... *"I am already recommending it to those I talk to and am excited about being able to guide someone to a resting retreat of their own."*

The S&FW website which outlines all aspects of Shade and Fresh Water continues to be an available source of information and resources during the past year. The most popular pages were Spiritual Directors, Retreats, Personal Retreats and Contact Us. For additional information visit the Shade and Fresh Water website at: www.shadeandfreshwater.org or contact any of the following people:

Officers: Rev. Daryl Allen and Lucy Wray, Co-Chairs; Lew Arnold, Secretary; Rev. Mark Whittaker, Treasurer; Trudy Rankin, Spiritual Director

Directors: Rev. Anne Butcher; Jim Cook; Martha Gay Duncan; Joyce Johnson; Rev. Sandra Rogers; Rev. Lynwood Walters

Spiritual Directors: Jim Cook; Dr. Trudy Rankin; Rev. Lynwood Walters; Lucy Wray

Advisory Board: Rev. Clarke Campbell-Evans; Rev. Wayne Curry; Rev. June Edwards; Rev. Dionne Hammond; Jeannie Harper; Rev. Sue Hauptert-Johnson; Frances Jennings; Sharon Luther; Rev. Geraldine McClellan; Rev. David McEntire; Rev. Bill Owens; Rev. Philip Roughton; Rev. Vicki Walker

We invite participation of clergy and laity on either the Advisory Board or the Board of Directors. Please visit us in the exhibit area.

Anne Butcher and Daryl Allen, Co-Chairs

PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS

The Conference Treasurer, Mickey Wilson, reviewed the year end 2012 Benefit Trust statement and reported that the ending balance increased a million dollars from \$33M to \$34M. Two factors heavily influenced this outcome. First, an additional \$4M in pension "make-up" contributions were required in 2011 but not for 2012. Secondly, strong market performance in conjunction with improved health insurance claims experience combined to create the positive change. The health insurance program ended the year with a loss of approximately \$250,000 which is significantly better than the \$2.8M loss in 2011. However, both programs remain on strong financial ground and the balance in the Benefit Trust on December 31, 2012 was \$34,851,700.

The funds held within the Benefit Trust are dedicated to expenses for retiree health insurance subsidies, active health insurance plan and pension obligations. Every year an actuarial valuation is performed to determine what the ongoing and future Conference obligations are for these programs. The Board is committed to properly manage these assets so that appropriate sustainable cost sharing arrangements for pension and health insurance benefits with local churches can be maintained. So far, we are able to meet the projected increased pension funding contributions without increasing the pension contributions paid by local churches.

But, board members remain concerned about the long term financial viability of our current health insurance program. Especially, the escalating expense for subsidies provided to clergy retirees for purchase of health insurance.

We reported last year about an initiative to examine the current retiree health insurance benefit for clergy. For 2013, current liabilities for future retiree health insurance subsidies are projected to be \$60M and in 15 years that obligation increases to \$137M. This is clearly unsustainable and a change is needed. Board members worked to develop a new

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approach that continues to provide support for the purchase of health insurance by retirees and has submitted a plan for your consideration.

The new plan “Grandfathers” those closest to retirement and provides a choice between the existing benefit and the new benefit at the time of retirement. A second group of clergy includes those at least age 50 and/or with at least 15 years of service (within the Florida Conference) as of January 1, 2014 will have contributions made on their behalf into a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) for the purchase of health insurance in retirement. This new approach reduces our current 15 year liability from \$137M to \$26M.

It’s important to note that these proposed changes would not impact benefits for currently retired clergy. And participants closest to retirement are provided a choice of plans when they retire. However, those clergy who are under age 50 or with less than 15 years of service (within the Florida Conference) on January 1, 2014 will no longer be offered subsidies for the purchase of health insurance in retirement if these changes are approved by the Annual Conference.

Another important change for 2014 is the introduction of a participant match on CRSP pension contributions. The local church will contribute 2% of clergy compensation into the defined contribution account. The new provision requires *participants* to make a contribution of at least 1% of compensation into the UMPIP in order for his/her CRSP DC contribution to be 3%, as it is currently. This match is required in order to receive the full 3% for the defined contribution portion of CRSP as the current benefit formula provides. In addition to the above change, the legislation approved at 2012 General Conference limits clergy participation in CRSP to those members serving at least (50%) or half-time appointments. Those clergy serving at less than 50% are no longer eligible for CRSP benefits as of January 1, 2014.

The members of the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits (CBOPHB) take their fiduciary responsibilities very seriously. Board members work closely with Conference staff to understand plan funding requirements and the financial decisions that must be made by our Conference. We regularly review detailed financial information regarding asset performance and pension contributions from local churches to determine the funding status of our plans as well as our ability to make required pension contributions.

As Chair of the committee, I want to thank all the board members who give of their expertise, wisdom and time to do our work. We pray together and seek to discern God’s will in these great stewardship matters. I also want to express my confidence and appreciation for our Conference Treasurer, Mickey Wilson and HR & Benefits staff Wendy McCoy, Helen Mitchell, and Lois Durham. This board’s performance is greatly enhanced through the care and support of these professionals.

Report I – Past Service Rate

The Conference Board recommends no increase in the Past Service Rate for 2014. The rate will remain at \$771 in 2014.

Report II – Special Grants

The CBOPHB recommends special grants and/or pension support for:

William Johnston
Walter McMullen
Deborah Parsons
Donald Rock
Rev. Charles Constant
Elizabeth Hogan

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Report III – Apportionment Recommendation for 2014

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 Paragraph 1507 of the The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church – 2008. The Apportionment for Pension and Health Benefits would be apportioned to the local churches by a formula determined by the conference Council on Finance and Administration and would include the current policy of prior claim or unpaid amounts by the local church for the following years

The CBOPHB recommends the following amounts with referral to the Council on Finance and Administration as necessary to fund the Apportionment for the Pension and Health Benefits Programs for 2014. It should be noted that the budget for Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits remains flat at \$65,000 in 2014.

Apportionment for Pension and Health Benefits Programs:

Retiree Health Insurance Supplement	\$ 0
Wellness Program	\$20,000
Meetings & Retirement Workshops	\$ 5,000
Special Grants & Pension Support	<u>\$40,000</u>
Total	\$65,000

Benefit Trust Statement

A comprehensive benefit funding plan document and complete audited financial statements are available upon request from the Conference Treasurer.

Conference Board on Pension and Health Benefits 2012 Yearend Benefit Trust Analysis

	<u>31-Dec-2012</u>	<u>Audited 31-Dec-2011</u>
HR Administration Net Income/(Loss)	(\$15,887)	\$25,547
<u>Active Health Program</u>		
Billed Premiums	\$13,326,933	\$12,481,474
Insurance Fees	(\$1,413,735)	(\$1,531,623)
Insurance Claims	(\$12,334,149)	(\$13,078,664)
Insurance Claims Accrual (IBNP)	\$0	(\$338,357)
Pharmacy Rebates and Subsidies	\$572,944	\$78,626
Benefit Admin Fees (AON/ADP)	<u>(\$219,100)</u>	<u>(\$204,416)</u>
Active Health Net Income (Loss)	(\$67,107)	(\$2,592,960)
<u>Retiree Health Program</u>		
Total Billed Premiums	\$2,925,746	\$2,999,398

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Benefit Trust Subsidy	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Premiums and Fees	(\$303,169)	(\$1,757,124)
Total Claims	(\$2,317,563)	(\$829,704)
Insurance Claims Accrual (AON)	\$0	(\$4,464)
Conference Responsible Retiree	(\$2,095,998)	(\$2,124,188)
Pharmacy Rebates and Subsidies	\$374,655	\$32,038
Benefit Admin Fees (AON/ADP)	(\$125,392)	(\$73,624)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Retiree Health Net Income (Loss)	(\$41,721)	(\$257,668)
Total Health Program Income (Loss)	(\$108,828)	(\$2,850,628)
<u>Pension</u>		
Apportionment Receipts	\$65,392	\$75,101
CPP/CRSP Premiums	\$4,817,351	\$4,824,106
CPP Premium Holiday	\$1,154,169	\$1,164,981
CRSP Income from Pre-82 Account	\$0	\$0
CRSP DC Contribution	(\$1,202,556)	(\$1,202,849)
CPP Contribution	(\$1,154,169)	(\$1,165,210)
Other Expenses	(\$61,746)	(\$45,473)
CRSP DB Contribution	(\$4,001,520)	(\$6,908,099)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Pension Net Income	(\$383,079)	(\$3,257,443)
Total CBOPH Program Income	(\$507,794)	(\$6,082,524)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Benefit Trust</u>		
Beginning Balance	\$33,919,455	\$41,195,987
Net CBOPH Activity	(\$507,794)	(\$6,082,524)
Retiree Insurance Subsidy	(\$1,500,000)	(\$1,500,000)
Benefit Trust Earnings	\$1,016,434	\$874,074
Realized Gains/(Losses)	\$980,203	\$2,184,943
Unrealized Gains/(Losses)	\$943,402	(\$2,753,025)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Income	\$932,245	(\$7,276,532)
Ending Balance	\$34,851,700	\$33,919,455
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Report IV – Housing/Rental Allowance Resolution

Resolutions Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired or Disabled Clergypersons of the Florida Conference

The Florida Conference (the “Conference”) adopts the following resolutions relating to rental/housing allowances for active, retired, or disabled clergypersons of the Conference:

WHEREAS, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church (the “Church”), of which this Conference is a part, has in the past functioned and continues to function through ministers of the gospel (within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code section 107) who were or are duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed ministers of the Church (“Clergypersons”);

WHEREAS, the practice of the Church and of this Conference was and is to provide active Clergypersons with a parsonage or a rental/housing allowance as part of their gross compensation;

WHEREAS, pensions or other amounts paid to active, retired, and disabled Clergypersons are considered to be deferred compensation and are paid to active, retired, and disabled Clergypersons in consideration of previous active service; and

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized the Conference (or its predecessors) as the appropriate organization to designate a rental/housing allowance for Clergypersons who are or were members of this Conference and are eligible to receive such deferred compensation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT an amount equal to 100% of the pension or disability payments received from plans authorized under The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (the “Discipline”), which includes all such payments from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (“GBOPHB”), during the year 2014 by each active, retired, or disabled Clergyperson who is or was a member of the Conference, or its predecessors, be and hereby is designated as a rental/housing allowance for each such Clergyperson; and THAT the pension or disability payments to which this rental/housing allowance applies will be any pension or disability payments from plans, annuities, or funds authorized under the Discipline, including such payments from the GBOPHB and from a commercial annuity company that provides an annuity arising from benefits accrued under a GBOPHB plan, annuity, or fund authorized under the Discipline, that result from any service a Clergyperson rendered to this Conference or that an active, a retired, or a disabled Clergyperson of this Conference rendered to any local church, annual conference of the Church, general agency of the Church, other institution of the Church, former denomination that is now a part of the Church, or any other employer that employed the Clergyperson to perform services related to the ministry of the Church, or its predecessors, and that elected to make contributions to, or accrue a benefit under, such a plan, annuity, or fund for such active, retired, or disabled Clergyperson’s pension or disability as part of his or her gross compensation.

NOTE: The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a Clergyperson’s gross income in any year for federal income tax purposes is limited under Internal Revenue Code section 107(2) and regulations thereunder to the least of: (1) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the Clergyperson’s employer or other appropriate body of the Church (such as this Conference in the foregoing resolutions) for such year; (2) the amount actually expended by the Clergyperson to rent or provide a home in such year; or (3) the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances (such as a garage), plus the cost of utilities in such year.

Wendy Crudele, Chairperson

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HEALTH INSURANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

The implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) continues. As you know, this legislation will continue to affect clergy, churches, lay employees and annual conferences of The United Methodist Church.

The CBOPHB established a task force to recommend how the Conference implements the ACA. An initial recommendation is that effective January 1, 2014 local churches will no longer have the opportunity to adopt the Conference health insurance plan for its lay workers. Local churches will have to comply with the law and provide insurance coverage to their staff if they employ 50 or more full time employees. Information will be provided to local churches as to where they can seek guidance on complying with the new law. We encourage local church SPRC members begin considering how to address this development in their local settings as soon as possible.

The Conference health insurance program will limit participation to clergy serving full-time under Episcopal appointment and lay workers on the Conference staff. In addition, the Conference health insurance benefit coverage will change to reflect the new standard package of benefits the law requires on January 1, 2014.

In 2013 we will see several new ACA items implemented including: the Part D Donut Hole continues to close, a \$2,500 cap on Health FSAs, present a Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC), include Women's Preventive Services, W-2 Reporting of health insurance costs, issue Notice of Marketplace (formerly called Exchange) Eligibility, establish the Employer Shared Responsibility Fee, the Small Business Health Care Tax Credit May 15, 2013 deadline, set the Comparative Effectiveness Fee and open enrollment begins for Marketplaces (formerly Exchanges) in October 2013.

The CBOPHB has completed the promised review of the current retiree health insurance premium support. Three items prompted our review. These are market place changes, ACA flexibility, and future financial impact.

First, the Medicare Insurance market is more varied and competitive. This means our retirees have more choice and lower costs. Second, the ACA is expected to add flexibility and benefits available to seniors. Third, without any change the projected financial obligation in 15 years of the current arrangement is \$137 million (or \$622.00 per average worship attendee). Yet in 15 years our reserve is projected to be only \$2 million. Our church cannot be expected to bear this future burden.

Remember we are changing only the premium support for future retirees. Provisions have been incorporated so that near-to-retirement clergy are offered a choice of benefits and are not expected to be negatively impacted. Participants can obtain details on the proposed new plan by attending one of the pre-conference workshops on this topic or by visiting the Conference website.

Local churches and ministries are reminded to review IRS Notice 2010-82 about the Small Business Health Care Tax Credit. May 15, 2013 is the deadline to submit forms for 2012 tax credit.

In general, the Tax Credit is available to small employers that pay at least half of the premiums for single (self-only) health insurance coverage for their employees. Small employers can claim the Tax Credit for 2010 through 2013 and for any two years after that. For tax years 2010 to 2013, the maximum credit is 25% of premiums paid by eligible tax-exempt organizations.

Beginning in 2014, the maximum tax credit will increase to 35% of premiums paid by eligible tax-exempt organizations – but only for coverage obtained through the health insurance exchanges.

Notice 2010-82 counts clergy as employees for the purposes of the Tax Credit and outlines how clergy compensation is to be treated for the Tax Credit's average wage calculations.

Local churches and ministries should consult their tax accountant to see if they qualify for this Tax Credit and to see what forms will needed to receive the Tax Credit. If you have any questions regarding this Tax Credit, more

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information can be found at

http://www.gbophb.org/health_welfare/healthcarereform/index.asp.

The Health Insurance Subcommittee began a robust wellness program for participants enrolled in the Conference health insurance plan. This program will continue in 2013. We will strive to offer encouragement and incentives for clergy and lay workers to participate in programs that promote prevention services and healthy lifestyles. We will assist plan participants in identifying health concerns and link those with health needs to programs and services that can improve their health status.

The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits (CBOPHB) make the following recommendations:

- a. The CBOPHB is authorized to make decisions relating to benefits and offerings of coverage for the Florida Conference, including but not limited to the ability to adopt plans that include outside funding, self funding, or a combination thereof. These decisions will be made after study, research and evaluation, and consultation with appropriate industry experts, actuaries, consultants and other resources available at the time.
- b. 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. Minnesota Life is the carrier for an additional Voluntary Life with AD&D, paid 100% by each participant without Conference funding.
- c. The firm of AON Consulting shall continue to serve as Agent of Record for the Life Insurance Program.

The Board would like to express our grateful appreciation to the staff of professionals that support this Board: Wendy McCoy, Mickey Wilson, Helen Mitchell and Lois Durham. The progress being made and improvements to the plans and programs would not be possible without the dedication of this team.

Russ Barlow, Vice-Chairperson

Amended Proposal:

The new plan “Grandfathers” those closest to retirement. Clergy age 64 or clergy age ~~60~~ 55 or older with a minimum of 35 years of service, are serving in an full time Episcopal appointment and are enrolled in the Conference health insurance program on July 1, 2014) may elect the current credit-based plan when they retire or they can elect the new HRA benefit.

Other full time clergy under Episcopal appointment and enrolled in the Conference health insurance program as of July 1, 2014 will be provided the new HRA benefit at retirement regardless of age or service. Eligible retirees can earn a future HRA benefit after completing 10 years of service. Eligible retirees can access the HRA benefit as early as age 60.

The proposal also includes a provision that terminates health insurance premium support for future clergy members who join the Florida Conference after July 1, 2014.

These changes do not affect existing retirees. The proposed changes would be effective for retirements on or after July 1, 2014.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY

The Florida Annual Conference provides disability benefits through participation in the Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP). For benefit year 2014 and beyond, the disability benefit will equal 70% of Plan Compensation capped at 200% of the Denominational Average Compensation (DAC). The minimum incapacity benefit will be 40% of the DAC. These benefits are coordinated with Social Security benefits. 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 Disability has approved continuing disability benefits for the Conference Year 2013-2014 for the following persons: Jocelyn Adhemar, Lawrence Armbrust, Michael Bozeman, Thomas Ettinger, Thomas Weber,

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Pamela Feeser, Timothy Clemons, Albert Hicks, Thomas Langford, William Ingram, Sarah Lawrence, Susan Lewis, Drew Parsons, Barbara Williams Riddle, Paul Kelly, Nathan Boles, Richard Quackenbush, Sandra Parsons, John Peavey, Samuel Parvin, Richard Jenks and Dawn Anderson.

We ask that these persons and their families be kept in our prayers.
Wendy Crudele, Chairperson

PREACHER’S RELIEF BOARD

The primary purpose of this ministry is to provide limited financial assistance to pastors when faced with unforeseen emergencies and to provide housing (when available) for clergy and surviving spouses of clergy when they are unable to afford adequate housing within their own means.

The housing program is very expensive to administer as all current residences owned by the PRB are quite old and require ever increasing regular maintenance and repairs. The property maintenance is consuming a substantial portion of the Board’s resources and is providing assistance to a very small group of clergy and surviving spouses.

However, the Preacher’s Relief Board was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Jubilee Community Development Corporation. This local non-profit in South Florida was established following hurricane Andrew and supports affordable housing programs. This generous gift will permit the PRB to do more extensive preventative maintenance on our properties including replacing roofs, updating electrical and plumbing systems, adding handicapped accessible features and other necessary work to ensure these properties are well maintained for clergy members and their families.

NECESSITOUS CASES: The Preacher’s Relief Board was able to assist several families in 2012. The Preacher’s Relief Board works to emphasize long-term recovery for the applicant. Their support involves networking with other agencies to provide appropriate assistance as necessary.

RETIRING CLERGY: The Preacher’s Relief Board also provides assistance with moving expenses for retiring clergy at the Annual Conference who are on minimum salary. The Preacher’s Relief Board hosts the retirement luncheon for those clergy who are retiring at the Annual Conference.

DONATIONS: Churches, clergy and others wishing to donate to the Preacher’s Relief Board can designate their funds through the Conference Treasurer’s Office. Individuals wishing to donate homes or property should contact Wendy McCoy, Staff Liaison for the Preacher’s Relief Board.

Those clergy persons who find themselves in difficulty can petition relief from The Preacher’s Relief Board by going on-line to www.flumc.org; click on Administration, then Human Resources – Health Care & Pensions and choose the link for Preacher’s Relief Board.

IN GRATITUDE: The Preacher’s Relief Board is grateful to Wendy McCoy, our Conference Benefits Officer and Mickey Wilson, our Conference Treasurer, who serve ex-officio on the board. We extend a very special “Thank you” to Helen Mitchell and Lois Durham for their excellent assistance throughout the year.

Arch Johnston, Chairperson
Preacher’s Relief Board

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COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Winston Churchill has been quoted, “To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.” Many changes have occurred in our Florida Annual Conference this past year. Churches have new pastors and pastors have new church families. Indeed, our entire Annual Conference said “farewell” to Bishop Tim and Mrs. Melba Whitaker, and “welcome” to Bishop Ken and Mrs. Pam Carter. Our Strategic Leadership Team continues to “clarify the vision of the Annual Conference.” We are embracing change.

Much of the work done by your Council on Finance and Administration was to continue pursuing and responding to the changing climate of our Conference. I am pleased to report:

The number of churches paying 100% of apportionments increased from 374 to 393.

We received a healthy 85% of our Annual Conference apportionments, enabling the Florida Conference to increase our General Church apportionments giving from 80% to 83%.

The percentage of apportionments paid continues to increase while the Annual Conference budget decreases.

We supported the continuance of our Annual Conference Inclusivity Training.

We continue to consolidate and unite the efforts and ministry of our nine Districts as all of their accounting is now done at the Conference, while working toward Standing Rules changes that will enable CF&A to play a larger role in reviewing and approving District budgets and require District budgets to be included in our 2015 figures presented to the Annual Conference.

The Personnel Committee “arm” of CF&A continues to work closely with all Conference staff to establish fundamental procedures, support their ministries, and provide meaningful flexibility to respond to immediate staffing needs. We are constantly reminded of the exceptional quality of staff and personnel of our Florida Annual Conference.

Our 2014 budget reflects the structural changes in our Annual Conference. We ask that you support this budget as presented, as we all seek to be “going on to perfection.”

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Trinchitella, Council on Finance and Administration Chairperson

PERCENTAGE OF 100% CHURCHES IN EACH DISTRICT

excluding closed churches

District	Churches paying 100%	TOTAL Churches in District paying apportionments	Percentage of 100% churches
Atlantic Central	33	58	56.90%
East Central	47	67	70.15%
Gulf Central	37	64	57.81%
North Central	63	84	75.00%
North East	32	72	44.44%
North West	60	83	72.29%
South Central	50	73	68.49%
South East	23	58	39.66%
South West	48	63	76.19%
TOTAL	393	622	

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GIFTS, SPECIAL OFFERINGS, AND APPORTIONMENTS RECEIVED FROM FLORIDA CONFERENCE CHURCHES THROUGH THE CONFERENCE TREASURER'S OFFICE

AREA OF GIVING	AMOUNT RECEIVED IN 2012
GENERAL ADVANCE SPECIALS	
Human Relations Day	\$ 7,462
One Great Hour of Sharing	54,036
Native American Ministries Sunday	8,319
United Methodist Student Day	6,071
World Communion Sunday	15,171
Peace with Justice Sunday	6,017
National Advance Specials (all)	36,187
UMCOR Advance Special	378,654
<u>World Advance Specials (all)</u>	<u>101,244</u>
TOTAL	\$613,161
OTHER SPECIAL GIFTS	
United Methodist Children's Home	\$681,609
Annual Conference Offering	74,581
Conference Advance Specials (all)	476,576
<u>Other special gifts (various)</u>	<u>84,894</u>
TOTAL	\$1,317,660
FLORIDA CONFERENCE APPORTIONMENTS	
Clergy Support	\$2,570,379
Conference Benevolences	4,186,936
Conference Services and Administration	1,142,291
<u>New Church Starts</u>	<u>862,148</u>
TOTAL	\$8,761,754
DISTRICT APPORTIONMENTS	
District work fund (all 9 combined)	\$1,781,327
<u>District New Church Development (all 9 combined)</u>	<u>1,102,869</u>
TOTAL	\$2,884,196
CONNECTIONAL CHURCH APPORTIONMENTS	
World Service	\$2,877,012
General Administration	341,913
Episcopal Fund	1,130,287
Interdenominational Cooperation Fund	77,197
Ministerial Education Fund	978,305
Black College Fund	382,367
Africa University Fund	89,959
<u>SEJ Jurisdictional Fund</u>	<u>201,416</u>
TOTAL	\$6,078,456
GRAND TOTAL RECEIVED IN 2012	\$19,655,227

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FLORIDA CONFERENCE 2014 BUDGET DETAIL RECOMMENDED BY CF&A

	2013 Budget	2014 Budget	2013-2014 Dollar Change	Percentage of 2014 Total Budget	Explanation
Connectional Church					
World Service	3,576,858	3,437,882	(138,976)	19.88%	
Ministerial Education Fund	1,213,010	1,180,278	(32,732)	6.82%	
Black College Fund	483,836	470,780	(13,056)	2.72%	
African University Fund	108,274	105,352	(2,922)	0.61%	
Episcopal Fund	997,334	1,003,855	6,521	5.80%	
General Administration	409,128	414,887	5,759	2.40%	
Interdenominational Cooperation	94,820	92,262	(2,558)	0.53%	
Jurisdictional Conference	200,000	200,000	0	1.16%	
Total Connectional Church	7,083,260	6,905,296	(177,964)	39.92%	
Connectional Ministry					
Emerging Ministries	50,000	50,000	0	0.29%	
Contingency	35,000	40,000	5,000	0.23%	
Administration	76,000	50,000	(26,000)	0.29%	\$25K Moved to Missional Engagement
Programs	175,000	75,000	(100,000)	0.43%	\$75K Moved to Missional Engagement/25K to BCRM
Staff Compensation	470,000	350,000	(120,000)	2.02%	\$95K Moved to Missional Engagement
Connectional Relations					
Data Management	200,000	200,000	0	1.16%	
Communications	550,000	600,000	50,000	3.47%	
Hispanic Ministry	110,000	0	(110,000)		\$110K Moved to Missional Engagement
Outreach Ministry Program					\$300K Moved to Missional Engagement
Board of Lay Ministry	28,000	40,000	12,000	0.23%	
Young Adult Ministry	0	32,000	32,000	0.19%	
Total Connectional Ministry	2,019,000	1,462,000	557,000	8.45%	
Higher ED & Campus Ministries					
Colleges (FSC /BCU Grants)	335,000	335,000	0	1.94%	
Campus Ministries	905,000	1,003,000	98,000	5.80%	
Salaries & Administrative	830,000	875,000	45,000	5.06%	

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Total Higher Ed and CM	2,070,000	2,213,000	143,000	12.79%	
Board of Camps and Retreat Ministry	550,000	575,000	25,000	0.14%	\$ 25K moved from Connectional Ministry
Congregational Excellence	650,000	0	(650,000)		\$300K Staff Restructuring
					\$200K moved to Congregational Vitality
					\$150K moved to Missional Engagement
Congregational Vitality					
Salaries	0	350,000	350,000	2.02%	
Travel/Meetings/Program	0	80,000	80,000	0.46%	\$200K moved from Congregational Excellence
Total Congregational Vitality	0	430,000	430,000	2.49%	\$180K moved from New Church Starts

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	2013 Budget	2014 Budget	2013-2014 Dollar Change	Percentage of 2014 Total Budget	Explanation
Missional Engagement					\$95K moved from Connectional Ministry
Salaries	0	600,000	600,000	3.47%	\$150K moved from Congregational Excellence
					\$150K moved from non-apportioned funding
					\$75K Moved from Connectional Ministry
Travel/Meetings/Program	0	125,000	125,000	0.72%	\$110K Moved from Connectional Ministry
Multi-Cultural Ministry (formerly Hispanic Ministries)	0	120,000	120,000	0.69%	\$300K Moved from Connectional Ministry
Outreach Ministry Program	0	325,000	325,000	1.88%	\$25K moved from Connectional Ministry
Contingency	0	50,000	50,000	0.29%	
Total Missional Engagement	0	1,220,000	1,220,000	7.05%	
Total Conference Benevolences	5,289,000	5,900,000	611,000	34.11%	
CFNCD- New Church Starts	1,050,000	0	(1,050,000)	0.00%	\$180K moved to Congregational Vitality
					Funding of New Churches moved to Non-Apportioned Investment Earning & Portfolio
Conference Services & Administration					
Administrative Committees	2,000	1,000	(1,000)	0.01%	
Annual Conference Administration	23,000	0	(23,000)	0	
Annual Conference Session	200,000	200,000	0	1.16%	
Financial Services:					
Conference Building Services & Operations	150,000	200,000	50,000	1.16%	
Information Technology	250,000	200,000	(50,000)	1.16%	
Board of Trustees	250,000	350,000	100,000	2.02%	

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Conference Staff;Audit, Net Bank Fees etc.	600,000	650,000	50,000	3.76%	
Contingency	25,000	25,000	0	0.14%	
Total Conference Services & Administration	1,500,000	1,626,000	126,000	9.40%	
Clergy Support					
Board of Pensions	65,000	70,000	5,000	0.40%	
Joint Commission on Incapacity	150,000	150,000	0	0.87%	
Center for Clergy Excellence	329,800	330,000	200	1.91%	
BOOM	303,000	315,000	12,000	1.82%	
Equitable Compensation	300,000	350,000	50,000	2.02%	
Clergy Matters/Effectiveness	50,000	50,000	0	0.29%	
Area Administration/ FCC	216,000	225,000	9,000	1.30%	
DS Salaries and Benefits	1,150,000	1,200,000	50,000	6.94%	
DS & Cabinet Expense	131,500	175,000	43,500	1.01%	
Total Clergy Support	2,695,300	2,865,000	169,700	16.56%	
Conference Level Budget Areas	10,534,300	10,391,000	(143,300)	60.08%	
Total Florida Conference Budget	17,617,560	17,296,296	(321,264)	100.00%	

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2014

Recommendation No. 1

It is recommended that the following conference-wide fund raising appeals be approved: General Conference Advance Specials, The Florida United Methodist Children's Home Fifth Sunday appeal, camping Sunday and the Bishop's Conference Capital Commission through the Florida United Methodist Foundation.

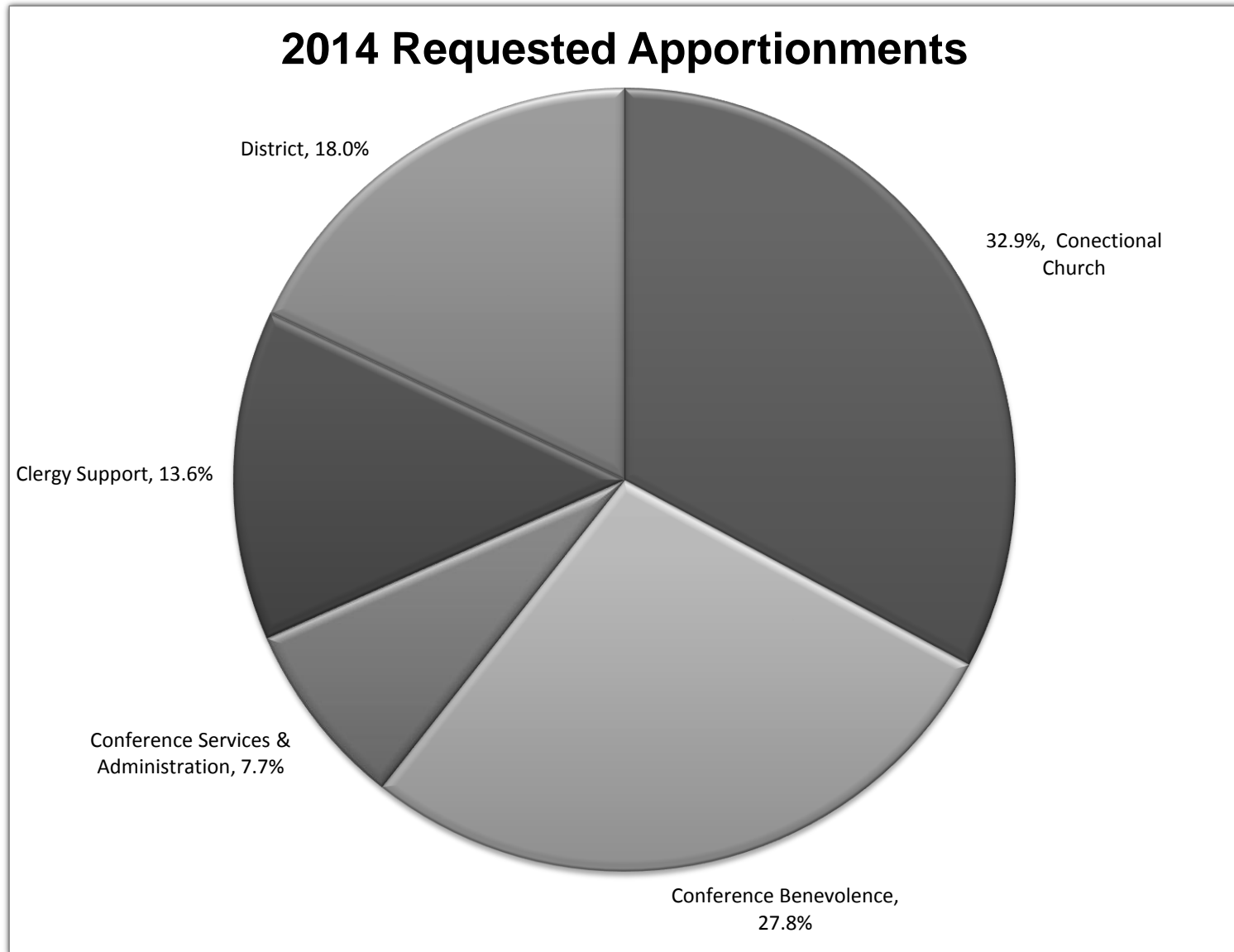
Recommendation No. 2

It is recommended that the 2014 Conference budget and apportionments as described in the worksheet entitled "2014 Budget Summary as Recommended by Action of CF&A" be adopted.

2014 FLORIDA CONFERENCE BUDGET SUMMARY AS RECOMMENDED BY CF&A

	2014
	Budget
Total Connectional Church	6,905,296
Total Connectional Ministry	1,462,000
Total Higher Ed and CM	2,213,000
Board of Camps and Retreat Ministry	575,000
Total Congregational Vitality	430,000
Total Missional Engagement	1,220,000
Total Conference Benevolences	5,900,000
Total Conference Services & Administration	1,626,000
Total Clergy Support	2,865,000
Conference Level Budget Areas	10,391,000
Total Florida Conference Budget	17,296,296

2014 REQUESTED APPORTIONMENTS



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HIGHEST IN PERCENTAGE DIFFERENCE 2011-2012 APPORTIONMENTS

Church Name, Pastor	District	Increase in % Paid 2011-2012
Ft McCoy UMC, Ben Clark	NC	100.00%
St John's UMC-Alachua, Mike Lee	NC	100.00%
Mayo UMC, Geary Rowell	NW	100.00%
Lakewood UMC-St Petersburg, Ted Lockhart	GC	92.90%
New Mt Zion UMC, James McNeal	NW	88.98%
St James UMC-St Petersburg, Rebecca Lehman	GC	83.55%
Community UMC-Ridge Manor, Debbie Nelson	SC	77.22%
Keystone UMC-Odessa, Tim Haas	GC	71.45%
Simpson Memorial UMC-Jacksonville, Lawrence Barriner	NE	69.27%
First UMC-Lake Butler, Dan Search	NE	68.08%
Lake Bird UMC, Wally Holmes	NW	67.63%
Asbury UMC-Bartow, Carol Sue Hutchinson	SC	67.21%
First UMC-Hudson, Stephen Ruegg	GC	66.53%
Ocoee Oaks UMC, Ernie Post	EC	63.84%
DeLeon Springs UMC, Kathy Boyles	EC	63.26%
Trilby UMC, John Price	SC	62.86%
Trinity UMC-Ft Myers, Harrison Knight	SW	60.07%
First UMC-Callahan, Sue Corley	NE	60.06%
Northwood UMC, Esperance St Louis	AC	57.56%
Tuskawilla UMC, Molly Warren	EC	56.65%
Christ UMC-St Petersburg, Robin Hager	GC	54.81%
Conway UMC, David Mullins	EC	54.33%
Sardis UMC, Steve Lenzo	NW	50.00%
Beymer Memorial UMC, Rob Harding	SC	50.00%

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2012 HIGHEST APPORTIONMENT DOLLARS PAID

Church Name, Pastor	District	Apportionments Paid 2012
Van Dyke UMC, Matthew Hartsfield	SC	\$ 361,071.00
St Luke's UMC-Orlando Bill Barnes	EC	\$ 349,884.00
First UMC-Lakeland, David McEntire	SC	\$ 321,089.00
Christ Church UM, Phil Roughton	SE	\$ 275,447.00
Trinity UMC-Gainesville, Dan Johnson	NC	\$ 255,640.00
Hyde Park UMC, Jim Harnish	SC	\$ 215,700.00
First UMC-Winter Park, Bob Bushong	EC	\$ 200,243.00
N Naples UMC, Ted Sauter	SW	\$ 198,746.00
Killearn UMC, Bob Tindale	NW	\$ 189,824.00
St James at Tampa Palms UMC, Steve Ezra	SC	\$ 177,671.00
New Covenant UMC - The Villages, Harold Hendren	NC	\$ 173,618.16
Grace UMC-Cape Coral, Jorge Acevedo	SW	\$ 170,759.00
Heritage UMC, Chuck Engelhardt	GC	\$ 168,854.00
Beach UMC-Jacksonville Beach, Jerry Sweat	NE	\$ 164,624.28
St Paul UMC-Largo, Bob Martin	GC	\$ 162,274.00
First UMC-Orlando, Tom McCloskey	EC	\$ 154,444.00
Trinity UMC-Tallahassee, Wayne Curry	NW	\$ 153,709.00
First UMC-Brandon, Jamie Westlake	SC	\$ 151,881.00
Pasadena Community UMC, Charley Reeb	GC	\$ 148,630.00
First UMC-Boca Raton, Ken Roughton	AC	\$ 145,638.56
University Carillon UMC, Joe MacLaren	EC	\$ 144,162.00
Indian River City UMC, Bill Corrigan	AC	\$ 136,221.00
Grace at Fort Clarke UMC-Gainesville, Rick Thompson	NC	\$ 135,847.00
First UMC-Clermont, Doug Kokx	EC	\$ 134,984.00
Mandarin UMC, Debbie McLeod	NE	\$ 134,324.00
First UMC-Ocala, Allen Johnson and Sue Hauptert-Johnson	NC	\$ 134,186.64

REPORT OF 100% BY DISTRICT

Thanks to these churches who gave 100% or more of their Apportionments and had no balance greater than \$750 outstanding for both Health and Benefits and Property Casualty Insurance combined for the year 2012. Apportionments support the ministry and mission of The United Methodist Church in Florida and around the world.

Atlantic Central:

350315, Satellite Beach, Satellite Beach
 354858, First, Cocoa Beach
 354995, Indian River City, Titusville
 355090, Georgianna, Merritt Island
 355113, N Merritt Island, Merritt Island
 355146, Mims, Mims
 355157, First, Port St John
 355556, St Andrew, Titusville
 355682, First, Titusville
 359782, Community, Belle Glade
 359805, First, East Campus, Boca Raton
 359840, Canal Point, Canal Point
 359884, Cason, Delray Beach
 359895, First, Hobe Sound
 359907, St Paul's, Melbourne
 359975, Emmanuel, Melbourne
 359997, Wesley, West Melbourne
 360017, First, Port St Lucie
 360041, Community, Ft Pierce
 360074, Christ-By-The Sea, Vero Beach
 360110, Lakeside, Lake Worth
 360121, First, Melbourne
 360176, St Luke's, Lake Worth
 360201, First, Pahokee
 360245, Oceanview, Juno Beach
 360280, Sebastian, Sebastian
 360291, Christ, Palm Bay
 360303, First, Stuart
 360325, First, Vero Beach
 360358, Trinity, Jensen Beach

360405, Northwood, West Palm Beach

360416, St Peter's, Wellington

360564, Community of Hope, Loxahatchee

East Central:

350510, Flagler Beach, Flagler Beach
 350873, St Andrews, Winter Park
 352666, First, Clermont
 352963, First, Kissimmee
 353171, Community of Faith, Davenport
 353262, First, Saint Cloud
 353284, Shingle Creek, Kissimmee
 354335, Sanlando, Longwood
 354712, Spring of Life, Orlando
 354767, First, Apopka
 354778, Bear Lake, Apopka
 354780, Azalea Park, Orlando
 354825, Community, Casselberry
 354860, Conway, Orlando
 354882, Coronado Community, New Smyrna Bch
 354905, Community, Daytona Beach
 354938, Forest Hills, DeLand
 354962, Community, DeBary
 354984, First, Deland
 355000, Trinity, DeLand
 355011, Edgewater, Edgewater
 355022, DeLeon Springs, DeLeon Springs
 355102, Lake Helen, Lake Helen
 355135, Asbury, Maitland
 355168, Montverde, Montverde
 355204, First, New Smyrna Beach

355226, Ocoee Oaks, Ocoee

355248, Orange City, Orange City

355261, Broadway, Orlando

355306, College Park, Orlando

355341, First, Orlando

355476, University Carillon, Oviedo

355487, First, Oviedo

355512, Palm Coast, Palm Coast

355523, Pierson, Pierson

355578, Covenant, Port Orange

355580, First, Port Orange

355591, Grace, Lake Mary

355658, Osteen, Osteen

355716, Faith, Orlando

355727, First, Winter Garden

355740, First, Winter Park

355762, Zellwood, Zellwood

355784, St Luke's, Orlando

355807, Tuskawilla, Casselberry

951817, Stewart Memorial, Daytona Beach

951828, St Joseph, DeLand

Gulf Central

350213, Emmanuel, Bradenton

355966, Anona, Largo

356015, Heritage, Clearwater

356048, Friendship, Clearwater

356061, Curlew, Palm Harbor

356130, East Lake, Palm Harbor

356141, First, Homosassa

356152, New Hope, Istachatta

REPORT OF 100% BY DISTRICT

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Gulf Central

356185, Lake Lindsey, Brooksville
 356210, Faith, Largo
 356221, First, New Port Richey
 356232, First, Spring Hill
 356254, First, Hudson
 356265, Palm Harbor, Palm Harbor
 356298, St Paul, Largo
 356323, Spring Lake, Brooksville
 356356, Mariner, Spring Hill
 356367, Clearview, St Petersburg
 356403, Allendale, St Petersburg
 356460, First, St Petersburg
 356505, First, Gulfport
 356516, Asbury, New Port Richey
 356527, Lakewood, St Petersburg
 356540, Lealman, St Petersburg
 356584, Pasadena Community, St Petersburg
 356675, St Mark's, St Petersburg
 356686, St James, St Petersburg
 356950, Harvest, Lakewood Ranch
 356972, Christ, Bradenton
 357008, Manatee, Bradenton
 357065, Ellenton, Ellenton
 357442, Oneco, Oneco
 357453, Family of God UMC, Palmetto
 357486, Parrish, Parrish
 357602, Terra Ceia, Terra Ceia
 358903, Keystone, Odessa
 952628, Mt Zion, Clearwater

North Central:

952195, Paradise, Alachua
 350202, First, Alachua
 350224, Anthony, Anthony
 350246, First, Archer
 350268, Bellevue, Bellevue
 350281, Bronson, Bronson
 350383, First, Citra
 350428, First, Dunnellon
 350521, First, Gainesville
 350554, Southwest, Gainesville
 350576, Trinity, Gainesville
 350601, First, Hawthorne
 350678, St John's, Ocala
 350747, Melrose, Melrose
 350758, Shiloh, Gainesville
 350760, First, Micanopy
 350771, Evinston, Evinston
 350793, Wacahoota, Williston
 350805, First, Ocala
 350816, Druid Hills, Ocala
 350838, Ft McCoy, Fort McCoy
 350840, Ocklawaha, Ocklawaha
 350862, Orange Creek/Campville, Hawthorne
 350907, First, Reddick
 350920, Sparr, Sparr
 350942, Spring Hill, Lake City
 350953, Grace at Fort Clarke, Gainesville
 350964, Pine, Fort McCoy
 350975, Ocala West, Ocala
 351081, First, Williston

351104, Providence, Gainesville
 351137, St Johns, Alachua
 352633, St Catherine, Bushnell
 352688, Coleman, Coleman
 352690, Sumterville, Sumterville
 352848, Community, Fruitland Park
 353001, Lady Lake, Lady Lake
 353205, Mascotte, Mascotte
 353216, Christ, Leesburg
 353240, Oxford, Oxford
 353320, Webster, Webster
 354745, Altoona, Altoona
 354814, Paisley, Paisley
 355181, First, Mt Dora
 355660, First, Tavares
 355990, New Covenant, The Villages
 356128, Hernando, Hernando
 356196, Floral City, Floral City
 952207, Mt Zion, Reddick
 952218, Bartley Temple, Gainesville
 952231, Banks, Archer
 952242, New Hope, Citra
 952275, Mt Pleasant, Gainesville
 952322, Solomon Chapel, Orange Lake
 952333, Debose Chapel, Reddick
 952355, Zion, Ocala
 952366, Little Chapel, Ocala
 952377, Wesley Chapel, Ocala
 952390, Wesley Chapel, Gainesville
 952413, Pleasant Plain, Newberry
 952787, Greater Liberty Hill, Gainesville

REPORT OF 100% BY DISTRICT

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North Central

952845, Hall Chapel, Gainesville
953018, Free Canaan, Waldo

North East:

350326, Keystone, Keystone Heights
350417, Georgetown, Georgetown
350485, Florahome, Florahome
350587, Christ, Hastings
350645, First, Interlachen
350680, First, Lake Butler
350725, Grace, Lawtey
350895, Trinity, Palatka
351068, Welaka, Welaka
351115, Ponte Vedra, Ponte Vedra Beach
351401, Dinsmore, Jacksonville
351423, Asbury, Orange Park
351445, Memorial, Fernandina Beach
351467, Garden City, Jacksonville
351480, Ft Caroline, Jacksonville
351503, First, Green Cove Springs
351707, Faith, Jacksonville
351764, Inman Memorial, Jacksonville
351866, Mandarin, Jacksonville
351968, Ortega, Jacksonville
352017, St Paul, Jacksonville
352041, Southside, Jacksonville
352110, Calvary, Orange Park
352121, Swaim Memorial, Jacksonville
352267, Orange Park, Orange Park
352303, Grace, St Augustine

352325, Yulee, Yulee
952798, Franklinton, Fernandina Beach
952878, Pleasant Grove, Starke
952993, Greater Bell, Brooker
953086, Emmanuel, Palatka
953122, Simpson Memorial, Jacksonville

North West:

350348, First, Cedar Key
350361, First, Chiefland
350430, Old Town, Old Town
350463, Ellzey, Otter Creek
350623, First, High Springs
351024, Trenton, Trenton
351148, Wellborn, Wellborn
354517, Ochlockonee Bay, Panacea
354701, Calvary, Tallahassee
357910, Siloam, Lake City
357921, Branford, Branford
357932, Bethel, Tallahassee
357943, Carrabelle, Carrabelle
357965, First, Chattahoochee
357976, Pisgah, Tallahassee
358003, St George Island, St George Island
358036, Bethel, Lake City
358047, Sycamore, Quincy
358058, Pleasant Grove, Lake City
358071, Glen Julia, Quincy
358082, Greensboro, Greensboro
358093, Chaires, Tallahassee
358105, Greenville, Greenville

358127, Salem, Havana
358140, Grace, Hosford
358162, First, Jasper
358218, Gray Memorial, Tallahassee
358264, Tustenuggee, Ft White
358275, Mt Pleasant, Quincy
358286, First, Madison
358297, New Harmony, Live Oak
358300, Mayo, Mayo
358322, First, Monticello
358344, First, Perry
358355, Bristol, Bristol
358366, Pinetta, Pinetta
358377, Forest Hills, Quincy
358388, Centenary, Quincy
358390, Hanson, Pinetta
358413, Hickory Grove, Pinetta
358424, Sopchoppy, Sopchoppy
358435, John Wesley, Tallahassee
358446, Saint Paul's, Tallahassee
358457, Killearn, Tallahassee
358481, Trinity, Tallahassee
358492, Crawfordville, Crawfordville
358504, Tallahassee Heights, Tallahassee
358515, Wacissa, Wacissa
358526, Waukeenah, Monticello
358537, Mt Lebanon, Monticello
358550, Deer Lake, Tallahassee
358572, Huntsville, Wellborn
358583, Cherry Lake, Madison
358594, Pine Grove, Live Oak

REPORT OF 100% BY DISTRICT

Thanks to these churches who gave 100% or more of their Apportionments and had no balance greater than \$750 outstanding for both Health and Benefits and Property Casualty Insurance combined for the year 2012. Apportionments support the ministry and mission of The United Methodist Church in Florida and around the world.

North West:

358606, White Springs, White Springs
358628, Woodville, Woodville
358630, Rocky Springs, Madison
952184, Mt Bethel, Chiefland
952253, Pickens Temple, Old Town
953042, Trinity, Lake City

South Central:

350337, Lake Magdalene, Tampa
350350, First, Lutz
351013, Grace Community at Fish Hawk, Lithia
352256, South Shore, Riverview
352393, Harvester, Land O' Lakes
352520, Alturas, Alturas
352542, First, Auburndale
352564, Lena Vista, Auburndale
352586, Asbury, Bartow
352611, Community, San Antonio
352655, Ridge Manor Community, Ridge Manor
352702, First, Dade City
352735, New Horizon, Haines City
352746, Dundee, Dundee
352906, Highlands, Lakeland
353045, College Heights, Lakeland
353067, First, Lakeland
353080, United Methodist Temple, Lakeland
353125, Trinity, Lakeland
353227, Mulberry, Mulberry
353353, St John's, Winter Haven
353364, Beymer Memorial, Winter Haven

353375, Trinity, Winter Haven
353386, First, Zephyrhills
358823, First, Brandon
358867, Dover, Dover
358936, Grace, Plant City
358947, First, Plant City
358982, First, Riverview
359007, Ruskin, Ruskin
359018, Sun City Center, Sun City Center
359020, First, Seffner
359042, Springhead, Plant City
359133, St Andrew's, Brandon
359155, Korean, Tampa
359224, Hyde Park, Tampa
359268, Manhattan Avenue, Tampa
359304, Northeast, Tampa
359326, Oak Grove, Tampa
359348, Grace, Tampa
359361, Palma Ceia, Tampa
359383, Port Tampa, Tampa
359428, Van Dyke, Tampa
359463, Seminole Heights, Tampa
359474, Temple Terrace, Tampa
359485, St James at Tampa Palms, Tampa
359565, Thonotosassa, Thonotosassa
952663, St Mark, Lakeland
952708, Keeney, Tampa
952721, Tyer Temple, Tampa

South East:

353728, Coral Way, Miami

353810, Iglesia Cristiana Juan Wesley, Miami
353923, Fulford, No. Miami Beach
353967, Olympia Heights, Miami
354016, Palm Springs, Hialeah
354038, Peace, Iglesia Metodista Unida, Miami
354062, First, South Miami
354153, New Horizon, Southwest Ranches
354164, First, Miami
354197, Wesley Hispanic, Coral Gables
354266, First, Homestead
354324, Key West, Key West
354370, Big Pine, Big Pine Key
354381, Community, Marathon
354448, Opa Locka, Opa Locka
354506, Silver Palm, Homestead
354528, Redland Community, Homestead
354541, Burton Memorial, Tavernier
354836, Killian Pines, Miami
359576, First, Coral Springs
359771, Korean/American UM of S FL, Ft L'dale
359918, Christ, Ft Lauderdale
360030, Plantation, Plantation

South West

352713, Indian Lake, Indian Lake Estates
352826, First, Frostproof
352917, Spring Lake, Sebring
352930, Sun Ray, Frostproof
356551, E Naples, Naples
356868, Alva, Alva
356881, Trinity, Arcadia

REPORT OF 100% BY DISTRICT

Thanks to these churches who gave 100% or more of their Apportionments and had no balance greater than \$750 outstanding for both Health and Benefits and Property Casualty Insurance combined for the year 2012. Apportionments support the ministry and mission of The United Methodist Church in Florida and around the world.

South West

356904, First, Avon Park
356926, Boca Grande, Boca Grande
356948, First, Bonita Springs
356961, First, Bowling Green
357076, Hope, Cape Coral
357087, Englewood, Englewood
357098, Grace, Cape Coral
357101, Estero, Estero
357156, Wesley, Marco Island
357178, Cypress Lake, Ft Myers
357191, Wesley Memorial, Ft Myers
357203, Beach, Ft Myers Beach
357236, Cleveland, Punta Gorda
357260, First, Immokalee
357271, Good Shepherd, N Ft Myers
357293, Faith, Ft Myers
357305, Carlson Memorial, LaBelle
357340, Old Miakka, Sarasota
357351, Gulf Cove, Port Charlotte
357362, Myakka City, Myakka City
357395, North Naples, Naples
357418, Port Charlotte, Port Charlotte
357431, Edgewater, Port Charlotte
357475, Pine Island, Bokeelia
357500, Pine Level, Arcadia
357511, Trinity, North Port
357522, First, Punta Gorda
357544, First, Sarasota
357566, Trinity, Sarasota
357577, St John's, Sarasota

357624, Tice, Ft Myers
357635, Grace, Venice
357646, Venice, Nokomis
357657, St John, Sebring
357670, Christ, Venice
357681, First, Wauchula
357704, First, Zolfo Springs
359838, Friendship, Punta Gorda
359862, First, Clewiston
360143, First, Moore Haven
952641, Trinity, Ft Myers

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COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY PROTECTION

2013 PROPERTY, CASUALTY, WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The United Methodist *Book of Discipline* calls us all to “ensure that the church, its properties and its personnel are properly protected against risks.” Proverbs 22:3 states “A prudent man foresees danger and takes precautions...” While on the surface these may seem like relatively simple statements, in reality much is required to properly protect the church and its ministries from risk. Established in 1995 by all Florida Conference congregations, our insurance program (termed Ministry Protection and formerly known as risk management) procures standardized and comprehensive property and casualty coverage which protects the collective ministries of the over 750 United Methodist churches and affiliated ministries in the Florida Annual Conference.

Remarkably, we are now entering the 18th year of the insurance and risk management program. The program withstood the uncharted waters of the 2004/2005 hurricane seasons and emerged into unprecedented financial and program success. This stability and longevity continues to be a trademark of the Ministry Protection program. While the vast majority of effective ministry and programming is done at the local church level, there are simply some things that are better accomplished together. Property insurance in Florida, for example, presents especially unique challenges but these challenges are effectively managed by our connectional structure.

We are pleased to again report that the Florida Annual Conference has experienced another very successful property and casualty insurance program renewal in 2013. One of the primary goals for a successful insurance program is cost effective premiums that are stable and consistent from year to year, in return for comprehensive insurance protection. For the fourth consecutive year, the Florida Annual Conference has succeeded in providing that premium stability in spite of a continued struggling economy and record number of worldwide disasters, in large part due to the faithful stewardship and proactive leadership of local member churches. While an individual church allocation may vary from prior years (due to local factors such as property appraisals, new vehicles, new buildings, etc), the overall cost of the insurance program for 2013 is exactly the same as the three prior years.

In addition to continued good news regarding comprehensive insurance coverage and premiums, Ministry Protection is pleased to report the following valuable information and enhancements to the insurance program.

For the first time in the history of the insurance program, a special dividend in the amount of 5% of insurance premiums billed was returned to those local churches that paid 100% of all connectional obligations. This special dividend represents a quantifiable way to reward and acknowledge those faithful churches. The total of the special dividend returned to churches was \$310,000.

A number of congregations experienced damage as a result of Tropical Storms Beryl, Debby and Isaac in 2012. Recognizing and acknowledging the impact to the local church of a “named windstorm” deductible, Ministry Protection was able to pay all local church deductibles so that every damaged church received 100% claim payment. Total deductible assistance was \$448,000 with all reported storm claims paid and closed. This is in addition to the long standing financial assistance provided by Ministry Protection regarding regular property insurance deductibles.

Florida Conference congregations send a large number of mission groups all over the world doing the work of the Kingdom. Effective in 2013, Ministry Protection has included in the program International Medical Accident Insurance. This covers medical payments for injuries or sickness while participating in volunteer activities sponsored by the church, outside of the United States. Also included as a part of this new insurance package is safety training, crisis management and emergency assistance.

Ministry Protection has replaced the insurance database used by local churches known as RiskConsole with a more user friendly and cost effective database based on the existing Church Dashboard section of the Florida Conference

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website. Our thanks to Don Youngs and the Conference Connectional Relations Department for their assistance with this transition.

Our insurance and risk management program is nationally renowned and unique in the United Methodist realm as it provides standardized and comprehensive insurance coverage and risk management resources for all Conference churches, schools and affiliated ministries, regardless of physical location. The major coverages include, but are not limited to:

Property: Includes windstorm, fire, hail, flood and earthquake coverage

Liability: Includes general liability, property damage to others, sexual abuse and molestation, employment practices liability, and medical payments coverage

Automobile: Includes liability and physical damage coverage, medical payments and uninsured /underinsured coverage

Crime: Includes theft, burglary, robbery and employee dishonesty coverage

Workers Compensation: Provides coverage for employees that are injured in the course and scope of their employment

Activities and Student Medical Accident Insurance: Provides coverage for bodily injury related to accidents to volunteers of the church, youth group participants, students, children enrolled in daycare, nursery, pre-k and camps, excess over their personal insurance

International Medical Accident Insurance: Covers medical payments for injuries or sickness while participating in volunteer activities sponsored by the church, outside of the United States.

Terrorism: Property and casualty coverage

Currently the program insures:

\$2.3 billion in property from the Apalachicola River to the Florida Keys;

Over 500 vehicles, including private passenger vehicles, buses, vans, trailers, golf carts, watercraft and a motor home;

Over 200 pre-schools and schools located throughout the Conference;

Over 5500 employees who are covered by workers compensation insurance;

Tens of thousands of volunteers;

Innumerable local church affiliated ministries, programs and events, held both on and off church property;

Comprehensive coverage for a wide variety of other unique exposures such as the Conference Camps and Retreat Ministries locations, Wesley Campus Ministries, the Methodist Children's Home and District Offices.

Of course, insurance coverage is not the only factor in properly protecting churches and their ministries from risk. Effective risk management programming and other related value added services is critical to fulfilling the requirements in the *Book of Discipline* regarding protecting churches and ministries. The Ministry Protection department consists of three experienced, full-time Conference staff members who bring a unique array of commercial insurance, risk management, safety consulting, claims and litigation management, underwriting, catastrophic claims handling, and local church experience to the Conference. Due to the background and extensive expertise of the staff, the insurance program is able to offer numerous value-added services available at no cost to local congregations, including the following:

Risk Management Consulting: On demand consulting to local churches and their affiliated ministries. The Ministry Protection Department annually answers thousands of risk management related inquiries on a wide variety of topics, including proactive assistance in issues involving: employment, child protection, transportation, general claims, litigation management, fire and life safety, hazard identification, background and driving records, accounting and database support.

Loss Control and Safety Evaluations: On-site risk control evaluations focused on fire and life safety, hazard identification, risk management and general safety issues at local churches.

Physical Security Assessments: Local crime analysis, onsite perimeter, interior and exterior evaluation and recommended physical and administrative controls.

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Risk Management Training: In 2013 alone, Ministry Protection will provide facility management, safety, risk management and other insurance related training to hundreds of local church leaders, new church starts, pastors, individual local church committees as well as larger groups such as the United Methodist Association of Preschools, camps and retreat facilities and campus ministries.

Property Appraisals: The Conference provides churches the opportunity to obtain a property appraisal at no cost. The appraisal provides insurance replacement cost and supplemental underwriting data.

Certificates of Insurance: The Florida Conference facilitates the issuance of over 3000 certificates of insurance annually to local churches and their ministries.

Motor Vehicle Driving Records (MVR): Ministry Protection conducts approximately 1800 motor vehicle driving records checks annually in order to approve (or decline) prospective drivers of church owned vehicles.

Participation by local congregations in these important programs benefits all churches in the Conference by helping control risk and, therefore, future insurance costs. We would also like to specifically recognize and commend Ministry Protection department staff members, Claims Manager LaNita Battles and Insurance Specialist Ana Temple. Their expertise and unending dedication is crucial to the continued success of the insurance program.

While we sincerely thank the Committee for Ministry Protection for their expertise and servant leadership in strategic guidance and oversight, the true strength of the Florida Conference insurance program will always remain with local congregations. We sincerely appreciate the clergy and lay leadership of local congregations for their continued support. Our churches, ministries, employees and facilities are safer and better protected by virtue of our unique connectional nature. We are grateful to serve as stewards of the insurance program that enables local congregations to better devote their time and resources to serving the Kingdom of God.

Blessings, Rev. Susie Horner, Chair, Committee for Ministry Protection,
Mark B. Thomas, CPCU, ARM, AIS, Director, Department for Ministry Protection

DISASTER RECOVERY MINISTRY

In 2012, “Super Storm” Sandy brought widespread loss and destruction from the Caribbean to the eastern seaboard of the United States. Here, in our state, we were still reeling from the effects of Tropical Storm Debby that came through Florida at the end of June, resulting in 22 counties receiving a federal declaration of disaster.

Suwannee County, in the north central part of the state, received 30 inches of rain in a 24-hour period, resulting in unusual and severe flooding and over 250 measured and documented sinkholes. The last of the water receded from people’s homes at the end of November and the work of long-term recovery is well under way.

As the work of recovery keeps unfolding in Suwannee, Columbia and Duval Counties, we continue to help organize, guide and resource long-term recovery groups and encourage our local churches to be a part of the process.

Training continues to be a priority for our churches and volunteers. In 2012, we held nine Community Arise Basic Disaster Ministry trainings, training 244 volunteers from 66 churches. Thirty-one volunteers went on to train and certify as spiritual responders for the conference; 108 volunteers were trained and certified as early responders for the conference and UMCOR; and 26 early responders were re-certified. The total number of early responders for the conference is now 325 and the total number of spiritual responders is 98. Teams are also helping with recovery in Alabama and North Carolina and we continue to encourage our churches to have a church disaster coordinator and complete a church disaster plan.

Working with our colleagues in Ministry Protection we now have the ability to quickly implement a call center here in the Lakeland offices in the event of a disaster affecting the conference. With help from our early responders, we tested the capabilities of the system early last spring. In a thirty-minute period we recorded 181 calls. Approximately 87 calls went to voice mail and the majority of those came in during the first 3-4 minutes of the test start. Calls were logged from all over the state as well as outside the state and no one received a busy signal.

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Our first “Help Haiti Here” project was completed in 2012. Volunteers from Edgewater UMC in Port Charlotte, Community UMC in Fruitland Park, St. John’s UMC in Winter Haven, First Winter Garden and New Covenant UMC in The Villages provided leadership, skilled craftsmanship and many hours of hard work to complete major repairs to St. John’s Haitian Church in Boynton Beach. The sacrifices paid off when St. John’s was able to host a summer day camp for their community, sponsored by C.R.O.S. ministries.

Disaster Recovery began a new partnership with Patti Aupperlee, one of our district disaster response coordinators in the Atlantic Central District, and pastor of First UMC Pahokee. Over the past 30 years, the agricultural community of Pahokee has been in decline, creating an atmosphere of oppression, hopelessness and despair among the people. First UMC Pahokee also declined as the congregation aged, died or moved, and remaining members entered “survival mode.”

Pastor Patti saw a God-sized opportunity and began working with Disaster Recovery to invite volunteer teams to work in the community in a variety of ways that would demonstrate the love of Jesus – all with First Pahokee as “home base.” Volunteers enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to help right here in their own conference.

As a result, mission volunteers have an opportunity to introduce more people to a mission team experience without ever leaving the state and disaster teams can practice their skills. Instead of slowly dying and facing a painful church closure, First Pahokee is beginning to once again make a difference in its community.

In 2012, Greg Harford and I were part of the planning team for the Southeastern Jurisdiction Disaster Academy hosted by the North Georgia Conference in February. This was the largest academy yet with 117 participants, 24 from Florida. Volunteers and staff from around the jurisdiction received training from UMCOR personnel and shared lessons learned, best practices and a great time of worship and fellowship. Greg and I also accepted responsibilities with the Florida VOAD (Voluntary Agencies Active in Disaster.) Greg now serves on the disaster case management committee and I serve on the executive board, at large member.

To learn more about training opportunities or how you can help in Pahokee, contact disaster recovery ministry in the conference offices.

In ministry with you

Pam Garrison, Florida Conference Disaster Response Coordinator

FLORIDA CONFERENCE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Your Board of Trustees serves to guard and expand God’s property entrusted to all the Methodists in Florida. The Discipline entrusts the board with all property, both real and personal but the majority of our work addresses our real estate.

There have been no major exchanges of real property this year, other than the Episcopal Residence. This has been a board which has continued to improve our oversight of maintenance of our properties. Years ago we realized that we were stamping out fires, hearing about problems which should have been predictable. Small problems had become big (expensive) ones which were handled as emergencies.

We have continued the trend started by our able predecessor President, Rev. David McEntire, of encouraging measures designed to place ultimate cost analysis ahead of short-term savings. We have developed a theme “Deferred Maintenance is not maintenance.” Everyone down the line is on alert for small problems; preventative maintenance is encouraged. Maintenance is budgetable. Not spending does not equal a net savings. Delay, in many instances, costs money.

The Camps and Retreats have the advantage of a professional maintenance staff, which does a fine job. Individual congregations around the state have laypeople with lifetimes invested in their church property and have the time, skills and connections to perform needed upkeep. However, the campus ministries just don’t have the long-term parishioners, time or skills needed to stay ahead of property upkeep. The directors have enough to do and college students’ attention is seldom focused on maintaining real estate. A professional insurance surveyor reported that one of our campus properties needed safety work but that, on the whole, it was about on par with such campus facilities

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nationwide. That did not mean that we looked the other way, we won't settle; cleanup and fix-up work was initiated promptly and continues to be handled by that ministry. Safety of students is first priority.

Camps: At Warren Willis, the Barnett Lodge has been completed, dedicated and fully occupied; some punchlist items remain, which our contractor has been pursuing properly.

At the Life Enrichment Center (LEC), the Cokesbury Bookstore has amicably abandoned their lease, according to its terms, so that space will be available for other ministries soon, to be determined by the Camps and Retreats Board. The lovely new meeting room, a free-standing building known as the Pearson Meeting Center has been completed, dedicated and placed in good use. This facility cost about \$200,000 and was funded through operating income, requiring no connectional funding.

Campus: Your Board of Trustees has funded a contract, to be administered by the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries (BHECM) to have almost every campus property, including the residences of directors, surveyed for condition. The firm, Property Condition Assessment, Inc. will produce, in addition to a condition report with recommendations for maintenance, a 20-year maintenance budget (cost adjusted) which will detail every element of the buildings and grounds.

It is hoped that the results of this work will ease the work of the campus ministers, BHECM, and this board, while delivering better facilities at a reduced long-term cost.

Perhaps the primary challenge for this board exists at the Wesley Foundation, across from Florida State University in Tallahassee. This ministry may be the most successful Protestant ministry on any non-church university campus in America. Every Florida Methodist should be proud of their work.

The chapel at FSU was built in only about 1972 but the design was radical, popular with students at that time, but was rife with problems, including leaks in the cast concrete structure and everlastingly in the unconventional suspended roof. The Trustees, after receiving a thorough study by an architectural firm specializing in restoration, realizes that further fixes may be out of the question, financially. The four air conditioning units are now down to two. Such equipment is no longer supported by the manufacturer. The cast monolithic design does not lend itself to modern systems without unthinkable expense. Investigation and contingency planning continues.

Therefore, the Trustees have funded a capital campaign study, which The Florida Methodist Foundation graciously aided us in contracting. We need to find out what the possibilities are for redeveloping this ideal site.

Episcopal Residence: This home was purchased since our last report in time for Bishop Conner to occupy. Reports are that it is working out well.

Conference Center: This property, of which we all should be extremely proud, has presented no issues to the board since we moved in.

Cemeteries: Every few months an abandoned cemetery attributed to Methodists is discovered somewhere in rural Florida. A cemetery may have belonged to a predecessor denomination; the congregation moved away, the building burned over 100 years ago, etc. A highlight of every board meeting is when Dr. Ed Dinkins, an ex-officio member, reports on his investigations, and his progress in transferring these properties to some other entities, such as historical societies, American Legions, or cemetery societies in small towns. We do this because we do not wish to insure, maintain, or accept the liability for it. His tireless work and the human stories he brings us would make excellent fodder for a television series.

In closing we would like to send out our sincere thanks for the constant help of our conference treasurer, Mickey Wilson and his staff. Their work is essential to any success we may have achieved. This is my final year on the board, which is populated with the finest of Methodists who have such a variety of skills and an abiding love for their church. They have been faithful in attendance and executing assignments with professionalism and love. I am indebted to them one and all. Those continuing will serve with continued strength and dedication.

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Respectfully submitted,
Jim Manuel, President
Florida Conference Board of Trustees

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY

The work of the Committee on Episcopacy since the 2012 Annual Conference has centered on supporting the transition in the office of Bishop of the Florida Area from Bishop Timothy Whitaker to Bishop Kenneth Carter, in order to help this process proceed as smoothly as possible.

While in last year's report I drew attention to our love and best wishes for Bishop and Mrs. Whitaker, in this report I am pleased to express our warm and enthusiastic welcome for Bishop and Mrs. Carter.

As I acknowledged would be the case in last year's report, the work of this committee this year has included both send off and welcome opportunities for the Whitaker's and the Carter's, respectively. Those opportunities have included the following:

- A heart-felt and fun farewell for the Whitaker's at the close of the 2012 Annual Conference carried out by the chair of this committee and the dean of the cabinet.
- Participation by the chair of this committee in honoring the Whitaker's as part of the celebration for retiring bishops at the 2012 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.
- An informal welcome reception for the Carter's at the end of the 2012 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference.
- A Service of Installation for Bishop Carter followed by a welcome reception for Bishop and Mrs. Carter in September. Special thanks go to First UMC Lakeland, its pastors, staff, and lay leadership for hosting that event.

The Committee has met on two occasions since the 2012 Annual Conference, once in the fall and once in the spring. The focus in both of those meetings has been primarily to listen to Bishop Carter share what his focus has been and what his developing insights are in regard to the Florida Annual Conference in these early days of his leadership here, and to be in dialogue with him about those things. Bishop Carter has been forthcoming and candid in these conversations and very open to receiving thoughts, insights, and feedback from the committee.

Though not the direct work of this committee, a comment seems in order that Bishop and Mrs. Carter's visits to the various districts of the Florida Conference have been extremely well received and deeply appreciated. There is a collective sense across the Florida Conference that God has blessed us with our new "episcopal family," and that our journey together in ministry in the years ahead will be enriching, fulfilling, and faithful to the call of Christ.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our conference through giving leadership to the Committee on Episcopacy.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Bushong, Chairperson

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OUR EXTENDED CONNECTION

AFRICA UNIVERSITY

Africa University is profoundly grateful to the Florida Conference for its steadfast support over the past 21 years. Thank you for investing 100% of the asking to the Africa University Fund (AUF). In total, 27 annual conferences met 100% of their general church asking to the AUF in 2012. Other annual conferences also increased their support and overall giving to the AUF reached a new record of 93.35%.

By choosing to give faithfully, the churches of the Florida Conference give hope to communities across the continent of Africa. You provide scholarships to aid needy students, vital teaching tools, and a great learning environment. Your continuing generosity ensures that Africa University has dedicated faculty to inspire, train and nurture a generation of new leaders. By giving, you allow the university to plan with confidence, knowing that it can rely on the church's ongoing investment in the AUF to meet some of its day-to-day and operational expenses.

We urge you to keep the Florida Conference's annual investment in the AUF at 100% of the asking, or higher. We're counting on you because demand for an Africa University education is growing. More than 1,200 qualified applicants sought admission in August 2012. The university had space for only about 400 freshmen. Currently, women account for 52% of the total enrollment, which stands at 1,386 students. In addition, 25 African nations are represented in the student body.

Scholarships and financial aid grants are vital to access. More than 90% of the students at Africa University need assistance - scholarships, financial aid grants and work study-in order to pay their tuition and other fees. For the vast majority, a direct or endowed scholarship award made possible by your generosity is their only means of attending university.

Throughout 2012, the 20th anniversary celebrations highlighted the crucial role that Africa University is already playing in the life of our global church. The Rev. Dr. Laishi Bwalya, for example, is superintendent of the Zambia Provisional Conference and a member of the Connectional Table of The United Methodist Church for 2013-2016. Africa University graduates serve as directors on general agency boards and in regional leadership roles. Across Africa, more than 4,700 graduates are helping to eradicate hunger, poverty, disease, conflict and hopelessness.

Africa University's potential is not yet fully realized. For every graduate, there are hundreds of potential leaders praying to be equipped to serve. Increasing the availability of scholarships for students and online distance learning programs are the university's highest priorities as it seeks to expand its reach and impact.

We thank the Florida Conference for believing in, praying for and investing in Africa University. You have helped to establish Africa University on a firm footing. Help us to build on that foundation in ways that will continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ who transform their communities.

Please pray for your Africa University: Changing Africa: Learning here. Living here. Leading here. Serving God. All the time. Everywhere.

James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement

BETHUNE - COOKMAN UNIVERSITY

With the appointment of Interim President Dr. Edison O. Jackson, an extraordinary educator and ordained minister, the faith and worship of our students, as well as other University constituencies, has taken on a newly dynamic saliency. The President's unencumbered faith is reflected in a variety of meaningful and visible ways throughout the university. His numerous references to scripture, while addressing both students and staff, are constant reminders of his enormous faith and belief in the power of God to sustain and protect the University community. Through his able

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guidance, University divisions and departments have recommitted themselves to work toward Academic Excellence. Toward this end, the following areas are highlighted in this year's annual report:

Raising Academic Quality. The University has determined there is nothing more critical to meeting its mission than raising its academic quality. Faculty members have agreed that the current General Education core must be strengthened to ensure that our students are competitive. A thorough review of the General Education Core and degree-granting programs is now underway to ensure that degrees from Bethune-Cookman University have added value.

Student Profile and Increased Enrollment. Last year, we altered our student profile to reflect better prepared students and increased the enrollment of new admits into the University. Our initial observations reflect an increase in retention. We have also successfully increased our application pool from 5682 last year to 6273 for fall of 2013-14. Even with elevated admission standards, it is safe to say that enrollment is stable and growing.

School of Professional Studies. The University has made a concerted effort to develop its Professional Studies Division. More online courses are being offered. In addition to online courses, traditional and nontraditional students are opting to take evening and weekend course offerings. The School of Professional Studies has created a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Liberal Studies, designed to meet the needs of individuals whose jobs, family or community obligations prevent regular college. This degree allows prior college attendees the opportunity to complete their degrees.

Honors College. This past fall term marked the start of the University's Honors College. An impressive list of academic integration activities have been scheduled, including lectures, the China National Symphony, the opera Romeo and Juliet presented by the Russian National Ballet Theatre, and the Spring 2013 concert of the Orchestris Dance Ensemble. Students will have the opportunity to engage in study abroad, service learning, research and symposia.

Institutional Advancement. One of the paradigm shifts which we are engaged is developing a Culture of Philanthropy. Toward that end, we are pleased to report that the total giving year to date (YTD) for the University as of February 22, 2013 is \$2,937,745, representing an increase from \$1,849,243 FY 2012 YTD giving. Notably, the restricted giving totals for FY 2013 are \$1,734,921, compared to \$1,168,498 YTD giving for FY 2012. This reflects an increase of \$566,423 in restricted gifts. Annual Fund giving total to date for FY 2013 is \$1,202,824 compared to \$680,745 from FY 2012 YTD, highlighting an increase of \$522,079. I am also extremely excited to report a significant increase in alumni giving. As of February 22, 2013, the individual alumni chapters, as well as individual donors and the National Alumni Association, total giving for alumni is \$215,268. This total represents more than a 41% increase from FY 2012's \$137,016 YTD total. These are multiple signs that both individuals and alumni chapters are feeling positive about the direction the University is moving and are rewarding and encouraging. In addition, we are grateful for the \$24,000 grant from United Methodist Church Florida Foundation and the \$1000 gift from the Mr. Tom Wilkerson, Executive Director of the Foundation, which assisted us greatly by enabling fourteen (14) students to attend the *Bahamas Spring into Service Learning* trip.

Successful Board of Trustees Retreat. The University is pleased to announce a successful Board of Trustees Retreat. The Board was pleased and welcomed the news of the centrality of Academic Excellence; the University's review of the General Education curriculum and degree programs; focus on becoming student-centered; and implementation of a leadership institute to prepare female managers for upper level positions.

Religious Life. Our goal is to graduate students who are competitive, world citizens, and committed to service. We cannot achieve these goals without a variety of regularly scheduled opportunities for worship, religious fellowship and service. Among the many religious life activities and experiences are Bible Study, Prayer Circles, Weekly Worship Services, and Prayer Request Boxes located throughout the University. We are particularly pleased and excited that renovation of the Heyn Memorial Chapel is nearing completion and will, once again, become the focus of praise and worship services for the Bethune-Cookman University community.

In closing, we are extremely pleased with the appointment of Kenneth H. Carter, Bishop of the Florida Area of the United Methodist Church, as one of our newest Board of Trustees members, and we are grateful for the University's

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continued affiliation with The Methodist Church whose guidance and support continues to enrich the lifeblood of Bethune-Cookman University.

With Gratitude and Blessings,

Walter E. Monroe Jr., Chaplain/Director of Religious Life

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Candler School of Theology prepares real people to make a real difference in the real world. Our commitment to authentic discipleship and relevant ministry enables us to develop uniquely well-rounded leaders who are challenged academically, encouraged spiritually, and immersed in Christian service from the first day they arrive on campus.

As one of the 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church, Candler is grounded in the Christian faith and shaped by the Wesleyan tradition. As one of seven graduate professional schools of Emory University, Candler provides a rich context for learning and formation supported by the extensive resources of a top-tier research university. As a school located in the metropolitan area of Atlanta, Candler offers a learning environment that reflects the highly diverse communities of our 21st century world. There is no better place for ministry preparation that addresses our major denominational priorities: developing leaders, starting and growing churches, ministry with the poor, and improving global health.

Candler's student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful. Our enrollment stands at 478, with 365 seeking the Master of Divinity, 50 the Master of Theological Studies, 30 the Master of Theology, 18 the Doctor of Theology, and 15 enrolled as Special, Non-Degree students. The student population is 32 percent U.S. ethnic minority, 10 percent international, and 50 percent women. Half of MDiv students are United Methodist, with forty-three denominations represented in all programs. The median age of our entering class of MDiv students is 27, with 58 percent under thirty.

Candler remains steadfastly committed to making theological education financially feasible, dedicating nearly \$5 million to financial aid. Eighty percent of eligible students received Candler-based financial aid, with the average award covering 66 percent of tuition.

Construction preparations for the second phase of the Candler's new building got underway at the end of 2012 thanks to an extraordinary gift of \$15 million from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation. The new building, which will house Pitts Theology Library, community space, additional classrooms and offices, group study areas, and the Wesley Teaching Chapel, will be completed in late spring of 2014 in time for Candler's Centennial Celebration. Candler's phase one building was named in memory of Rita Anne Rollins, the first grandchild of the foundation's namesake, in honor of its generous financial gift.

Candler had an excellent presence at the 2012 General Conference in Tampa. In addition to my attendance, Associate Dean Anne Burkholder took a class of 20 students so they could learn firsthand about United Methodist governance. Assistant Dean Mathew Pinson and Dr. Alice Rogers attended as delegates, and the Candler Singers, directed by Barbara Day Miller, performed at the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry reception and the plenary session.

We continue to emphasize preparing our students for leadership in an increasingly global context, and now offer 19 academic exchanges with theology schools across five continents and 15 countries, including many related to The United Methodist Church. In addition to our ongoing summer internship program with the Methodist Church in the Bahamas, this year's travel seminars included the Middle East and World Methodist Evangelism Institute evangelism seminars to Zimbabwe, Peru, and Israel.

Our public events supported our commitment to strengthen the church by offering opportunities for clergy and lay people to hear fresh, new voices. Last fall we hosted Christian activist and bestselling author Shane Claiborne for two

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major addresses, “Jesus for President” and “Resurrecting Church,” with nearly 1,000 in attendance. Our Spring Conference, “The Singing Church,” gathered experts to lead an exploration of the best practices and emerging trends of congregational song.

Candler draws considerable strength and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of “educating faithful and creative leaders for the church's ministries in the world” depends upon your support, gifts, and prayers. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. Visit us in person in Atlanta or online at www.candler.emory.edu to see firsthand how Candler prepares real people to make a real difference in the real world.

Jan Love, Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics

Candler School of Theology

FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

Florida Southern College is committed to offering high quality academic and student life programs that prepare students to make a positive and consequential impact on society. We are gratified by our continuing success in fulfilling this commitment. I am pleased to share highlights of our achievements during the past year.

Florida Southern is proud of our vibrant Campus Ministries and Church Relations Program directed by Rev. Timothy Wright with the assistance of three full-time professionals who oversee nine major student-led ministries and many active smaller ones. In addition to hosting the annual Campus Ministries retreat and a Campus Ministry Block Party for the entire campus this past year, 33 FSC students attended the Passion 2012 Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, where, together with the 42,000 other students attending from more than 1,700 campuses, they raised \$3.3 million to continue the fight against modern day slavery and human trafficking, which was the conference theme. Additionally, students in our social justice ministry, TZeDeK, hosted coffee houses to raise money and awareness for the famine in Somalia, and they also sponsored a book drive to support Care for AIDS, a Fayetteville, Georgia-based non-profit organization that partners with local Kenyan churches to operate life-transforming centers that serve the physical, spiritual, economic, and social needs of men and women living with HIV/AIDS.

At the invitation of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Florida Southern College's Praise Band representing modern worship practices performed at the Florida Conference's General Conference in Tampa, Florida, last April. Also as a result of Chaplain Wright's leadership and inspiration, Florida Southern has been recognized under the auspices of the Florida Conference's Hannah Project for our commitment to producing the next generation of ministers and faith leaders. In the last 10 years, 58 students have been accepted into seminary, including seven 2012 graduates who were accepted this past year, one each to Asbury Theological Seminary, Vanderbilt Divinity School, and Duke Divinity School and four to the Candler School of Theology at Emory University.

To house our growing Campus Ministries Program, we completed renovations of our original Campus Ministries Building, and on February 15, 2013, we dedicated the newly opened Bishop Robert E. and Faye Fannin Campus Ministries Center, named in honor of Bishop-in-Residence and College Trustee Robert Fannin and his wife Faye, both of whom are FSC alumni. With its additional 1,200-square-feet of space, including a new Gathering Room, Prayer Room, and Ministries Room, the Fannin Campus Ministries Center ensures that our Campus Ministries program continues to promote the virtues of the faithful life among our students and to play an important role in our mission to foster our students' spiritual growth, as well as their intellectual and social development.

To further strengthen engaged learning at Florida Southern, we welcomed new associate provost of experiential education Dr. Mary Crowe to our campus this past June. Prior to joining our College community, Dr. Crowe was director of the Office of Undergraduate Research at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and before that, she served as director of the Center for Undergraduate Research at Xavier University of Louisiana. She is the president of the Council of Undergraduate Research and has presented on the subject of integrating research and teaching at numerous conferences. Dr. Crowe is working to strengthen engaged learning in the classroom; champion and facilitate

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service learning, internships, and undergraduate research; and foster partnerships with corporations, non-profit organizations, and civic institutions.

As a reflection of our institution's and our students' deep commitment to community service and service learning as integral to our engaged learning culture, Florida Southern was named to "The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll" in March 2013 for the sixth consecutive year. The [Guide to Service-Learning Colleges & Universities](#) also recognizes Florida Southern, among only 5 percent of colleges and universities nationwide, for offering students exceptional service learning and civic engagement experiences.

FSC students continue to earn recognition for academic excellence. Public Relations major Mary Renee Beals won awards for Outstanding Undergraduate Poster and Best Poster Session Presentation for her work on reality television at the 81st Annual Florida Communication Association convention in Orlando. The only undergraduates to be invited, 12 Political Science students from Florida Southern presented their original and collaborative research at the 34th annual Citadel Symposium on Southern Politics at The Citadel military college in Charleston, South Carolina. Lauren Huber, a 2012 summa cum laude graduate, received the National Association for Sport and Physical Education's 2012 Outstanding Major of the Year award.

Florida Southern faculty members also are garnering important awards for their achievements. Recognized in fall 2011 as one of the nation's top 50 "Innovators of Technology in Education" by the Center for Digital Education, Dr. Jennifer King, associate professor of education and assistant dean of academic instruction and technology, was recently selected by the resource website Online Schools Florida for inclusion in its list of the Top 22 Education Professors in Florida. Dr. Malcolm Manners, chair of the College's Citrus and Horticultural Sciences Department, who is internationally renowned for his work to cure roses of rose mosaic virus disease, is being honored this year for his rose expertise by the Great Rosarians of the World.

We continue to enhance academic facilities in order to provide our students with the best possible learning environment. This past summer, we completed a 2,200-square-foot expansion of the Joe K. and Alberta Blanton Nursing Building to accommodate growing enrollment in our nursing program. Also, with the generous support of alumna Alexandra Jenkins '10, we created a new research lab in our Polk Science Building for students and faculty conducting research on non-mammalian species. In February, we broke ground on the new, 40,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art Bill and Mary Ann Becker Business Building, which will house the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise when the building opens in summer 2015.

Our NCAA Division II athletic program continues to exemplify the highest standards of excellence. Eleven of our 19 varsity teams competed in post-season play this past year. All-American swimmer and the 2012 Sunshine State Conference (SSC) Male Athlete-of-the-Year Jeb Halfacre brought home Florida Southern's third consecutive Division II national championship in the 200-meter backstroke. The Lady Moccasin water ski team finished first in their division at the National Collegiate Water Ski Association Championship, and freshman Lauren Morgan was named the National Collegiate Water Ski Association Female Athlete of the Year. Fifty-two Moccasin student-athletes in 17 varsity sports received 2011-12 NCAA Division II Academic Achievement Awards and 172 were named to the SSC Commissioner's Honor Roll.

We also are enhancing athletic facilities to support our top ranked NCAA Division II inter-collegiate athletic program. Last summer, we completed much needed renovations to the George W. Jenkins Field House, our main athletic facility, and we continue to raise funds for additional improvements. In September, legendary tennis champion Chris Evert joined us for the dedication of the new Wynee Warden Tennis Center. This February, and made possible through the generosity of Lakeland native David Jenkins, an executive member of the ownership group of the San Francisco Giants, we dedicated the new Jenkins Clubhouse at nearby Henley Field for our nine-time national champion baseball team.

Florida Southern is included in [The Princeton Review's](#) "The Best 377 Colleges" guide, which also touts FSC as the #1 "Most Beautiful Campus" in America for an unprecedented second consecutive year. Additionally, FSC is included in the prestigious [Fiske Guide to Colleges](#) and is again ranked as one of "America's Top Colleges" by [Forbes Magazine](#).

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The Washington Monthly ranks FSC No. 16 among the “Top 20 Baccalaureate Colleges” in the nation. U.S. News & World Report ranks FSC #4 among the “Best Baccalaureate Colleges in the South” and #1 in Florida in the magazine’s latest rankings of “America’s Best Colleges.”

Florida Southern College continues to build on its legacy of excellence to advance toward an even higher level of educational distinction. We are committed to the holistic development of each student, academically, socially, physically, and spiritually, in our efforts to prepare students to make positive and consequential contributions to society. The Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church remains a vital and valued partner in this important mission. I am grateful for the Conference’s steadfast support of Florida Southern College and your commitment to our students’ success.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne B. Kerr, Ph.D. President

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN’S HOME

“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord, “plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”
Jeremiah 29:11

The mission statement of the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home declares, “To empower children and families to experience God’s love and care as revealed in the ministry of Jesus Christ.” The foundation of all we do at the Children’s Home springs from the love and grace of Jesus Christ. Since our founding in 1908, the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home has been a refuge of peace and a haven of blessing for children and families facing many difficult and challenging circumstances. It is through the work and support of His church that this remarkable love is made real to all those serve.

What began in 1908 as the Florida Methodist Orphanage has grown over the past 105 years to become a diverse ministry serving the many complex needs of those that turn to us for help. We continue to be a residential home for children and youth that need out of home care. We also offer emergency shelter care, therapeutic group care, a teen/mother baby program, foster care services spread over six counties, transitional and independent living services including a career development center and a community child care and infant care facility. For the entire campus we offer a spiritual life ministry, comprehensive education services and recreation therapy. Through your support we minister to over 300 children each day.

The professional men and women that make up the staff of the Children’s Home are an inspiration. The work they do can be stressful and filled with many challenges, but they remain committed to the task of helping children, youth and families find a place of healing and wholeness.

I would like to also convey my deep appreciation to our Board of Trustees for their exceptional dedication and leadership as they set the vision and guide the direction to the Children’s Home. We are in excellent hands.

At the submission date of this report to the Florida Annual Conference, the Children’s Home was in the final stages of a search for a new President/CEO. The search committee of our Board of Trustees, led by Dr. Bob Bushong, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Winter Park, Florida, was engaged in the search process for several months. The executive search consultant assisting them made contact with about 200 people across the United States. We are excited about this transition and know you will welcome and give your full support to the new President/CEO of the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home once the decision is finalized.

We continue to recognize individuals, churches and groups that have gone above and beyond to support and promote the Children’s Home. For their exceptional efforts in 2012 we have awarded the following. “Pastor of the Year” – Reverend Alexis Talbott of First UMC, Homestead, Florida; “Church of the Year” – Trinity UMC, Gainesville, Florida; “Local Church Representative of the Year” – Fred and Carol Adams of Community UMC, Casselberry, Florida; and

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“Mission Work Group of the Year” – Palm Harbor UMC, Palm Harbor, Florida. It is our pleasure to draw attention to these remarkable people who have made the ministry of the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home a priority. Please refer to the flyer in your registration packet for more information about these recipients.

On May 3, 2012, in conjunction with the National Day of Prayer, a prayer service and picnic were held on the grounds of our new Madison Youth Ranch property. This was a special time to celebrate and lift up this major expansion of the ministry of the Children’s Home. This was followed on September 18, 2012 with the official groundbreaking ceremony for the Madison Youth Ranch. Over 250 friends and supporters of the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home braved the rain to commemorate this special event. Many people, churches, groups and organizations have played a part to help launch this new endeavor. We hope all of you will join with us as we create a second campus of the Florida United Methodist Children’s Home to meet the needs of the children, youth and families that turn to us for help. The campus is planned to eventually serve 100 children ages 8-17 in the residential program and provide foster care services to Madison, Suwannee, and Taylor counties. The first phase of construction will serve up to 24 children in residential housing. The first two staff are in place and preparing the way. We have several work groups from local churches prepared to come and work onsite this summer. For detailed information about the Madison Youth Ranch, visit our website at www.allchildrenfirst.org.

Special events are an essential part of the Children’s Home outreach each year. In 2012, we hosted our annual Day On Campus event in March with over 1,300 in attendance mainly from the East Central and South West Districts. The Foster Care Appreciation Day in May brought several hundred foster parents and foster children to our campus. Other events included our Local Church Representative trainings, Christmas activities, numerous mission work teams, countless tours, hosting various church planning retreats and community groups on our campus and much more.

I would like to lift up several individuals for their outstanding work with the Children’s Home. After 38 years of service to the Children’s Home, Wayne Strickland retired. For many years, he was Director of Admissions and worked with countless pastors and churches to help bring children into care. After 18 years on staff, Reverend Denny McCullough returned to the pastorate. For 16 years he served as Chaplain and ministered to so many residents and staff. Following 17 years of faithful ministry at the Children’s Home, Reverend Bess Bussey retired. She worked with numerous churches, pastors and Local Church Representative through the years. Their presence will be missed.

The local church goal for giving in 2013 is set at \$12.00 per member and will remain the same for 2014. That is just \$1.00 a month to bring healing, hope and wholeness to the hurting and troubled children and youth in our care. While we hope you are able to go above and beyond this basic level of support, 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 Children’s Home would be experiencing financial strain. We request this 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.

Each dollar you give represents real help for children facing difficult and challenging life circumstances. You may never know or even see the children you are helping, but you are making a difference. One of our alumnus said, “There are a few times in a person’s life when they are completely surrounded by absolutely amazing people. Living at the Home is one of those rare and lucky times. Whether it was my houseparents or other cottages, someone was always there for me to fill the void when I longed for my family.” A parent remarked, “Words are not adequate to express our gratitude for the help and guidance you and your staff have provided for our daughter. It was a most difficult decision to move her to Enterprise, but we knew she would be cared for and loved as if she were at home.” Another parent said, “The Children’s Home and God have chipped away everything that wasn’t our daughter and have reached the real child inside. We still have miles to travel with her, but the road is so much smoother now.”

Finally, I would like to convey my heartfelt gratitude to all those who support the work and ministry of the Children’s Home. You ensured that 2012 was another successful year. Your Fifth Sunday offerings, individual gifts, honors and memorials, in-kind gifts, wills and bequests and other planned gifts all work together to change young lives. You may never know or see the young people you care for, but you can rest assured that you are making a difference.

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As I finish my ministry at the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, I think of the words of St. Paul when he writes to the Philippians, "Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. I always pray for you, and I make my requests with a heart full of joy because you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am sure that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again."

Mike Galloway, President & CEO

STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND THE FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

PREAMBLE

The United Methodist Church has a history of Christian responsibility for service to people through the arm of its social welfare agencies, as evidenced in the ministry of this Home.

Since its founding in 1908 by the Florida Methodist Conference, three central values have driven this ministry:

1. God in Jesus Christ proclaims that every human being is of infinite value in God's sight; and therefore, those who know God respect the value of every person.
2. It is the plan of God's creation that human life come forth and receive nurture in families.
3. Children need an atmosphere of love, acceptance and guidance that they may come to know God's purpose and joy.

Out of these values arise our mission and the cooperative ministry between this Home and the Florida United Methodist Conference.

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME MISSION STATEMENT

To empower children and families to experience God's love and care as revealed in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

VALUES STATEMENT

To be a place where children are safe and loved; where youth are given the opportunity to be healthy, self-sufficient adults; where families become strong; and where every person is treated as a unique creation of God.

PROGRAM STATEMENT

The Florida United Methodist Children's Home, Inc., an agency of the Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church, provides Christian nurture to troubled and/or dependent children, youth, and their families through a variety of ministries. Such facilities and programs include family life education, counseling, child and family advocacy programs, chapel programs, music, health and physical fitness, vocational, foster family/adoption services, career development, a Day Care Program designed to serve families, independent living, higher education and other therapeutic activities, to the end that the worth of the individual shall be affirmed, families shall be assured, and God shall be worshipped and served in our time.

STATEMENT OF RELATIONSHIP

"Here we propose, by the help of God and the cooperation of all good people, to found a noble institution for the relief, education and training of destitute, fatherless and motherless children, who may look to us for help." (From 1908 Journal Florida Annual Conference). Thus began the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. With creation of The United

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Methodist Church and union with the Sarah Hunt Home came the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, Inc. whose not-for-profit 501 © (3) corporate office is located at 51 Main Street, Enterprise, (Volusia County) Florida.

With such a heritage blessed by God, and faithfully supported by God's people, we now seek to clarify and strengthen the relationship between the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, Inc. and the Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church.

The Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church agrees to:

1. receive nominations and elect members to the Board of Trustees of the Children's Home, in keeping with the charter and by-laws of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home;
2. continue to provide benevolent support to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home through channels such as the Fifth Sunday and Christmas offerings, encouraging its people to make special gifts, and be supportive of the Home's programs of planned giving;
3. make available opportunities and resources for financial support in keeping with the policies of the Council on Finance and Administration and in offering Florida United Methodist Foundation, Inc. assistance with planned giving;
4. permit the Florida United Methodist Children's Home to use elements of the name and logo of The United Methodist Church and/or the Conference, including a reference to the relationship;
5. cooperate with the Florida United Methodist Children's Home in furthering the promotion and interpretation of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home's missions and programs;
6. communicate with the Florida United Methodist Children's Home any changes in the rules and actions of the Annual Conference and of the General Conference which may affect the Florida United Methodist Children's Home;
7. receive an annual audited financial report from the Florida United Methodist Children's Home;
8. maintain for its own benefit liability insurance against direct human service liability.

The Florida United Methodist Children's Home, Inc., agrees to:

1. continue its tradition of offering quality services to children, youth and families, to develop innovative concepts to help with their changing needs with guidance from the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church;
2. submit an annual audited financial report to the Annual Conference;
3. advise the Annual Conference of any major changes in program or direction;
4. follow guidelines as approved by the Annual Conference, in matters of funding;
5. maintain membership in the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries;
6. maintain EAGLE accreditation as an independent affirmation of a quality, faith-based ministry;
7. submit to the Annual Conference for approval any changes in the Florida United Methodist Children's Home's Articles of Incorporation;
8. furnish an annual report to the Annual Conference;
9. provide ex-officio membership on the Board of Trustees for the following: the Bishop of the Florida Conference; the District Superintendent of the district in which the Home is located, maintain for its own benefit liability insurance against direct human service liability.

Neither the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, Inc., nor the Annual Conference accepts any legal or financial responsibility for the operations of the other. Florida United Methodist Children's Home, Inc. and the Conference mutually agree to hold each other harmless for any liabilities arising out of their relationship.

This Statement of Relationship shall be subject to review and amendment at least once during each quadrennium. By action of the Board of Trustees of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, Inc., meeting on December 13, 2011.

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FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION

Calendar year 2012 was a “high growth” year for the Florida United Methodist Foundation. Despite a slow economic recovery and fluctuations in the markets, the Foundation closed its books on Dec. 31 with \$264.6 million in assets under management. That figure reflects growth of more than \$10 million over the previous year.

The mission of the Foundation is to strengthen ministries of United Methodist churches and agencies by promoting comprehensive Christian stewardship through education, consulting, development and financial services.

Investment growth

During the 12-month period from Dec. 31, 2011, investment accounts showed strong performance, growing by a total of \$3.2 million, and producing over \$2 million in earnings for churches.

According to Foundation Treasurer Pam Hicks, “there has been strong growth in the area of planned giving. The number of trusts, donor-advised funds and charitable gift annuities increased during the period by \$ 1.3 million; and, at the same time, \$ 1.4 million was paid out to churches and other United Methodist charities from existing planned giving instruments.” The Foundation manages a total of \$35.2 in planned gifts that benefit United Methodist institutions and \$ 4.3 million in Foundation endowments.

Philanthropy

The Foundation received a \$50,000 remainder gift from a charitable gift annuity set up by Mrs. Alice W. Lockmiller of Ft. Myers. Over \$20,000 will go to the Development Fund’s loan program for churches and approximately \$30,000 to the Foundation’s unrestricted endowment fund.

The Foundation received \$100,000 from the Alice G. Lindstrom Trust for the Development Fund’s loan program for churches. Mrs. Lindstrom was a long-time member of Trinity UMC, Bradenton.

University Carillon Church of Oviedo will benefit from a “donor advised fund,” established by a church member who wishes to remain anonymous. The gift is a tithe on earnings from the sale of a long-time family business. The donor family will provide recommendations on how the funds may be disbursed by the Foundation. One possibility is a challenge grant to match gifts to a future capital campaign now being contemplated by the church.

Warren W. Willis Camp, Hyde Park UMC and the Foundation are among the United Methodist charities benefitting from the Dorothy E. Ebersbach Trust. A resident of Tampa, Ebersbach’s passions were flying, nursing and service. She received her pilot’s license in 1939, and during World War II, was one of only 1,100 women nationwide to be accepted as a member of the Women’s Air Force Service Pilots (WASP). After the war she earned a degree in nursing and worked at the Hillsborough County Health Department in Tampa until her retirement in 1975.

In her trust, she endowed two scholarships for Hyde Park UMC and donated \$100,000 to the Together! Campaign for Kids and Camps, a gift that was matched by a challenge grant given by donors Dan and Trish Bell of Coral Gables.

Development Fund

Total funds under management in the Development Fund in 2012 were \$129.2 million. \$6.7 million dollars were loaned to churches for capital projects, boosting the total Foundation loan portfolio to almost \$107 million. Loans committed during 2012 covered a variety of needs. The smallest loan, \$20,000 to Carol City UMC in Miami, was used to purchase a new HVAC system. The largest, a joint loan with the Committee for New Church Development (CFNCD), enables Life Song UMC to purchase land and buildings it has been leasing since 2006 in the Alafaya Villages Shopping Center in East Orlando. The church will, in effect, take ownership of the shopping center, using some of the buildings for its expansion needs and selling or leasing out the rest.

Outreach

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We celebrate the fact that 68% of the churches of the Florida Annual Conference were in relationship with the Foundation during 2012, through a participation account, mortgage or construction loan or an Investment Management Agreement (IMA).

In addition to its financial services, the Foundation provides vital stewardship education programs to individuals and churches, including the annual Stewardship Summit for laity and clergy, R-10 clergy retirement seminar and an annual Clergy and Church Finance seminar. Foundation staff also meets confidentially with churches regarding financial issues; counsels churches on developing and maintaining an endowment program and meets privately with prospective donors who may wish to make a planned gift to their church.

Looking toward the future

Throughout 2012, the Foundation conducted a strategic planning process to chart its future growth. The plan, set to be implemented between 2013 and 2017, will be unveiled at the 2013 Annual Conference Event.

UNITED METHODIST CONNECTIONAL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

2012 was another great year for your Credit Union. We continued to enjoy growth in membership and assets and our capital base remained strong. We also took a giant step and made the decision to change our Credit Union's name to United Methodist Connectional Federal Credit Union. Your board and management feel that this name better reflects the entire membership as it stands today and includes all of our members whether they are located in Georgia, Florida, Alabama or anywhere throughout the U.S.

Our other achievements include:

Completed entry into social media and now present on Twitter and Face Book.

Revamp of our web site to better reflect our new name and updated products and services.

Four \$1000.00 college scholarships were awarded to members ages 17 - 24 of the Florida, North Georgia, South Georgia and Alabama-West Florida Conferences.

We continue to stay involved in community affairs throughout the areas we serve participating in golf tournaments, gifts to children's homes and much more.

We have seen an increase in the number of members participating in all of your Credit Union's planned activities.

Of course, we once again have to thank our staff for all of the great work they continue to do. I also want to thank my fellow board members, and the other volunteers that helped make 2012 another great year for your Credit union. Most importantly, however, I want to thank you, our members, for continuing to do business with your credit union.

Throughout the years, your Board of Directors has adopted strategies for short and long-term goals that insured our future development and growth. We will continue to do what is necessary to maintain this strong financial picture. And, by the way, I'd like to ask every member who reads this report and understands the value we bring to our members' financial lives to tell other eligible friends and family about us and encourage them to join.

We're Safe. We're Secure. We Are Your Credit Union!

James R. Mitchell, Chairman

Assets	Summary as of 12/31/11	Summary as of 12/31/12
Cash	\$394,395.09	\$435,151.49
Loans To Members	\$16,884,053.64	\$16,579,189.30
Loan Participation	\$1,120,843.45	\$1,321,960.83

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Allowance for Loan Losses	-\$148,411.60	-\$122,087.32
Other Receivables	\$0.00	\$0.00
Investments	\$7,610,766.09	\$8,390,473.30
Accrued Income	\$74,422.08	\$69,997.67
Prepaid Exp & Defer Charges	\$22,377.21	\$23,265.58
Fixed Assets	\$549,716.59	\$550,083.35
All Other Assets	\$89,042.57	\$89,042.57
<i>Total Assets</i>	<i>\$26,597,205.12</i>	<i>\$27,337,076.77</i>

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$191.71	\$7,326.33
Dividends Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00
Notes Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00
Taxes Payable	\$83.33	\$148.88
Accrued Expenses	\$40,015.53	\$25,395.12
Deferred Credits	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Liabilities	\$6,033.49	\$12,647.27
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<i>\$46,324.06</i>	<i>\$45,517.60</i>

Equity

Shares of Members	\$24,194,535.64	\$24,834,218.09
Reserves	\$682,937.04	\$682,937.04
Undivided Earnings	\$1,593,033.11	\$1,673,408.38
Net Income	\$80,375.27	\$100,995.66
<i>Total Equity</i>	<i>\$26,550,881.06</i>	<i>\$27,291,559.17</i>
<i>Total Liabilities & Equity</i>	<i>\$26,597,205.12</i>	<i>\$27,337,076.77</i>

Income Statement

Summary as of 12/31/11

Summary as of 12/31/12

Interest on Loans	\$1,097,985.81	\$1,109,538.86
Income on Investments	\$48,277.85	\$52,367.26
Fees & Charges	\$123,467.75	\$164,236.71
Other Operating Income	\$61,314.57	\$64,778.31
<i>Operating Income</i>	<i>\$1,331,045.98</i>	<i>\$1,390,921.14</i>

Operating Expenses

Compensation	\$387,610.84	\$440,457.13
Employee Benefits	\$120,721.17	\$135,157.45
Travel & Conference	\$60,845.35	\$64,888.69

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Association Dues	\$17,449.00	\$18,018.00
Office Occupancy	\$44,030.20	\$42,168.61
Office Operations	\$102,566.74	\$113,672.64
Education & Promotion	\$52,770.51	\$59,647.95
Loan Servicing	\$44,813.60	\$35,064.07
Prof & Outside	\$164,562.88	\$188,591.65
Provision for Loan Losses	\$4,500.00	\$14,000.00
Member Insurance	\$56,250.09	\$13,531.21
Federal Operating Fee	\$5,328.49	\$5,999.27
Interest on Borrowed	\$3.00	\$0.00
Cash Short/Over	-\$12.49	-\$91.85
Annual Meeting	\$6,500.00	\$5,300.00
Miscellaneous	\$6,046.27	\$4,520.99
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<i>\$1,073,985.65</i>	<i>\$1,140,925.81</i>
Income From Operations	\$257,060.33	\$249,995.33
Income Before Dividends	\$257,060.33	\$249,995.33
Dividends	\$176,685.06	\$148,999.67
Gain/(Loss) on Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Net Income</i>	<i>\$80,375.27</i>	<i>\$100,995.66</i>

LAKE JUNALUSKA ASSEMBLY, INC.

On June 25, 1913 the first conference was held at Lake Junaluska, NC. Several thousand people attended the event focused on raising awareness and money for the missionary movement of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Despite having no lodging facilities, no completed dam, but a nearly finished auditorium the participants were deeply inspired and gave generously for the work of the church. In today's dollars \$3.5 million were raised for missions. What a wonderful beginning that was for this amazing place that has served the United Methodist Church and its predecessor bodies for 100 years. We have much to be thankful for and we have much to be hopeful for as we celebrate our centennial year.

How grateful we are for the partnership we have had over the years with the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church and with the annual conferences associated with it. We began as a place to serve the Church and we continue to do so today. While the relationship between Lake Junaluska and the SEJ continues to evolve we are excited about our ability to continue to strengthen the UMC through fulfilling our mission *to be a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind, and body*. Thank you for the generous support you have provided to Lake Junaluska over these 100 years with your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your witness.

2012 was a wonderful year for Lake Junaluska. The highlight of the year for all of us was the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference held in July. What a thrill it was for all of our staff to be responsible for providing great Christian hospitality as the delegates selected five new Bishops of the United Methodist Church. 2012 was a very

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good year for us financially. While we received \$750,000 less in operational apportionment support than we did in 2009 we ended the year with a balance of nearly \$100,000. The main message we tried to convey to the delegates who attended the SEJ Conference was that we have been good stewards of the resources that were provided. One symbolic and functional reflection of our mission of *renewal* was the presence of 100 new Lake Junaluska branded rocking chairs spread throughout the campus. Thousands of hours of *renewal* have taken place in these rockers in the last year.

The future is very bright for Lake Junaluska. Not only did we balance our budget in 2012 we are off to a great start in 2013 and believe that can continue to provide high quality service and experiences while living within our means. We have a renewed commitment to Christian hospitality. Our vision document states that we want to be *the standard against which other organizations measure themselves for Christian hospitality*. We have improved greatly in this area but we will get much better. We are streamlining systems and focusing extensively on the needs and desires of our guests.

A campus master plan has been approved by our Board of Directors that will include an addition to and renovation of historic Lambuth Inn, the complete renovation of Jones Dining Hall, the completion of the renovation of the Terrace Hotel, and the replacement of the Harrell Center. The first and most important project is Lambuth Inn. We will be adding a conference center to the north side of Lambuth that will accommodate up to 400 people. In addition, all of the sleeping, meeting, eating, and gathering spaces will be renovated. It is our hope that we can break ground on this project in 2013 and have it completed in early 2015.

Another very significant event occurring in 2013 may be the transfer of municipal services from Lake Junaluska Assembly to the town of Waynesville. Waynesville and Lake Junaluska have been inextricably linked together from the beginning and this transfer of municipal services is being pursued as a culmination of a yearlong process engaging all property owners and the leadership of the Southeastern Jurisdiction. The “DNA” of Lake Junaluska will not be changed as a result of this transfer, formally known as annexation.

Pick up a copy of our 2013 Program Book, if you do not already have one. Peruse its pages to relive some of the great history of Lake Junaluska and read about our bright future. Review the numerous activities planned for our centennial year and determine when you can come and visit us this year to be transformed and renewed in soul, mind, and body.

Peace and Grace,

Jack Ewing, Executive Director and CEO

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RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION REGARDING DEACONS AND THE SACRAMENTS

WHEREAS John Wesley urged the people called Methodists to partake of the sacrament of Holy Communion as often as possible, and

WHEREAS Wesley urgently sought more and more qualified clergy to offer the ministry of word and sacraments to more people, and

WHEREAS we live in extraordinary times in which there are more and more local churches closing, fewer and fewer people connected to local churches, and therefore fewer and fewer opportunities for people to receive the sacraments, and

WHEREAS the open table of The United Methodist Church should increase access to the sacrament for all, and

WHEREAS deacons in The United Methodist Church bridge the gap between the local church and the community in which it resides, and

WHEREAS participation in the Sacrament of Holy Communion creates community and builds bridges between people who receive it, and

WHEREAS deacons sense a call away from the ordering of the church, but do not sense a similar call away from the ministry of the sacraments, and

WHEREAS the *Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* states: "For the sake of extending the mission and ministry of the church, a pastor-in-charge or district superintendent may request that the bishop grant local sacramental authority to the deacon to administer the sacraments in the absence of an elder, within a deacon's primary appointment." (Paragraph 328);

Therefore, be it RESOLVED that we, the laity and clergy of the Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, look forward with hope to a day when the General Conference will amend the Book of Discipline to direct that deacons be commissioned and ordained to a ministry of word, service, and sacrament in order to extend the mission and ministry of the church, and

Further, be it RESOLVED that we hereby request that our bishop take an opportunity, either during this annual conference or by the other communication channels at his disposal, to issue a statement that would more clearly explain the circumstances under which he would be led to grant authority to deacons to administer the sacraments in the absence of an elder, so that our pastors-in-charge and district superintendents might be able to more effectively identify the opportunities that are afforded by paragraph 328 of the Book of Discipline to extend the mission and ministry of the church.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Matt Horan, Elder, South Central District

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RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE ULTRASOUND BY PREGNANT WOMEN CONSIDERING ABORTION

Whereas our Lord Jesus commands us, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another (John 13:34 NRSV),” and “You shall love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:39 VRSV), and our Lord also declares, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me (Matthew 25:40 NRSV).”

Whereas as United Methodists, we believe that Christ died for all persons, (John 3:16) and our Discipline states, that, “Primary for us is the Gospel understanding that all persons are important-because they are human beings created by God and loved through and by Jesus Christ and not because they have merited significance.”(2012 United Methodist Discipline, paragraph 161, page 108)

Whereas, the Bible declares that all humans are distinctively created in the image of God, (Genesis 1:26-27 NRSV)

Whereas, followers of Christ are required to, “...do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8 NRSV)

Whereas our Discipline declares, “We affirm and encourage the Church to assist the ministry of crisis pregnancy centers and pregnancy resource centers that compassionately help women find feasible alternatives to abortion.” 2012 United Methodist Discipline, paragraph 161.J. (ibid, page 113)

Whereas, since 1973 (year abortion was legalized in the US) approximately 54,000,000 unborn babies have been lost to abortion. (<http://www.lifeissues.org/abortion/index.html>, accessed 01/09/2013)

Whereas according to the latest Planned Parenthood Federation of America reports, 333,964 unborn children were aborted during 2011 alone.

Whereas in 2009, in the state of Florida, 82,038 unborn children were aborted. (<http://frtl.homestead.com/2009AbortionStatsITOPreasonxgestation1.pdf> accessed 09/17/2010)

Whereas many pregnancy resource centers graciously offer pregnant women free ultrasounds of their unborn children. [DonorOUPUpdateultrasound.pdf](#) CitizenLink reported in February 2012 that Focus on the Family's Option Ultrasound Program (OUP), which offers grants to support the use of ultrasound technology in Pregnancy Medical Clinics, had a role in preventing an estimated 120,000 abortions since the program's inception in 2004. <http://www.christianpost.com/news/ultrasound-technology-an-effective-piece-of-the-pro-life-message-88721/#10xYQ8rYXGPORTPp.99>

Be it therefore resolved that the Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church lovingly encourages all pregnant women who are considering an abortion, to obtain an ultrasound of their unborn child before making such a decision.

Be it further resolved that the Florida Annual conference of The United Methodist Church joyfully declares that all persons, born and unborn, are human beings, made in God's image, for whom Christ died.

Be it further resolved that the Florida Annual conference of The United Methodist Church lovingly encourages all Florida United Methodists to genuinely and sacrificially love every unborn child, as well as her or his mother and father.

Be it further resolved that this resolution will be distributed by the conference secretary throughout our Conference and throughout Florida by posting it on the conference website, by sending copies to the ten largest newspapers in the state of Florida, and by e-mailing it to all of the clergy and lay conference delegates.

This motion is presented by Pastor Dusty Bailey, Florida Lifewatch state coordinator and Jan Knight, lay member of the Florida Annual Conference and Florida Lifewatch.

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GUIDELINES FOR EFFECTIVE CROSS-CULTURAL DIALOGUE

Guide

- “Try on”
- It’s okay to disagree
- It is not okay to blame, shame, or attack, self or others
- Practice “self-focus”
- Practice “both/and” thinking
- Notice both process and impact
- Be aware of intent and impact
- Confidentiality

Guías

- Mantenga la mente abierta a nuevas ideas
- Está bien no estar de acuerdo...
- ...pero no está bien atacar o culpar a otros o a sí mismo
- Practique el enfoque en sí mismo
- Practique el pensamiento de “con/y”
- Preste atención al proceso y al contenido
- Mantenga la confidencialidad
- Este consciente de la intención vs. el impacto de sus acciones

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