

The Florida Annual Conference Annual Report of the Conference Statistician For the Year Ended December 31, 1998

The full statistical report for The Florida Annual Conference for the 1998 year will be published in the Journal of the 1999 Annual Conference.

Based on preliminary data, some highlights from that report are:

- Year-end membership totaled 333,072, a decrease of 3,818 — 1.13%.
- Average attendance at worship during 1998 totaled 155,593, a decrease of 545 or .35%
- Average attendance at worship in churches in the following districts **INCREASED** in the amounts and percentages indicated:

DeLand	73	.86%
Ft. Myers	92	.81%
Melbourne	33	.25%
Orlando	285	2.06%
Sarasota	405	3.26%
Tampa	349	3.22%
Tallahassee	115	1.88%
West Palm Beach	426	2.98%

- Transfers in from other United Methodist churches and other denominations exceeded transfers out by 3,857.
- Additions to membership by Confession of Faith exceeded removals by death by 4,209.
- The major reduction in church membership came through Charge Conference actions — a total removal of 6,652.
- Year-end church school membership totaled 148,248, a decrease of 3,614 or 2.4%.
- Average attendance at church school decreased from 57,631 to 57,049, a decrease of 1.01%.

Other statistical information is summarized on the following pages.

Thomas W. Marston
Conference Statistician