

**the
2011
Brochure of Reports**

**living the
mission**

**ALABAMA - WEST FLORIDA
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**THE SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



Dear Member of Annual Conference:

The 2011 Annual Conference will be held in Montgomery beginning with an inspiring worship service at Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church at 7:00 pm CT on Sunday, June 5. The theme is "Living the Mission." Guest speakers for Annual Conference are: Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr., Bishop Alfred Wesley Gwinn, Jr., and Dr. P. Alice Rogers. Judge Sue Bell Cobb will deliver the "Mary Ellen Bullard Leadership Address" at the Tuesday evening Laity Banquet. The mission offering received Sunday night will be for New Church Development.

The working agenda for the Annual Conference session can be downloaded from the conference website: www.awfumc.org/ac2011 and will also be included in the *Brochure of Reports*. Each District will distribute the *Brochure of Reports* and additional materials you will need to BRING to Annual Conference. Please check with your District Office for details.

Online registration will be required for all members this year. You can order meal tickets, 2011 Journals and Clergy Directories; reserve member housing at Huntingdon College; and make reservations for nursery care through the online registration. If a section of the registration does not apply to you (for example, you are not staying at Huntingdon College) please leave those questions blank. You can find a quick link for online registration by visiting www.awfumc.org/ac2011 and click on the **ORANGE** button labeled **REGISTER NOW**. In addition to registering online, members must also document their attendance by dropping their registration card into receptacles in the registration area in the Atrium at Frazer Memorial UMC. *****ONLINE REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE MAY 20, 2011*****

Below are the times available for you to mark your attendance:

- ☐ Sunday, June 5, 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm (We will close promptly at 6:00 p.m. to prepare for worship.)
- ☐ Monday, June 6, 7:00 am – 2:00 pm
- ☐ Tuesday, June 7, 7:00 am – 12:00 pm You will not be allowed to mark your attendance after noon on Tuesday.

Meals: The AWF Annual Conference provides meals (Monday and Tuesday Lunch) to the following member categories at no charge: *Elders in Full Connection (active and retired); Deacons in Full Connection (active and retired); Provisional Members; Associate Members (active and retired); Clergy being admitted as provisional members and all transferred members from other conferences; Local Pastors Under Full Time and/or Part Time Appointment to a Pastoral Charge (The Book of Discipline ¶602.1), and others scheduled to receive a pastoral appointment; Lay Members (delegates) of Annual Conference (The Book of Discipline (¶602.4) and Standing Rules 8E, 14A, and 14B); Surviving Spouses of Deceased Clergy; Spouses of Retired Elders, Deacons, and Associate Members; Clergy from other conferences serving within our conferences and Diaconal Ministers.*

Spouses, family members, and non-members MUST reserve and pay for Monday and/or Tuesday lunches (\$7.00 each), if desired.

The Conference Board of Laity will host a Laity Banquet on Tuesday evening. The Annual Conference does not provide this meal and the cost is \$10.00 per person.

You may choose to dine with a group that is self-catered. If you are a spouse, family member, visitor, guest (non-member), please make sure you choose NO ANSWER as your attendee status.

Housing at Huntingdon College is available for clergy and lay members (delegates) only. Check-in hours are: Sunday, 1 pm - 9 pm and Monday, 7 am - 9 am **AT HUNTINGDON COLLEGE** in Blount Hall. Check out is Wednesday, at 7 am. The rates are based on the type of room reserved. Linens are furnished but pillows are not included. Please register for housing at Huntingdon by visiting www.awfumc.org/ac2011. Deadline to register for housing at Huntingdon College is May 20, 2011.

Local hotel information is available at www.awfumc.org/ac2011. The discount rate code is: "Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Church Conference." The deadline date for making reservations at one of these facilities is May 5. Please call the facility ASAP to assure a discounted rate or blocked rooms.

Childcare: Rising 1st through 6th grades can participate in Frazer's Camp Sunshine. The cost is \$190 and is Monday through Wednesday of annual conference. Your child will be transported to and from Camp Chandler. Please register at <http://www.frazerumc.org/event/camp/>. Children ages 1 – 5 years can participate in childcare during the business sessions of annual conference. Times available are Monday 8am-5pm; Tuesday 8am-5pm; 7pm-9pm; and Wednesday 8am-12pm. Cost is \$6/hour/child. Each child must provide their own sack lunch. Pre-registration and pre-payment through Rev. Leigh Meekins (leigh@awfumc.org; 334.356.8014) is required. Deadline to register is May 20.

If you have any questions or comments regarding Annual Conference 2011, please do not hesitate to contact the Conference Resource Center: 334.356.8014, 1.888.873.3127, or traci@awfumc.org; or Rev. Ed Deabler, Conference Registrar, 334.272.2190.

LIVING THE MISSION~

cc: District Offices

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION

2011 Annual Conference Working Agenda	4
Guest Speakers	11
Consent Agenda	12
The Standing Rules	13
Petitions/Resolutions	27
Profiles of Lay Candidates - General and Jurisdictional Conference	46

DISTRICT REPORTS

LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

Conference Committee on Nominations	126
Updates - Boards and Agencies outside the Purview of the Committee on Nominations ..	127
Conference Board of Communications	134
Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry	134
Birmingham Southern	134
Huntingdon College	139
Wesley Foundations	141
Conference Board of Laity	148
Conference Lay Leader	148
Lay Speaking Ministries	151
United Methodist Men	152
United Methodist Women	154

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM REPORTS

Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits	157
Report 1 - Health Insurance	157
Report 2 - Actuarial Valuation of Post-Retirement Medical Benefits of Employees and Retirees ..	160
Report 3 - Pension	163
Report 4 - Central Conference Pension Initiative	165
Report 5 - Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program	166
Report 6 - Funding Plan for Supplement One to the Ministerial Pension Plan For Plan Year 2011 ..	167
Report 7 - Claimants' Memorial Fund	169
Report 8 - Special Appointment Pension Responsibilities	169
Report 9 - Depositories	170
Report 10 - Pensions for Lay Employees	170
Report 11 - Full-Time Service as a Requirement for Pension Credit	170
Report 12 - Resolutions Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired or Disabled Clergypersons ..	171
Report 13 - Special Grants	172
Report 14 - Homes for Claimants	172
Report 15 - Policy for Claimants Home Occupants	173
Report 16 - Need-Based Housing Grant	174
Report 17 - Other Retirement Services	175
Report 18 - Incapacity Leave and CPP Disability Benefits	175
Report 19 - Death Benefit Program	175
Conference Board of Trustees	176
Report 8 - Safe Sanctuaries Policy	179
Commission on Equitable Compensation and Disbursements for 2010	192
Council on Finance and Administration	195
Report 1 - Organizational Structure	195
Report 2 - Conference Officers	196
Report 3 - Bonding Requirements	198
Report 4 - Budgeting, Funding and Auditing Procedures	198
Report 5 - Zero-Based Budgeting	199
Report 6 - Fund Raising and Collection Policies	200
Report 7 - Apportionments	202
Report 8 - Stewardship Responsibilities and Local Church Concerns ..	204

Report 9 - Formula and Allocations	204
Report 10 - District Superintendents' Compensation	205
Report 11 - Moving Guidelines and Expenses	206
Report 12 - Annual Conference Expenses	207
Report 13 - Investment Policy Statement	207
Report 14 - Fiscal Year End	207
Conference Audit	209
MISSION TEAM REPORTS	
Conference Board of Advocacy and Ethnic Ministry	230
Division of Hispanic-Latino Ministries	230
Division of Status and Role of Women (COSROW)	232
Division of Strengthening the Black Church in the 21st Century (SBC21)	233
Conference Board of Church and Society	234
Conference Board of Congregational Development	235
Conference Board of Discipleship	236
Conference Board of Global Ministries	237
Division of Advance Specials	237
Division of Disaster Response	238
Division of Health and Relief Ministries	239
Division of UMVIM (United Methodist Volunteers in Mission)	240
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS	
Commission on Archives and History	242
Archivist's Report	242
Historical Society President's Report	244
Committee on Episcopacy	245
CONFERENCE AGENCY REPORTS	
AWF Methodist Federal Credit Union	246
Blue Lake Assembly	247
Conference Board of Pastoral Care, Counseling and Training (PCCT)	250
Noah's Ark (Panama City Beach Ministries)	251
United Methodist Children's Home and Financial Records	253
United Methodist Development Foundation	257
United Methodist Development Fund	258
United Methodist Homes for the Aging	259
CONFERENCE MISSIONS AND MINISTRIES REPORTS	
Alabama Rural Ministry (ARM)	261
Cooperative School of Christian Mission	264
Cooperative School of Christian Mission 2011 Registration Form	265
Dumas Wesley Community Center	267
Golden Cross	270
Milk and Honey Outreach Ministries	271
United Methodist Inner City Mission	273
OTHER REPORTS	
Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc.	275
Schools of Theology	276
APPENDIX	
CD/DVD Order Form	283
Conference JOURNAL Order Form	285
Clergy Directory Order Form	287
Map of and Directions to Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church	289
Conference Officers	290
District Contact Information	291
Conference Contact Information	292
Correction Form to the 2010 Conference JOURNAL	295
2011 Annual Conference Tellers	Inside Back Cover

2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE WORKING AGENDA
The Alabama-West Florida Conference
June 5 – 8, 2011
Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church
Montgomery, Alabama

Partnership in the Gospel . . . Living the Mission

Sunday Afternoon and Evening, June 5

2:00 p.m. Conference Registration Opens – The Atrium

Bishop and Cabinet (Parlor)

3:00 p.m. Orientation Session for Lay and Clergy Tellers – Wesley Hall
(Teller Work Rooms: Clergy – Room 6104; Lay – Room 6108)

3:30 p.m. Orientation/Set-Up Session for Assistant Secretaries – Wesley Hall

4:00 p.m. Meetings of Conference Boards and Committees
Board of Ordained Ministry – Room 6111
Board of Laity – Room 7203
Committee on Resolutions and Petitions – Room 7201

Experiential Prayer Room Opens – Room 4100

5:00 p.m. Bishop and Cabinet – Room 6102

Commission on Archives and History – Room 8114

6:00 p.m. Registration Closed

7:00 p.m. Opening Worship Celebration – Sanctuary
Welcome from Host Pastor – Dr. Tim Thompson
Sermon: Bishop Alfred Wesley Gwinn, Jr., North Carolina Conference
Conference Mission Offering: New Church Development

8:45 p.m. Page Training – Wesley Hall

Rehearsal for Ordination Service and Commissioning Service – Chapel

Monday Morning, June 6

7:00 a.m. Conference Registration Opens (closes at 2:00 p.m.) – Atrium

Holy Communion/Experiential Prayer Room Opens – Room 4100

Breakfast Meeting – Extension Ministries – Room 6102

8:00 a.m. Bible Study –Wesley Hall

Gathering Music

Morning Prayer

Introduction of Speaker: Bishop Paul Leeland

Speaker: Dr. P. Alice Rogers, Emory University

9:00 a.m. Laity Session - Fellowship Hall

Clergy Executive Session – Wesley Hall

10:15 a.m. Break – Preparation for Memorial Service

(Families of deceased clergy and clergy spouses gather in the Chapel.

Members of annual conference are invited to come by to greet them.)

10:45 a.m. ORDER OF THE DAY

Memorial Service and Holy Communion – Sanctuary

Liturgist: Bishop Paul L. Leeland

Sermon: Rev. Frederick Outlaw

12 Noon Lunch – Fellowship Hall

Wesley Heirs – Room 6102

Christian Educators Fellowship - Room 6103

Asbury Club – Room 6111

Memorial Service Luncheon – Room 8114

Clergy Women in Ministry – Room 7202/7204

Birmingham Southern – Room 7208

Spiritual Formation – Room 7207/7209

Monday Afternoon, June 6

1:30 p.m. CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSION – Wesley Hall

Gathering Music

Opening Prayer

Welcome from the Host District Superintendent

Opening Business and Organization of the Conference

Setting the “Bar” of the Conference

Election of Secretarial Staff
 Approval of the 2010 Conference Journal
 Adoption of the 2011 Conference Agenda
 Presentation of the 2011 Consent Agenda

- 1:45 p.m. First Ballot for General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates
- 2:00 p.m. Committee on Resolutions and Petitions
 (First presentation – resolutions and petitions to lie on the table overnight)
- 2:10 p.m. Committee on Nominations
- 2:15 p.m. Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries
- 2:30 p.m. Board of Ordained Ministry
 Reception of the Commissioning and Ordination Classes
 Recognition of First-Time Licensed Local Pastors
 Recognition of Clergy in Extension Ministries
- 3:30 p.m. Break
- 3:45 p.m. ORDER OF THE DAY
 Recognition of Retiring Clergy
 Passing of the Torch
- 4:45 p.m. Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Delegates
- Conference Announcements
- 5:00 p.m. Reception for Retiring Clergy – Atrium
 Hosted by Board of Pension and Health Benefits
- Meeting of Council on Finance and Administration

*****NO MONDAY EVENING DINNER*****

Monday Evening, June 6

- 7:30 p.m. Ordination Service at First United Methodist Church, Montgomery
- Liturgist: Bishop Paul L. Leeland
 Sermon: Bishop Alfred Wesley Gwinn, Jr.
 Music Leader: Jack Horner, FUMC, Montgomery
 Special Offering: Ministerial Education Fund
 Reception in the FUMC Fellowship Hall at the conclusion of the service

Tuesday Morning, June 7

7:00 a.m. Experiential Prayer Room Opens – Room 4100

Conference Registration Opens (closes at Noon) – Atrium

Breakfast Meetings

Deacons – Room 6102

COSROW – Room 6111

8:00 a.m. Bible Study – Wesley Hall

Gathering Music

Opening Prayer

Introduction of Speaker: Bishop Paul Leeland

Speaker: Dr. P. Alice Rogers, Emory University

9:00 a.m. BUSINESS SESSION – Wesley Hall

Gathering Music

Opening Prayer

Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates

Report of the Committee on Journal

Action on Resolutions and Petitions

10:00 a.m. FIRST TEACHING SESSION – Wesley Hall

Living the Mission - Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr.

Distinguished Professor of Church Leadership

Director, Lewis Center for Church Leadership

Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C.

10:45 a.m. Break – Atrium

Hosted by the United Methodist Foundation

11:00 a.m. SECOND TEACHING SESSION – Wesley Hall

Living the Mission – Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr.

11:45 a.m. Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates

- 12 Noon Lunch – Fellowship Hall
 Fellowship of Associate and Local Pastors – Room 6102
 Duke Club – Room 6107
 Educational Opportunities – Room 6109
 Emory Club – Room 6111
 Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century/Gammon Theological
 Seminary – Room 7208

Tuesday Afternoon, June 7

- 1:30 p.m. ORDER OF THE DAY
 Commissioning Service – Sanctuary
 Sermon: Bishop Paul L. Leeland
- 2:45 p.m. Break – Atrium
 Pension and Insurance Information and Enrollment – Room 6102
 BeLinda Carnegie, Benefits Officer
- 3:00 p.m. CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSION – Wesley Hall
 Gathering Music
 Opening Prayer
- Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates
- Committee on Episcopacy
- 3:30 p.m. Conference Board of Trustees
- 3:45 p.m. Board of Pension and Health Benefits
- 4:30 p.m. Board of Laity
- 4:50 p.m. Conference Announcements and Recess
- 5:00 p.m. Laity Banquet – Fellowship Hall
 Mary Ellen Bullard Leadership Address: The Honorable Sue Bell Cobb
 Alabama Supreme Court Justice
 Special Music: Men's Gospel Group, Demopolis FUMC
- Clergy are encouraged to attend the Laity Banquet!*

Tuesday Evening, June 7

7:00 p.m. BUSINESS SESSION - Wesley Hall
Gathering Music
Evening Prayer

Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates

7:15 p.m. Action on Resolutions and Petitions (continued)

8:00 p.m. Commission on Equitable Compensation

8:15 p.m. Commission on Archives and History
Local Church Heritage Award

8:25 p.m. Alice Lee Award

8:35 p.m. Denman Evangelism Awards

8:45 p.m. Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates

Evening Recess

Wednesday Morning, June 8

7:00 a.m. Experiential Prayer Room Opens – Room 4101

8:00 a.m. CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSION – Wesley Hall
Gathering Music
Morning Prayer

. Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates

Report of the Committee on Journal

8:15 a.m. United Methodist Children's Home

8:30 a.m. Council on Finance and Administration
Presentation of the 2012 Conference Budget
Statistician's Report

9:00 a.m. Action on Resolutions and Petitions (continued)

10:00 a.m. CORE Team

10:15 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. Balloting for General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates

10:45 a.m. Report of the Cabinet
Changes in Charge Lines
Property Resolutions

11:00 a.m. Closing Business of the Conference
Where shall the 2012 session be held?
Courtesies and Appreciation

11:15 a.m. Sending Forth Service
Episcopal Address: Bishop Paul L. Leeland
Fixing of the 2011-2012 Appointments

Noon Adjournment *Sine Die*

*****NO WEDNESDAY LUNCH*****

Noon Organizational Meeting of Delegation to General and Jurisdictional Conferences

Guest Speakers



Bishop Alfred Gwinn pastored rural, town, inner city, and urban congregations, as well as an African-American congregation. His last appointment was as Senior Pastor of Lexington First Church (mother of Kentucky Methodism). Bishop Gwinn has served on a variety of boards and agencies within his Annual Conference, the General Church and in his community. He is married to Joyce Hannah Gwinn, a retired coronary care nurse. The Gwinns have two adult daughters and sons-in-law: Debbie (Paul) Mann and Christy (Philip) Morgan. They have four grandchildren, Wesley, Luke, Tyler, and Ally.



Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr., is Distinguished Professor of Church Leadership and Director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. He is the author of [Church Leadership: Vision, Team, Culture, and Integrity; Take the Next Step: Leading Lasting Change in the Church; Leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit; John Wesley's Message Today, and The Crisis of Younger Clergy](#) (with Ann A. Michel). He co-edits the online newsletter, [Leading Ideas](#), available free at www.churchleadership.com.



Dr. P. Alice Rogers, Assistant Professor in the Practice of Congregational Leadership, serves as the Director of the Teaching Parish Program and Director of the Contextual Education II Program at Candler. An elder in the North Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church, Rogers served as the pastor of rural, urban, and suburban local churches for seventeen years. Her current work focuses on ministry in the small membership church, vocational discernment for ordained ministry, planning Christian worship, and contextual education.



Sue Bell Cobb, formerly a resident of Evergreen, now resides in Montgomery, Alabama where she sits on the Supreme Court of Alabama. She graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in History and in 1981 earned her Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Alabama School of Law. Justice Cobb has earned many awards during her academic years and in her illustrious career that has included serving as District Judge of Conecuh County, Alternate Chief Judge of the Court of the Judiciary, a member of the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama. In addition to her duties as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in Alabama, Justice Cobb chairs the Children First Foundation and has served as chair of the Board of the Alabama Division of the American Cancer Society. She is a member of the Farrah Law Society Board of Directors, the Montgomery Kiwanis Club and First United Methodist Church where she plays the piano for the children's choir. Justice Cobb is married to William J. Cobb. They have three children, Bill, Andy and Caitlin.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following reports indicated by agency name and beginning page number are a part of the CONSENT AGENDA. They will be considered as having passed by consent of the annual conference unless they are removed from the CONSENT AGENDA on Monday, June 6, 2011, at the afternoon session. PLEASE READ THE REPORTS CAREFULLY PRIOR TO THE ABOVE DATE. (See Standing Rule Number 12.)

Standing Rules.....13

District Reports.....114

Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry..... 134

Conference Board of Trustees.....176

Conference Board of Advocacy and Ethnic Ministry.....230

Conference Board of Church and Society.....234

Conference Board of Congregational Development.....235

Conference Board of Discipleship.....236

Conference Board of Global Ministries.....237

Commission on Archives and History 242

Committee on Episcopacy.....245

AWF Methodist Federal Credit Union246

Blue Lake Assembly Grounds247

Conference Board of Pastoral Care, Counseling and Training (PCCT)....250

Noah’s Ark (Panama City Beach Ministries).....251

United Methodist Children’s Home253

United Methodist Development Fund and Foundation.....257

United Methodist Homes for the Aging259

Alabama Rural Ministry (ARM)261

Cooperative School of Christian Mission264

Dumas Wesley Community Center.....267

Golden Cross.....270

Milk and Honey Outreach Ministries271

United Methodist Inner City Mission.....273

Lake Junaluska Assembly.....275

STANDING ru LES

[All paragraph references are to the **2008 Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church** except as otherwise noted, and these numbers are printed in **bold**]

INTRODUCTION

The Alabama-West Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church shall be organized and structured according to the mandates of the latest edition of *The Book of Discipline*, and shall act in all respects in harmony with the policy of The United Methodist Church. In keeping with those standards, this conference commits itself to the elimination of discrimination on the basis of race and gender (see **Paragraph 604.1**). The following Standing Rules are adopted by the Alabama-West Florida Conference for its own government and to fit its specific setting for mission and ministry. The Alabama-West Florida Conference shall follow *Roberts Rules of Order* except where superseded by explicit rules in *The Book of Discipline* or in these Standing Rules.

1. These Standing Rules shall be implemented, applied or amended as follows:
 - A. These rules shall be effective at the end of the annual conference at which they are passed. All rules remain in effect until they are rescinded or amended by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting on the next day after the proposed amendment has been presented in writing.
 - B. Any proposed changes in the Standing Rules should be received in writing by the chairperson of the Committee on Standing Rules no later than February 1.
 - C. Any of these rules, except Standing Rule (SR) 1D, may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting at annual conference.
 - D. A change in the number of districts may not be made later than the first morning business session.

OFFICERS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

2. The conference secretary and the *Journal* editor, (nominated by the Conference Committee on Nominations, see SR 5B) and the treasurer/statistician and the conference registrar (nominated by the Council on Finance and Administration) shall be elected at the first session of the annual conference following the general conference, with tenure of office to

begin on December first, following their election, and to serve for the succeeding quadrennium. (**Par. 603.7 and 619**)

COMMITTEES RELATING TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

3. There shall be a Committee on Standing Rules, composed of the conference secretary, the director of Connectional Ministries (see SR 5A), *Journal* editor and five at-large members including the chairperson. This committee shall be nominated by the Committee on Nominations (see SR 5B), shall include both lay and clergy, and shall be elected by the annual conference. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.
4. There shall be a Committee on Resolutions and Petitions, composed of four clergy and four lay persons, nominated by the Committee on Nominations, which shall consider all petitions addressed to the general, jurisdictional, and annual conferences. After consideration, the committee shall submit the petitions, with its recommendations, to the annual conference for action. Resolutions shall be submitted to the committee thirty days prior to annual conference, except in cases where it can be demonstrated by the author of a late petition that the situation which gave rise to making the petition was not apparent until after the deadline for petitions. The committee shall provide copies of all resolutions to all voting members present at the conference session. The maker of the resolution shall supply these copies of his/her resolution if submitted after the *Brochure of Reports* deadline. No resolution will be received on the last day of the session.
5. A. The leadership, missional and administrative structures of the Alabama-West Florida Conference shall come together at a “common table” or organization known as the “Connecting Our Resources and Empowerment” Team or **CORE Team**. The means of electing and appointing representatives connected to the CORE Team, which includes boards, committees, councils, commissions and divisions of the Leadership Team, the Mission Team, and the Administrative Team, are spelled out in these Standing Rules (also see SR 24 and following).
 - B. There shall be a Committee on Nominations, composed of: the resident bishop, who shall be the chairperson; the conference lay leader; the conference secretary, who shall be the secretary of this committee; the director of connectional ministries; the conference treasurer; the conference presidents of United Methodist Men (UMM) and of United Methodist Women (UMW); a member of United Methodist Youth (UMY); the eight district

lay leaders; the eight district superintendents; the Conference Resource Center program staff; and three at-large members chosen by the bishop with attention given to the need for inclusive representation. This committee shall nominate persons quadrennially to the CORE Team, conference boards, commissions, committees, councils, etc., as listed in these Standing Rules and as needed by other conference institutions (per the bishop's discretion). Nominations shall be consistent with the most recent *Book of Discipline*, with attention given to inclusiveness, diversity and expertise. The committee shall submit its nominations as early as possible in the annual conference session. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

6. There shall be a Committee on Courtesies and Introductions, composed of three lay and two clergy members, which shall be responsible for presentation of visitors to the conference, and for a report in the closing session expressing appreciation to persons and groups who have rendered special services in the program.
7. There shall be a Committee on the *Journal*, appointed quadrennially by the bishop, composed of two members, who shall examine the minutes of daily sessions for accuracy and report the findings to the conference.
8. The Council on Finance and Administration (CFA) shall handle expenses of the conference session. There shall be a Conference Administration Fund, the amount to be fixed annually by the Council on Finance and Administration, with assessments for the fund to be allocated annually to individual pastoral charges on the apportioned formula basis. There shall be a \$28.00 per person, per night, charge for all listed below who use Conference-provided lodging (this fee may be adjusted by CFA if needed). The remaining expenses for designated lodging, plus meal tickets, shall be provided by the Annual Conference Administration Fund. Instructions shall be provided in advance by the conference registrar. The following persons are eligible for this:
 - A. The presiding bishop and spouse, all clergy members in full connection and all provisional members;
 - B. All clergy being admitted as provisional members and all transferred members from other conferences;

- C. All associate members and local pastors serving pastoral charges;
 - D. All local pastors and others scheduled to receive pastoral appointments;
 - E. Duly elected principal lay members of the conference or duly elected reserve lay members, provided the principal lay members are not in attendance;
 - F. Wives, husbands and surviving spouses of clergy who are on our pension roll;
 - G. Clergy from other conferences serving within our conference;
 - H. Diaconal ministers;
 - I. Up to two youth pages selected from each district (expenses to be paid by their district); and
 - J. Other delegates designated by the districts, other distinguished guests, and those specified in SR 14B.
9. The Annual Conference Session Planning Committee:
- A. There shall be an Annual Conference Session Planning Committee, composed of the presiding bishop who shall serve as chairperson, the host district superintendent, the conference secretary, the *Journal* editor who shall serve as secretary of the committee, the conference registrar, the conference treasurer, the chairperson of the Conference Division of Worship, the Director of Connectional Ministries, the conference lay leader, the host district lay leader, the conference president of United Methodist Women, the conference president of United Methodist Men, the chairperson of the Conference Board of Advocacy and Racial Ethnic Ministries, and a member of the Conference United Methodist Youth.
 - B. The Annual Conference Session Planning Committee shall arrange tentatively the program of the annual conference session, and shall submit the program to the opening session for possible amendment and adoption as its agenda. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper shall be included in the program.

C. A period of recognition of retiring clergy shall be held during the conference session, with a suitable program arranged by the Board of Ordained Ministry.

D. A memorial service commemorating each clergyperson or “surviving spouse” or diaconal minister who died since the last annual conference shall be arranged by the Commission on Archives and History. The Commission shall also provide a memoir of the deceased for publication in the *Journal*.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

10. The rules of order of the preceding general conference shall govern parliamentary procedure in this conference in all matters not covered by the standing rules. In order to be recognized to address the conference, each person must identify him/herself as to name and the capacity in which he/she is entitled to speak to the session.
11. Reports and resolutions:
 - A. All reports and resolutions shall be typewritten, double-spaced, and submitted in duplicate; and shall be placed on the conference calendar by the *Journal* editor, who shall be the calendar secretary, in the order designated by the Annual Conference Session Planning Committee. The reports and resolutions shall lie on the calendar secretary's desk for at least one business session before being acted upon by the conference.
 - B. By a two-thirds vote of those present and voting a calendar item may be taken up out of order for consideration.
 - C. All amendments to reports of boards and agencies as printed in the *Brochure of Reports* and all motions arising from the floor of the conference shall be made in writing to the conference secretary.
 - D. At the annual conference session, no materials (handouts, etc.) shall be placed on the pews or seats when the conference is in recess, unless a prior majority vote approves an exception to this rule.
12. In order to expedite the business of the conference, the Consent Agenda Committee, composed of the secretary of the annual conference, the chairperson of the Committee on Standing Rules, the director of Connectional Ministries, and the *Journal* editor, in consultation with agencies or individuals presenting reports, recommendations or resolutions, may

present in the *Brochure of Reports* a written list of items which shall be known as the Consent Agenda. Items on the Consent Agenda shall be considered as adopted by consent of the annual conference. An individual item may be removed from the Consent Agenda by a written request signed by twelve lay and/or clergy members of the annual conference and presented to the conference secretary prior to the first business session. When a matter has been removed from the Consent Agenda, it shall be placed into the regular agenda at an appropriate time.

13. Election of General and Jurisdictional delegations:

A. Delegates to the general and jurisdictional conferences shall be elected according to stipulations in **Par. 502.4 and 515** respectively of the *Book of Discipline*, and they shall serve in all sessions of these conferences held during the quadrennium. In addition to those delegates funded by the general and jurisdictional conferences, the Alabama-West Florida Conference shall pay the expenses of only one more alternate delegate, lay and clergy, to the general and jurisdictional conferences.

B. In the election of delegates, the presiding bishop shall appoint four teams of tellers (two clergy teams and two lay teams), each team consisting of one representative from each district, one of whom shall serve as head teller.

C. In the election of these delegates, the ballots shall be furnished to the conference by the conference secretary at the time of voting. No vote shall be valid unless cast on the ballot designated by the presiding bishop.

D. One year prior to an electing annual conference, the Board of Laity shall make plans and policies regarding the lay elections, and give guidance to laity regarding the process of caucusing, nominating and electing the lay delegation. Following the opening session of the electing annual conference, the laity, in their orientation session, will give opportunity for any persons seeking election (whose name has not been put in nomination in advance) to provide a single printed profile sheet for distribution.

E. A general code of ethical standards will be demonstrated by every candidate, lay and clergy. Every individual's right to exercise his/her voting or political expression should be consistent with the *Social Principles of The United Methodist Church*.

F. Endorsements of candidates will be made only by individuals and/or local churches, or the district electing caucus.

14. Annual Conference lay members:

A. Lay members to the annual conference shall be elected yearly in the charge conferences. One youth member to the annual conference (age 12-17) (expenses to be paid by their district) and one young adult member (age 18-30) shall be elected from each district. The conference secretary (if lay), the conference lay leader, the director of conference lay speaking ministries, the conference president of United Methodist Women, the conference president of United Methodist Men, a member of the conference United Methodist Youth, the conference secretary of Global Ministries (if lay), the president or equivalent officer of the conference young adult organization, active deaconesses and home missionaries under episcopal appointment within the bounds of the annual conference, district lay leaders, and diaconal ministers, shall be lay members to the annual conference. (For churches with more than one clergyperson under appointment, see **Par. 32** of the *Book of Discipline*.)

B. In compliance with the disciplinary requirement (**Par. 32**) to keep lay representation in the annual conference session equal to that of clergy, the conference secretary shall ascertain whether the upcoming session will be in balance with respect to lay and clergy membership as of January 1 each year. If additional lay members are needed, the conference secretary shall add them using the following guidelines:

(1) The first eight shall be the district presidents of United Methodist Women. In the event that fewer than eight are needed, the secretary shall make the determination on the basis of the last reported church membership totals of the districts, moving from the largest downward in scale.

(2) The second eight shall be the district presidents of the United Methodist Men. In the event that fewer than eight are needed, the secretary shall make the determination on the basis of the last reported church membership totals of the districts, moving from the largest downward in scale.

(3) Next the secretary shall name full-time lay workers on the professional staff of the Conference Resource Center.

- (4) Next the secretary shall name the lay members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry.
 - (5) Next the secretary shall name lay members of the general and jurisdictional delegations (including alternates) in the order of their election.
 - (6) Next the secretary shall name lay persons who are chairpersons of CORE Team boards, commissions, councils, etc., in the order listed in the CORE organizational document, and the at-large members of the CORE Team.
 - (7) Next the secretary shall name lay members of the Council on Finance and Administration.
 - (8) The remainder shall be divided among the eight districts and elected at-large by each district committee on nominations. In the event that there is a remainder of less than eight, the secretary shall make the determination on the basis of the last reported church membership totals of the districts, moving from the largest downward in scale.
 - (9) If a person is selected by the above process who is already a member of annual conference as the delegate from his/her church/charge, he or she may serve in the new capacity and thus empower the church's alternate delegate to go as the voting representative of the charge. The district superintendent and district lay leader of each district may assist in this process in conjunction with their district's orientation session in preparation for the annual conference.
15. *The Conference Journal and Brochure of Reports:*
The publication and distribution of *The Annual Conference Journal* and the *Brochure of Reports* shall be supervised by the Editorial Committee, chaired by the *Journal* editor and composed of the conference secretary, the treasurer/statistician, and the director of Connectional Ministries. The *Journal* editor shall be responsible for preparation of the *Brochure of Reports* and its distribution to all eligible persons. Materials and reports to be included in the *Brochure of Reports* shall be in the hands of the *Journal* editor **NO LATER THAN** the second Monday of March. The *Brochure of Reports* shall contain an order blank for the *Journal*. The Council on Finance and Administration shall determine the cost of each *Journal* including mailing. All names, addresses, reports, resolutions, and/or other materials to be included in *The Journal of the Alabama-West Florida Conference*

shall be in the hands of the conference secretary no later than ten working days after the close of annual conference.

16. Board Memberships and Trusteeships:

A. With the exception of the Board of Ordained Ministry, no person may serve on more than one quadrennial agency of this conference at the same time. Except as provided by the *Book of Discipline*, one's term on a quadrennial agency shall not exceed eight years within any twelve consecutive years. Elected membership on non-quadrennial agencies is limited to no more than eight of any twelve consecutive years, with the exception of the Board of Laity. For the sake of administrative and program continuity, this standing rule shall not apply where existing constitutions require the retiring chair to continue to serve for a period not to exceed two years. The quadrennial agencies are: the Conference Board of Global Ministries, the Board of Discipleship, the Board of Church and Society, the Board of Congregational Development, the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, the Board of Advocacy and Ethnic Ministries, the Board of Communications, the Board of Ordained Ministry, the Commission on Equitable Compensation, the Board of Pension and Health Benefits, the Council on Finance and Administration, and the at-large members on the CORE Team.

B. Persons may be enlisted to assist boards and agencies for specific task force responsibilities.

C. No person shall serve on more than one board of trustees or board of directors of institutions or agencies related to this annual conference at the same time. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to mean that persons may not serve concurrently on boards of trustees or directors and as members of quadrennial boards and agencies or ex-officio trustees or directors, where disciplinary provisions apply.

D. Persons who fail to attend and participate in the meetings and programs expected of their elected position for one year without legitimate excuse shall be replaced. The person chosen by the Committee on Nominations to fill the unexpired term may also be elected to serve an additional quadrennium.

- E. No person shall serve more than nine consecutive years (three terms) as a trustee of any agency or institution related to this annual conference, nor shall this person be eligible for election again to that board for three years
17. Organizational stipulations for boards and agencies:
- A. All conference program boards, commissions, divisions, and committees, except as provided by the *Book of Discipline*, shall begin their tenure immediately upon election at annual conference.
- B. Every year the Conference Committee on Nominations shall complete its work four weeks before the date set for the regular conference session, in order to inform nominees of their selection and anticipated confirmation.
18. There shall be eight districts in this annual conference.
19. A district conference shall be held annually in each district of this annual conference, with its program year starting in January. The voting membership of the district conference shall be consistent with the directives of the United Methodist *Book of Discipline*, Paragraphs **657-658**.
20. Each district shall have a District Committee on Nominations composed of the district superintendent as chairperson, and with a membership of three clergy and four lay persons, elected annually. No member may serve for more than three consecutive years with the exception of the district superintendent. The District Committee on Nominations may submit to the district conference the names of one clergy and one lay person for election for each district work area and age-level ministry, and such other persons as are needed for membership to the District Council on Ministries or District CORE Team. Persons to be nominated shall be consulted by their district superintendent prior to the submission of their names. The District Committee on Nominations may fill vacancies with replacements to take office immediately. Such persons shall be confirmed at the next meeting of the district conference (**Par. 658.1**).
21. Neither a district superintendent nor a paid staff person of the annual conference shall serve as an elected member on a quadrennial board, commission, or committee, except as specifically provided by the *Book of Discipline*. Vacancies occurring by appointment of members of boards, divisions, commissions and committees to the district superintendency shall be filled by the conference session when such appointments are made.

22. In the allocation of askings on the formula basis, the financial strength of the church shall NOT include monies expended for the following items:
- A. Principal and interest on capital indebtedness.
 - B. Buildings and improvements.
 - C. General Advance Specials and World Service Special Gifts.
 - D. Conference Advance Specials.
 - E. Remittances by United Methodist Women to the conference treasurer.
 - F. Remittances to any authorized conference capital fund campaign.
 - G. Remittances to the Birmingham-Southern College Scholarship Fund and/or capital gifts.
 - H. Remittances to Huntingdon College Scholarship Fund and/or capital gifts.
 - I. Children's Home White Christmas Offering and Homes for the Aging/Fountain of Love offering.
 - J. Special Day Offerings of the General Church: (One Great Hour of Sharing, etc.)
 - K. All apportioned funds from the general church, the conference and the districts.
 - L. Benevolences paid directly by the local church.
23. The treasurer of the annual conference shall make the final settlement regarding apportionments, and disburse all funds to the annual conference boards, commissions and committees or treasurers after the close of the fiscal year, following the guidelines of zero-based budgeting.

BOARDS AND AGENCIES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

24. There shall be a Conference CORE Team, as outlined in the "Plan of Organization for the Alabama-West Florida Conference." Policies or procedures for the CORE Team shall be guided by the most current *Book of Discipline*. The "Plan of Organization for the Alabama-West Florida Conference" shall be printed in the *Journal* at the first of each quadrennium. Other offices, program boards, commissions, etc., as required by the *Discipline* but not a part of the CORE Team, are also authorized. Also see SR 5.
25. There shall be a Golden Cross fund and offering to aid medical needs of conference members/pastors. The chair of Golden Cross shall be nominated by, and shall report to, the CORE Team Division of Missions.

26. There shall be a Conference Policies and Personnel Committee appointed by the Bishop and approved by the CORE Team. The Committee shall establish uniform and equitable policies and procedures in the employment of Conference Resource Center personnel. It shall be the goal of our annual conference that all conference and district offices maintain reasonably consistent and inclusive policies regarding personnel, as is appropriate to each locale.
27. There shall be a Board of Ordained Ministry as provided by the *Book of Discipline* (**Par. 635**).
28. There shall be a Board of Laity, as described in the *Book of Discipline* (**Par. 631**), which shall be composed of the conference lay leader, the district lay leaders, the conference president of United Methodist Women (UMW), an additional officer of UMW, the conference president of United Methodist Men (UMM), the conference scouting coordinator, the conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries (LSM), an additional officer of LSM, a member of both the United Methodist Youth (UMY), and United Methodist Young Adults, and the first elected lay delegate to general conference. Additionally, the following shall serve ex-officio: the presiding bishop, one cabinet representative, and the director of connectional ministries.
29. The conference lay leader shall be nominated by the Conference Board of Laity and elected by the annual conference at the time of quadrennial reorganization. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. The conference lay leader may serve no more than two succeeding quadrennia as the conference lay leader. All other officers within the Board of Laity shall be elected by the board. Vacancies in the office of conference lay leader shall be filled by nomination from the board in the interim, and confirmed at the following annual conference.
30. There shall be an Alabama-West Florida Conference Board of Pastoral Counseling, Care and Training, Inc., composed of representatives as directed in the bylaws of said Board.
31. There shall be a Commission on Equitable Compensation as provided by the *Book of Discipline* (**Par. 625**), composed of twelve members, six lay and six clerical, at least one clergy and one lay being from churches with fewer than 200 members. In addition, one superintendent named by the cabinet and a staff person from the fiscal office shall be members.

32. There shall be a Commission on Archives and History as provided by the *Book of Discipline* (**Par. 641**). Eight members shall be elected by the annual conference at the beginning of each quadrennium for a term of four years. A ninth member shall be a youth selected by the Conference United Methodist Youth. Ex-officio members with vote shall include a representative from Huntingdon College, the conference historian (unless receiving compensation), the president of the AWFC Historical Society, the resident bishop, and the conference secretary. The Archivist shall be an ex-officio member without vote. A chairperson, vice-chairperson, and recording secretary/financial secretary, shall be elected by the commission.
33. There shall be a Board of Pension and Health Benefits as provided by the *Book of Discipline* (**Par. 639**), composed of eighteen members elected to 8-year terms, arranged in four-year classes to include representatives of both lay and clergy of both sexes. The Joint Committee on Incapacity shall be constituted as provided by the *Book of Discipline* (**Par. 652**), with efforts made to be inclusive.
34. There shall be an Assembly Grounds Board of Trustees, constituted as authorized by a Corporation Charter from the State of Alabama, record of which can be found on page 112 of the 1958 *Journal* of our Annual Conference, and all amendments thereto. An updated copy of the constitution shall be printed in *The Conference Journal* at the beginning of each quadrennium.
35. There shall be a Council on Finance and Administration as provided by the *Book of Discipline* (**Par. 611**), composed of eight lay, five clergy members, and the ex-officio members as specified in **Par. 612**. Unless the following are otherwise reimbursed, the CFA shall pay from the Conference administrative budget the reasonable and relevant expenses (as set or approved by CFA) of: the conference secretary's office; expenses of the Council on Finance and Administration; all expenses of printing, honoraria, and incidental expenses connected with annual conference sessions; expenses of cabinet meetings; expenses of all conference agencies and special committees not participating in the conference benevolence budget; room and board at annual conference of agencies and special committees meeting with the Council on Finance and Administration for the purpose of making budget requests; honoraria of the conference secretary and assistant secretaries for annual conference, the registrar and assistants, the *Journal* editor; all expenses incurred by the

Journal Editor in preparing/printing the *Brochure of Reports* and the conference *Journal*.

36. There shall be an Episcopal Residence Committee as provided by the *Book of Discipline* (**Par. 638**), composed of the chairpersons of the Committee on Episcopacy, Council on Finance and Administration, and Annual Conference Board of Trustees, and two at-large representatives selected by the bishop. Efforts shall be made to keep membership inclusive, and at least two members of this committee shall be women.



pETITIONS AND r ESOLu TIONS

THE UNIVERSITY PROJECT OF CLAREMONT SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Whereas, "The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Par.120); and

Whereas, "United Methodist schools of theology share a common mission of preparing persons for leadership in the ministry of The United Methodist Church; of leading in the ongoing reflection on Wesleyan theology; and of assisting the church in fulfilling its mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Par.1422.1); and

Whereas, Claremont School of Theology is a school of theology of The United Methodist Church (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Par.1422.3); and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees of Claremont School of Theology have established the University Project, which aims to "train religious leaders for a variety of religious traditions, including Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and others" (<http://www.cst.edu/UniversityProject/index.php>, accessed March 1, 2010); and

Whereas, the establishment of the University Project is inconsistent with the responsibility of Claremont School of Theology to assist The United Methodist Church to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Therefore, we, the members of the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference, meeting in session on June 5-8, 2011, call upon the 2012 General Conference to instruct The University Senate of The United Methodist Church to rescind the status of Claremont School of Theology as an official school of theology of The United Methodist Church.

Submitted by: Rev. Matthew P. O'Reilly

Co-sponsored by: Rev. Dan Morris, Dr. Karl K. Stegall, Rev. Robert J. Bailey, Rev. Larry Teasley, Rev. Walter Albritton, Rev. Earl Ballard, Rev. Alan Cassady, Rev. Larry Anderson, Rev. Michael G. Roberts, Rev. Ronald O. Bearden, Rev. John Ed Mathison, Rev. George Mathison

RETAINING THE BAN ON HOMOSEXUAL UNIONS

Page 1 of 1

Title: RETAINING THE BAN ON HOMOSEXUAL UNIONS

Discipline ¶341.6

Financial Implications: None

The Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference meeting at Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church on June 5-8, 2011, hereby petitions the 2012 General Conference to retain the current language of ¶341.6, which reads, **“Ceremonies that celebrate homosexual unions shall not be conducted by our ministers and shall not be conducted in our churches.”**

Rationale: This statement reflects the sentiment of most United Methodist members and the majority of citizens in the United States and many other countries. Sanctioning homosexual unions would give the church's approval to homosexual behavior and relationships, which would be inconsistent with ¶161F. This polity statement is necessary in order to maintain unity in the church.

Rev. Rurel Ausley

850-678-4411

rausley@nicevilleumc.org

Retaining Language Barring Ordination of Practicing Homosexuals

Page 1 of 1

Title: RETAIN LANGUAGE BARRING ORDINATION OF PRACTICING
HOMOSEXUALS

Discipline ¶304.3

Financial Implications: None

The Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference meeting at Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church on June 5-8, 2011, hereby petitions the 2012 General Conference to retain the current language of ¶304.3, which reads, **“While persons set apart by the Church for ordained ministry are subject to all the frailties of the human condition and the pressures of society, they are required to maintain the highest standards of holy living in the world. The practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Therefore self-avowed practicing homosexuals are not to be certified as candidates, ordained as ministers, or appointed to serve in the United Methodist Church.”**

Rationale: The church's position on homosexuality presents a scripturally faithful balance and agrees with 2,000 years of church history and the nearly universal opinion of the worldwide Church, after repeated intensive study and dialog. The debate over homosexuality has absorbed an inordinate amount of the church's time, energy, and resources.

Rev. Rurel Ausley
850-678-4411
rausley@nicevilleumc.org

Petition To:

The 2011 Alabama - West Florida General Conference of the United Methodist Church

Homosexuals Serving as Ministers

Resolved: The Stewart United Methodist Church supports the existing policy stated in the 2008 Book of Disciplines: Social Principles; F) Human Sexuality . . . “The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching.”

Therefore, the membership of Stewart United Methodist Church believes that practicing homosexuals are unacceptable for serving as the minister of a church. We strongly urge that this policy remain in place.

Sincerely,

Janet Stegall, Administrative Board Chairperson

9880 Alabama Hwy. 60

Moundville, Al 35474

(205)371-6744

jestegall@halek12.org

Petition for the Alabama West Florida Conference “A Stance against Indebtedness”

Whereas, we are at a crisis moment for our country with the national debt exceeding 13 trillion dollars, and

Whereas, the interest on the national debt increases by over a million dollars every 18 seconds, and

Whereas, in addition to the trillions of dollars of federal debt, other governmental agencies such as states, counties, and municipalities have an unfunded debt of over 3 trillion dollars, and

Whereas, many other nations are facing budget crises worse than that in the United States, and

Whereas, indebtedness is not just an issue of governmental policy, but about moral choices made by individuals at all levels of society, and thus indebtedness is a spiritual issue, and

Whereas, our excessive debt is not just a moral and spiritual issue, but a justice issue as the burden of debt is shackling generations not yet born to potentially hostile creditors leaving them with a limited future and a degraded way of life, and

Whereas, governmental officials need to make difficult choices to get our nation back on a road of economic viability, and

Whereas, it will take moral courage for leaders to do the hard things that will be required to get our country out of debt, and

Whereas, the United Methodist Church has no declaration in its social principles decrying the evils of excessive indebtedness, both public and private, and

Whereas, the church's prophetic and compassionate voice needs to be heard in response to all the other voices who would have the nation do nothing, or to take such draconian measures that the most vulnerable are the most affected by debt reducing measures;

Therefore, we the members of the Alabama West Florida Annual Conference petition the General Conference of the United Methodist Church to include the following in the Social Principles of the United Methodist Book of Discipline paragraph 163 **The Economic Community**:

Public Indebtedness *The huge budget deficits produced by years of overspending by governments around the world is of great concern to us. We acknowledge that for a limited time in a nation's history governmental deficits are sometimes necessary. However, long periods of excessive over-spending have produced significant economic challenges for many nations. Such wanton carelessness cannot continue. Therefore, we call upon all governments to take significant steps to reduce budget deficits and to live within their means. We ask that public officials, when making financial adjustments, remember first and foremost obligations that promote the well-being of society such as the funding of schools and other opportunities that foster the growth of the individual, as well as agencies that care for the poor, the elderly, the disabled and the disenfranchised.*

We recognize that if deficits are not brought under control, future generations will be shackled with a burden of public indebtedness which will force societies to live under the specter of coerced repayments, rising inflation, mass unemployment, and despair. Thus, this is not just a financial issue, but an issue of justice for those who are yet to be born. Wise stewardship is needed today to provide for future generations. We call on church leadership throughout the connection to encourage public officials to reduce public indebtedness and to begin the process towards balanced and fair budgets.

The people called Methodists are to be wise stewards of the blessings bestowed on us by God. We therefore appeal to all United Methodists, to live within their means, so that they may be free from the burden of debt and so they can truly live out John Wesley's words, "to earn all you can, save all you can, to give all you can." We also urge churches to refrain from excessive indebtedness which hinders mission and ministry in the world, so that congregations can be empowered and free to proclaim and live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ed Glaize

eglaize@fumcbrewton.org

Resolution Regarding Israel and Replacement Theology

Whereas, while we, as members of the Alabama West Florida Conference, acknowledge that God loves all people, and that His promises apply in a spiritual sense to all who receive His free gift of eternal salvation through Jesus, we reject all forms of Replacement Theology, which subscribes to the thinking that the church has replaced natural Israel in the plans of God, or that God is finished with Israel, and

Whereas, Psalm 105:6-15 addresses natural Israel in stating, “O seed of Abraham, His servant, O sons of Jacob, His chosen ones!, He is the Lord our God; His judgments are in all the earth.” The verse goes on to exemplify the sustainability of God’s promise to natural Israel in saying: “He has remembered His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations, the covenant which He made with Abraham and His oath to Isaac. Then He confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying, ‘to you I will give the land of Canaan as the portion of your inheritance.’ when they were only a few men in number, very few and strangers in it.” The verse goes on to speak of Israel’s Diaspora (being scattered to the nations), although not without God’s divine hand being on them, as indicated: “And they wandered about from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people. He permitted no man to oppress them, and He reproved kings for their sakes: ‘Do not touch My anointed ones, and do My prophets no harm” and

Whereas, in regards to the faithfulness of God’s word concerning His promises to Israel, He makes this conditional promise in Jeremiah 31:35-36, which states, “Thus says the Lord, who gives the sun for light by day, and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; the Lord of hosts is His name; if this fixed order departs from before Me, declares the Lord, then the offspring of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me forever,” (meaning he upholds his promises to them as he upholds his creation), and

Whereas, to further illustrate God’s adversity to the nations who are against natural Israel, Zechariah 2:8 says, “For thus says the Lord of hosts, “After glory He has sent me against the nations which plunder you, for he who touches you, touches the apple of His eye,” and

Whereas, according to Psalm 122:6 we are commanded to “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem,”

Therefore, be it resolved, that we as the Bible-believing people of the Alabama West Florida Conference, accept God’s everlasting covenant with the nation of Israel. We stand together in support of the nation of Israel, and promise to make it a priority, both individually and collectively, to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, and the well-being of the nation of Israel, and for revelation, and for God’s perfect will to be done.

Submitted by:
Hannah May, Director of East River Ministries
850-890-0649
yngsmmm@aol.com

Resolution Regarding the Jewish People and Anti-Semitism

Whereas we, the Alabama West Florida Conference, recognize that for hundreds of years, the church has, in many cases, not acknowledged our Jewish roots, due to the separation by some of our forefathers from everything Jewish due, in part, to misunderstanding, and

Whereas, we therefore affirm our Jewish roots and seek fresh understanding of the common heritage that we have with the chosen people of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and

Whereas, we thank the Jewish people for their many contributions to mankind, in the way of industry, innovations, inventions, medicine, agriculture, the arts, etc., In particular, we show gratitude to them for giving us, as well as preserving, our Bible, written by the inspiration of God by the hand of mostly Jewish writers, both old and new testaments, and most especially, for being the nation that God chose to give us our shared Messiah, Jesus (Yeshua), and.

Whereas, we recognize that God chose the nation of Israel and Jerusalem as the focal point for all of history, in the past, present and for the future, and

Whereas, we also recognize that there are many in our world today who, still, unbelievably, deny the holocaust ever happened. We, therefore, do not join in agreement with this, and earnestly seek to keep the remembrance of it ever before us, so that it cannot ever happen again, and

Therefore, be it resolved that, as the people of the Alabama West Florida Conference, we reject all forms of anti-Semitism, and earnestly seek to stand in repentance for some of those of the Christian faith, and some of our forefathers, who in ages past and also the present, have perpetrated horrific deeds against the Jewish people. This has been done in various ways, either through actions, apathy, ignorance, or unloving words. We pray that persecution of God's chosen people will never happen again, and

Therefore, be it further resolved that we sincerely hope this will open the way for tearing down walls between us, which in many cases, have kept the Jewish people from hearing the Good News of the gospel, which according to Romans 1:16 is "to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Nations.), and

Therefore, we also resolve to look for tangible ways to be a blessing to the Jewish people as well as the land and the people of Israel, showing unconditional love and support. We believe in being a blessing, not just in words, but in actions.

Submitted by: Hannah May, Director of East River Ministries
850-890-0649
yngsmsmm@aol.com

RESOLUTION PROPOSAL for the 2011 Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference**TITLE: Justice for Victims of Lost Employment****DATE:** March 14, 2011

We support employees who are victims of loss of employment in regards to the Gulf Oil Spill, closing of casino gaming places such as Green Track, and others in similar situations. In 2010, Alabama state government officials closed gaming operations, but caused devastating economic hardships to innocent people who work as cooks in the kitchen, custodians, maintenance workers, etc. Prior to the closing of Greene County gaming operation, the county was suffering 30.3 percent below poverty level economy. The county is now experiencing Alabama's highest unemployment rate at 17.9 percent. The people who are victims are not gamblers; they are mostly parents trying to provide a decent living for their families. They are low income workers. Many are Christians and some are members of The United Methodist Church.

We encourage government officials to take an active role ensuring justice for victims of lost employment and support for their livelihood. "Every person has the right to a job at a living wage. Where the private sector cannot or does not provide jobs for all who seek and need them, it is the responsibility of government to provide for the creation of such jobs" (Paragraph 163. IV. The Economic Community, The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, 2008).

The Church's prophetic call is to promote standards of justice and advocacy. "We claim all economic systems to be under the judgment of God no less than other facets of the created order. Therefore, we recognize the responsibility of governments to develop and implement sound fiscal and monetary policies that provide for the economic life of individuals and corporate entities and that ensure full employment and adequate incomes with a minimum of inflation" (Paragraph 163. IV. The Economic Community, The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, 2008).

The United Methodist Church has a long history of concern for social justice. Its members have often taken forthright positions on controversial issues involving Christian principles. Early Methodists expressed their opposition to the slave trade, to smuggling, and to the cruel treatment of prisoners. As John Wesley once said, "'Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can To all the people you can, As long as ever you can!'" Therefore, we encourage government officials to provide reasonable support and justice for victims of lost employment from governmental forced closings of casino gaming businesses and the Gulf Oil Spill.

NOTE: Testimonies from Victims of Lost Employment available

BY: Rev. Ronald O. McCants, Pastor, Mount Sinai United Methodist Church, Demopolis District, ronmcca@aol.com

RESOLUTION TO 2011 ALABAMA WEST FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**1-21-11****RE: JUST REPRESENTATION – PETITIONS TO 2012 GENERAL CONFERENCE**

The Book of Discipline, ¶¶15 and 502.3.d, provides that each annual, missionary and provisional conference is entitled to two general conference delegates. In ¶543.8 the central conferences are given power to “fix the boundaries of ...provisional annual conferences... within it bounds...” with no parameters or restrictions. Consequently many small provisional conferences have been formed in Europe and the Philippines for valid missional purposes. Some have as few as 400 members, but each is entitled to two General Conference delegates.

The practice of forming small provisional conferences has resulted in Europe with 70,786 total members having 42 delegates to the 2012 General Conference. That constitutes an average of 1,685 members per delegate, compared to 12,463 members per delegate for Alabama West Florida. The Philippines with 147,354 reported members will have 48 delegates to 2012 General Conference. These two areas represent 1.7% of the church membership but will have 9.2% of the 2012 General Conference delegates. The current formula for allocating delegates would produce 22 delegates, but with at least two per provisional conference these central conferences now have 90 delegates.

This matter is an injustice that needs to be corrected. The *Book of Discipline* sets a maximum of 1,000 delegates to General Conference; therefore, whenever one conference is over-represented, another conference must be under-represented. Our present practices have resulted in producing large scale injustice to many conferences in the jurisdictions and Africa.

Therefore, be it resolved that the 2011 session of the Alabama West Florida Annual Conference hereby authorizes the Secretary of our conference to petition the 2012 General Conference of The United Methodist Church as follows:

PETITION 1 - JURISDICTIONAL AND CENTRAL CONFERENCE REPRESENTATION

Re: Paragraph 15. Article III - PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

The General Conference shall fix the ratio of representation in the General, jurisdictional, and central conferences from the **episcopal areas or** annual conferences, missionary conferences, and the provisional annual conferences, computed on a two-factor basis: (1) the number of clergy members of the **entity to be represented** ~~annual conference and the missionary conference,~~ and (2) the number of professing members in the **entity to be represented** ~~annual conference and the missionary conference,~~ provided that each annual conference, missionary conference, or provisional annual conference shall be entitled to at least one clergy and one lay delegate ~~in the General Conference and also in the jurisdictional or central conference.~~ **The General Conference shall prescribe a process for determining how the delegates allocated to any area are to be distributed among the conferences of the area when an area is made up of more than one conference.**

Rationale: This legislation is needed to allow changes in ¶502.3.d for the protection of a just allocation of General Conference delegates. The actual legislative provisions for calculating General Conference delegates should be a disciplinary rather than a constitutional matter. The amended constitutional provision would then properly become a protection for the number of delegates to jurisdictional and central conferences.

PETITION 2 – JUST REPRESENTATION

Paragraph 502.3.d – DISCIPLINARY PETITION

Every annual conference **episcopal area and missionary conference** shall be entitled to at least one clergy and one lay delegate. **An episcopal area is composed of the annual, missionary, and provisional annual conferences over which a single bishop presides. When the number of delegates allocated by the Secretary of the General Conference to any episcopal area is affected by this or other provisions, the delegates are to be allocated among the affected conferences of an episcopal area by a committee of representatives of each affected conference of the area, in consultation with the presiding bishop. Delegates so allocated shall be elected by the conference in which they are members in accordance with disciplinary provisions.**

Rationale: The bilateral missional decisions of central conferences to form provisional conferences has resulted in 1.7% of our membership having 9.2% of GC delegates (90 delegates rather than 22 under our present formula). Since the total number of delegates is limited to 1,000, every overrepresentation must cause an equal underrepresentation and injustice for larger conferences. The minimum guarantee of two General Conference delegates should be reserved for only those conferences that are formed by the General Conference.

(Please note: This provision will be effective if and only if the petition amending ¶15 of the Constitution is approved by General Conference and the members of the annual conferences and certified by the Council of Bishops.)

For Legislative Committee information:

Attached are complete details of the membership and 2012 delegation numbers for all conferences.

Rev. Rurel Ausley
850-678-4411
rausley@nicevilleumc.org

**Amend Social Principle I. The Natural World
(2008 Book of Resolutions)
1027. God's Creation and the Church as follows:**

As disciples of Christ, we are called to be good stewards of God's creation. Accordingly, we call upon The United Methodist Church to adopt fresh ways to respond to the perils that now threaten the integrity of God's creation and the future of God's children. Specifically, The United Methodist Church:

- designates one Sunday each year, preferably the Sunday closest to Earth Day, as a Festival of God's Creation, celebrating God's gracious work in creating the earth and all living things, incorporating it into the church's liturgical calendar, and developing appropriate ways for congregations to celebrate it;
- ~~endorses The Clergy Letter Project and its reconciliatory programs between religion and science, and urges United Methodist clergy participation;~~
- endorses the work of the National Religious Partnership for the Environment, and the World Council of Churches Climate Change Program and urges conferences and congregations to support their activities and programs;
- supports the annual observance of the United Nations' World Environment Day and encourages conferences and churches to participate in programs such as Environmental Sabbath;
- recommends that annual conferences establish annual awards to honor prophetic defenders of God's creation from within their own constituencies;
- affirms the importance of nurturing, community-building approaches such as the Global Action Plan's Household Eco-Team Program designed to foster resource efficient lifestyle practices;
- encourages a simplified and environmentally sound lifestyle throughout the church and requests that Church agencies, conferences, and congregations be stewards of God's creation by reducing levels of consumption and participating in programs that reuse and recycle goods; and
- encourages United Methodist institutions to perform energy audits, improve energy efficiency, and pursue use of alternative clean energy sources such as wind and solar power where available.

RATIONALE:

This petition removes the endorsement of encouraging the teaching of evolution by clergy through participation in the Clergy Letter Project. The Church should not promote the teaching of the theory of evolution by clergy since such theory is clearly in conflict with scripture.

Submitted by:

John Moneyham
Member Forest Park United Methodist Church
(850) 763-7140
john@jplawoffices.com

Forest Park United Methodist Men
(850) 785-6296
jjem@knology.net

Reverend Gary Daniel
District Superintendent Marianna/Panama City District
(850) 482-4905
clergygary@mariannapcdistrict.org

Reverend John Friedman
Sr Pastor Forest Park United Methodist Church
(850) 785-6296
friedman@knology.net

**Amend Social Principle I. The Natural World
(2008 Book of Discipline and 2008 Book of Resolutions) ¶160F
Science and Technology as follows:**

We recognize science as a legitimate interpretation of God's natural world. We affirm the validity of the claims of science in describing the natural world and in determining what is scientific. We preclude science from making authoritative claims about theological issues and theology from making authoritative claims about scientific issues. ~~We find that science's descriptions of cosmological, geological, and biological evolution are not in conflict with theology.~~ We recognize medical, technical, and scientific technologies as legitimate uses of God's natural world when such use enhances human life and enables all of God's children to develop their God-given creative potential without violating our ethical convictions about the relationship of humanity to the natural world. We reexamine our ethical convictions as our understanding of the natural world increases. We find that as science expands human understanding of the natural world, our understanding of the mysteries of God's creation and word are enhanced.

In acknowledging the important roles of science and technology, however, we also believe that theological understandings of human experience are crucial to a full understanding of the place of humanity in the universe. Science and theology are complementary rather than mutually incompatible. We therefore encourage dialogue between the scientific and theological communities and seek the kind of participation that will enable humanity to sustain life on earth and, by God's grace, increase the quality of our common lives together.

RATIONALE:

This petition removes approval of the theory of evolution because such theory is clearly in conflict with scripture.

Submitted by:

John Moneyham
Member Forest Park United Methodist Church
(850) 763-7140
john@jpmlawoffices.com

Forest Park UMM
(850) 785-6296
jjem@knology.net

Reverend Gary Daniel
District Superintendent
Marianna/Panama City District
(850) 482-4905
clergygary@mariannapcdistrict.org

Rev. John Friedman
Sr Pastor Forest Park UMC
(850) 785-6296
friedman@knology.net

**Amend Social Principle V. The Political Community
(2008 Book of Resolutions)**

5052. Evolution and Intelligent Design as follows:

WHEREAS, The United Methodist Church has for many years supported the separation of Church and State (§164C, *Book of Discipline*, 2004, p.119);

Therefore, be it resolved, that the General Conference of The United Methodist Church go on record as ~~opposing the introduction of any faith-based theories such as~~ **supporting the teaching of Creationism or and Intelligent Design along with the theory of evolution** ~~in~~ in the science curriculum of our public schools.

RATIONALE

This Petition recommends that Creationism and Intelligent Design be taught along with the theory of evolution so that students will be exposed to all possible explanations of creation. If this is not done, students will not receive a well balanced and informed science education. Unless other possible explanations of creation are taught, evolution will likely be accepted by students as a fact when it is still merely an unproven theory.

Submitted by:

John Moneyham

Member Forest Park United Methodist Church

(850) 763-7140

john@jpmlawoffices.com

Reverend Gary Daniel

District Superintendent Marianna/Panama City District

(850) 482-4905

clergygary@mariannapcdistrict.org

Forest Park United Methodist Men

(850) 785-6296

jjem@knology.net

Reverend John Friedman

Senior Pastor Forest Park United Methodist Church

(850) 785-6296

friedman@knology.net

RETAIN LANGUAGE IN SOCIAL PRINCIPLES

Page 1 of 1

Title: RETAIN LANGUAGE IN SOCIAL PRINCIPLES

Discipline ¶161F

Financial Implications: None

The Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference meeting at Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church on June 5-8, 2011, hereby petitions the 2012 General Conference to retain the current language on homosexuality in ¶161F, which reads, **“We affirm that all persons are individuals of sacred worth, created in the image of God. All persons need the ministry and guidance of the church in their struggles for human fulfillment, as well as the spiritual and emotional care of a fellowship that enables reconciling relationships with God, with others, and with self. The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching. We affirm that God’s grace is available to all. We will seek to live together in Christian community, welcoming, forgiving, and loving one another, as Christ has loved and accepted us. We implore families and churches not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay members and friends. We commit ourselves to be in ministry for and with all persons.”**

Rationale: The church’s position on homosexuality presents a scripturally faithful balance and agrees with 2,000 years of church history and the nearly universal opinion of the worldwide Church, after repeated intensive study and dialog. The debate over homosexuality has absorbed an inordinate amount of the church’s time, energy, and resources.

Rev. Rurel Ausley

850-678-4411

rausley@nicevilleumc.org

THE TRAINING OF NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS LEADERS BY UNITED METHODIST SCHOOLS OF THEOLOGY

Whereas, "The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Par.120); and

Whereas, "United Methodist schools of theology share a common mission of preparing persons for leadership in the ministry of The United Methodist Church; of leading in the ongoing reflection on Wesleyan theology; and of assisting the church in fulfilling its mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world"(2008 *Book of Discipline*, Par.1422.1); and

Whereas, the establishment of programs by United Methodist Schools of Theology to train and credential religious leaders of non-Christian religions is inconsistent with the responsibility of United Methodist Schools of Theology to assist The United Methodist Church to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Therefore, we, the members of the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference, meeting in session on June 5-8, 2011, call upon the 2012 General Conference to instruct the University Senate of The United Methodist Church to discontinue approval as United Methodist Schools of Theology those institutions that establish programs to train and credential religious leaders of non-Christian religions.

Submitted by: Rev. Matthew P. O'Reilly

Co-sponsored by: Rev. Dan Morris, Rev. Robert J. Bailey, Rev. Larry Teasley, Rev. Walter Albritton, Rev. Earl Ballard, Rev. Alan Cassady, Rev. Larry Anderson, Rev. Michael G. Roberts, Rev. Ronald O. Bearden, Rev. John Ed Mathison, Rev. George Mathison

WITHDRAWAL OF UNITED METHODIST ORGANIZATIONS AS MEMBERS OF THE RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE

Whereas, the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC) has published a book of worship aids entitled *Prayerfully Pro-Choice: Resources for Worship* (<http://www.rcrc.org/pdf/Prayerfully.pdf>, accessed February 22, 2011), which includes materials written by RCRC staff, board members, and others affiliated with RCRC; and

Whereas, *Prayerfully Pro-Choice* contains no disclaimer that the views and positions expressed in it do not represent the views and positions of RCRC; and

Whereas, President and CEO of RCRC, Rev. Carlton W. Veazy, in his introductory letter to *Prayerfully Pro-Choice*, endorses the resources contained therein by referring to them as "spiritually powerful writings" to inspire readers in "the important work" that they do; and

Whereas, the affirmation of RCRC that choice, including the choice to have an abortion, is a "God-given right" (*Prayerfully Pro-Choice*, 8) is inconsistent with the affirmations of the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church that, "Our belief in the sanctity of unborn human life makes us reluctant to approve abortion," and that abortion involves "tragic conflicts of life with life" (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Par. 161.J); and

Whereas, the affirmation of RCRC regarding the unborn that, "We are certain that this is not a human being, equal in any way to the life of the mother, it is a form of 'potential life'" (*Prayerfully Pro-Choice*, 8) is inconsistent with the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church, which affirm, "Our belief in the sanctity of unborn human life," and our affirmation that abortion involves "tragic conflicts of life with life" (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Par. 161.J); and

Whereas, the affirmation of RCRC that abortion is "a sacred choice" (*Prayerfully Pro-Choice*, 88) is inconsistent with the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church that we are "reluctant to approve abortion" (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Par. 161.J); and

Whereas, RCRC, in its "Words of Choice: Countering Anti-Choice Rhetoric" (www.rcrc.org/pdf/Words_of_Choice.pdf, accessed March 18, 2011), argues against the following words, phrases, and moral claims found in The United Methodist Church's central teaching on abortion (2008 *The Book of Discipline*, Par.161.J): "abortion as...birth control," "[abortion] as...gender selection," "adoption," "crisis pregnancy centers," "mother," "notification and consent,"

“partial-birth abortion” opposition, “sacredness of...life,” “sanctity of... life,” and “unborn child,” and

Whereas, RCRC works for abortion rights in any and all circumstances, while The United Methodist Church teaches that moral discernment, on matters related to abortion, is essential; because the church is “equally bound to respect the sacredness of the life and well-being of the mother and the unborn child,” “cannot affirm abortion as an acceptable means of birth control,” and “unconditionally reject[s] [abortion] as a means of gender selection” (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Par. 161.J); and

Whereas, the “members of our denomination are not of one mind over the precise conditions in which abortion can be supported” (#2027, 2008 *The Book of Resolutions*, p. 123), and therefore agencies of The United Methodist Church should not be permitted to join a political lobby for abortion, such as RCRC; and

Therefore, we, the members of the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference, meeting in session on June 5-8, 2011, call upon the 2012 General Conference to withdraw The General Board of Church and Society and The General Board of Global Ministries, Women’s Division, as member organizations of RCRC.

Submitted by: Rev. Matthew P. O'Reilly

Co-sponsored by: Rev. Dan Morris, Rev. Robert J. Bailey, Rev. Larry Teasley, Rev. Walter Albritton, Rev. Earl Ballard, Rev. Alan Cassady, Rev. Larry Anderson, Rev. Michael G. Roberts, Rev. Ronald O. Bearden, Rev. John Ed Mathison, Rev. George Mathison



pr OFILES OF LAY CANDIDATES
BAYpINES DISTRICT

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name John L. Croft

Address 207 Stanley Avenue, Andalusia, AL 36420 Phone number(s) 334-222-3523

E-mail johnboy@andycable.com

Spouse Rozilyn Child(ren) Clare and Johnny

Education (highest degree) Master of Arts - Journalism, University of Alabama

Occupation Retired, English Instructor, Lurleen B. Wallace Community College, Andalusia, AL

Present local UM Church membership and dates Andalusia First 1975-present

Previous church and dates of membership Evergreen First 1960-1975

Local church leadership and dates Lay Leader (1982); Administrative Board, Chair (1986); Stewardship

Committee, Chair (1991); Council on Ministries, Chair (1993); Lay Leader (2003); Lay Leader (2011)

District leadership and dates Member, District Committee on Ordained Ministry (2006-present); President

United Methodist Men (2006-2010)

Conference leadership and dates Treasurer, Education Committee (1996-1999); President UMM (2010-present)

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

Community service _____
President, East Three Notch Elementary School PTO; President, Andalusia High School Band

Parents; Member, Andalusia Ballet Association Board; Tiger Cub Leader, Webelos Leader, Pack Master, Cub Scout Pack

46; Chair, Covington County Department of Human Resources; Member, Lions Club

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: _____
I believe that god has forgiven me and redeemed me to be of service to Him in the process of bringing

His kingdom to earth. In that process, I believe He seeks to use the United Methodist Church as an agent of love for all

his children, including those who are yet to ask for his forgiveness. My prayer is that the whole world will feel as the young

man named Jamie who had been a resident of the UMCH felt when he said, "I know when I pass a Methodist church that

somebody loves me." I want to help my church fulfill its purpose of being an agent of God's love in the world.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Frank Dunnewind

Address 7343 Old Mitylene Road, Montgomery, AL 36117 Phone number(s) 334-274-1051

E-mail frank@awfumc.org

Spouse Catherine (Pat) Child(ren) Scott and Michelle

Education (highest degree) BS in Business Administration

Occupation Conference Treasurer/Benefits Officer

Present local UM Church membership and dates Andalusia First, September 1998

Previous church and dates of membership Bethlehem UMC, 1987-1998

Local church leadership and dates Local Church Treasurer

District leadership and dates _____

Conference leadership and dates Ex-officio member 1998 to present; CORE Team; Council on Finance and

Administration; Board of Trustees; Commission on Equitable Compensation; Various other administrative committees.

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates SEJ United Methodist Association of Church

Business Administrator (President 1994-1995); United Methodist Association of Church Business Administrators (President 1997-1999); A member of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits Sustainability Advisory Group (SAG) (2009); A member of the General Council Finance and Administration Official Forms and Records Committee (2008-present)

Community service _____

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: 2012 promises to be a watershed General Conference. The general church has the opportunity to reorganize and restructure itself to move into the future to effectively and affordably do ministry rather than remain aligned to do ministry in ways that worked in the past but are no longer efficient. My experience at all levels of the United Methodist Church should allow me to make a positive contribution to the effort. My work with the SAG has convinced me that the health and pension benefits programs can be shaped in a way that is helpful to both the local church and the clergy which will be sustainable for many years to come.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name N. Edward Hand
 Address 12861 Hunters Creek, Foley, AL 36538 Phone number(s) 251-955-5680
 E-mail edhand@gulfnet.com
 Spouse Joan Child(ren) Michele Mullins, Barbara Davis, Noah
 Education (highest degree) 2 Years college

Occupation Vice President, Volkert & Assoc. Inc. (Retired)-Professional Land Surveyor

Present local UM Church membership and dates Foley United Methodist Church, 1971- Present

Previous church and dates of membership Heflin UMC, 1942-1966; St. Mark UMC 1966-1971 (North AL Conf.)

Local church leadership and dates Foley UMC Men's Club, President 1973-1980; Senior High School Sunday

School Teacher; MYF Councilors 1976-1979; Mission Chairman 1980-1983; Sunday School Superintendent 1982-1985;

Chairman of Administrative Board, 1982-1988; Foley UMC Trustee 2001- 2009; Foley committee on Leadership and

Nominations, 2008-2010

District leadership and dates Baypines District Lay Leader 2001-Present

Baypines Leadership Committee 2001-Present

Baypines Committee on Nominations, 2001- Present

Baypines Committee on District Superintendency, 2001- Present

Conference leadership and dates Conference Board of Laity, 2001-Present; Conference Committee on

Nominations 2001-Present; Blue Lake Trustees 2003-2010; Conference Leadership Committee, 2010-Present;

Conference Committee on Episcopacy 2004-Present,

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

Community service _____

Foley-Gulf Shores Jaycees, President 1976; Foley Schools Trustees, 1977-1986; Foley Schools PTA, President 1978; Pleasure Island Rotary Club, President 2005; Chairman of Gulf Shores Mayor Prayer Breakfast

2005 & 2006: Chairman of Foley Mayors Prayer Breakfast, 2010; Member of the Alabama Society of Professional Land

Surveyors, 1975- Present, Served as President in 1990/1991.

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWP

Conference: I believe that Jesus Christ is my personal Savior and the Bible is the word of God. I believe that Jesus

was born of a virgin, died on the cross for our sins, he was buried and on the third day he rose from the grave. He visited

many people before ascending to his Father in Heaven. The reason I feel that I should be a Lay Delegate to General

Conference is that I am a strong follower of the Book of Discipline. I have been a United Methodist all my life and now that

that I am retired, blessed with energy and good health, I would like to use my experiences and knowledge to make the United

Methodist Church a better Church. I will study all issues and be prepared to vote.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAWYER PROFILE SHEET — 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name ^{Full name, please} _____

Address _____ Phone number (cell) ^{Area code + #} _____

E-mail ^{last, first, initial} _____

Spouse ^{Chaplin} _____ Children ^{Marshall, 1, age 11, 12} _____

Educational background ^{Lawrence} _____

Occupation ^{Attorney for the State of Florida} _____

Present local LWU membership and dates ^{Lawrence Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1992-1994} _____

Previous church and church membership ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Local church leadership and dates ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Other church leadership ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Other church leadership ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Other church leadership ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

District leadership and dates ^{Lawrenceville Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Other church leadership ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Other church leadership ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Other church leadership ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Conference leadership and dates ^{Lawrenceville Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Other church leadership ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Other church leadership ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Other church leadership ^{First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA, 1994-1996} _____

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and unity

Paul Temple, President and John and Corla Koo, 2011 General Officers of Jurisdictional Conference

1) Statements/Motion and Faculty of Jurisdictional Conference Committee of Affairs

Michaelson, Member of Jurisdictional Conference and 2011 Board of Churchwide General Officers

Community Service *Presented by the members of the Jurisdictional Conference, General Officers*

Wanda Cery, Representative of Jurisdictional Conference, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers

First Board of Churchwide General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers

of Michaelson, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWP

Conference: *Conferences and 2011 General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers*

of Michaelson, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers

that of my church, the General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers

and question, to make sure the General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers

of Michaelson, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers, General Officers

and, as a church, we can work together to work on issues related to our church.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Name Leonard Kay, Jr.Address 2501 E. Highway 90, Tallahassee, FL 32309 Phone number(s) 252-947-4572E-mail leonard_kay@rednet.comSpouse Bonnie Children two daughters and sonEducation (highest degree) 2 years collegeOccupation Tallahassee, 20 years servicePresent local UMC Church membership and dates Resurrection UMC, 1996-presentPrevious church and dates of membership Lincoln UMC, Lincoln, AL, 1983-1996Local church leadership and dates UMC President 1998-2000, Crystal Fellowship 2001-2002

Key leader 2002-2003, Lay Delegate 2007-2011

District leadership and dates

Bay Area UMC Dist. Chairman 2011

Conference leadership and dates

U. Pres. - Bay Area Task Force member, 2009-2010

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

here _____

Community service _____ Baldwin Rural Area Transit System (BRATS) since 10 years

Member, Linn County Conference Committee in Baldwin County until recently when I resigned _____

Spent 1 year in Linn County Member, 12 years _____

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the A.W.I.

Conference: _____

My core beliefs are stated in the Apostles Creed. My philosophy is that the Bible is God's Word and we should live out

what it commands. In other words, "God said it, I believe it and that settles it." I've been a Methodist since my

teenage years and I believe in the principles of the Methodist Discipline. I do want to lay a servant, and if it's God's

will, I'd like to serve as a Unity Delegate. I will do so.

DEMOpOLIS DISTr ICT

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Steve Furr, M.D.
Address 214 Plantation Trace Jackson, AL 36545 Phone number(s) 251-246-5266
E-mail furrs@bellsouth.net
Spouse Lisa Child(ren) None
Education (highest degree) Doctor of Medicine

Occupation Physician

Present local UM Church membership and dates McCann's United Methodist Church 2006-present

Previous church and dates of membership First United Methodist Church Jackson Alabama 1984-2006

Local church leadership and dates Lay Leader 2010-2011; Finance Committee 2007-2010; Administrative Board

2007-2010; Board of Trustees 2007-2009; Board of Trustees 2000-2003; Chairperson, Pastor-Parish Committee 1998-1999

Chairperson, Stewardship Committee 1997; President, United Methodist Men 1996; Chairperson, Administrative Board

1994-1996; Sunday School Teacher; Chairperson, Missions Committee 1993; Certified Lay Speaker 2004-present

District leadership and dates Denman Evangelism Award 1998

Conference leadership and dates Conference Lay Leader 2008-2012; Conference Board of the Laity 2005-2012;

Committee on Nominations 2008-2012; CORE Team 2008-2012; Episcopacy Committee 2000-2012; Church and Society

2003-2012; Delegate to Annual Conference 1998-2012; Chairperson, Blue Lake Assembly Grounds Board of Trustees 2004-

2007; Board of Global Ministries 1996-2002; University of South Alabama Wesley Foundation Trustee 2002-2005

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates General Conference Delegate 2000, 2004, 2008;

Jurisdictional Conference Delegate 2000, 2004, 2008; Southeastern Jurisdiction Episcopacy Committee 2000-2012;

General Board of Church and Society 2004-2012; General Council on Ministries 2000-2004; Association of Annual Conference

Lay Leaders 2008-2012; World Methodist Council 2011-2016;

Community service University of South Alabama Board of Trustees Vice Chair; Blue Lake Emmaus Community 1994-

1997(Walk #7);President, Medical Association of the State of Alabama; Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners;

Volunteer Faculty, University of South Alabama College of Medicine; Gideons; University of South Alabama Foundation;

Medical Mission Trips to Kenya and Zambia; Alabama State Committee of Public Health; Hospice Medical Director

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: I have been honored and humbled to serve you in the past and have continued to work and train diligently

like an athlete over the last three years to be considered worthy of representing you again. General Conference is the

opportunity for the people in the pew to be heard. If the United Methodist Church is to be revived it must start with the laity.

2012 offers a great opportunity for change. We must make sure that change honors our Lord and strengthens the local church.

I consider representing you a sacred task. My past experience has enlightened and prepared me; the desire to serve my

Lord and you strengthens and empowers me; the importance of the task humbles me and yet pushes me on to greater effort.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name SM _____

Address _____ Phone number(s) <sup>F 334 636 1667
C 334 636 1007</sup> _____

E-mail ^{Willie@ShirleySchalvest.com} _____

Spouse ^{Shirley} _____ Child(ren) ^{None (3 granddaughters)} _____

Education (highest degree) ^{Master of Science} _____

Occupation ^{Organized Teacher, Coach, Supervisor} _____

Present local UMC Church membership and dates ^{Thomasville Aug 1966 - Present} _____

Previous church and dates of membership ^{FUMC Montgomery, AL 1964-1966} _____

Local church leadership and dates <sup>First Study Teacher 1966-2000 Lay Leader Thomasville 1966-2007,
Lay Men President 1987-1990 Lay Men Treasurer Thomasville 1977-1979</sup> _____

District leadership and dates ^{Commission District Lay Leader 2001-2007, District CORE Team 2001-2007} _____

Conference leadership and dates <sup>Southwestern Jurisdiction Oregon 2004 Board of Lay 2007-2011,
District Lay Trustee 2007 Present Thomasville World Methodist Conference</sup> _____

Designate 2011 Jurisdictional Conference

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____
 Delegate to 2011 Methodist Conference 2011 _____

Community service _____
 Treasurer to 2011 AGO 1985-Present (led every AGO)
 Health Care Fellow, AGO International AGO 2007

Treasurer in AGO Council President 2008-Present

Member of 2011 AGO's Board

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWT

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Nyasha Kagoro
Address 12329 South Pointe Lane, Moundville, AL 35474 Phone number(s) 205-377-44448
E-mail nckagoro@yahoo.com
Spouse _____ Child(ren) _____
Education (highest degree) High School Senior

Occupation Student

Present local UM Church membership and dates New Church Start, Moundville UMC 2008-present

Previous church and dates of membership St. Matthew UMC (Akron, OH) 2007-2008

Local church leadership and dates Youth President/Leader (Moundville New Church Start 2008-present);

Youth President (St. Matthew 2007-2008)

District leadership and dates Youth Delegate (2009 and 2010)

Conference leadership and dates Youth Page at annual conference

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

Community service _____
Moundville Nursing Home; Haiti Fundraisers; Englewood Fall Festival; Maxwell Elementary

Fall Festival; Moundville Fall Festival; Moundville New Church Start Vacation Bible School

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: _____
I have been blessed to be raised in a Christian family. All of my life, I have been taught that God is the

most important thing in life. Without Him, I am nothing. Being a delegate for the Alabama-West Florida Conference will

present me the chance to serve God Almighty who has blessed every aspect of my life.

DOTHAN DISTRICT

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAWYER PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Name James P. Long, IIIAddress 871 Avenue D, Dothan, AL 36023 Phone number(s) 334-793-7073E-mail: jlong@the-awf.org and jplong.comSpouse Marion Child(ren) 4Education (highest degree) US Economics University of PennsylvaniaOccupation General Counsel, City of Dothan, AlabamaPresent local UMC Church membership and dates First UMC, Dothan 1964-PresentPrevious church and dates of membership United BaptistLocal church leadership and dates Chr. Adv. - Board 1975 - 1992; Chr. Finance Committee 1992-1994 Lay-lea.Sunday School over 35 yearsDistrict leadership and dates Chr. Dist. Bd. of Trustees Dothan District 1985-1989Chr. District Lay Serving a few yearsConference leadership and dates Chr. Pension & Health Committee 2000-2001, Member of Committee 1998-1999

and 2000-2002, Member United Methodist Forces for Aging Board 1987-Present, Member John Wesley Methodist Foundation

Board 1985-Present, Treasurer 2005-2006

Parish/district and general church leadership and dates _____

Community service _____
Pastor Duane Jensen 1936, Selo WF 1937, City Commissioner 1994-1999, Pres. Cohen

Association of Life Underwriters 1965-1986; President Dehor Rotary Club 1994-1995, Chr. Organizing Committee Boys

Cub of Dehor & First President 1939 and 1973, Treasurer of First Wyo 1994-1997, President 1997

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWWF
Conference. _____
I have a deep abiding devotion to Jesus Christ and His church, and the Holy Bible is the inspired Word of

God and will guide us through study and reflection. I am committed to the ideal of Methodist Church and the

connectional system. I believe in the equality of all people. God is good and the quality of our lives is the living presence

of Jesus Christ. I am willing to put in the work that being a responsible delegate requires and I desire that our UWC uphold

of the Bible and interpret my life. I am committed to anyone about my soul's

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name ^{Betty Johnson} _____
 Address ^{3018 Longleaf Drive, Orange Beach, AL 36555} _____ Phone number(s) ⁹⁰⁴⁻⁷⁵⁴⁻²¹⁷² _____
 E-mail: ^{bjohns@ccclanet.net} _____
 Spouse ^{Walter} _____ Child(ren) _____ Godchild and others _____
 Education (highest degree) ^{Bachelor's Administration} _____

Occupation ^{Church Administrator} _____

Present local UM Church membership and dates ^{Calvary First United Methodist Church 2005-Present} _____

Previous church and dates of membership ^{United African Methodist Church 1993-2003} _____

Local church leadership and dates ^{Nominations Board 1993-1994, 1998-2003, 2007-2008; Chair Women's} _____

Committee Chair 1966, SPW Committee Chair 1967-1993; Sunday School Teacher 1993-2000; AGS Director 1993-1995

Local Education Coordinator 1988-1992, 1993-1995; Adult Education 1998-2005; Adult Bible Bridge 2006-Present

District leadership and dates ^{Nominations Committee 2003-2007; DUCWA 2004-Present; COSFOW Representative} _____

2005-2004 District Treasurer United Methodist Women 1992-1995; District President United Methodist Women 2005-2008

Conference leadership and dates ^{Education Committee 1998-1999; Cooperative School Christian Minister 1995-99} _____

Society Financial Representative United Methodist Women 1994-95; Conference Treasurer United Methodist Women 1997-98

Education & Interpretation Coordinator United Methodist Women 2003-2010; Open Cooperative School Christian Minister 2010

Present Conference President United Methodist Women 2011-Present

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates Episcopal Jurisdiction Core Planning Group

Triennial 2000-2004; South Atlantic Region: General Synod: November and February 2010-2011

Community service We have the following organizations: Wiggins Area Food Bank, Dept of Service Day, March

of UMass Hospital for Humanity, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, Leukemia Support Group, & House of Faith

Ministry Station

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the A/W's

Conference: I grew up in the Methodist Church surrounded by family and friends who showed me how to be a

Christian by their example, guidance, and devotion to the church. I believe the Bible is the inspired word of God and it

serves as a guide in my daily life. I am drawn to the United Methodist Church and want to have input in the future

of the church. I will pray about the issues, study and read the scriptures, and hope to be sustained. It is a privilege to be

to represent the city of Ma Alabama West Florida Conference at General Conference in 2012.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Gip Kingry

Name _____
15 Harrington Lane, Dothan, AL 36305 334-792-4039

Address _____ Phone number(s) _____
gipju@sw.rr.com

E-mail _____
Judy Watson Kingry Mark, Bryant, and Kevin Kingry

Spouse _____ Child(ren) _____
Masters

Education (highest degree) _____

Retired Educator/Administrator/Realtor
Occupation _____
Dothan First United Methodist, 1964-Present

Present local UM Church membership and dates _____
Malone Baptist Church, Malone, FL, 1949-1963

Previous church and dates of membership _____
Administrative Board Chairperson (1980's); PPR Chair (1990's); Lay Leader (1990's); COM Chair(1990's); Board of Trustees, Chair(1990's); Stewardship

Local church leadership and dates _____
Campaign Chair (1996); Education Committee, Chair(1980's) UMM President (1980's); Strategic Planning Committee (2000's); Finance Committee (1970-2000); Lay Member (1970-present); Disciple Bible Study Leader(2002); Brazil Missions Trips (1999 & 2001)

District Lay Leader (2005-2010); DCOM (1998-2010); DCOM Chair (2004); Education Committee Chair & Coordinator of Super Sunday (1990's - 2004); District Board of Trustees (1980's; Lay Person of the Year Award (2007); Committee on Ministry (2008-present)

District leadership and dates _____

Board of Laity, Secretary -(2005-2009); Board of Higher Ed. (2001-2008); Board of Education, Vice Chairman (1990's; Family Committee, Chair (1990's); Certified Lay (1990's-present)

Conference leadership and dates _____

Delegate to General Conference (2008); Delegate to Jurisdictional Conference (2008);

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates

Delegate to World Methodist Conference in Seoul, Korea (2006); Jurisdictional Finance Committee (2008-present); Alternate Delegate to General Conference (2004); Delegate to Jurisdictional Conference (2004)

Houston County Heart Fund Chairman; Regional Heart Fund Chairman; Alabama Heart Fund State Board Member; Habitat for Humanity Board Member and Faith/Community Committee;

Community service

Kiwanis Club Member (45 years), various committees ; Boy Scout Adult Leader

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

I believe in God, the Father, Jesus as the Son of God, my personal Savior, and in the Holy Spirit who

Conference:

comforts and guides my life each day. I believe that all people must come through Jesus to be saved. The Bible is the inspired word of God and serves to guide us in our beliefs, our daily lives and our service. Prayer is the way we communicate with God.

God hears and He answers prayer. It is my philosophy that God is the creator and the center of the universe. He works through nations, governments, and individuals to accomplish His purposes. As Christians, the Bible teaches us that we are to love all people, to share with them the word of God, and seek to lead the lost to Christ. I will make a good delegate to General

Conference because I care deeply about the United Methodist Church, and I feel that I have a working knowledge of the worldwide Methodist church. The committee dealing with the global nature of the church will make a report in 2012. Having served on the committee dealing with the global nature of the church, I would appreciate the opportunity to finish some of the work that was started in 2008. I will pray, study the issues, attend the meetings, and support the 2008 Book of Discipline.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name J. Frank Moore III
Address 110 Leigh Street, Daleville, Alabama 36322 Phone number(s) 334-598-2103
E-mail frank@jfmoore.org
Spouse Rita Child(ren) Michelle, James, Courtney
Education (highest degree) Masters of Science - Foundations of Education

Occupation Retired - Former Superintendent of Education

Present local UM Church membership and dates Daleville First United Methodist Church: 1972 -current

Previous church and dates of membership Sheffield First United Methodist Church: 1962 -1972

Local church leadership and dates Church Treasurer: 2005 - current, Lay Speaker: 2010 - current,

Lay Delegate to Annual Conference: 2010, Alternate Lay Delegate to Annual Conference: 2009 & 2011, Church Finance

Committee: 2005 - current, Pastor-Parish Relations Committee: 2008 - 2010, Committee on Lay Leadership: 2010 - 2012,

Finance Committee Chair: 1970's, Church Building Committee Chair: 1980's

District leadership and dates _____

Conference leadership and dates Lay Delegate to Annual Conference: 2010

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates Member of Executive Committee for the United

Methodist Church Global Health Initiative Campaign - Imagine No Malaria: 2010 - current, member of Fund Raising Taskforce

for Imagine No Malaria of UMCOR: 2011 - current

Community service Past International President of The International Association of Lions Clubs: 2001 - 2002,

Member of Board of Directors of HOBY Youth Leadership: 2002 - 2008, Treasurer of Southeastern Diabetes Education

Services (Former Camp Seale Harris Diabetic Youth Camp) 2007 - current, Chairperson of City of Daleville Planning and

Zoning Commission: 1996 - current, Executive Committee Army Aviation Museum Foundation: 1997 - current

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: I believe Christian faith is grounded in the love and grace of God, experienced through Jesus Christ, and

empowered by the Holy Spirit; given to us by God because God wishes us to have it, not because of anything we have done

to earn it. I believe in the ongoing experience of God's gracious presence transforming us into whom and what God intends

for us to be and to accomplish. I believe my professional background and experiences will enable me to perform the duties as

a Lay Delegate of the Conference. I believe my leadership strengths are found in the ability to work with and among a diverse

group of people, having effective communication skills, the ability to analyze complex issues and situations, form consensus,

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Robert A. Gossel
 Name _____
 Address _____ Phone number(s) 354-211-2258
 E-mail rosegossel@aol.com
 Spouse _____ Children Robert A. Gossel
 Education (highest degree) _____ Associate Degree in Social Ed

Occupation District Secretary - Joint Methodist District of North _____

Present local UM Church membership and dates First United Methodist Church, Dothan, AL 1984-Present

Previous church and dates of membership Calvary S. United Methodist Church, Dothan, AL 1941-1983

Local church leadership and dates Pres. JUM 1984, PPF Chair 1988-1989, Finance Committee 1990-1992

Serving Service Tuesday 1997-Present, District Lay Speaker 1985-Present, Administrative Board 1989-1996-1998-Present

Visit Prelate in UMW 2011 _____

District leadership and dates District President UMW 1985-1988 District Lay Leader 1988-1992 District Council of

Ministry 1989-2004 Chair District Superintendent Committee 2000-2006 Chair Pastor Appreciation Banquet 1996-Present

District Council of Lay Speaking 2007-2008 _____

Conference leadership and dates Conference President UMW 1988-1990, Annual Conference Delegate 1986

Pastor, District Chair UMW 1992-2000, Associate Conference Lay Leader 2000-Present, Board of Laity 1988-1992-2000-

Pastor _____

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and roles _____
SLC Administrative Council 1997-1998, Delegate

to Jurisdictional Conference 1992-1996, 2001-2004, 2006, SLC-Header JWM 1996-1998, League President, AM 1995-

2005-2007, WM Board 1997-2008, Board of Discipleship 1996-1998, Vice President, GO, WM 2003-2004, Treasurer, Annual

Methodist Men's Conference 2006-2008, General Conference Delegate 1990, 2004-2006

Community service _____

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AMW

Conference: I believe in God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. I believe the Bible is God's Word and we

should know to believe in Jesus and be saved. I believe in Prayer and Grace that My God in His loving kindness will meet me at

every corner and that I can rest my life on Jesus Christ. I believe that the discipline of the United Methodist Church is the law

of our United Methodist Church. I believe in the General Rules of our church, Do no harm, Do good, Stay in love with God

and the Ordinances of our church. I believe in many discourses to the transformation of the world and that it is the promise

God is calling our AMW to be about _____

MAr IANNA/pANAMA CITY DISTr ICT

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Patricia (Pat) Luna

Address 110 Eve Circle; SRB, FL 32459 Phone 334-202-9440

E-mail patluna@charter.net

Spouse n/a Child(ren) n/a

Education (highest degree) Ed. S., 1984 (Ph.D. ABD)

Occupation President, PMG, Inc. (I lead capital campaigns for churches in the USA)

Present local UM Church membership and dates Point Washington UMC, joined 2010

Previous church and dates of membership Normandale/Whitfield UMC, 1992-2010

Local church leadership and dates Point Washington UMC – Finance Committee,

2011- ; Church Council, 2011- ; Capital Campaign, Chair, 2010; Oil Spill Prayer Vigil,

Chair, 2010; Normandale/Whitfield UMC – Church Council, Stewardship Chair and

Finance Committee, numerous years; Capital Campaign Chair, 2000; Discipleship Chair,

numerous years; Huntingdon College Ministry Committee and Huntingdon College

Midnight Breakfast, Chair, 2001-2004; Church Retreat, Chair, 1999.

District leadership and dates District Training Events, Presenter, numerous years;

Central AL Chrysalis, Chair; Walk to Emmaus, numerous positions, Lay Director – North

AL Walk to Emmaus #104 & Central AL Walk to Emmaus #14; Lay Speaker, 2002

Conference leadership and dates CORE Task Force, 2000-02; AWF CORE Team, 2002-10; Annual Conference Delegate, 2002-11; Board of Discipleship, Chair, 2002-10; Stewardship Training Events, Presenter, 2003-11; AWF Board of Communication, Co-Chair, 2011; Three-Year Covenant Community, Participant Guide, 1999-02 and Faculty, 2008; 5-Day Academy for Spiritual Formation, Team, 2005; Soul Care, Team, 2009-11; Incubator Group, 2010-11.

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates Study of Ministry Commission, 2008-12; The Academy for Spiritual Formation, Retreat Leader, 2005-14; Writer, *The Upper Room Disciplines* 2009 & 2011; GBOD, International Stewardship Trainer, Mozambique UMC 2001 and 2002 & Convocation on Development 2004; The Upper Room/Academy for Spiritual Formation, Development Team, 2004-12, SC Laity Banquet, Speaker, 2009.

Community service Epiphany Ministry (For Juvenile Offenders), Board Chair and Program writer, 1990-1998; Kairos Prison Ministries, numerous positions and Lay Director; Greene County Service Project (Fed and clothed people in one of the poorest counties in AL), Chair, 1981-1985; Volunteer fundraiser for charities such as Special Olympics, Cerebral Palsy Foundation, Juvenile Diabetes and March of Dimes, 1981-90.

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF Conference: Nothing is more important to me than my relationship with the Lord! I have always been Methodist and I love the UMC. I have been on an intentional journey of spiritual formation since my Emmaus walk in 1985. My continuing journey has included Disciple Bible study and other Bible and small group studies, prayer and meditation, regular worship, witness and evangelism, tithing and giving sacrificially and service. As Bonhoeffer said in *Life Together*, “I find salvation not in my life story, but only in the story of Jesus Christ.” I would be honored to serve our conference in this way and I would prayerfully seek to follow God’s will. Thank you for reading and prayerfully considering my profile.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Mary Jo Morton

Address 3010 College Street, Marianna, FL 32446 Phone number(s) 850-482-3688

E-mail mjmorton@embarqmail.com

Spouse _____ Child(ren) Ginger (52), Tim (49), Susan (46)

Education (highest degree) Post graduate

Occupation Retired secondary teacher

Present local UM Church membership and dates Marianna First 1965-present

Previous church and dates of membership Trinity UMC 1950-1962; Kissimmee UMC 1962-1965

Local church leadership and dates I have belonged to the UMW since 1962 and have held most of the offices

at one time or another. I was local president 1984-1987. I was asked to try to put the church library into some sort of order

and we now have a library of over 1000 books organized using the Dewey Decimal System. I organized COSROW at the

local level in 1986. I was financial secretary 1999-2001; membership secretary 2003-2009; Golden Club Member 2008.

District leadership and dates District UMW President (2001-2004); Marianna/Panama City District CORE Team

Member (2001-present); At-Large Delegate (2005-2011)

Conference leadership and dates Social Action Chair, AWF Conference UMW (2005-2006); Secretary, AWFC

UMW (2007-2010); Organized an UMCOR Health Kit Relief Drive for UMW Annual Day which resulted in over 5000 kits

being sent to Sager Brown; AWFC Archive and History Committee (2008-present)

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

Community service _____

Chair of the committee to celebrate the bicentennial of the US Constitution (1986-1987); Taught at Marianna High School for 30 years which led to a lot of community service. I was nominated by a colleague for Florida

Volunteer of the Year (1981). I received the Valley Forge Freedom Foundation Medal in 1990. I became an Emergency

Certified Individual in Jackson County in 2005.

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: _____

I have attended the Methodist Church since I was old enough to walk to church alone. I participated in MYF as a teenager and was married in Trinity UMC. I love our church and I'm fully committed to it. My beliefs and

understanding of what it means to be a Christian have become much deeper due to completing the following studies:

Disciple I, II, III; Accountable Discipleship; Christian Believer; Blue Lake Emmaus; Three Simple Rules. After finishing

the Three Simple Rules study, our Monday morning Bible Study group began a card ministry - sending cards to those in the

church and community who are ill, bereaved, shut-in and members of the military.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAIY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name John C. Rees

Address 1515 S. Highway 90, Suite 101, Gulfport, MS 39503 Phone number(s) 662-771-0226 (m)

E-mail john@reesgaol.com

Spouse Brooke Children Brook A. Rees, Lauren L. Rees (age 1)

Education (highest degree) Master of Education in Educational Admin. 1996

Occupation Human Resource Leadership

Present local LYM Church membership and dates Presenting in 1995, 2000-present

Previous church and dates of membership Present LYM 1995-2002

Local church leadership and dates Church Council Chair 2010-present, Church Governance Chair 2010-present

presently, SPR member: have taught Sunday School, preschool, and bible in Conference and in churches as needed in AWF, MS

any other services where was a member? have a family every 2 weeks in the local church for as many as the member is Chair of the

Board, Council of Ministers, etc.

District leadership and dates Lay Speaking Conference 2008-2010, Certified Lay Speaker since 1995, Lay

served on numerous church committees in the various districts where I led

Conference leadership and dates Board of Christian Ministry 2002 - present, Lay Speaker in Conferences 2010 -

present, and Ministry Evaluation Task Force 2010 - present in the Alabama West Florida Conference

Conference Lay Leader of the Alaska Wesleyan Conference 1990-1994 and many other committees in Alaska

and youth groups

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

Foundation for Evangelism, Executive Chair of the Board of Trustees 2002 - present, United Methodist Communications _____

Chairman 1986 - 1996 _____

Nation Area Chairman of General Board of Trustees for six years, present President UMC and Community Service _____

Chamber Foundation Chair, Texas' Redesign of Criminal Appointed by the U.S. Governor to the State Medical Examiners _____

Chairman elected to the Arizon County Commission and its chair, Texas A&M University International Board of Directors _____

pastor's board member of the Association of Former Students, Business Advisory Council UMF, and many others _____

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWI

Conference: I have been a lifelong Methodist/United Methodist and am passionate about our common mission. The most _____

that made in the lives and most hopeful for its future. I believe that by learning our leadership and becoming more effective _____

and efficient as we face tough economic conditions and leverage our church for the future. My strategic human resources _____

Acquired our knowledge of our common mission and a useful communication as we move the structure of our church. I have served _____

active in four Annual Conferences eight years on UMC and chair of the Foundation for Evangelism for nearly ten years _____

proving national and international contacts that would assist our Southern Baptist Convention _____

MOBILE DISTRICT

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Clara J. Ester

Address 517 Highland Woods Dr., E., Mobile, AL 36608 Phone number(s) 251-342-9658

E-mail cester20@att.net

Spouse _____ Child(ren) Reginald

Education (highest degree) B.S. Degree

Occupation Retired, Executive Director of Dumas Wesley Community Center

Present local UM Church membership and dates Toulminville-Warren Street 1972-present

Previous church and dates of membership Centenary UMC (Memphis, TN) (birth - 1972)

Local church leadership and dates Lay Leader (1995-1998); Chair, Staff Parish Relations Committee

(1997-1998); Member, Lay Leadership (2007-2010); Lay Speaker (2010); Chair, Mature Adult Committee (2010)

District leadership and dates Vice President, UMW (2010); UMW Nominating Committee (2009-2010)

Conference leadership and dates Coordinator, UMW Social Action (2011)

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____ Southeast Jurisdictional Deaconess and

Southeast Jurisdictional Deaconess and

Home Missioners (1995-1998)

Community service Served on Mobile United Board; Leadership Mobile; Leadership Alabama; Habitat for Humanity;

Served on Mobile United Board; Leadership Mobile; Leadership Alabama; Habitat for Humanity;

People United To Advance The Dream

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: I believe in Jesus Christ and his great commandment of loving God and love of the neighbor; especially

those who exist at or near the bottom of our socio-economic ladder. Jesus always demands us to care for the poor and the

hurting. Having been a member of our church all of my life and desiring to make sure our commitments to those in need are

never forgotten. I feel that I can represent the church and it's best interest. I have a deep concern for reenergizing struggling

congregations. Philosophically, I believe the life we live in church related activities should be reflected in our daily life and in

the manner we treat our neighbors.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Jeremy Steele
 Address 1000 Shreveport Dr Mobile, AL Phone number(s) 251-342-0462
 E-mail unpretending@gmail.com
 Spouse Laura Child(ren) Caleb (3) Hannah Claire (18 Months)
 Education (highest degree) B.A. in Communication Studies

Occupation Full Time Youth Pastor, Christ UMC, Mobile, AL

Present local UM Church membership and dates Christ UMC 2007-Present

Previous church and dates of membership St James UMC (2004-2007)

Local church leadership and dates Full-Time Church Staff in Youth Ministry At Park Memorial UMC, St James UMC

District leadership and dates District Youth Pastor 2007-Present, District CORE Team 2007-Present

Conference leadership and dates Delegate to Annual Conference 2007-Present

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates Founder of UMYouthpastor.com 2009-Present

Host of 10-Minute Training (a Podcast in Youth ministry) 2010-Present, Author of Youth Curriculum for Thrive and Fearless

[Church-wide studies with RETHINK Church/UMCOM | 2009]

Community service Organizer of several work teams for Habitat for humanity, Inner City Mission, and many individuals

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: I have a deep passion to be a part of Renewal in the UMC. I believe that the grace-centered doctrine

and organic, connection-focused structure is the best suited to communicate the message of Jesus to a post-modern culture.

I strongly believe in the inspiration and infallibility of scripture as well as its foundational nature in relation to belief.

I believe strongly in the divinity of Jesus and the historicity of the Biblical account of His life. I believe that though salvation is

experienced in various forms (a distinct moment for some and a process with clear fruit for others), it comes by faith in

Jesus alone and not through any human action.



MONTGOMER Y-OpELIk A DISTr ICT

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Harold L Faulkner

Address 6124 Bell Road Manor Montgomery, AL 36117

Phone Home (334) 396-3979 **Cell** (334) 324-3910

E-mail hf893@charter.net

Spouse Frances (Deceased) **Children** Cindy Oliver & Bob Faulkner

Education (highest degree) High School

Occupation Retired – Independent Insurance Agent

Present Local UM Church Membership and Dates Frazer Memorial UMC

Previous Church and Dates of Membership Normandale UMC

Local Church Leadership and Dates Chairman-COM 1994-1996, Chairman Board of Stewards 1998-2000, Lay Leader 2003-2004, Staff Parrish 2006-2009, Board of Stewards Current, Building Committee 2005

District Leadership and Dates Treasurer Presently, Chairman-Board of Trustees 2006-Presently, Committee on Nominations Presently, District “Core” Team Presently

Conference Leadership and Dates President, AL-WF UM Foundation, Presently

Jurisdictional and General Church Leadership and Dates Delegate to Jurisdictional Conference 2008

Community Service Montgomery Lions Club, Board Member-Medical Outreach Ministries Inc., Member Advisory Council, AL Organ Center, Birmingham, AL, Member Organ-Tissue Committee, Baptist Hospitals, Montgomery, AL

Core Beliefs, Philosophies, and Reasons You Feel You Should be a Delegate for the AWF

Conference: I believe that the bible is the true word of God and as such I would be opposed to certain issues brought to a vote by the General Conferences which would be contrary to traditional Wesleyan beliefs. I am opposed to the ordination of professing homosexuals and give total support to the “Confessing Movement” as they deal with the more complex theological issues. I am a widower and have the time necessary to be an effective delegate to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. My experience at Frazer Memorial UMC has helped to equip me to work with larger committees and groups.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Ruth Ann Powers

Address 712 31st Street, Phenix City, AL 36867 Phone number(s) 334-298-6405

E-mail rall@ctvea.net

Spouse Lamar Child(ren) Adult Son

Education (highest degree) BA - Columbus State University

Occupation Retired, Director of Crisis Center of Russell County

Present local UM Church membership and dates Summerville 1961-present

Previous church and dates of membership Trinity UMC 1941-1961

Local church leadership and dates Lay Member to Annual Conference (1989-1996); Mission Coordinator (1990-1995); Worship Chair (1986-1996); Study Leader; Elementary Sunday School Teacher; Lay Reader; Several UMW offices

District leadership and dates Led mission studies in many Districts; President, Troy District UMW (1985-1987; 1997); Secretary, Troy District UMW (1980-1984); Mission Coordinator, Troy District Council on Ministries

Conference leadership and dates Member, Board of Global Ministries; Chair, CFA; COSROW; Received the Alice Lee Award for Leadership (1998); President UMW (1990-1992); Communication Coordinator (1988-1989); Secretary of Program Resources (2009-2011); Elected to Jurisdictional Conference (1992); Study Leader for School of Christian Mission in our conference and other conferences; Planning Team, School of Christian Mission.

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates SEJ Delegate (1992); SEJ UMW Promotion

Committee (1991-93); Regional and Conference Schools of Christian Mission Study Leader in all five (5) Jurisdictions;

Member of GBGM and Women's Division (1993-96); GBCS, United Nation's Advocate; Mission work teams to: Oaxaca,

Mexico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Zaire; Articles published in RESPONSE Magazine. Ceremonies III.

Community service Organized Domestic Violence Shelter and Rape Crisis Response (1981); Laubach Adult

Literacy tutor and trainer; Tutor, English as a second language; Trained tutors in many counties and prison systems; Chair,

Board of Directors, Phenix City/Russell County Library; Friends of the Library; Habitat for Humanity;

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: I believe in God, who is loving and forgiving; full of grace and eager to embrace all of us in arms of love.

I believe that Jesus is the epitome of that love and grace and loved humanity enough to put himself on a collision course with

destiny that took him to a cross. The spirit of that love endures today in our lives, our beliefs, our prayers, and our

demonstrations of the love of God in us all. The tough and urgent issues that will come before General Conference should

make us all pray that good and sustainable decisions will be made for the glory of God. I am willing to spend the time

necessary for preparation. I have the stamina to do the physical work and effort and would love to serve.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Edna L. Williams

Address 2801 Bulls Avenue, Tuskegee Inst., AL 36088 Phone number(s) 334-727-0314

E-mail elwilli@bellsouth.net

Spouse Deceased Child(ren) Two Adult

Education (highest degree) M.S.L.S. Atlanta University (Atlanta, GA)

Occupation Retired, Tuskegee University Library Director

Present local UM Church membership and dates Bowen UMC 1955-present

Previous church and dates of membership Mt. Zion UMC (New Orleans, LA) 1953-1955

Local church leadership and dates Adult Sunday School Teacher (1998-present); Assistant Teacher, Disciple

I and II (1998-1999); Church Council (1992-present); Chair, PPR Committee (1992-1994); UMW unit Social Action Chair

(2005-2009); Teaching short term (8 weeks) Disciple Bible Study, Introduction to the New Testament, (January to March);

Sunday morning worship service speaker on several occasions.

District leadership and dates Certified Lay Speaker 1991-present

Conference leadership and dates Chair, Conference Council on Ministries (1990-92); Committee on Episcopacy

(1992-2000); UMW Conference Mission Team (2003-2010); Committee on Lay Speaking Ministries (2004-present); Blue

Lake Trustees (2004-present); Committee on Resolutions and Petitions (2005-present); Alabama Rural Ministry Board of

Directors (2006-present); 2002 Alice Lee Aware Recipient

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates

Jurisdictional Delegate (1992,1996,2000,2004, 2008); SEJ Administrative Council (1996-2004); Hinton Rural Life Center Board of Directors (2000-2004); General Delegate (1992 and 2004); General Council on Ministries (1992-1996; 2000-2004); Director, General Commission on Christian Unity Interreligious Concerns (2004-present); Delegate to World Methodist Conference (1996, 2001, 2006, 2011)

Community service

Financial contributions to the Area Food Banks; Contribute personal magazines requested by Tuskegee Public Library and Tuskegee University Library.

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: I believe that as a child of God, I am to act like I belong to Him in all that I do. My philosophy of life is to

treat other people as I wish to be treated. As I interact with others, I will listen to them, make no hasty judgement, and try to

turn negatives into positives. I would be a good delegate to General Conference because I am a good listener to

proceedings in such a setting, and I am conscious of the dynamics concerning the issues. I will always seek God's

guidance in the decision making processes to represent AWF Conference.

MONTGOMER Y-pr ATTv ILLE DISTr ICT

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Joann Young Ashley

Address 2500 Capstone Drive, Montgomery, AL 36106 Phone number(s) 334-213-0051

E-mail ashleyjy@bellsouth.net

Spouse Wesley L. Child(ren) Ronald, Richard, John, Alan, Joan

Education (highest degree) Masters in Education

Occupation Retired School Teacher - Montgomery County

Present local UM Church membership and dates Metropolitan UMC - 43 years

Previous church and dates of membership Mt. Pleasant AME Zion 1958-1964

Local church leadership and dates Lay Delegate to Annual Conference (8 years); Administrative Council Board

Member; Chair, Evangelism/Outreach Committee; Served on most committees in the church; UMW - Interpretation/Education
(2004-2006); Social Action (2006-2010)

District leadership and dates Social Action Coordinator (2006-2010); Nominations Committee (2010-2012)

Conference leadership and dates UMW Atlantic Regional School of Christian Mission (Huntingdon College 2004,

West Virginia 2006, Kentucky Wesleyan College 2008); Public Education Summit (2005); Taught Mission Studies on Public
Education, Globalization and Native Americans at various churches (2004-2008); Member, Conference Board of Global
Ministry; UMW School of Christian Mission Planning Team; Nominations Committee (2010-2014); Leadership Conf (2010)

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

Community service Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Activities Director Board Member; Cleveland Avenue YMCA; March of

Dimes; CAT Region Community Action Team (purpose is the plan and implement the plan to improve perinatal care in the
community)

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: I believe that prayer must be centered on God, natural, and accompanied by active efforts. I've always

wanted a busy life, a just mind, and a timely death. So when I stand before God at the end of my life, I hope that I would not

have a single bit of talent left and could honestly say, "I used everything you gave me for my church, family, friends and those

in need. These are the blessings I hope to take to Heaven with me."

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Elizabeth Cheshire

Address 8643 Old Savannah Lane, Montgomery, AL 36116 Phone number(s) 334-324-3503

E-mail elizc6979@knology.net

Spouse Child(ren) Todd and Randy

Education (highest degree) Doctor of Education in Leadership and Planning

Occupation Retired Educator; Retired Director, Senior Adult Ministries (FUMC); Church Administrator (Aldersgate UMC)

Present local UM Church membership and dates First United Methodist, Montgomery 1991-present

Previous church and dates of membership Moundville 1963; Tuskegee 1963-1968; Forest Lake 1968-1991

Local church leadership and dates Chair, Council on Ministries; Chair, Long Range Planning Committee;

Chair, Sub-Committee Exploring Ministry Opportunities at Dexter Avenue UMC; Stephen Minister Leader; Stephen Minister

Trainer; Member, Administrative Board; President, Cornerstone Sunday School Class; Sunday School Program Chair;

Covenant Group Leader; Sunday School Teacher (all at First United Methodist Church, Montgomery)

District leadership and dates

Conference leadership and dates Church Transition Team-Dexter Avenue United Methodist Church (present)

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

Community service _____ Volunteer at Medical Outreach Ministries Clinic since 2002; Present devotions in local assisted

living and nursing homes since 2004; Regular visitation to assisted living and nursing homes; Adopt a family for Christmas

each year; Worked on a Habitat for Humanity Houses; Served on College of Education Campaign Committee at Auburn

Univ.; Member of Dean's Circle, College for Education at Auburn Univ; Trainer for Advanced School Accreditation Teams

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: _____ I believe God is truly my heavenly Father and walks with me each day. My faith is strong and endures. I

believe I should be a delegate for the AWF Conference because, as an educator, I have had experience in the decision-

making process. While working on the staff of two (2) churches, I have gained an "inside" view of the United Methodist

Church and it's members. I will spend time researching the issues. I will contribute to the discussions by asking questions

and adding thought-provoking comments. I will respect the opinions of others. I will pray for God's guidance and vote

according to my best judgement based on my Christian beliefs, evidence presented, and the beliefs of those I represent.

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates Currently serve as Vice president of the

Southwestern Jurisdictional District of Lay Serving Ministers (Since 2012) and serve as a member of the National Association

of Conference Directors of Lay Serving Ministers (2003 to date)

Community service Past President and member of the Habitat for Humanity Board, past President of the Board of

Scots Gaelic, formerly also a member, former member of the Dallas County Council or Child Protection, and was a past

member of the Austin Children's Services and member of Scots Gaelic Society.

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWP

Conference: My Core Beliefs: I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER, JESUS HIS SON, AND IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

My Philosophy is: I strive to follow the wisdom of the Bible, God's word. I believe in, and support, the teachings of our

United Methodist Church. I support our Book of Discipline and I truly do see the need to bring people to Jesus Christ OUR

Lord! We are called to (Eph 2:10) from our Confession (1 Cor 10:1-5) to live (1 Tim 2:15) and (1 Pet 2:12) and I will spend my time doing,

I will study all the information provided to me, so I can understand the message and I am prepared to give unique insight

to our Holy Bible and our United Methodist Church

Thank you!!!

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Susan Hunt

Address 675 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36106 Phone number(s) 334-356-8014

E-mail susan@awfumc.org

Spouse _____ Child(ren) _____

Education (highest degree) Bachelor of Industrial Engineering (Auburn Univ.)

Occupation Director of Mission, Advocacy, and Ethnic Ministries (Alabama-West Florida Conference)

Present local UM Church membership and dates First UMC, Montgomery 2009-present

Previous church and dates of membership Church of the Servant (Oklahoma, OK) 2001-2008

Local church leadership and dates Volunteer Director, "Joy For Johnny" ministry; Sunday School Teacher and

Resource Person; Board of Health and Welfare work area

District leadership and dates Conference resource representative to Montgomery-Prattville and Demopolis District

Conference leadership and dates Conference Connectional Ministries Staff; Conference CORE Team; UMWIM

team leader trainer; Mission Team Member and Leader (multiple teams); Board Member, AWF Development Fund; Ex-officio

member of multiple boards and agencies

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates United Methodist Deaconess (2004); SEJ

Fellowship Vice-President, National Association of Deaconesses and Home Missioners

Community service Founded "Joy For Johnny", a ministry at First United Methodist Church, Montgomery, for families
of children with special needs

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: I am a life-long United Methodist. I believe and love the UMC, and am Wesleyan in my theology. I believe
the Apostle's Creed. My passion is mission, kindled and strengthened through my early youth experiences and involvement
in the Auburn Wesley Foundation. It was there that I heard my call to serve God in full-time Christian Service. I believe our
churches should be reaching out to their communities for Jesus Christ instead of being inwardly focused. The UMC needs
not more members, but more disciples for this important responsibility. I seek to honor God with my life and all that I do, and

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Robert B. (Brad) Norris

Address 419 Farrington Lane, Pike Road, AL 36064 Phone number(s) 334-613-1992

E-mail rbnorris1@aol.com

Spouse _____ Child(ren) _____

Education (highest degree) B.S. Business Administration

Occupation General Contractor

Present local UM Church membership and dates First UMC Montgomery, life-long

Previous church and dates of membership _____

Local church leadership and dates Vice-Chairman, Administrative Board - Present, Finance Committee 2009-2011

(Chairman 2010); Board of Trustees 2006-2009 (Chairman 2008); Building Committee 2004-2006; Staff-Pastor Relations

Committee 1983-1985; Nominations Committee (Lay Leadership) 1983-1985; Lay Delegate to Annual Conference 2009-2010;

Various terms on Administrative Board; Sunday School Teacher (1998 - Present)

District leadership and dates District Treasurer (Present); District Committee on Building and Location 2004-2007

Conference leadership and dates Lay Delegate to Annual Conference 2009-2010

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

Community service Montgomery Rotary Club (Board Member); East Montgomery County Historical Society (Treasurer);

Leadership Montgomery Class XXIII; Rebuilding Together Montgomery (Past Board Member); Montgomery Community

Foundation (Past Board Member); Active in Habitat for Humanity, Great Day of Service. Have participated in and organized

several local, national and foreign construction mission trips.

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: I am a life-long United Methodist. I have a profound respect and regard for the tenets of the Church,

and for its leaders who have prayerfully and wisely steered the Church's course through the years, sometimes in tumultuous

times. I am honored to be nominated for delegate to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. My background is

administrative, through my work and service on various community and church boards and committees. If elected, I vow to

be obedient to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, prayerfully consider all matters at hand and represent the Alabama-West

Florida Conference in a conscientious and conservative manner.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Paulette Thompson

Address 1916 S. Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104 Phone number(s) 334-264-6164

E-mail p.thompson1916@gmail.com

Spouse George Child(ren) Elizabeth and Adrienne

Education (highest degree) PhD

Occupation Retired, Human Resource Development/Adult Education

Present local UM Church membership and dates First UMC, Montgomery 1982-present

Previous church and dates of membership Christ Episcopal (1978-1982); Raised Church of Christ (birth-1978)

Local church leadership and dates Administrative Board (Chair, 2006); Fall Stewardship Campaign (Chair, 2008)

Mother-Daughter Banquet (Chair, 2004); Board of Trustees (V-Chair 1998-2000); Long Range Planning Committee (Co-Chair

1994-1996); Staff-Parish Committee; Budget Committee; Lay Leadership Committee; Investment and Planned Giving

Committee; Columbarium Committee; ECDC Board Member; Memorials and Interiors Committee; Lay Delegate

District leadership and dates Committee on Superintendency (Chair, 2005); Lay Academy/Super Sunday Planning

Committee; CORE Team

Conference leadership and dates Board of Trustees (President, 2009); CORE Team; Academy For Church

Leadership Steering Committee; Stegall Seminary Scholarship Board of Directors; Secretary, Board of Ordained Ministry

(2000-2008)

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

Community service ^{Founding Board Member and Past President, Hospice of Montgomery ; Montgomery County} _____

Action Agency Board (Chair, Personnel and Policies Committee); Junior League of Montgomery Board of Directors; _____

Birmingham-Southern College Board of Directors _____

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: ^{I am concerned about the national loss of membership in the United Methodist Church, the financial} _____

sustainability of it's present structures, the costs of educating our clergy and the guaranteed appointment system. I applaud _____

the Spiritual Formation movement within our conference and churches. I see it as an important means of promoting _____

Christian maturity and deepening discipleship. Christian transformation of the world begins with the transformation of _____

individuals.

pENSACOLA DISTr ICT

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Hilda S. Cox

Address 6033 Grandwood Drive, Milton, FL 32570 Phone number(s) 850-626-7899

E-mail coxes02@att.net

Spouse Woodfin D. Cox Child(ren) Sheri C. Bowling, Karen C. Mackey

Education (highest degree) Doctorate in Educational Leadership

Occupation Retired Educator

Present local UM Church membership and dates First UMC in Milton 1965-1993, 2002-present

Previous church and dates of membership Woodbine UMC 1994-2001, Jay UMC 1957-1965

Local church leadership and dates Chair, Congregational Care 2009-2010;

Strategic Planning Facilitator 2004-2009; Lay Leadership 2007-2008; Co-Chair Capital Campaign 2007;

Chair, Children and Youth 2007-2009; Chair, Administrative Council 2004-2006; President, U.M. Women 2004-2005

District leadership and dates Ex-Officio on Wesley Foundation Board for PJC/UWF 2006-2010;

District Committee on the Superintendency 2011

Conference leadership and dates Board of Higher Education for AWF 2006-present;

Conducted Selected Seminar for the Tuskegee and Troy Wesley Foundation Boards 2010

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates_____

Community service_____

Consultant to the Equity & Minority Recruitment Comm. for Santa Rosa School District 2008-2009;

Milton Child Care Center Team for Fund Raising 2007-2009;

Coordinator, Survival Skills for Women, a program to assist women to seek reemployment or an improved quality of life.

This program was a partnership between the Children's Services Center and FUMC of Milton for 2009-2010.

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: _____

My core beliefs are best expressed through the Apostle's Creed. Although memorized as a child, this

creed has withstood time and personal tests to become deeply embedded in my soul. My philosophy can be summarized

as putting Christ's teachings into action in my life. We, as Christians, are called to match deeds to faith; practice inclusiveness,

especially to the "least of these"; and to model God's love to others in order to fulfill the Great Commission. The UMC

represents Christ to the world through its inter-connectedness, its mission to the world, its social principles and tenets of faith.

I believe I have a sound knowledge of Methodism and would consider it an honor to serve the AWF Conference as a delegate.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Gene Floore

Address 115 Indian Bayou Drive, Destin, FL 32541 Phone number(s) 850-650-9310

E-mail genefloore@cox.net

Spouse Sharon Floore Child(ren) 2 Cats & an African Gray Parrott

Education (highest degree) BS - Systems Science

Occupation President and CEO, St. Joe Beach Development, LLC

Present local UM Church membership and dates Destin UMC, 1999-present

Previous church and dates of membership _____

Local church leadership and dates Chairman - Church Council 2004-2005; Chairman - Permanent Endowment

Committee 2006-present; Chairman - Building Committee 2006-present; Destin Life Center Steering Committee 2007-2009;

Finance Committee 2004-2005; Trustees Committee 2004-2005; Stewardship Committee 2002-2004; Lay Delegate to Annual

Conference 2004-2007; Lay Leadership Committee 2003-2004.

District leadership and dates Session Leader - Pensacola District LITE Day 2003-2004; Member - Church Locations

and Building Committee 2008-present.

Conference leadership and dates Board of Directors - Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation 2006-

present; Executive Board - Methodist Foundation 2008-present; Board of Trustees - Asbury Seminary Foundation 2008-

present.

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates_____

Elected Delegate to Jurisdictional Conference 2008; elected Alternate Delegate to General Conference Fort Worth 2008.

Community service_____Board of Directors - Destin Little League; Tallahassee and Destin, Florida, Chamber of Commerce;

Board of Directors - Economic Development Council; Board of Directors - National Intramural and Recreational Sports

Association Mission Love Seeds - Assisting Hurricane Katrina Victims; Board of Directors & Treasure - Indian Bayou

Subdivision.

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: _____I believe the teaching of Jesus Christ through scripture should be the foundation of The UMC. All decisions

and policies created at the General Conference should be based on strong Biblical principals that change lives through the

message instead of modifying the message to accommodate a changing society. I have the leadership, time, and strong desire

to make a positive impact for our church and to take the values of the AWF Conference to GC. At GC we should strive to set a

strong moral standard for our church to follow and exercise outstanding stewardship through policies that eliminate wasteful

spending. We should strive to eliminate unnecessary church bureaucracies that do not represent the values of the AWFC.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Beverly Maddox

Address 34171 Nims Fork Road, Robertsdale, AL 36567 Phone number(s) 850-261-7098

E-mail beverlymaddox@yahoo.com

Spouse Tim Child(ren) 2 sons

Education (highest degree) High school and some college

Occupation Homemaker

Present local UM Church membership and dates Clear Springs UMC 1987 to present

Previous church and dates of membership na

Local church leadership and dates Lay Leader 2003 to present, Certified Lay Speaker, Children's Ministries 2004,

Membership Secretary, PPR, Nominating Committee, Trustees, Finance, Sunday School Teacher, UMW President, Youth

Leader, Children's Church Coordinator, Choir Director, VBS Coordinator

District leadership and dates District Lay Leader 2006 to present, Board of Missions 2006 to present,

Pensacola U.M. Community Ministries Board Member 2006 to present, Committee on Lay Speaking Ministries,

Leadership Committee, CORE Team

Conference leadership and dates Conference Committee on Episcopacy 2006 to present, Conference Committee

on Investigations 2007 to present, Conference Committee on Lay Speaking Ministries 2004 to present, Board of Church and

Society 2006 to present, Conference Board of Laity 2006 to present, Town and Country Commission 2010

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates Southeastern Jurisdictional Delegate 2008

Community service Haven Nursing Home Ministry Team, Election Poll Volunteer

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: Jesus is the only Son of God. He died for all of our sins and for all people. The Bible is the Word of God

and it never changes. God is very clear on how we are to live our lives. I think that we often try to soften what God says on sin

to pursue our individual lives instead of living our lives to suit God. I believe our denomination needs people who are not

ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a delegate I will listen to the concerns of the people of the Alabama-West Florida

Conference. I will take a firm stand on living holy lives, lives that are transformed to more boldly reflect Jesus Christ.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name Julie M. Terrell

Address 4570 Sailboat Lane, Pensacola, FL 32514 Phone number(s) 850-478-9489

E-mail cdt1230@aol.com

Spouse Bill Terrell Child(ren) Chris Terrell

Education (highest degree) Associate of Science, Nursing

Occupation Registered Nurse

Present local UM Church membership and dates Cokesbury United Methodist Church, 2002-present

Previous church and dates of membership St. Luke UMC 1993-2002; Ferry Pass UMC 1984-1993

Local church leadership and dates Lead Faith Community Nurse 2004-present; Church Council 2008-present;

Leadership 2003-2005

District leadership and dates District Committee on Nominations 2009-2011

Conference leadership and dates UMCOR Health Chair, Board of Global Ministries, 2010-present;

Board of Directors, Blue Lake Walk to Emmaus 2006-2009, Chairman 2008-2009

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates^{n/a}_____

Community service^{Mentor, Escambia County School District; Pensacola Junior Women's Club}_____

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference: ^{I believe that being a delegate from the AWF Conference will allow me to serve my local church by}_____

bringing information to the Conference from the local church level and back to the local church from the Conference.

I look forward to networking with other churches and with district and conference level staff and committees to bring

new ideas and fresh attitudes to my local church.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name R. Lee Thigpen

Address 1005 Capri Court, Crestview, FL 32539-8301 Phone number(s) 850-259-5321

E-mail caleejo@cox.net

Spouse Cathy Child(ren) Joseph/daughter-in-law, Laura

Education (highest degree) Medical degree

Occupation Physician/Internist

Present local UM Church membership and dates Lifelong member, First United Methodist-Crestview

Previous church and dates of membership na

Local church leadership and dates 1995-2006 Lay Leader, have served on the following committees numerous

times over the past 25 years: SPRC (chairperson included), Finance, Building Committee, Long Range Planning,

Church Council, Board of Trustees, Endowment, Stewardship, Chairperson for Life Center Financial Campaign.

Sunday School Teacher 1988 to present, Lay Member of the Annual Conference 1987

District leadership and dates na

Conference leadership and dates na

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates^{n/a}

Community service

Area Health Education Center (AHEC) founding board member; NWFSC Advisory Board;
Board of Trustees, North Okaloosa Medical Center 2000-2006; Health First Board of Directors 1990-1996;

Sacred Heart Medical Group Board 2006-present; participant in Relay for Life fund-raising events.

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF

Conference:

Core to my being is my relationship with Jesus Christ. The vehicle which has nurtured this my entire life
has been the Methodist Church. I am a devout follower of John Wesley. His insight on living a holy life inspires me daily.

The local church should be the focus of any true Christian, and I would be lost without it. My contribution is to make the UMC
a true beacon of the gospel in a lost world.

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE LAITY PROFILE SHEET– 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name: Ronald Toole

Address: 153 Richpien Road, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

Phone number: 850-863-2494 **Cell Phone:** 850-582-2605

E-mail: toole@gnt.net

Spouse: Angie **Children:** Amy & Ben

Education (highest degree): AS Electronic Engineering Technology

Occupation: Senior Test Engineer for SAIC on Eglin AFB

Present local UM Church membership and dates: May 7, 1995- present:
Trinity UMC Fort Walton Beach, FL

Previous church and dates of membership: First Presbyterian Church of
DeFuniak Springs: birth until May 6, 1995

Local church leadership and dates: Council of ministries, 2000-2002;
Administrative Board 2000-2002, Interim Youth Director for three months in
2002; Adult Sunday School Teacher, 1998-2000 (Stepping Stones Class);
Disciple IV Teacher 1999, Vacation Bible School coordinator, 1999 & 2000;
Media support coordinator for Contemporary Worship 2002 – present; Emmaus
Cluster coordinator, 2004 - 2005; Chrysalis Reunion group leader, 2007-present;
Lay Speaking Ministry Training completed October 2010.

District leadership and dates: _____

Conference leadership and dates: Blue Lake Chrysalis Board, 2005 - 2008;
Blue Lake Chrysalis Board Vice Chairman, 2006-2007; Blue Lake Chrysalis
Board, 2009 – 2012; Blue Lake Chrysalis Board Chairman, 2009-2010; Blue
Lake Emmaus Board, 2009 - 2010 Ex-official; Blue lake Chrysalis Flight 65 &
Journey 17 Lay Director.

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates: _____

Community service: DeFuniak Springs Jaycees, 1985-1986; Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce, 1992; Destin Chamber of Commerce 1992; Member of the Alarm Association of Florida, 1993- present, President of the Alarm Association of Florida, 2002-2004; Most valuable person of the year recipient, 2000; Cub Scout Den leader, 2004-2006; Built a handicapped ramp for a needy person at Trinity UMC 2009; donated supplies and materials at the Children's Home in Milton; performed mission work through the Trinity UMC Youth mission trips to the Vashti Center in Thomasville, Georgia, United Methodist Children's Home Milton, and UMCOR's depot center in Baldwin, Louisiana. Installed four fire alarm systems at Blue Lake's Dogwood Camp at equipment cost. I also donated more than 100 hours of labor for the upgrade at the Pinewood facilities multiple times over 2006 - 2007, and the construction of the new dogwood cabins at Blue Lake United Methodist Camp, 2008. Volunteered at WC Meigs Middle School Band program 2006 – 2009, and volunteered at Choctawhatchee High School Band program 2009 – 2010. I have assisted with the Choctawhatchee Touchdown Club activities 2009 – present.

Core beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWF Conference: From childhood, I have always had a willingness to serve and a desire to support my church. I feel that the church as a whole gets distracted in buildings and how many members that we have, instead of reaching out and bringing in the people to learn about our great God. We need to find the gifts that God has given each one of us and use them together to bring more people to Him. This is why I have pursued becoming a certified Lay Speaker in my district. I believe in reaching out of one's comfort zone to reach others that are seeking God. I believe in prayer and I rely on prayer to help me make those hard decisions when they need to be made. I feel with my experience as a state officer of a state association, which I have had to lobby the state legislatures, and my board experience will help me to my district. I have always been ready to serve, and I am always ready for a challenge. I know I can be a good Lay Delegate for the Alabama-West Florida Conference.

SELF-NOMINATED

GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CANDIDATE

LAITY PROFILE SHEET – 2011 AWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Name ^{Dwight L. Adams} _____

Address ^{12200 NW 11th Avenue, #1, WFLA} _____ Phone number(s) ³³⁴⁻⁸⁵⁴⁻⁵⁶³⁰ _____

E-mail ^{Ernie@go2goodnews.com} _____

Spouse ^{Leola} _____ Child(ren) ^{Tanya Leola, Darla} _____

Education (highest degree) ^{Master's} _____

Occupation ^{retired businessman} _____

Present local U.M. Church membership and dates ^{St. Luke UMC, Tallahassee, FL – 45 years} _____

Previous church and dates of membership _____

Local church leadership and dates ^{delegate annual conference 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011} _____

^{conducted around 2006, 07, 08, 2009, finance chairman at 90's} have served on Evangelism, Missions, Theology and _____

Worship committees served on staff parish relations in the 70's and 80's. I have done some lay speaking _____

District leadership and dates _____

Conference leadership and dates _____

Jurisdictional and general church leadership and dates _____

Community service ^{Rolay Club, course as Royal Harry has come aboard with church group to raise money for} _____

Christian Mission, Elise Boudin _____

Care beliefs, philosophies, and reasons you feel you should be a delegate for the AWE

Conference: ^{I believe the Bible is the Word of God and believe any problems we have as Methodists can be} _____

solved, if and only if we get back to the truth and adhere to Methodist doctrine. These are crucial times for United

Methodism. Our church will not resemble today's denomination a few years from now. Either it will follow the Episcopal

Church or decline, or it will rebound towards growth and renewal. With God's grace, I am hopeful that we do, that it will.

Two decreasing days ahead! But we must work to end large church bureaucracies, liberal bishops, and homosexual groups

who want our church to become Lutheran from Wesleyan _____

DISTr ICT r EpOr TS

BAYPINES

Like all churches of the Alabama-West Florida Conference, the churches within the Baypines District have had to struggle with a tight economy. Many of our churches are experiencing financial stress, but the district has continued to move forward in mission and ministry.

The Baypines District Annual Fall Banquet for the United Methodist Children's Home was September 16, 2010, at the Andalusia First United Methodist Church. Approximately 75 people were in attendance representing at least 20 different churches in the Baypines District. As part of the program, Robert Powell updated everyone on the importance of the annual White Christmas Program. He shared how the program benefits the group home in Dothan. Carolyn Castleberry, with the Covington County Comprehensive Family Support Program, shared with the group heart-warming stories of the families they have been able to help. She explained to us how important the White Christmas Program is to their program. Rev. Outlaw recognized those churches that were part of the \$10 Club because of their giving averaging \$10 per member.

United Methodist Men of the Baypines District continue to be involved in great ways. They continue to give strong financial support for the Upper Room Prayer Line ministry. The Alabama-West Florida Conference is the #1 Conference in the nation with regard to support for the Prayer Line. Right now three churches in the Baypines District answer the prayer lines: Andalusia FUMC, Rosington UMC, and Gulf Shores UMC. The Southeastern Jurisdiction awarded its first "James Award" to Tony Caminiti of the Fairhope UMC for his work in organizing a softball tournament to benefit the UM Children's Home. Over \$7,000 has been raised. Also, John Givhan from Andalusia will be receiving the James Award in April for his "Adopt a Soldier" program.

The United Methodist Women of the Baypines District have had a great year. They had two officer training events. On January 9, 2010, the training was held at the Frisco City UMC with 30 women representing 7 churches in attendance. On January 31, 2010, the training was held at Robertsdale UMC, and 76 women representing 13 churches were in attendance. Eight women from the Baypines District attended the Pensacola District Tapestry Event held at FUMC Pensacola. In March, four women from the district attended a Spiritual Enrichment Retreat held at Blue Lake. On April 17, 2010, fifty-two women representing 10 churches attended the District Spiritual Day Apart held at the Gulf Shores UMC. Rev. Kathy McKinley led the retreat. A memorial service was led by Cheryl Mothershed as they remembered 13 women from our district that had passed away. On May 22, 2010, a President's Luncheon was held at David's Catfish House in

Andalusia, Alabama. Thirty-six women were in attendance representing nine churches. Eight women attended the School of Christian Mission at Blue Lake July 22-24, 2010. A Mission Sampler was held at FUMC Evergreen on August 21, 2010. Sixty-five women attended, representing 12 churches. On September 24, 2010, the Bay Minette UMC hosted the District Annual Day. All of the local agencies from our conference had displays set up in the Family Life Center. Seventeen of our churches were represented with 115 persons in attendance. On October 22, 2010, twelve women attended the Conference Up-date at Blue Lake. Conference Annual Day was held at Robertsedale UMC on October 23, 2010. Robertsedale received the award for the youngest member and the Baypines District received second place in the penny campaign. Forty-five women and young girls attended.

The Baypines District Lay Speaking Ministry remains strong. A training event was held at the Orange Beach UMC on October 1-3, 2010. Thirty persons attended, participating in 3 advanced courses and the basic course.

Two District Leadership Training Events were held. Brewton FUMC and Andalusia FUMC hosted the training events. Several classes were offered for both clergy and laity giving ideas and instruction on several areas in the life, ministry and mission of the local church.

On January 11-12, 2011, Frank Dunnewind came to the Baypines District and conducted a workshop on "Help with Your Year-End Report." The workshop was hosted by the Providence UMC. Almost 100 persons attended.

On January 7, 2011, Barbara Sadler led the district in a workshop on "How to Become an Inviting Church." Hosted by the Foley UMC, this workshop was a great success, with many wanting Barbara to come and do the workshop in their local church. About 140 persons attended.

On January 23, 2011, at the Atmore UMC, Rev. Bob Sweet and District Lay Leader Ed Hand led a workshop for the Lay Leaders of local churches in our district. Approximately 30 persons attended.

On October 24, 2010, our District Rally was held at the Atmore FUMC. Dr. John Ed Mathison was the guest speaker. At that time we approved a Baypines District Administration Budget of \$85,000 for 2011, with an additional \$55,000 for Missions and Congregational Development and \$27,500 for the USA Wesley Foundation.

Timothy R. Trent, Chair
Baypines Leadership Team

DEMOPOLIS

The Demopolis District CORE Team had several extremely productive meetings throughout the year 2010. Below are the highlights of each meeting:

5 April 2010

- Super Sunday evaluation forms were distributed and discussed. Many good comments were made on the day of district singing and workshops that were presented.
- The Core team voted to have the Children's Home Appreciation Banquet on two dates at two different locations: October 12 and October 19, 2010.
- The Core team discussed having Dr. John Ed Mathison teach "Transformed Giving" in the Demopolis District; perhaps a workshop in July that would include the pastors and a layperson from every church.
- The possibility of just one Sunday for Super Sunday was discussed. The district is considering a "singing service" again. The singing service date would be January 23, 2011, either at Marion UMC, Greensboro UMC, or Butler UMC. The training session would be February 13 at Grove Hill UMC or Butler UMC. The team talked about promoting the study of the *Three Simple Rules* book. Also, the Alpha Course was addressed.
- Susan Hunt talked about the foundation of a small membership church task force team by the conference. Susan Hunt is willing to speak at any church on the issue of gambling.
- VIM training has been held to train church mission teams' leaders.

15 June 2010

- The Core team further discussed the Alpha Program and the book, *Three Simple Rules*. It was recommended that each Church that had not held classes on the book make plans and do so. There would be a class on the Alpha Program.
- The Children's Home Appreciation Banquets were scheduled for October 12 at Demopolis UMC and October 19 at Butler UMC.

21 September 2010

- Finalized the plan for the Children's Home Appreciation Banquet.
- District Day of Singing will be held at the Marion UMC Sunday, February 13, at 3:30 p.m.. Also the Demopolis District Conference will be held.
- District Training Day is to be held Sunday, February 13, at 2:00 p.m. at Butler UMC. Workshops to be presented: School "Reward Store" Ministry - Dawn Bond and members of Pine Hill Church; Mission in Local Church - Susan Hunt, Conference Resource Center; UMW Officers Training - Shirley Hodges and other district officers; Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century -

- Rev. Esmer L. Davis; SPR Training - Rev John Bonner.
- PPR training sessions will be held at different times. January 9, 2011, 2:30 p.m. at Grove Hill UMC and January 16, 2011, 2:30 p.m. at Greensboro UMC.
- John Bonner reported that Jose' Louis will no longer be employed by the Demopolis District. The Ministry will go on at Jackson where a minister from Mobile's St. John's Church will come to Jackson for worship services each Sunday night.
- Virgil Hinson will continue to provide English as a Second Language classes in Demopolis; if further ministries can be worked out, this will be done. Jim DuFriend has offered several computer classes, and the *Rosetta Stone* program could possibly be put into place in Demopolis.
- Rev. John Bonner reported on the District Mission fund. He also stated that the Wesley Foundation has already raised about \$20,000 towards a need of \$100,000 to purchase the property they are now using for their activities. A letter will be sent by Rev. Bonner to try to get pledges.
- Report from Susan Hunt and the Conference Office: Susan asked the group to go to the conference website to read about the Leadership Summit held in August and about her mission trip to Haiti. She also updated the group on the need to push the Safe Sanctuary policies.

The United Methodist Women (Shirley Hodges)

The Demopolis District United Methodist Women had a very productive year in 2010:

Conference Asking:	\$5,301.75
Conference Designated Giving:	\$2,535.05
Conference pledged to Mission:	\$12,000
<i>amount paid: \$13,163.22 (\$1,163.22 over pledged amount)</i>	
Conference Other Undesignated:	\$2,752.88
Grand Total Sent to Conference:	\$23,752.88

2010 Demopolis Mission Today Units

Gold: Centerville/Brent, Demopolis First, Livingston, Pine Hill Charge, Thomasville
 Silver: Camden, Greensboro First, Jackson First, Jefferson
 Bronze: Springfield/Johnson Hill
 Participating: Linden

2010 Demopolis District Mission Study Participants

One Study: Demopolis First, Greensboro, Jackson First, Livingston, Pine Hill Charge, Thomasville
 Two studies: Centerville/Brent

2010 Demopolis District Reading Program

<u>Units</u>	<u>Number of Participants</u>
Centerville	4
Demopolis First	3
Greensboro First	1
Jefferson	1
Pine Hill Charge	7
Thomasville	1

2010 Demopolis District 5-Star Units

Butler, Demopolis First, Moundville, Thomasville, Camden, Greensboro First, Jefferson, Pine Hill, Wesley Chapel, Centerville/Brent, Livingston, Springfield/Johnson Hill, Zion, Demopolis Mission Team.

2010 Other Demopolis District Accomplishments

Demopolis District exceeded its 2010 pledge to Missions (\$12,000) and came in below its projected Budget (\$1,850)
 Demopolis District's 2011 pledge to Missions is set for \$12,000
 Demopolis District's 2011 Budget is set for \$2,100
 New for 2011 year - The "Five Different Colors" replaces the "Pennies" and "Seeds of Promise" financial drives. Each color represents a different monetary amount and can be purchased from the District Treasurer.

By God's grace and mercy, the Demopolis District CORE Team had another successful year. As Chairperson for the CORE Team, I first want to thank God for using me in this position. I also want to express my gratitude to our District Superintendent, Rev. John Bonner, and the other team members for their efforts and support. I would also like to thank Patty Kirkpatrick for all that she does as our District Secretary. I feel truly blessed to have the opportunity to work with such a great group of dedicated, industrious and conscientious individuals. May God continue to bless you and yours.

Yours in Christ,
 Rev. Esmer L. Davis, Chairperson

DOTHAN

2010 was a productive year in the Dothan District as the CORE team, led by our District Superintendent Rev. Walker Epps, sought to lead district churches to live out our mission, "Growing Healthy Churches." Below are highlights of our ministry.

Super Sunday: United Methodists from throughout the Dothan District met on the afternoon of January 24. Following the plenary session which included worship and the business of district conference, participants attended

a wide variety of training sessions designed to strengthen their ministries in the local church. As the adults gathered for training, youth from around the district participated in praise and worship, led by Wade Morris and The Chuck Hooten band, and celebrated Holy Communion together. A session for children drew a lively group of our youngest United Methodists.

Laity Banquets and Rallies: Under the leadership of Dan Deloney, District Lay Leader, three popular Laity Banquets and Rallies were held in 2010. On March 29 the district gathered at Pleasant Hill, Ozark for the annual awards event. In addition to the churches of the year listed below, Billy and Margie Outlaw were honored as recipients of the Bill Piper Memorial Award, given each year to recognize outstanding servant lay leadership. On August 30 at Wesley Chapel, Enterprise, the district enjoyed a music program and supported the Wiregrass Food Bank with in-kind and cash donations. On November 29 at the Holy Ground Campus of Grimes Church, Robert Powell presented an informative program on the work of the United Methodist Children's Home. Prior to the program an open house was held at the Settlement, a home for boys which is a ministry of the Children's Home.

District Churches of the Year: At the March Laity Rally the following churches were honored as churches of the year in various worship attendance categories.

- 21-40 Piney Grove, Samson
- 31-74 Newton
- 75-200 Samson

Youth Ministry: Rev. Paul Ferrell continued his effective leadership in the area of youth ministry. In addition to the Super Sunday event mentioned above, Paul coordinated the September district-wide "See You At the Pole" event held on September 22. Youth from around the district gathered at Hartford United Methodist Church. West Main Rush, the contemporary young adult worship band from Covenant, Dothan provided music leadership and our district's own Woods Lisenby, a senior at Huntingdon College, brought a powerful message. This year His Radio 94.3 radio offered significant publicity on the air.

Missions: Under the leadership of Jo Ann Stringfellow the district conducted a successful fall campaign in support of the Wiregrass Food Bank. 1,426 pounds of food were contributed and \$1400 was given to help purchase meat items. We were told that our donations translated into 7,221 meals for people in the Wiregrass.

United Methodist Women: Dothan District United Methodist Women began 2010 with training for local officers during Super Sunday. During the year a Spiritual Day Together, Annual Day, and two district-wide mission study events were held. The mission studies taught were: For the Love of God: John's Letters; Joy to the World: Mission and Evangelism and The

Sudan. At Annual Day Virginia Phillips, a member of Grimes United Methodist Church, received the third annual United Methodist Woman of Distinction Award which is awarded for dedication and commitment to the mission work of United Methodist Women. The United Methodist Women continue to be active and dedicated to our purpose to minister to women, children and youth. A total of \$35,060.64 was contributed to national and international mission.

Respectfully submitted,
John McCullough, Chairperson
Dothan District CORE Team

MARIANNA/PANAMA CITY

2010 was a year of transition for the Marianna-Panama City District as we said goodbye to our departing superintendent, Rev. Randy (and Kathy) Woodham and welcomed our new district superintendent, Rev. Gary (and Pam) Daniel. A reception was held for the Daniels on July 18, and since then Rev. Daniel has been winning the hearts of the churches and pastors of our district.

On September 22-23, our district superintendent and several of our pastors attended the Catapult Conference in Mobile at Christ United Methodist Church. Here we were challenged to envision a shift from our traditional attractional model of ministry to a missional model that promises to be more effective in reaching our changing culture with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Marianna-Panama City District Conference was held on November 14 at Chipley United Methodist Church. New district officers were elected, the budget was approved, successes were celebrated, and we departed with vision and direction for the new year.

The United Methodist Women of our district have been active in fellowship and ministry for the kingdom. District Local Officer Leadership Development was held at Graceville United Methodist Church on January 22. The UMW Day Apart was held on April 9 at Moss Hill United Methodist Church. UMW leaders and members have been involved in ministry and training at the conference level as well.

Lay Speaking Ministry has been strong in the Marianna-Panama City District under the leadership of Mary Whitehead. Lay Speaking training events have led to the development of a total of about 100 trained lay speakers in our district. Out of the 71 churches in our district, 47 have resident trained lay speakers.

Our District CORE Team is engaged in planning an upcoming district-wide training event to equip our pastors and churches to grow in vitality and fulfill

our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The Marianna-Panama City District is grateful for the partnership of all of our churches who are engaged in the front-line ministry of reaching people with the good news of the gospel. We are committed to assuming our role as a part of the vital connection of the United Methodist Church in the Alabama-West Florida Conference.

Submitted by,
Doug Pennington

MOBILE

The Mobile District has been active again this year continuing to focus on intentionally engaging with the members of our community and embodying the love of Christ in their midst. We began the year attempting to assist our churches and pastors in understanding and preparing for the impact of Direct Bil by offering two workshops for the Staff Parish Relations and Finance committees combined. Our 2010 District Celebration was hosted by Rev. Misty Roberts and the wonderful folks at Spring Hill Avenue UMC, and we were blessed with special music from their choir as well as the choir from the Theodore First UMC.

The Mobile District has focused our work over the past several years in the following areas: Leadership, Strategic Planning, Ethnic Ministries, and Disaster Preparedness and Recovery. The work of the Strategic Planning Team chaired by Rev. Dr. Rob Couch has resulted in a document which will be presented to the Mobile District CORE Team, highlighting the areas in our district where the demographics indicate that we need to be intentional about assisting our underperforming churches and considering new church plants. The document also spells out a detailed process for using funds from the sale of our vacant properties to support new church development, etc. This team worked long and hard to help us focus our efforts in order that we may be fruitful in our attempts to reach more people for Christ not only in the days to come, but for years down the line.

The Leadership Team has a vision for moving the Mobile District from an attractional/institutional mode of operation to an incarnational/missional approach to ministry. We have worked with our pastors and churches to understand what being missional is all about. We have given our folks practical education and resources to help them move from being focused inward on themselves, to being focused outward on the folks often right outside their doors, who do not yet have a personal, saving, relationship with Christ. “Catapult,” a three-day conference, which featured Alan and Deb Hirsch, Mike Slaughter, and Reggie McNeal as keynote speakers, became a Conference-wide initiative that inspired and challenged hundreds of people to engage in missional ministry. As a follow up to “Catapult” grants were presented to eight churches who submitted excellent Missional Action

Plans for engaging in missional outreach to their community. In addition to “Catapult” Rev. Don Woolley and Rev. Jean Tippit are preparing to lead our third “3.0 Summer Intern” experience. College students live in residence and relate to, and minister with, persons throughout the city who desperately need love and attention. The program is funded by a grant from the “Quad-W Foundation” and has grown from 12 interns serving the first year, to 28 who will be arriving to serve this coming May.

The Mobile District is now involved in planning and preparation for our second “Catapult” experience scheduled for September 26-28 at Christ UMC in Mobile. It is a blessing to be growing and learning together and helping the people of Mobile and Washington counties to experience the unconditional love of the Living Lord.

Submitted by,
Jeroy Carroll

MONTGOMERY-OPELIKA

2010 was an active year for the Montgomery-Opelika District and our District CORE Team. Training events held in 2010 provided laity an opportunity to work in new areas. Churches were encouraged to send someone to Alpha training at Montgomery FUMC. 2010 began with our MTOP District Conference and Learning Academy hosted by Trinity UMC in Opelika. Over 150 people attended this event on a very cold January 18th afternoon. We gathered for a time of worship followed by opportunities for learning offered our lay membership in several different areas of ministry. At the same time, a clergy session was taught, entitled “Leading through Change.” Throughout 2010 churches were encouraged to offer course training such as *Three Simple Rules* study, based on Bishop Reuben Job’s book, and *Transformed Giving*, a program developed by Dr. John Ed Mathison.

The 2010 White Christmas Children’s Home Banquet was held at Auburn UMC in September. Robert Powell, Outreach Specialist for UM Children’s Home, organized this event, which was well attended. Jill West, UM Children’s Home Chief Development Officer, was our speaker. Jill shared with those attending the new changes that have taken place to update this ministry and better serve the needs of children in our conference. Lonna Lynn Higgs, chaplain for the UM Children’s Home from the North Alabama Conference, was a special guest at this event.

Montgomery-Opelika District CORE Team

The goal of the 2010 MTOP District CORE Team was to seek, identify and establish ways to involve the local churches in different areas of ministry. Our first CORE team met at Woodland UMC in Pike Road. Our goal was to identify the direction we wanted to go in as a district and establish training needed for effective leadership and growth to be accomplished in the

Montgomery-Opelika District during 2010. Other district UM Churches hosting our CORE Team meetings were Cornerstone Church in April, Trinity UMC in Opelika in July, and Park Memorial UMC in Troy in October. The women of each church prepared and served those attending a delicious meal prior to our CORE Team meetings.

Disaster Response Team

Training events were held in the Montgomery-Opelika District 4 times during 2010. Churches hosting the training events were Brundidge FUMC, Hatchechubbee UMC, Woodland UMC and Troy Wesley Foundation. There were a total of 45 certified Early Response team members trained in 2010.

MTOP District UMW

In 2010, the MTOP District UMW had 815 members who made up 24 units. They were strongly committed to fulfilling the UMW purpose of expanding the concepts of mission through participation in global ministries of the church as well as being very involved in local missions. In January, A District Day Apart was held at Watoola UMC in Opelika where Rev. Libba Stinson was the speaker. Kits for UMCOR were collected for Haiti and became a part of the 5,000 kits collected in the district with UMW playing a vital role. Also a sizeable collection was taken for the new Wesley Foundation at Tuskegee University. A MTOP District wide mission and evangelism study, “Joy to the World” was held at Frazer. This is a two-year study and will be completed in 2011. In September, the District Annual Day was held at Grace UMC in Auburn. Lynn Hamric, a member of UM Women’s Division, was the speaker. At this meeting, more units received Certificates for Mission Involvement than in recent years. In November a district officers update/leadership training took place at Trinity UMC in Opelika. Pledges to missions from the 24 units totaled \$10, 606.00. In addition, \$11,795.00 was donated to missions through a separate Missions Project.

Lay Speaking Ministry

In 2010, the MTOP District Lay Speaking Ministry’s rotation of 79 certified and local church lay speakers served 27 churches 145 times. Lay speakers also served on numerous occasions in nursing homes, tutoring in schools, prison ministry, Gideons, Salvation Army bell ringers and in many other ways. Lay speaker training was held at Opelika FUMC in February of 2010. This event was well attended by lay people from throughout the district. Pat Caylor and Elizabeth Whatley serve as co-directors of the Montgomery-Opelika District Lay Speaking Ministry.

The 2010 AWF Conference Leadership Summit was held at St. James UMC in August and led by Bishop Paul L. Leeland. The Montgomery-Opelika District joined leadership groups from other districts in our conference for the purpose of identifying ways we can equip our congregations to be stronger and more efficient in accomplishing our charge to make disciples of Jesus Christ. By coming together as one body, we have the opportunity

to share our individual thoughts with others while listening to ways God is working through them and their congregations. From this summit we should become more aware of God's role for our conference in the larger ministry and efforts we should make to carry out his Great Commission. The MTOP Core Team looks forward to 2011 and the many leadership opportunities planned for our clergy and laity.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Varner, Lay Leader
Montgomery-Opelika District

MONTGOMERY-PRATTVILLE

During 2010 we met the requirements for committee and CORE team meetings. Some people also attended leadership, lay speaking and other important workshops in the district, conference and jurisdiction. Being faithful in attending meetings and workshops is important for the individual and enables them to give more effective leadership in the district and conference.

Rather than giving statistical data about the past, let's explore future possibilities. As believers we are commissioned by God to live out Matthew 28: 19-20. (19) "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

We have the greatest story on earth to tell. Let's continue telling the story and winning souls for Jesus Christ. All the statistical data is worthless unless Jesus Christ can look at it and say, *well done good and faithful servant*. Are our statistics pleasing to Him? If not, why not? More importantly – what are we going to do about it?

John Sherrer
Core Team and District Lay Leader

PENSACOLA

In 2010, the Pensacola District CORE team emphasis included the following:

- **Continued experimentation of offering district training events at times and locations to maximize participation opportunities.**

The initial training event was held in conjunction with the District Conference on Thursday, February 4, at St. Luke UMC in Pensacola. After sharing in worship, emphasis was placed on sessions regarding ethics and ac-

countability (“We Can’t Keep Blaming the Apple”), developing small groups (“From the Door to the Core”), worship and music/band, and pastor-parish relations/direct billing. Attendance totaled approximately 132 lay and clergy members of the district.

The second event was held on Sunday, April 25, at Shalimar UMC. Offerings were in the area of resolving conflicts in churches (“They Shall Know Us by Our Swords”), healthy ethical relationships within the church family, financial responsibility (including tax helps) for clergy, and SPRC (“The Veil Is Torn”). As a consequence of poor attendance (approximately 25), the event for August was postponed.

District Conference was held at Navarre UMC on November 7. Concurrently, Gulf Breeze Soundside hosted a District “FUSED” Youth Rally with music led by the Dauphin Way UMC youth band and speaker Jeremy Steele. Attendance for the District Conference at Navarre was 150, while 500 attended the FUSED event at Soundside.

- **Maximizing purpose and function under the leadership of our new district superintendent, Rev. Dr. Jeremy Pridgeon.**

In order to determine a starting point for us in leadership and the life of our churches, the CORE team was requested to read Bishop Schnase’s book *The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*. From there we agreed, as a district, to develop and emphasize radical hospitality in our churches and ministry areas for the next two years. Through the existing strengths within the district and uniting, instead of reinventing the wheel at each church, we planned to focus on turning the church outward. When we do this well, we will talk about other aspects of the Five Practices.

Issues related to our training or LITE day events included possible apathy in leadership, the timing and distribution of publicity information, and local church officers are moving more in the church. Effectiveness vs. geography is also a significant factor. We have churches east-west on the I-10 corridor, rural churches, and churches along the coast - each for which we can tailor training events. Attention will be given to offering quarterly events for CEUs within the district.

- **Transitioning the CORE team from being a gathering of individuals reporting specific information to a group that casts vision for strengthening our churches and building the Kingdom.**

Since this is a new emphasis, previous reports from the specific ministry areas represented on the CORE team will now be maintained through the district CORE team minutes.

Submitted by,
Alison Posell

LEADER SHIP TEAM r EpOr TS

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Board of Pension and Health Benefits

- **Rev. Bob McKibben (11)** replacing Rev. Al Harbour, term to expire in 2012
- **Rev. Glen Pugh (11)** replacing Rev. Daniel Morris, term to expire in 2012
- **Rev. Jeremy Mount**, term to expire in 2016

Board of Trustees

Term Expiring 2015

- **Jack Smith** replacing Matt Bell, term expiring 2011
- **June Carpenter** replacing Marilyn Tamplin, term expiring 2011
- **Rev. Debora Bishop**

Board of Discipleship

- **Rev. Geoffrey Lentz (11)** replacing Rev. Janet Nabors (08), Division of Worship
- **Rev. Allen Newton (11)** replacing Rev. Grant Parker, Division of Evangelism

Board of Global Ministries

- **Rev. Andy Gartman (11)** replacing Glenn Glover (10)

Board of Church and Society

- **Jerry Maygarden (11)** replacing Hal Earnest (06)
- **Sonny Dawsey (11)** replacing David Reaney (06)
- **Harry Hodges (11)** replacing Rev. Dwight Deal (10)

Town and Country Commission

- **Members:** **Rev. Sam Williams (10)**, **Chairperson;** **Rev. John Bratcher (11)**, **Beverly Maddox (11)**, **Rev. John Weaver (11)**, **Rev. Dan Nixon (11)**, **Sybil Starker(11)**, **George Cox (11)**, **Beverly Sanders (11)**, **Wayne Culpepper (11)**
- **Ex-Officio Members:** **Rev. Neil McDavid**, **Susan Hunt**, **Phyllis Murray**

Commission on Equitable Compensation

- **Dr. Frank Stegall (11)** replacing Mary Alice Minnick (L09)

Council on Finance and Administration

- **Beebe Frederick (11)** replacing Lyle Wiist (04)
- **Rev. Greg McKinnon (11)** completing term of Rev. Robert Penton

Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry

- **Kathy McMaken (11)** replacing Helen Campbell (05)

UPDATES SINCE PUBLICATION OF THE 2010 JOURNAL

Council on Finance and Administration

- **Ronny Mobley, President** replacing Dr. Jim Sanders as President
- **Rev. Robbins Sims, Vice-President** replacing Lyle Wiist as Vice-President
- **Willie Bing Harris, Secretary** replacing Mary Lynn Enfinger as Secretary

Board Of Trustees

- **Rev. Debora Bishop, President** replacing Dr. Paulette Thompson as President
- **Dr. Imogene Mixson, Vice President** replacing Rev. Debora Bishop as Vice President
- **Barbara Miller, Secretary** replacing Dr. Imogene Mixson as Secretary

Board of Church and Society

- **Brenda Boman (09) , Chairperson** replacing Dale Segrest as Chairperson

Board of Congregational Development

- **Rev. Ralph Sigler (10)**
- **Ex-Officio Members: Rev. Philip McVay, Cabinet Representative Martha Rovira, Coordinator of Hispanic Ministries**

UPDATES - BOARDS AND AGENCIES OUTSIDE THE PURVIEW OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Conference Board of the Laity

- **Secretary: Beverly Maddox** replacing Antonius Barnes
- **Treasurer: Antonius Barnes**
- **Additional Officer of Lay Speaking Ministries: Judy Reiter** replacing Mary Whitehead
- **Conference President of United Methodist Women: Betty Helms** replacing Beth Bowdin
- **Demopolis District Lay Leader: Billy Dozier**

Conference United Methodist Men

- **Baypines District President: Herman Harville** replacing Bill Wade

Conference United Methodist Women

- **President: Betty Helms** replacing Beth Bowdin
- **Vice President: Vacant**
- **Secretary: Sheila Hare** replacing Mary Jo Morton

- **Education and Interpretation Coordinator: Margie Miller**
replacing Betty Helms
- **Social Action Coordinator: Clara Ester** replacing Edna Williams
- **Communications Coordinator: Barbara Henning** replacing Beth Henson
- **Registrar: Sheila Hare** replacing Charlotte Hobson
- **Blue Lake – position deleted**
- **Dean, Cooperative School of Christian Mission: Betty Helms**
replacing Elizabeth Andrews
- **Dothan District President: Cleo Adkison** replacing Fay Taylor
- **Mobile District President: Jamie Blake** replacing Ella Dean Ellison
- **Montgomery-Opelika District President: Vacant**

Board of Ordained Ministry

- **Officers:** Ethnic Concerns - Jackie Slaughter
- **Ministry Teams:** Beginning Ministries Workshop – Sara Shaver
Extension Ministries – Nick Holler
- **Members Beginning Service in 2004:** Remove Bruce Fitzgerald, Molly Fulford
- **Members Beginning Service in 2008:** Remove Herb Sadler

Annual Conference Session Planning Committee

- **Conference President of United Methodist Women: Betty Helms** replacing Beth Bowdin

Episcopal Residence Committee

- **President, Council on Finance and Administration: Ronny Mobley** replacing Dr. Jim Sanders
- **President, Annual Conference Board of Trustees: Rev. Debora Bishop** replacing Dr. Paulette Thompson

Blue Lake Assembly Grounds Board of Trustees

- **Vice President: Eliese McAllister**

United Methodist Children's Home Board of Trustees

- **Secretary: Maurine Johnston** replacing Julie Dollar (NAC)
- **Treasurer: Dr. T. Michael Morgan** replacing Roy Day (NAC)
- **Representing the Alumni Association: Louise Iverson (NAC)**
- **Representing the UMW: Jo Anne Minnett** replacing Jacque Clay (NAC)
- **Representing Children's Ministries – position deleted**
- **Term to Expire 2013: Rev. Leigh Meekins (2011);** remove Sonny James (2009) and E. L. Perry (2006)

United Methodist Homes for the Aging Board of Trustees

- **Class of 2012:** Remove Robert Woodward

- **Class of 2013:** Remove Dr. John Friedman
- **Class of 2014:** Rev. John I. Baxter, Rev. Edward Deabler, Fayette Dennison, Susan Eberhardt, Dr. Dianne L. Griswold, Dr. John Ed Mathison

Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation, Inc.

- **President:** Harold Faulkner replacing Mike Tucker
- **Vice-President:** Lany Simmons replacing Harold Faulkner
- **Secretary:** Aubrey Stabler replacing Lany Simmons
- **Class of 2012:** Remove Robert Williams
- **Class of 2013:** John Bullard, Phyllis Cleaver, Laureen Lynn, Harry Nelson, Mike Norris, Tom Norris, Robert Powers, Jeff Sessions, Talana Wilkins, Jerry Patee.

Alabama-West Florida Methodist Federal Credit Union

- **Class of 2013:** Dr. Al Harbour, Rev. Nancy Snyder, Rev. Ed Britton

Board of Pastoral Counseling, Care and Training

- **Class of 2011-2012:** Rev. Danny Arnold - President, Rebecca Crews – Secretary, Teresa Ramsey
- **Class of 2012-2013:** Leslie Davis - Vice-President, Rev. Dr. John Friedman, Rev. Ellie Stoudemire
- **Class of 2013-2014:** Rev. Dr. Jerry Dooling – Treasurer, Diana DuFriend, Henrietta Thomas
- **Class of 2014-2015:** Shirley Jordan, Rev. Michael Lawler, Rev. David Willis
- **Ex-Officio Members**
 - Resident Bishop: Bishop Paul L. Leeland
 - Director of Ministerial Services: Rev. June Jernigan
 - Conference Counseling Consultant: Rev. Stephen T. King
 - Honorary Life Member: Rev. John Bonner
 - Honorary Life Member: Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Butts

Noah's Ark Board of Directors

- **Chairperson:** Rev. Allen Newton
- **Vice Chairperson:** Jeremy Smith
- **Treasurer:** Rosemary Stewart
- **Secretary:** Rev. Chris Cook
- **Class of 2011:** Ron Mashburn, Rev. Mike Owenby, Melissa Gregg
- **Class of 2012:** Rev. Allen Newton, Rev. Chris Cook
- **Class of 2013:** Rev. Tim Meadows, Rosemary Stewart, Rev. Jeremy Smith, Rev. Starr Olivo, Rob Talent
- **Ex officio members (with vote):**
 - UMW Representative: Kathy McQuagge
 - District Superintendent: Rev. Gary Daniel
 - Conference Representative: Rev. Leigh Meekins
 - Winter Ministry Chairperson: Mary Lou McCann

Winter Ministry Treasurer: Mary Quirk

• **Ex officio member (without vote):**

Executive Director: Luke Pinegar

COLLEGE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES

Birmingham-Southern College

Alabama-West Florida Clergy

Class of 2012: Rev. J. Walker Epps, Dr. Wesley H. Wachob

Class of 2013: Rev. Paul D. Wolfe

Class of 2014: Rev. Robin C. Wilson

Alabama-West Florida Laity

Class of 2012: Frank Jenkins III, Dr. Paulette Thompson

Class of 2013: John Barnett

Class of 2014: Alan Livingston

Alabama-West Florida Clergy-At-Large

Class of 2012: Bishop Paul Leeland

Laity-At-Large

Class of 2012: Dr. Wayne W. Killion, Jr.

Class of 2013: Ann E. Adams

Members At-Large

Class of 2012: Dr. Peter D. Bunting, Denson N. Franklin III, Donald M. James, John D. Johns, George Salem; Kevin Richard Stump, Sr.

Class of 2013: Mr. William C. Hulsey; Thomas R. Lowder; H. Craft O'Neal; G. Ruffner Page, Sr.; David M. Smith, William A. Terry, John P. Watts, Sr., Dr. Kevin Tucker

Class of 2014: Edward L. Hardin, Jr.; Margaret "Peggy" R. Monaghan; Charles "Charlie" Debardeleben Perry, Jr.; Harold W. Rippes; DeLynn Moring Zell, Daniel B. Coleman

Life Members: W. Michael Atchison, Carl F. Bailey, David R. Baker, Jr., Charles W. Daniel, Rev. T. Morris Hackney, Donald E. Hess, John J. McMahon, Bishop Robert C. Morgan, Herbert A. Sklenar, James T. Stephens, Clay C. Long, H. Corbin Day

Life Emeritus Members: Julian G. Bishop, G. A. Costanzo, Bishop Paul A. Duffey, Sr., Marguerite Jones Harbert, Philip Jackson, Katherine M. McTyeire, Dr. Allen D. Montgomery, George A. Smith Jr.; Larry D. Striplin, Jr.

***New Nominees are in bold.**

Note: The President of BSC's National Alumni Board will serve as an ex officio member of the Board of Trustees. Ms. Karen Carroll is currently serving as President of the National Alumni Board.

Huntingdon College – Board of Trustees – Updated listing will be in member packets at annual conference

WESLEY FOUNDATIONS – BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

Alabama State University Wesley Foundation – Update not received

Auburn University Wesley Foundation

Board Officers

Robert Thompson, Board Chairperson
 Dr. Bill Brawner, Chairperson, Personnel Committee
 Susan Nunnely, Chairperson, Finance Committee
 Wayne Northrup, Chairperson, Trustees

Class of 2012: Dr. Bill Brawner, Dr. Bob Couch, Sarah Crim

Class of 2013: Brad Hugle, Liz Kenemer, Tanja Matthews

Class of 2014: Emilyn Gipson, David Cleiland, Suzy Farrington

Class of 2015: Gil Crouse, Dr. Steve Duke, Rev. Aimee Baxter

Ex-Officio Members

Bishop Paul Leeland, Rev. Ron Ball, Rev. George Mathison,
 Rev. Libba Stinson, Rev. Rusty Hutson, Rev. David Goolsby,
 Kristan Lewis, Student President

At-Large, Student, Other Members

Trustees: Wyatt Northrup, Clay Price, Ronnie Anders,
 Kimberly Belcher

At-Large: Jeanne Ryland, Clifford Flood, Susan Nunnely,
 Glenn Granberry, Dr. Rob Thomas, Marcia Gibson

Students: Byron Caudle (graduate student), Ben Jackson,
 Thomas Weems

**Pensacola Junior College and University of West Florida
 Wesley Foundation**

Board Officers (June 2010-May 2011)

Stuart Worth, Director
 Candy Timberlake, Chairperson
 Mina Porter, Treasurer
 Emily Capes, Secretary

Class of 2012

Candy Timberlake, Lauren Basford

Class of 2013

Melissa Wells, Clint Jernigan, Irv English, Patrick McBride, Alan Cassady

Class of 2014

Will Moore, Kaye Westmark, Ken Sharp

Class of 2015

Jim Hammond, Mina Porter, Carolyn Nelson, Hugo Garnier

Ex-Officio Members of the Board

Rev. Jeremy Pridgeon, Dr. Hilda Cox, Karen Pope, Rev. Bob Bailey

At-large, Student, Other Board Members

Britney Toner

Troy University Wesley Foundation**Board Officers**

Rev. Michael Lawler, Chairperson

Janet Kervin, Co-chairperson

Sue Fraley, Treasurer

Class of 2012 : Mary Ann Flowers, Homer Homann

Class of 2013: Janet Kervin, Cindy Boswell

Class of 2014: Mariann Day, Thomas C. Wallace

Class of 2015: Dr. Jim Colley, Sue Fraley

Ex-Officio Members of the Board

Rev. David McVay, Rev. Michael Lawler, Rev. Danny Arnold

Student Members: David McNair, Kaitlyn Klee, Trevor Zhao

Tuskegee University Wesley Foundation – Update not received**University of South Alabama Wesley Foundation****Board Officers**

Tommy Clement, Chairperson

Rev. Don Woolley, 1st Vice-Chairperson

Ron Davis, 2nd Vice-Chairperson

Karen Peterson, Secretary

Ken Davis, Treasurer

Mark Cagle, Finance/Challenge Chairperson

Nathan Pope, Property Chairperson

Chad Riley, Nominations Chairperson

Brian Miller, Personnel Chairperson

Class of 2012

Judy Burnham, Jeroy Carroll, Ken Davis, Ronald P. Davis, Esq.,
Rev. Holly Morales, Karen Peterson, Chad Riley, Rev. Don Woolley,
Grady "Jody" Dunn, Jr.

Class of 2013

Neil Beasley, Jim Coxe, Nathan Pope, Rev. David Randall, David
Sutley, Mark Cagle, David Turner

Class of 2014

Tommy Clement, Todd McGehee, Brian Miller, Mimi Patrick, John
Tatum, Jean Tippet, Rev. Jeff Wilson

Ex-Officio Members

Bishop Paul Leeland, Rev. Tonya Elmore, Rev. Frederick Outlaw

Honorary or Life Members: Dr. George Davis, Margaret Ratcliffe,
Emma Reed

University of West Alabama Wesley Foundation**Board Officers**

Rev. Dan Baughman, Director

Dr. Gary Stone, President

Howard Fuller, Vice-President

Kathy Patterson, Secretary

Wanda Rew, Treasurer

Class of 2012: Violet Reed, Gretchen Sudduth, Erin Houser

Class of 2013: Howard Fuller, Julian Ptomey, Kent Partridge, Rev. Lyle
Meador

Members-At-Large

Bishop Paul Leeland, resident bishop; Rev. Jim DuFriend, Liaison
from BHECM; Rev. John Bonner, Rev. Reba Wiley, Rev. Rod Curry,
Rev. Art Luckie, Rev. Wilson Kendrick, Rev. Cherie Meadows,
Rev. Ed Shirley, Rev. Amy Persons-Parkes and Rev. David Goolsby

Honorary or Life Members: Rev. Philip McVay, Rev. Karl Stegall

At-Large, Student, Other Board Members Four-Year Term Effective

January 1, 2009

Amber Walker, Center RA and President, Student Leadership
Team; Dustin Prine, student leader; Becky Holland, Glen Sanders,
Bill Nixon

CONFERENCE BOARD OF COMMUNICATIONS

The Board of Communications is charged with delivering the message of the ministries of the Alabama-West Florida Conference. By utilizing numerous means of multi-media communications, we work to spread the Good News of Christ throughout our conference and the world.

In order to achieve this, we have decided to dissolve the Board of Communications and replace it with a Task Force Team in various areas of the conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dric Williford, Co-Chair
Board of Communications

CONFERENCE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

BIRMINGHAM SOUTHERN

Living the Mission and Remaining Faithful and Strong

This has been a year of discovery and transition for Birmingham-Southern College. The effect of the economic downturn of the past years on the College's endowment, coupled with dramatic growth and campus improvement projects, improper budgeting of revenues and expenditures, and scholarships and discounts in tuition that were under-accounted for, led to a financial crisis quickly addressed by the Board of Trustees. Difficult decisions to lay off staff, phase out academic programs, reduce salaries and other cost-cutting measures were made. Dr. Mark S. Schantz, Provost, was appointed Interim President. All of this was done without undermining the strong academic programs.

The Board of Trustees has responded in unprecedented ways and is taking steps to move the College forward. The College's fundamental fiscal position is improving and the physical plant of the institution is in excellent shape. The Board of Trustees and The United Methodist Church have launched vigorous fundraising efforts to support the College. In addition, the College has revamped its finance and financial aid operations, with new personnel now in place and new procedures being refined on a daily basis. A strong, but balanced budget is being built for the 2011-12 fiscal year. In addition, the search for a new president is still in process.

The November report from the Board of Trustees can be found at: <http://www.bsc.edu/communications/BSC%20Board%20Chair%20Communication.pdf>.

Additional information will continue to be available on the website or by contacting the Office of Church Relations at the College.

Remaining Faithful to the Church

Birmingham-Southern College has long had a reputation for nurturing and equipping effective leadership for church and society, and continues to hold as a priority the preparation of persons for vocation and avocation. The liberal arts experience at Birmingham-Southern looks beyond the classroom - and beyond graduation - to the world and how each student may effect change in the world.

The College is committed to its calling as a United Methodist institution of higher education and strives to meet demands and expectations through opportunities that nurture and strengthen the whole student – mind, body, and spirit. Academic excellence, faith discovery and self-understanding, leadership development, wellness, and service to others are emphases and products of the Birmingham-Southern experience.

Remaining Faithful to Academic Excellence

While programs define and support who we are as an academic community, our dedication to the student as *student* remains strong. Our student community is comprised of 1521 day students from 32 states and 15 countries. The entering class in the fall of 2010 brought 368 freshmen and 29 transfers, with a mean ACT composite of 26.64 and mean SAT composite of 1180, and sixteen National Merit scholars, again the highest profile in the state, bringing the total to 47.

Birmingham-Southern's challenging, high-quality curriculum expands the liberal arts mission to address the talents and skills students need to be successful in an increasingly complex and technological society. Ours has a distinctive quality that will challenge a student to think independently, to examine the arts and sciences aesthetically and critically, and to communicate clearly. With small classes, innovative curriculum, interdisciplinary courses, and more, Birmingham-Southern is indeed an honors college. BSC continues to offer five bachelor's degrees in more than 50 programs of study, as well as interdisciplinary and specially individualized majors and dual degree programs. Seventy percent of students graduate in four years. Approximately 50 percent of graduates go to professional and graduate programs, with acceptance rates into seminary, law, and medical schools much higher than the national average.

Remaining Faithful through Life Experiences

The academic program at BSC is complemented by opportunities that give students a wealth of life experiences out of the classroom, such as **Service-Learning** projects where students serve hands-on in the local community as well as across the country and overseas; **International Programs** where students spend a semester in a university abroad immersed in culture and

language while taking classes that enhance their major course of study; the January **Interim Term** where students concentrate on one area of interest or curiosity from art to Philosophy to travel abroad; and a **Leadership Studies Program** where students are pushed to take intellectual and social responsibility. In addition, internships, mentorships, professional assistantships, and undergraduate research give Birmingham-Southern students invaluable experiences that prepare them for leadership in vocation and avocation.

Remaining Faithful through the Study of Religion

Although Religious Studies is only one aspect of academic excellence at 'Southern, we believe it is an important aspect of our commitment to The United Methodist Church. Birmingham-Southern continues to strengthen an already solid Religion curriculum. Religion courses are in great demand each semester. Students of every discipline choose religious courses as electives – no easy course among them – for many reasons: the faculty, the depth and stretch of understanding the Holy, and the hunger to know how faith intersects life. Students beyond the Religion/Ministry classification are motivated by their faith to seek the Holy in the world.

Numbers in Religion/Ministry classification help *us* evaluate our program, our successful recruitment of religious students, and our invitation to ministry, but do not give the full picture of the Birmingham-Southern student. You will want to know, however, the “numbers” in 2010-11 count 46 Religion majors and minors with 16 students among and outside the majors/minors who are discerning the call to ministry in traditional pastoral, institutional church roles. Student discernment also brings preparation and exploration for Christian Education and certification in Youth Ministry, ministry and administration with non-profit sector, PhD studies to teach Religion in a college or divinity school; and music ministry. As of early March, students were receiving top scholarships and stipends to their seminary choices.

There is a growing interest among graduates of the Religion program to pursue work in non-profit and public policy. These students are motivated by their deep Christian faith and their studies in religion to work to meet Christ in the work of redeeming the world. Such pre-seminary students over the past year have worked and held positions in The General Board of Church and Society, Vital Voices, National Council of Churches Poverty Initiative, Urban Kids – Urban Ministry, VOICES for Alabama Children, Impact Alabama, Bread for the World, The United Methodist Church of Senegal, Mother Theresa's Sisters of Charity in Peru, and Birmingham agencies advocating for the homeless and hungry. These are students whose primary impetus is their Christian faith.

Remaining Faithful to the Experiential Journey of Faith

After the loss of the Chaplain in June of 2010, the decision was made to defer the naming of a Chaplain for the academic year. Laura Sisson,

Director of Church Relations, was named Interim Director of Religious Life with responsibilities of the Chaplain for worship, campus ministries, and religious organizations.

The anchors of the Religious Life program at the College are *The Gathering and Wesley Fellowship* which seek to make the presence of God known in ways that are appropriate to learning, service, and campus living. The Gathering meets each Monday night offering ecumenical services in the United Methodist liturgical tradition, and seeks to gather our community in worship around the unique rhythms and needs of college spirituality. A variety of speakers, singers, and musicians, from on and off campus, lend their talents to the services, ensuring that our worship is always an expression of who we are as a community before God. Wesley Fellowship meets each Thursday night, building a community of faith through exploration of Christian beliefs, prayer, and fellowship and provides a source of support for all students. In addition to the regularly scheduled services and fellowship groups, Religious Life sponsors a number of other activities, including Bible studies, discussion groups, social justice projects, service days, special services during Advent and Lent, spiritual discipline groups, and three Covenant groups that meet weekly for prayer and discernment. Episcopal, Catholic, Reformed, and BSC Faith Council (interfaith campus ministries) provide a rich and diverse exploration of faith and life on campus. Participation has grown in each area of campus ministry and worship. An average of 64 students have attended United Methodist campus ministry activities each week.

Campus Ministry is not a congregation and has no formal membership, yet campus ministry at Birmingham-Southern touches the lives of over 1,400 persons each day. There are few traditional or 'dashboard' ways to evaluate campus ministry as a local church is evaluated, yet lives are changed. Students, and their families, facing crises have a minister and 'church family' on campus. Students, struggling with the balance of academics and campus living, have a support group, professional counselors, and ministers. Staff and faculty find the same strength and support when facing issues beyond the workday. As the Church looks to the College and its campus ministry to raise up a new generation of Christians and effective leaders, we reaffirm our commitment to support the education, vocational discernment, and spiritual development of the students entrusted to our care.

United Methodist students feel a connection with the church through opportunities to worship with congregations around the city, engage with local church Bible studies and resources, serve UMC youth at events on campus, speak in the local church, lead College 101 events for high school students, and host congregations as they participate in campus activities. Campus Ministry at Birmingham-Southern is not mom's arm around a waist in worship, or a favorite anthem, but a giving back. Nor is Campus Ministry

a summer high school mission trip, but opportunities to continue the journey nurtured at home with encouragement and challenge to see the church in the world. You are invited to see the depth of engagement and commitment of students across the disciplines by participating in programs of the College available for your church. You are encouraged to find ways to contact and give support to students from your congregations.

Remaining Faithful Through Our Stewardship

It is important to the campus community that the Annual Conference be assured that at no time during the financial crisis were scholarships of the *Birmingham-Southern and Huntingdon College Scholarship Fund* in jeopardy or compromised. Because of their restricted nature, and the important role they play in connecting the Church and the College, the funds are well managed and celebrated. We give thanks for your continued care for students from United Methodist congregations, and the many ways you nurture their faith journeys.

A powerful element within the College's recruitment ability is its partnership with The United Methodist Church, the scholarships inherent in that partnership, and the role that Religious Life plays on the campus for all students. We will continue to honor the traditions of that relationship and seek to strengthen and grow the resources for scholarships for United Methodist students. In addition, church vocation scholarships and professorships that support Religious Studies will be among the "moving forward" goals.

Birmingham-Southern College is grateful for the support of the North Alabama Conference and is strengthened by the ministry of the Annual Conference. Lay and clergy from across Alabama and Florida serve on the Board of Trustees, the Pastoral Advisory Board, the President's Advisory Council, the Norton Board, and advise in areas of Admission and Financial Aid, Pre-Ministry Advising, and the Center for Ministry. More importantly, daughters and sons of the North Alabama Conference excel as students and lead skillfully and faithfully in service and ministry.

This year of anxiety and hope was punctuated with calls, notes, and visits from North Alabama Conference friends and alumni. Each week at The Gathering, communion has been celebrated by a conference pastor, and often the service blessed by the sermon of a conference friend or alum. Your response to the Lenten scholarship appeal reminds the campus community not only of our connection, but also of your continued care and concern for the whole campus family. We thank you for your faith in Birmingham-Southern and the congregations who benefit from our relationship as you "paid forward" anticipated scholarship gifts for 2011-12 to ensure the incoming class and students renewing scholarships that their needs would be met.

Birmingham-Southern continues to seek ways to be faithful to the United Methodist Church and to lead students to a life of service and faith. We are grateful for your many expressions of support.

Submitted by,
Laura Sisson

HUNTINGDON COLLEGE

The Mission of Huntingdon College as a College of the Church

Let me begin by saying that the state of Huntingdon College is strong. The College budget is balanced; enrollment has risen 57 per cent since academic year 2002-03; the College's accreditation was reaffirmed by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) in July, 2010; and the University Senate of the United Methodist Church voted in January, 2011, to continue Huntingdon on the list of approved institutions affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

Rather than report in further detail this year to the Annual Conference about various statistics and programs related to the operation of Huntingdon College, I want to discuss with you the mission of the College. What is the essence of the Church-related higher education experience offered by Huntingdon? What makes Huntingdon, and potentially other Church-related colleges, unique in the world of American higher education? When United Methodist high school students and their families go through the college search process, why should they consider Huntingdon a *college of first choice*?

Allow me to address two issues at the beginning and then move on to the heart of my discussion with you. First, the annual \$10,000 Cross and Flame Grant (\$40,000 over four years) for United Methodist students -- along with other scholarship and financial aid options and levelized tuition over the entire four years of college -- make a Huntingdon education affordable and highly-competitive in cost. Second, the student life program at Huntingdon -- including campus ministries, 16 intercollegiate sports, intramurals, Greek life, student clubs and organizations, and the College's location in a major city -- affords students many opportunities to be engaged outside the classroom in a rich, enjoyable variety of spiritual, social, cultural, recreational and service activities.

Now to the heart of the matter: The Vision, Mission and Educational Goals adopted by Huntingdon's faculty and Board of Trustees articulate a philosophy of liberal arts education that is clear. Huntingdon College is grounded in the Judeo-Christian tradition of the United Methodist Church. As such, the life of the mind and the life of the spirit comprise two sides of an integrated experience of teaching and learning in the Huntingdon educational

community. The freedom of student, teacher, administrator, trustee to think about the subject matter of all academic disciplines and social and political issues from all points of view; to engage in respectful and civil dialogue; and to reach judgments on his or her own is the hallmark of the Huntingdon educational experience. Furthermore, the faculty and Board of Trustees are very clear that students are to be given the opportunity to examine freely, critically and comprehensively -- with support from the College -- all issues related to their spiritual and religious lives.

I have focused over the last eight years as Huntingdon's president on renewing the College's rich history, begun in 1854, as a Methodist liberal arts college. I believe that the ultimate end of a Church-related liberal arts education is responsible citizenship that places the well-being of our communities at the center of our beliefs, our decisions, our actions. My goal for Huntingdon students educated in the liberal arts is for them to think critically and ethically, to communicate with clarity and civility, and to extend themselves in service far beyond their own backyards. My vision for Huntingdon, rooted in the College's history and in its motto engraved above the entrance to Flowers Hall, is expressed in three words: Faith, Wisdom, Service.

There is another way to say all this. Several years ago, I spoke to a gathering of United Methodist college and university presidents about the purpose of United Methodist higher education. My speech was entitled, *Jesus, the Big Questions and the Liberal Arts*. In that speech, I encouraged my fellow presidents to define the mission of Church-related colleges and universities in a manner that no other type of institution can fulfill: that of bringing to bear both (1) the wisdom of the Judeo-Christian tradition and (2) the wisdom of other religious traditions and of secular traditions, so that students explore with each other and their teachers what we might call *The Big Questions*. And not just as an intellectual exercise for its own sake but as an intellectual exercise with a purpose: that of inviting students to embrace for themselves, freely, the kind of wisdom leading to a life of servanthood in which we love our neighbor as we are loved by God.

The Big Questions are life's real questions. *What am I called to do with my life? What does it mean to be part of a family? Can I love money and also love God? What does it mean to be great? Is it permissible to kill another human being?* These and other Big Questions are the kinds of questions that Church-related colleges and universities -- **because we are Church-related** -- can explore with students in the classroom. We can bring to bear the perspectives of the Christian tradition and other traditions as we encourage students to think. Indeed, at a Church-related college or university, academic inquiry is pursued most profoundly and academic freedom exists most freely because all perspectives are welcome in the discussion.

Lastly, I would affirm to you that at Huntingdon we consider the higher education experience to be a ministry of the Church. Huntingdon was called

into being by the Church and exists because the people called Methodist, from the beginning, have always believed that education provides access to the kind of life God wishes us to lead. We are stewards of a great trust -- the trust you place in us when you send us your sons and daughters -- and we pray that we will be found worthy of the call to this ministry.

J. Cameron West
President
Huntingdon College

WESLEY FOUNDATIONS

Alabama State University Wesley Foundation

Greetings! The Wesley Foundation at Alabama State University has entered year two of its ministry under the leadership of Stephen Redmond, director of the organization. While our mission to seek to deepen, enrich, and nurture the Christian faith of the students, faculty, and staff of Alabama State University has remained the same as previous years, our name has changed. Upon the request of Alabama State University, the Alabama State University Wesley Foundation Board of Directors has voted to change the Wesley Foundation's name from "Alabama State University Wesley Foundation" to "The Wesley Foundation at Alabama State University." The official name change was voted on during the Board of Directors' meeting held February 8, 2011, at the Old Cloverdale School. In addition to changing the organization's name this year, the Wesley Foundation also acquired office space within the Old Cloverdale School and employed Meghan Cross (Alabama State University Student) as its first Student Assistant. Further, Dr. John Gooden, Dean of the College of Education at Alabama State University, was elected to the Board of Directors in 2011. Moreover, this year sixteen students joined the Wesley Foundation and seven now serve as servant leaders.

In addition to weekly Bible Study classes, The Wesley Foundation at Alabama State University's ministries now include Alabama State University football tailgating, participation in the university's organizational fair, and Wesley Foundation spiritual walks. The Wesley Foundation continues to partner with Common Ground of Montgomery in an effort to provide needed mission services to Montgomery's Washington Park community. Further, The Wesley Foundation at Alabama State University partnered with the Tuskegee Wesley Foundation, Auburn Wesley Foundation, Alabama Rural Ministries, and Troy University Wesley Foundation for this year's Martin L. King, Jr. Great Day of Service in Tuskegee, Alabama at Tuskegee United Methodist Church.

For our second annual spring break trip, we will be traveling to Daytona Beach, Florida, to fellowship with Bethune Cook University (A Historical United Methodist Church African-American University) and to tour Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Submitted by,
Stephen Redmond, Director

Auburn University Wesley Foundation

How was it in Auburn after you all won the National Championship in football? It was great; it was fun! It has been a great year to be in Auburn, and more importantly, it is a wonderful place to do ministry. We thank the churches of the Alabama - West Florida Conference for their continued support of this and all Wesley Foundations. From worship to Bible studies, from recreation to calls to ministry, we are living in a blessed time of ministry.

The Program Ministry (weekly)

- Sunday Night Worship • Graduate Student Dinner & Bible Study
- 18 Discipleship Groups • Intramural Sports
- 7-8 Bible Studies • 2 Worship Bands
- Freshman Community • Worship Jam
- Wednesday Night Dinner • Guys Waffle House
- Graduate Student Lunch & Devotion
- Prayer Groups

Regular Events (not weekly):

- Retreats (Women's, Men's, Spring, Freshmen)
- Game Day 5th Quarters
- Social Events
- Special Worship Services

Mission Emphasis

Local

- Loachapoka tutoring
- His Place
- Home repair with Alabama Rural Ministry
- Other (homeless, hunger, older adult)

National

- Christmas Mission to Henderson Settlement, Kentucky
- Spring Break Mission to Miami, Florida
- Youth Caravan (Summer - 10 weeks)
- Support 3.0 Mobile, A.R.M., and staff for camps (Summer – 8 to 10 weeks)

International

- Costa Rica (1 week)
- Zambia (3 weeks)
- Costa Rica (entire Summer)

Grace and Peace,



David Goolsby, Director

Troy University Wesley Foundation

The vision of the Troy University Wesley Foundation is to fully experience God's love and to reflect God's love to all creation.

The mission of the Troy University Wesley Foundation is to fully experience God's love by providing a safe community for all students. The mission assists to introduce or maintain Christianity as a priority for undergraduate and graduate students.

Program Ministry

The Troy Wesley Foundation helps students to experience God's love in community with each other throughout the week. We have grown in our knowledge of God and God's creation, and our community has expanded through our focus on forming partnerships in the last year. On Sundays twice a month, we have had the pleasure of partnering with Frazer UMC to start a **Chinese Student Ministry** led by Luyaun in our building. A partnership with Brundidge UMC offered students the opportunity to participate in an international **mission trip** to **Haiti** in January. For the last decade, **Common Meal** has been a signature weekly event at the Troy University Wesley Foundation. Through this fellowship dinner which includes the sacrament of Holy Communion, we share the love of Christ with students and staff from around the world. In years past, local churches or other groups have made meals for students to enjoy. Common Meal is offered to all students and staff on campus free of charge and is often the way new students become active at the Troy University Wesley Foundation. In this last year, the meal has become even more of an outreach tool. Instead of all the meals being prepared by local churches or by Wesley Foundation staff members, many meals this semester were prepared by groups of students. We had traditional meals prepared by students from China, India, and Nepal. In the preparation of these meals, we were able to really bond with students and learn about cultures different from our own. We believe that in Common Meal students, some of whom are not Christians, are able to see the living Christ. As they become more active in the Wesley Foundation, they are able to experience the love of Christ through Bible studies, worship services, and more. They are able to live out Christ's mission to their local

community through **ESL** classes, local missions, and international missions. The students learn how their gifts meet the needs of the world and are prepared for present and future leadership in ministry through experiential learning. In the often lonely years of college, students are able to be part of an amazing community that is centered in the love and mission of Jesus Christ. Current demographic statistics from weekly attendance show that we have 45% White, 20% African American, and 35% international students. These students serve the campus as well as the outside community by focusing on missions and the application of biblical principles learned from Troy Wesley programs.

Special Events

We offered several special events to introduce students to programs to encourage and grow the community at the Troy University Wesley Foundation. We hosted a **lemonade stand** in the student center parking lot for passing students and helped several students find their classes. We held a **Poetry Slam** where students presented poems in a contest to an audience of their peers. An **Opening Cookout** welcomed students back to school. The fun continued with tailgating, a Fall Festival Party, movie nights, and Homecoming activities. The students ended both semesters by enjoying a semi-formal and midnight breakfast.

Missions

The Troy Wesley students are very involved in serving others through **mission work** on campus and far from home. Before school began, we joined with two other campus ministries to provide two meals for around 200 international students. We coordinated and served close to 300 at the Big Brothers Big Sisters Christmas Party. We spent one weekend working with Alabama Rural Ministries in the early spring semester. Also, a Wesley Board member, director and three students participated with a nine-person team on an international mission trip to Haiti. In Haiti the group participated in deconstruction of a school and church as well as assisted in pouring a cement roof on a six-stall latrine.

Stewardship

Students continually found ways in the last year to work together to best utilize their **God-given gifts**. Students planned fellowship and outreach events, completed service projects, cooked meals, provided worship music, led small groups, made relationships, and fundraised to support the Troy Wesley Foundation. We washed windows, partnered with local restaurants, parked cars at ball games, and cleaned the football stadium. Our fifth annual **golf tournament** took place in the spring at the Troy Country Club. Our board of directors got really involved in fundraising in the last year as well. They are now excited to be holding their "Taste of Heaven" fundraiser each semester. "Taste of Heaven" brings in the best cooks from the neighborhood as they compete for the best recipe. This is not only a fundraiser but a way that local churches have been able to fellowship together and

rally around the Wesley Foundation. Our board continued a pledge program called 12-12-12. Each board member asked 12 people to give 12 dollars on the 12th of each month for the next year. Four new fundraising campaigns began during the fall semester. The Alumni Legacy program offers alumni the opportunity to name their financial gifts to the Wesley for two years or more. As they give, people are asked to pray for the Wesley Foundation that we are continuing to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve the students and staff of Troy University. We feel that our presence on campus positively impacts the lives of many young people as we strive to reflect God's love to all creation. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue our ministry at Troy University.

Respectfully submitted,
Wilbur Willis, III
Director/Campus Minister

Tuskegee University Wesley Foundation

What an honor it has been to serve as the new director for the Tuskegee Wesley Foundation. I thank the previous campus ministers for laying the foundation for such a spirit filled ministry. The past year has been one of spiritual growth and formation. We are currently outgrowing our meeting location and remain in prayer for additional space to accommodate our steady growth.

As the Tuskegee Wesley remains fluid to the vision of God, we have participated in a Harvest Festival and a Discipleship Now Rally and served within various churches as ushers, worship leaders and children's time messengers. We currently have two weekly Bible studies and a weekly communal meal and consistently participate in the following monthly community service activities:

- Sponsoring game night at the local nursing home
- Participating in home repair with Alabama Rural Ministries
- Greenfork Community Park clean-up
- Bradford's Chapel Food Bank
- Various events sponsored by local and surrounding community organizations.

Over spring break we served in a shelter located in Jacksonville, FL which houses and feeds women, children, homeless, and the poor. As we serve we learn what it means to be in community and service for Jesus Christ.

As we develop relationships our future plans include:

- Partnering with additional local community organizations to serve

- Partnering with the Tuskegee Macon-County Community Development Center to begin a community garden
- Renovating and serving within the countywide homeless shelter
- Serving within the Tuskegee Food Bank
- Fall and Spring retreats
- Seminary tour
- Global Missions
- Discipleship groups
- TWF Live Friday Night Fellowship Events

Though we remain focused, we also take time to rest and fellowship together, through bowling, skating and community outings related to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Tuskegee Wesley is blessed to announce we have received a generous donation of a 12- passenger van to transport students between different ministry activities and fellowships. In addition, the Tuskegee Wesley has received The Advance Standing and will continue to pray for God's financial blessings through grant writing, giving and fundraising.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, love and wisdom. Please continue to pray for our Board, our students and all those who give to the Tuskegee Wesley Foundation. We appreciate each of you and all you are doing to help us to advance God's Kingdom.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Bates, Director
Tuskegee Wesley Foundation

University of South Alabama Wesley Foundation

The Wesley Foundation at the University of South Alabama exists to further the Kingdom of God by connecting college students with the abundant life found in Jesus Christ. All that we do is designed with that one purpose in mind. Wesley is the place where the University and the UMC meet.

There are several weekly events for students to plug into at Wesley. Our Tuesday night dinner and Bible study continues to be our largest event. These Bible studies have become an opportunity for students to ask tough questions and be strengthened in their faith. Wednesday, there is a group that meets to go over deeper or uncovered materials (as well as leftover food) from the night before. All Wesley students are encouraged to join a "community group" that meets once a week. These small groups (led by students) are a time for students to do topical / book studies together, go deeper in their faith, and fellowship together. These student leaders also meet with the Campus Minister weekly for discipleship.

In addition to our weekly events, there are several things we are doing monthly including “Coffee House” where the entire campus is invited to Wesley for entertainment, refreshments, and faith sharing. Wesley is also committed to keeping students involved in mission opportunities as much as possible (at least once a month). We also take “bigger trips” at least once a year. This summer we will be going to Tulum, Mexico, to construct a community center for a very low-income people group. We do a lot of missions, but more than that, we teach and equip students to live missional lives where they are constantly in service to “the least of these” wherever they are.

Wesley also connects students with Christ through Christian fellowship, retreats, outreach opportunities, meals, campus events, fundraising, etc. Through our ministry, we equip students to better themselves, the campus, the future of the church and ultimately further the Kingdom of God. The University is our mission field. A million thanks to the conference for supporting the future of our church, believing in the difference we are making, and equipping Wesley with the resources to help students change the world.

Sincerely,
Johnny Peters, Director
USA Wesley Foundation

University of West Alabama Wesley Foundation

Five years ago the UWA Wesley Foundation Board of Directors took a step of faith and leased a house from the Delta Chi Fraternity. The house has ten apartments and a common space we use for worship and fellowship. This lease makes the Wesley Foundation a place for students to not only hear and learn about faith in Christ, but a place to live out that faith in an intentional Christian community. Now we are stepping from leasing this building to purchasing it.

We have been amazed by the generosity of the people of our district and conference. As of March 14, we have raised two-thirds of the funds we need to purchase the building we began leasing five years ago. We constantly pray that God will fulfill the vision for ministry we have been given.

Thanks to our facilities, we have space for 19 students to live, eat, study, and worship together, but that is only the beginning of how we live out our faith. Our Wesley Foundation has a heart for service and community. Here’s a glimpse of some of our recent activities:

- Food bank assistance in Pennington, Alabama
- Leadership training at Catapult Conference
- Team building and fundraising to serve in Ecuador in 2012

- Small group discipleship on Thursday nights
- Fellowship meals the first Monday of the month

Three of our residents serve as youth directors for congregations in west Alabama and east Mississippi. Two of our other residents gave up their Christmas break to minister in China. I could fill pages and pages with all of God's work in the lives of our students. It is encouraging and humbling.

We are constantly seeking more ways to be obedient to Jesus Christ and to love all of those around us. We pray God will continue to inspire us and work in us. We truly covet your prayers and support as we continue to be God's people on the campus of the University of West Alabama.

Peace.

Dan Baughman, Director
UWA Wesley Foundation

CONFERENCE BOARD OF LAITY

CONFERENCE LAY LEADER

On Saturday, August 28, 2010, Bishop Leeland convened a Leadership Summit at St. James UMC that consisted of all the boards and agencies of the annual conference. As far as we are aware, this is the first time that all of these groups met together in one location. The Conference Board of Laity participated actively in the conference. Each board and agency shared with the group how they function within the conference structure. The goal is to avoid duplication of effort and to make our structures complementary, seeing how we can best work together as we move forward into the future.

In January 2011 the Board of Laity met with Bishop Leeland and discussed how the laity can come alongside their local pastor to support the ministry of the church. Part of this involves the lay leader helping to interpret and explain to the congregation of their local church the many facets of the church ministry. Out of this conversation the decision was made for the first time ever to bring together all of the local church lay leaders and lay delegates for a meeting at Blue Lake on April 16, 2011, with the Conference Board of Laity and Bishop Leeland. More information on this will be presented during the laity report at annual conference.

Your board has been carefully following conversations at the general church level such as the Call to Action report. Information included in that report highlights characteristics of vital congregations. Active lay leadership is one of those characteristics which we hope to encourage and stimulate in the years to come.

New members of the Board of Laity include Billy Dozier as the Demopolis District lay leader. We are so appreciative of Bill Hill and his faithful service as the Demopolis district lay leader for many years. Judy Reiter is also a new board member as a lay speaking representative. Mason McLendon is our youth representative, and Woods Lisenby is our young adult representative. Every year the third Sunday in October is designated as Laity Sunday. We encourage you to continue to celebrate this event in your church each year as an opportunity to highlight lay service and leadership.

After much discussion it was learned that the secretary of the General Conference would not reduce the total number of delegates. However, with the Ivory Coast delegation now coming in at full strength we have lost in our conference one lay delegate. Therefore, we will be electing 6 rather than 7 lay delegates to General Conference and an additional 6 lay delegates to Jurisdictional Conference. The districts have already met and nominated persons to be presented to annual conference. The great bulk of our time and our laity orientation on Monday morning at annual conference will be spent giving you time to meet and interact with the lay delegate nominees. Their information is contained in the *Brochure of Reports*, and it is vitally important that you thoroughly familiarize yourself with this information prior to coming to annual conference. The full information on the requirements and expectations of lay delegates to General/Jurisdictional conferences 2012 as well as the lay election process were presented in the 2010 *Brochure of Reports*. That information is repeated below to make sure you are fully aware of the process going into the election.

Requirements and Expectations of Lay Delegates to General/Jurisdictional Conferences 2012

It is a great honor and privilege to represent the Alabama/West Florida Conference at either the General Conference or the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. Along with the honor and privilege, there is a significant commitment to remaining and participating in all aspects of the conferences. According to Article V of the Constitution, *Book of Discipline 2008*, pages 32-33, paragraph 36, lay delegates shall be elected without regard to age, if they have been professing members of The United Methodist Church for the two years immediately preceding their election. They shall have participated actively in The United Methodist Church for the four years immediately preceding their election, and they must be members within the annual conference electing them at the time of holding the General and jurisdictional or central conferences.

If elected, each delegate is expected to be able to:

- Give 11-12 days for General Conference (April 25 - May 4, 2012, in Tampa, Florida) and 4-5 days for the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference (July 10-14, 2012, at Lake Junaluska), understanding that only the elected delegates will have monetary reimbursement for their travel.

- Attend four to six meetings of the delegation prior to the General Conference for intense preparation.
- Commit the time necessary to read and study the issues.
- Pray for God's guidance in decision making.

The Board of Laity finalized the election process at its meeting in January 2010.

Laity Election: General and Jurisdictional Delegations 2012

In the election year, the district lay leader in cooperation with the district superintendent shall call a meeting of lay members in the district to the upcoming annual conference for selection of no more than six persons for places in the general and jurisdictional delegation. The selection process should be inclusive of age, race, and gender. Expectations for delegates, as set forth in the *Book of Discipline 2008*, will be explained by the district lay leader and/or the district superintendent, prior to the nominating process.

Only elected delegates will receive monetary reimbursements from the general conference or the jurisdictional conference. The annual conference may select a number of reserve delegates to attend the general and/or jurisdictional conference. Standing Rule 13 A. states "In addition to those delegates funded by the general and jurisdictional conference, the Alabama West Florida conference shall pay the expenses of only one more alternate delegate, lay and clergy, to the general and jurisdictional conferences." It is recommended that these reserve delegates receive the same amount from the annual conference as the delegates receive from the general conference.

A personal picture, biographical data, business and professional identity, length of United Methodist Church membership, United Methodist Church experience at local, district, annual conference, jurisdictional conference, general conference levels, a statement of beliefs and philosophies, along with reasons why they would make a good delegate shall be provided to the district superintendent/district lay leader for publication in the *Brochure of Reports*, on a standard form to be provided by the editor. The meeting shall be held prior to February 15, 2011, and data for publication shall be provided the editor as soon as possible and no later than March 1, 2011.

This procedure shall not preclude any lay member voting for any person he or she chooses as actual balloting at conference takes place. At the laity orientation session, at the 2011 annual conference, the laity shall provide a means to allow members to become acquainted with persons nominated by their district. Others present, who may be prospects for election without being nominated, will be given an equal opportunity to provide a single, designated, printed profile sheet for distribution. The designated profile sheet can be obtained from the conference lay leader prior to the laity orientation

session and must be completed and returned to the conference lay leader no later than one hour prior to the beginning of the laity orientation session. The candidate must bring sufficient copies to hand out to the lay members.

Write-in candidates receiving forty (40) votes or more, who have not turned in a profile sheet, shall be required to do so within two hours, with sufficient copies to hand out to the lay members.

Attendance at the laity orientation at the annual conference this year is strongly encouraged of all candidates for election as delegates to represent a conference. All candidates for election will be introduced prior to being sent to a designated area for questions. Seating arrangements in an election year and a review of the voting procedures will be covered to insure all ballots are correct and can be included.

LAY SPEAKING MINISTRIES

We were honored last year, when our Conference Committee was asked to host the 2010 Southeastern Jurisdictional Training for conference directors, district directors and lay speakers. We gathered in Montgomery at First UMC, our host church, and it was an incredible experience. We had conference directors, district directors and lay speakers from 12 of the 15 conferences within our Southeastern Jurisdiction. Total attendance was over 100 lay speakers. Our classes consisted of a Basic Course, Train the Trainer, Prayer Class – *Let the Whole Church Say Amen*, A Preaching Class – *From Your Heart to Theirs*, and individual training classes for conference directors and district directors. We were proud to set a high bar for future conference training. Our Conference Committee did an excellent job.

God calls every one of us to proclaim the presence and power of God through all that we say and do. How is God calling you to serve? With so many avenues of training, Lay Speaking Ministries offers you a valuable education in multiple ministry areas.

A Lay Speaker is ...

- An active, supportive (professing) member of a United Methodist church,
- Eager to serve the church, community, and the world,
- Well-informed on Scripture and on the doctrine, heritage, organization, and life of The United Methodist Church,
- Committed to witnessing through church and community leadership, care-giving ministries, and spoken communication, and
- Willing to improve our skills by training for service.

Lay Speaking Ministry is more than just speaking!

This ministry goes beyond filling in for the pastor or speaking in public. Lay Speaking Ministries offer many options for serving in roles other than the

traditional pulpit supply. Teaching, serving, training, leading, participating, caring, loving, and communicating are now integral parts of Lay Speaking Ministries. With so many avenues of training, Lay Speaking Ministries offers valuable education, equipping United Methodists for all facets of lay ministry.

Our district directors of Lay Speaking Ministries were busy and successful, training new and experienced lay speakers and working with the clergy of our conference. We have a total of 509 Certified and Local Church Lay Speakers in our conference. Last year we filled in 620 times for our clergy. We spoke in 335 different churches during the year. We also provided lay speakers for nursing homes and prison ministries and many held offices, led Bible Studies and taught Sunday school in their local churches. We held training classes in seven of the eight districts in our conference. Seventeen courses were offered including basic and advanced courses in Spanish.

The Conference Committee of Lay Speaking Ministries would like to thank Bishop Leeland, our district superintendents and our clergy. We are grateful for all the support we receive from you, and we appreciate the opportunity to serve with you in the ministry of God through Lay Speaking Ministries.

District Directors: Peggy Duck - Baypines District, John Stegall - Demopolis District, Judy Reiter - Dothan District, Glen McEntyre - Marianna-Panama City District, Crissy Lambert - Mobile District, Pat Caylor and Elizabeth Whatley - Montgomery/Opelika District, Sam Palomaria - Montgomery/Prattville District, and Kurt Burgess - Pensacola District.

At Large Members: Beverly Maddox, Edna Williams, Curtis Henderson, Dr. Alan McBride, Dr. Steve Furr, David Bowen, Candice McKim, and Lane Rees.

God does not always call the equipped...But he does equip the called. Our lay speakers are equipped, trained, certified, and waiting, with a servant's heart to be invited into your churches.

God is good...all the time. All the time...God is good.

In His Service,
Helen Edwards
Conference Director of Lay Speaking Ministries

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The United Methodist Men of the conference experienced a red-letter year in 2010, leading all 52 conferences in one area and placing among the top four in two other areas. Our support for the Upper Room Prayer Line—over

\$4,000—led all conferences in 2010. In the areas of new chapters and EMS (Evangelism, Mission, Spiritual Life) support, AWFC UMM were third and fourth among all conferences, respectively. By adding 12 new chapters during the year, AWFC was third nationally just behind Virginia's 16 and Mississippi's 14.

EMS is a program through which individuals support the work of UMM through annual gifts of \$45. The funds are divided on the national, jurisdictional, and conference levels to support evangelism, mission, and spiritual programs. In our conference, thirty-nine men became EMS participants in 2010, joining 75 others who renewed their pledge, swelling the number of EMS members to 114. To find more information on chartering a local unit and becoming an EMS member, men may go to GCUMM.org, the national website of UMM.

Spiritual Development

Prayer Advocacy. Chuck Christian, our prayer advocate, is seeking support for the Upper Room Prayer Line in our conference. Currently we have six units who answer the prayer line. Chuck is also in the process of raising financial support for the line through a letter to local units. Chuck is hopeful that we will approach our total of \$4,000 in gifts from last year.

Annual Retreat. Our annual retreat, called the Advance, was held in January and drew 135 men. Participants were challenged by John S. "Rat" Riley to develop a quest in life and dedicate their lives to Christ. Several local units shared their service projects with the group, providing specific details about how to develop similar ministries. A number of "Mountaintop" stories have grown from the Advance concerning men's personal rededications to Christ and units' revitalization. For the first time, emailing was the primary means of publicity for the Advance. Next year's Advance is scheduled for April 20-21 at Blue Lake.

Men's Ministry Specialists. Two men at Covenant UMC in Dothan are completing their requirements to become the first two MMS in the conference. As a part of their program, they are developing an accountability group in their church which we hope to use as a model throughout the conference next year in deepening our spiritual relationships with Christ.

Service

Scouting. Under the leadership of Vaughn Nichols, our Scouting program is moving forward. We now have two Scouting Ministry Specialists in the conference and a number of active district scouting coordinators. The primary focus of our Scouting program has been to encourage local churches to earn the Bishop's Award of Excellence, an award offered by the National Association of United Methodist Scouters. It ensures that scouts in a unit

are presented with a consistent Christian message. In the past five years, five units in four churches in the conference have qualified for the award. We hope to present the award to five churches this year during the Laity Banquet at annual conference. Our conference now has two Scouting Ministry Specialists, Robert Beam of Montgomery and Bob Grant of Foley.

100 Under 100. One of the most valuable tools in our arsenal in bringing people to Christ is our conference campground, Blue Lake. On April 2, we will sponsor the first annual workday for men at Blue Lake so that we can complete a number of maintenance and improvement projects to facilitate the ministries of the camp. We currently have over a dozen projects slated, ranging from building a porch for a kitchen at one of the camps to pressure washing a number of cabins. We hope to make this an annual project and encourage local units and districts to adopt projects they can complete throughout the year.

James Award. The Southeastern Jurisdiction of UMM sponsors two awards honoring laity and clergy who have followed the Biblical admonition of being “doers and not just hearers” of Christ’s word. Tony Caminiti of Fairhope UMC received the James Award, the award for laymen, for sponsoring a softball tournament to benefit our United Methodist Children’s Home. In ten years, Tony’s tourney has raised over \$22,000 for the home. Another James Award will be given to a veteran who has written and distributed over 250 email newsletters to over a thousand people to coordinate support of servicemen deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Plans are also underway to submit another James Award application for a UM Man who has spearheaded the development of a Habitat for Humanity unit in a rural county. We hope to award a number of James Awards this year and nominate someone for the G. Ross Freeman Award, an award honoring clergy for exceptional contributions to men’s ministry, by the end of the year.

Organization

Electronic Communications. Through the assistance of the conference office, we have developed an electronic mailing list of nearly 200 active men and hope to expand the list to over 1,000 by the end of the year. Each month we send a newsletter to all on the list and encourage the presidents of local units to distribute the letter electronically to their members.

Prayerfully submitted,
John Croft, President, AWFC UMM

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The Alabama West Florida United Methodist Women is a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative supportive

fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participants in the global ministries of the church.

The first event in 2010 was the Tapestry Retreat in February. The Pensacola District of United Methodist Women in partnership with the Conference Mission Team sponsored this event. The theme for this year was: *Tapestry: Weaving the Threads of Grace through Our Lives*. The retreat was led by the Rev. Dr. Connie Shelton of Jackson, Mississippi, with 140 participants. Closely following the Tapestry Retreat was the annual Spiritual Enrichment Retreat at Blue Lake led by Garlinda Burton. The theme was *This Little Light of Mine*.

In May, 59 women from the Alabama West Florida Conference along with approximately 8000 other participants traveled to St. Louis to attend Assembly. This quadrennial gathering is a wonderful time of celebrating the ministries of United Methodist Women.

The conference mission team attended the South Atlantic Regional School of Christian Mission at Ferrum College in Ferrum, VA in June. Members of our team serving on the Regional School Team are Margie Outlaw, nominations committee, and Betty Helms, conference representative and registrar for the school.

In July the Cooperative School of Christian Mission was held at Blue Lake. The theme this year is *Faith – Hope- Love in Action*. The logo design submitted by the Alabama West Florida Conference of United Methodist Women was selected for the second year in a row. Bishop William Morris led the spiritual growth study, *For the Love of God: John's Letters*, Rev. Walker Epps led the study: *Joy to the World - Mission and Evangelism* and Ruth Gynter conducted the Sudan study again this year.

In October, we were honored to have our own Bishop Paul Leeland as our keynote speaker on Friday night and Saturday morning. On Friday night newly elected and current district officers were in training sessions led by their respective conference officers. On Saturday morning, the annual meeting began with the Parade of Banners led by President Beth Bowdin and Bishop Leeland and Mrs. Leeland followed by the district presidents, district superintendents and spouses. One of the highlights of the day was the recognition of the youngest member of United Methodist Women. A special mission recognition pin was presented to six-year-old McCelland Campbell from the Baypine District. This unit of approximately 10 young girls is very active with mission projects and other miscellaneous service activities within their community. The Many Colors, One Spirit Banner was awarded to the Marianna-Panama City District, and the Special Mission Recognition Award went to the Pensacola District. Bishop Paul Leeland installed the new officers: Betty Helms, President; Sheila Hare, Secretary; Barbara Henning, Communication Coordinator; Clara Ester, Social Action Coordinator;

Margie Miller, Education and Interpretation Coordinator, Joann Ashley and Beth Bowdin, Nominations Committee.

LTE, National Leadership Event for new conference officers was held in St. Louis, MO in November. Six of our new officers attended: Betty Helms, Barbara Henning, Clara Ester, Margie Miller, Louise Mixson, and Joann Ashley.

The United Methodist Women of the Alabama West Florida Conference contributed a total of \$230,540.72 to mission giving, which encompasses; international, national, conference and United Methodist Committee on Relief. As United Methodist Women, we continue our journey with excitement and commitment as our lives fulfill the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women with its focus on mission to women, children and youth.

Betty Helms, President



ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM REPORT

CONFERENCE BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS

The Board of Pension and Health Benefits offers quality health-care, disability, pension, retirement, financial planning, long-term care and death benefit coverage to the clergy and churches of the Alabama-West Florida Conference.

In the wake of the recent economic recession, the Board continues to give careful attention to our resources as we look toward the future. Our greatest resource is confidence in God's abundance and goodness.

The Board is appreciative for the cooperation of our churches and clergy as adjustments are made to the implementation of direct bill on January 1, 2011. This change in process opens the way to greater fiscal stability for our annual conference as benefit costs are more reliably collected.

At the recent Financial Leadership Forum in Fort Worth, Bishops Michael Watson (GBOPHB) and Lindsay Davis (GCFA) gave a faithful assessment to our present situation: "There is no question that we have a job to do and a task demanding attention - the outcomes will have far-reaching impact on all who serve the Church. We...look to scripture to inform our thinking as we go about our work. The story of Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath demonstrates that God provides and assures sufficiency – we know we will need to change our ways in light of the new realities to support our denominational mission. We may think that we do not have enough – but in fact, we really do. Our charge is to attain financial viability by using the sufficiency we have in new and different ways, to adjust to our realities and to assure our mission continues well into the future.

Your Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall be prudent in long-term planning, and we shall be optimistic our management of the Board's important benefits programs. We are committed to the goal of sustainable churches, a sustainable Alabama West Florida Annual Conference, and a sustainable United Methodist Church.

Please know that I am open to your calls and concerns. Pray for us that our work may continue to bring blessing for those who serve the Church

REPORT 1 – Health Insurance

The Board works hard to provide excellent health care coverage to our clergy and lay participants through a partially self-funded insurance plan,

administered by Blue Cross – Blue Shield of Alabama. Mobile lay member Pete Miller serves as chairperson of the Insurance Sub-Committee of the Board. The cost of this health insurance plan is covered by participant premium equivalent and church apportionments. Clergy Retired Benefit Stabilization Fund has become a part of our funding plan to guarantee the financial strength of our Health Insurance Plan and to help offset the unfunded liability for retiree benefits. The Board's health insurance reserve investment fund's market value as of December 31, 2010 was \$3.7 million. The Board of Pension also maintains an Operating Reserve Fund at the United Methodist Foundation with a balance of \$500,000. In order for the plan to remain viable and available to all, participation by Clergy must be mandatory. The only exceptions being when the clergyperson can provide satisfactory evidence that he/she is covered by a spouse's group plan or that he/she is covered by a military or government retirement health plan. The Board of Pension and Health Benefits seeks to increase the insurance reserves each year in its efforts both to maintain fiscal strength and stability in our insurance program and to offset the unfunded liability associated with providing post-retirement medical benefits to current and future retirees. The board established a target of \$5,035,708 for 2011 and will recalculate the target annually. The Conference unfunded liability for retiree health benefits was estimated in 2010 to be approximately \$29,000,000. The 2010 study results are included in Report 2.

Conference health care coverage is available for lay employees of local churches, and the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits encourages every church with lay employees to consider adding this important benefit. For information on premiums and enrollment requirements, please contact the Conference Fiscal Office.

Health Insurance Receipts and Expenditures 2010

Beginning Balance	\$2,157,303.54
Receipts:	
Apportionments	\$2,902,036.89
Premiums	2,346,621.50
Retirement Benefit Stabilization Fund	439,581.00
Reinsurance	136,946.39
Miscellaneous receipts	<u>-0.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$5,825,185.78
Total Available	\$7,982,489.32
Expenditures:	
Claims:	
Clergy	
Prescription Drug \$	791,323.82
Other Claims	<u>2,882,235.68</u>
Total Clergy	\$3,673,559.50
Retired (MEDSUPP)	
Prescription Drug	\$0
Other Claims	<u>\$438,288.52</u>
Total Retired	\$438,288.52
Lay	
Prescription Drug \$	244,641.75
Other Claims	<u>1,228,322.46</u>
Total Lay	\$1,472,964.21
Total 2010 Claims and Admin	\$5,584,812.22
Reinsurance Premium Paid	360,911.60
Dental Premium Paid	260,697.75
Premium Refunds	297.00
Fund Operations	41,714.81
Miscellaneous (Health Screens, etc.)	<u>23,380.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$6,271,813.38
Net Available over Expenses	\$1,710,675.94
Transfer to Retiree Benefit Stabilization Fund ..	\$926,703.00
Ending Balance	\$783,972.94

REPORT 2 – Report of Actuarial Valuation of Post-Retirement Medical Benefits of Employees and Retirees

In response to the direction of the 2000 General Conference, every five years the Alabama-West Florida Conference retained an outside consulting firm to calculate the liabilities associated with providing postretirement medical benefits to current and future retirees in accordance with the terms of its existing plans and contribution arrangement. The report in Exhibit 1 was prepared by AON Hewitt Consulting, based on conditions existing as of December 31, 2010.

The full report presents actuarial liabilities for the plan, as well as the applicable expense and liability amounts that would exist in the conference-reported plan financial information in accordance with the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards Nos. 106 and 132.

In addition, cash flow information is presented which projects the future claims and participant contributions for the current group of active and retired participants, along with the resulting employer costs. Cash flows, liabilities, and the net periodic post-retirement benefit costs have been calculated based on conditions existing as of the December 31, 2010 measurement date.

Please contact the Fiscal Office at 888-873-3127 if you would like to review the report in its entirety. In this report (Number 2, Exhibit 1), we summarize the information provided through the valuation. Currently there is no formal funding plan established, though the Board of Pension and Health Benefits seeks to use any revenues over expenditures in the health insurance program to build up reserves and to underwrite this liability. We fund the annual retiree health costs through apportionments, individual monthly premium payments, and active clergy Retirement Stabilization Fund contributions.

Exhibit 1.**Summary of Results****Financial Information**

The following table summarizes the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 106 (FAS 106) results of the programs. The Net Periodic Postretirement Benefit Cost is the expense the Plan Sponsor must record in their financial statements for the fiscal year.

	Fiscal Year Ending	
	12/31/2010	12/31/2009
(1) Net Periodic Postretirement Benefit Cost	\$4,211,219	\$4,033,990
(2) Accumulated Postretirement Benefit Obligation	21,954,406	19,333,937
(3) Expected Postretirement Benefit Obligation	29,271,889	25,929,180
(4) Succeeding Year Cash Flow Projection	\$578,140	\$523,204
(5) Fair Value of Assets	\$0	\$0
(a) Irrevocable Trust	\$0	\$0
(b) Allocated for Benefits	\$2,739,000	\$2,260,000
(c) Recognized Under FAS 106	\$0	\$0
(6) (Accrued)/Prepaid Benefit Cost		
(a) Beginning of Year	(\$6,935,202)	(\$3,424,416)
(b) Net Employer Contribution in Year	N/A	523,204
(c) (Financial Statement Expense)	(\$4,211,219)	(\$4,033,990)
(d) End of Year	N/A	(\$6,935,202)
(7) Charge/(Credit) to Unrestricted Net Assets	N/A	15,019,204
(8) Discount Rate	6.10%	6.55%
(9) Health Care Trend Rate		
(a) Initial	10.50%	10.50%
(b) Ultimate	5.50%	5.50%
(c) Year Ultimate Trend Attained	2017	2017
10) Expected Return on Assets	7.00%	7.00%

Valuation Data

The following table summarizes the covered plan population included in this valuation and the last valuation that data was collected

	11/01/2010	01/01/2009
(1) Number of Participants and Dependents		
(a) Active Employees		
(i) Clergy	339	339
(ii) Lay	N/A	N/A
(iii) Total	339	339
(b) Retirees		
(i) Clergy	230	227
(ii) Lay	N/A	N/A
(iii) Total	230	227
(c) Dependent Spouses	74	94
(d) Total	643	660

Source of Data

- (1) Data was collected as of October 18, 2010, rolled back to the valuation date and is supplied to us by the Employer and a third party administrator.
- (2) Although we believe these to be accurate and complete, the data and financial information have not been audited by us.

REPORT 3 – Pension

The Reverend Gary Daniel chairs the Pension sub-committee of the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits. The Board continues to be delighted by the fine work of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of the United Methodist Church. With assets exceeding \$16 billion and over 74,000 active and retired participants, the General Board ranks in the top 100 pension plans in the country and is the largest faith-based not-for-profit financial service organization in the world. In addition, the General Board acts as a socially responsible investor and participates actively in shareholder advocacy, proxy voting, portfolio screening, and community investing. The General Board is the largest denominational investor in affordable housing programs for low- and moderate-income families in the nation. To date, they have allocated nearly \$1 billion to affordable housing and community development investments

Many current and future retirees find that their pension benefit is derived from several different plans. While the number and variety of plans make calculating pension benefits confusing, the various plans offer a certain level of security due to the diverse ways in which retiree pensions are funded.

1. The Pre-1982 plan bases the pension payment for a retired person on the number of years served with pension credit prior to 1982 and the Past Service Rate (PSR). The Board of Pension set as its goal to offer a PSR equal to CRSP increase of 2% in future years. In 2011 the PSR is set at six hundred fifty-seven dollars (\$657) or .97 of the CAC per service year for retired clergy and four hundred sixty dollars (\$460) for surviving spouses. For 2012 the Board proposes a past service rate of six hundred seventy-one dollars (\$671) or .97 of the CAC per service year for retired clergy. The total rate for surviving spouses is proposed to be four hundred seventy dollars (\$470). The Annual Conference adjusts the pension benefits of those living in Conference-provided retirement homes by a reduction of \$50.00 per month for clergy and \$35.00 per month for surviving spouses.
2. The Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP) was the mandatory retirement plan for clergy serving from 1982 through 2006. Under this plan, the Board of Pension contributed 12% of the Denominational Average Compensation (DAC) on behalf of each eligible clergy person under appointment. Benefits at retirement are determined on a defined-contribution basis.
3. The United Methodist Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP) is a voluntary defined-contribution plan for personal contributions and rollovers made by clergy and lay employees.
4. By mandate of the 2004 General Conference, beginning in January 2007, the General Board of Pension replaced the MPP with the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP), which has two components – a Core

Defined Benefit Plan and a Core Defined Contribution Plan. The Core Defined Benefit Plan determines a pension benefit using the following formula by multiplying 1.25% of the Denominational Average Compensation (DAC) in the year of retirement by the number of years of credited service after 2006. Clergy appointed to less than full time service and Part Time Local Pastors are credited for service in increments of 25%, 50% or 75%. In cooperation with the cabinet the Conference Board of Pension sets the following appointment salary service standards for 2012:

- a. Elders and Provisional Members at or greater than \$27,375 will serve at 75%
Associates Members at or greater than \$26,468 will serve at 75%
Local Pastors at or greater than \$22,901 will serve at 75%
- b. Elders and Provisional Members at or greater than \$18,250 but less than \$27,375 will serve at 50%
Associates Members at or greater than \$17,645 but less than \$22,901 will serve at 50%
Local Pastors at or greater than \$15,268 but less than \$18,250 will serve at 50%
- c. Elders and Provisional Members at or greater than \$9,125 but less than \$18,250 will serve at 25%
Associates Members at or greater than \$8,823 but less than \$17,645 will serve at 25%
Local Pastors at or greater than \$7634 but less than \$15268 will serve at 25%
- d. The Core Defined Contribution Plan determines the pension benefit from the defined contribution of 3% of the participant's plan compensation.
- e. The UMPIP replaces the pre-2007 PIP plan and operates like PIP as a defined contribution plan with either pre-tax or post-tax voluntary contributions.

Retiring pastors may expect their pension benefits to come from multiple plans – Pre-1982 based on years of service with pension credit before January 1, 1982 and the PSR or the Defined Benefit Service Monies (DBSM) whichever provides the greater annuity payment, MPP based on defined contributions from 1982 through 2006, supplemented by PIP and UMPIP contributions, and CRSP based on the number of service years after 2006 and the DAC in the year of retirement. Because of the change in plans, it is important for participants to verify that the post-2006 appointment information, including appointment percentages for less than full time appointments, listed in the *Journal of the Alabama-West Florida Conference* each year is correct. The Conference Board of Pension and Health

Benefits will assume that the Journal information is correct unless a correction is submitted in writing and verified within the conference year in which the Journal is printed.

The Cumulative Pension and Benefit Fund served as a voluntary defined-contribution retirement plan through 2006, funded through employer contributions made on behalf of deacons (prior to 2006), diaconal ministers, and lay employees of local churches. This fund is now part of the UMPIP plan.

Information from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits is available online at www.gbophb.org.

The Board of Pension and Health Benefits recommends that the apportionment line item for Conference Claimants Fund be set at \$1,000,000 (no increase) for 2012. Since pension liabilities are tied to the Conference Average Compensation and market results of General Board of Pension plan assets, future increases in the Conference Claimants Fund line item may track with these variables and GBOPHB actuarial projections.

We call attention to paragraph 622 of *The 2008 Book of Discipline* of The United Methodist Church relative to the requirement that the apportionment for the pension and benefit programs be paid in proportion to the payment of the pastor's salary by the local church. The Discipline gives the church treasurer the primary responsibility for the application of proportional payment. If the church treasurer fails to do this, the pastor is then required to adjust his/her cash salary.

REPORT 4 – Central Conference Pension Initiative

The Alabama-West Florida Conference continues its support of the Central Conference Pension Initiative. Churches, districts, and individuals have given a total of over \$460,000. This figure includes gifts and pledges from churches and individuals in the conference. Churches are encouraged to give at a level around \$1 per member per year for the four years of this quadrennium. Active and retired clergy are encouraged to give to their brothers and sisters in need around the world. The United Methodist Church is experiencing its greatest growth in many of the Central Conferences, where pastors labor under difficult and often dangerous conditions and retire after a lifetime of service with no income. Many are forced to beg for assistance in their retirement and often go without food several days each week. Our effort is part of an initiative across the church to respond to the plight of our retired Central Conference clergy by raising \$20–25 million to establish a sustainable pension program. Many thanks for your gifts and support.

REPORT 5 – Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program

This Supplement One is applicable to the Alabama-West Florida Conference and is effective January 1, 2007. It replaces any previously executed Addendum A (or Attachment 1) and shall be in effect until amended by the Annual Conference in accordance with the provisions of the Clergy Retirement Security and the Comprehensive Protection Plan revised January 1, 2007.

CPP contribution base shall be the active participant's plan contribution for a plan year not to exceed 200% of the Denominational Average Compensation.

The CPP contribution rate shall be 4.4% of the contribution base of each active participant. [CPP Section 4.01(a).]

The CPP church contribution shall be made monthly to the plans by the Annual Conference in accordance with the Plan Document. Such CPP church contributions shall be transferred monthly from the deposit account of the Alabama-West Florida Conference by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits to the Comprehensive Protection Plan. The Annual Conference shall maintain an amount in its deposit account sufficient to provide for the monthly transfer of the church contributions on behalf of its active participants. (NOTE: For the years 2010, 2011 and 2012 The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits will continue the monthly CCP billing without deducting from the Annual Conference Deposit Account the annual bill. This is the "CPP Premium Billing Holiday." This will offset some of the annual conference unfunded liability for all plans experiencing market losses through of January 1, 2009.) The Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits is hereby authorized, at its discretion, to arrange with The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits for active participation in CPP by persons who are eligible under special rules but not automatically included as active participants. [CPP Section 3.03. (a)]

All full and associate members appointed to Sabbatical Leave shall continue to participate in CPP, provided the Conference makes the required contribution based on 3.4% of the DAC. [Disciplinary Paragraph 350; CPP Section 3.02(a).]

All full, associate, and probationary members granted a Leave of Absence may be continued in CPP provided the Conference makes a contribution of 4.4% of the DAC. [Disciplinary Paragraph 352, CPP Section 3.02(a)]

All full, associate, and probationary members granted family leave may continue in CPP, provided the Conference makes the required contribution based on 4.4% of the DAC. [Disciplinary Paragraph 353; CPP Section 3.02(a).]

The surviving spouse benefit will be 70% of the participant's formula benefit.

**REPORT 6 – Alabama West Florida Annual Conference
Funding Plan For Supplement One to the Ministerial
Pension Plan For Plan Year 2011**

The 2011 Past Service Rate (PSR) is \$657, or .97% of Conference Average Compensation (CAC). The conference intends to maintain the PSR to CAC ratio between 0.8% and 1.00%. We expect future PSRs to increase by 2% per year in keeping with CRSP increases.

The conference will fund the contributions if necessary (\$729,017) by apportionments and direct bill. Any apportionments not needed for pre-1982 pension contributions may be used for retiree benefits.

The 2011 funding plan numbers are summarized below.

Past Service Rate	\$657
-------------------	-------

FUNDING*

Plan Assets (Funding)	\$32,610,499
Minimum Contribution Liability	(\$37,385,294)
Funded Status	(\$ 4,774,795)

*As of January 1, 2009. Assuming 7% interest and the RP 2000 Mortality Table and 2% future PSR increases.

/s/

The Reverend Daniel W. Morris
Chair, Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits



GENERAL BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Caring For Those Who Serve

1901 Chestnut Avenue
Glenview, Illinois 60025-1604
847-869-4550
www.gbophb.org

April 6, 2011

Mr. Frank Dunnewind
Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference
100 Interstate Park Drive
Suite 106
Montgomery, Alabama 36109

RE: 2011 Funding Plan for the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference

Dear Mr. Dunnewind:

Attached is a copy of the funding plan for 2011 submitted for the portion of Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program attributable to the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference.

The total liability as of January 1, 2009, for 2011 is \$37,385,294 based on the following key actuarial assumptions:

- 7.0% interest
- RP-2000 mortality table
- Past service Rate of \$657 and
- 2.0% average increase in the Past Service Rate

In the opinion of The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of The United Methodist Church, the attached funding plan meets the funding requirements of Paragraph 1506.8 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2008*. This opinion applies only to the attached funding plan.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Featherstone
Actuarial Services Department

cc: Rev. Daniel W. Morris, Chairperson, Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits, Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference
Ron Coleman, General Board of Pension and Health Benefits

Enclosure: 2011 Pre-82 Pension Funding Plan

REPORT 7 – Claimants' Memorial Fund

We recommend the continuation of the Claimants' Memorial Fund, such funds being invested by this board with the interest being used for the benefits of the conference claimants. Individuals and groups are invited to make voluntary contributions in any amount as memorials to deceased ministers, members of minister families, or lay persons. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama-West Florida Conference and sent to the conference treasurer, Montgomery, with the name or names of the persons being memorialized. Families of those so memorialized will be notified that a memorial gift was received.

REPORT 8 – Special Appointment Pension Responsibilities

In keeping with paragraph 1506.3.a(3), 4g, 4h, of the 2008 Discipline, we recommend that those clergy appointed to extension ministries be approved for pension responsibility on this Annual Conference in the following full time appointments: the director of the Assembly Grounds, the director of Noah's Ark, the director of the Mobile Inner City Mission, the director of the Alabama-West Florida Board of Pastoral Care Counseling and Training, the director of each Wesley Foundation, the Chaplain at the United Methodist Children's Home, the Director of the Pensacola Urban Ministry and the Pensacola Hispanic Ministry provided such appointments are made as members of this Annual Conference under paragraph 344.1a(1) and 346.1 of the *2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*. The district superintendents, clergy appointed to the Conference Connectional Ministry and the Fiscal Office are approved with pension responsibility on this Annual Conference.

We recommend that special appointments to the United Methodist colleges and universities and other general agencies shall be listed as with pension responsibility on the institution or agency.

We recommend that chaplains in the Armed Forces be listed with pension responsibility on the chaplaincy of the military service.

We recommend that clergy under appointment as approved evangelists, area appointments and other special ministries shall be listed with pension responsibility on this Annual Conference only upon payment to the Conference Claimants Fund an amount equal to 16.4% of the DAC as determined by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. (2008 Discipline, par. 1506.3a.)

By special arrangement those ministers on leave of absence or probationary members appointed to attend school may qualify for the Comprehensive Protection Plan by a personal payment of 3.45% of the DAC to the Conference Claimants Fund.

We recommend that special appointments to non-Methodist institutions shall be listed without pension responsibility on this Annual Conference

We recommend that all missionaries shall be listed with pension responsibility on the General Board of Global Ministries.

REPORT 9 – Depositories

We recommend that the official depository for pension funds shall be the same as that designated by the Conference for other Conference funds as well as the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of The United Methodist Church.

REPORT 10 – Pensions for Lay Employees

We strongly endorse the UMPIP and the Lay Long Term Disability Plan administered by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits for lay employees of United Methodist local churches and agencies. In keeping with paragraph 258.2g (12) of the *2008 United Methodist Book of Discipline*, we recommend and urge our churches to use these plans provided by the General Church to provide pension equal to at least 3% of compensation and death and disability coverage for our lay persons who serve our churches.

Churches and agencies should contact the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, 1901 Chestnut Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025, (800) 851-2201 for information on becoming plan sponsors for the UMPIP for lay employees.

REPORT 11 – Full Time Service as a Requirement for Pension Credit

We call attention to the following provisions relative to full time service, rendered prior to January 1, 1982, as a normal condition for pension credit which appears in paragraph 1506.4 of the 2008 Discipline.

- A. Full-time service of a ministerial member or a lay pastor shall be required as a normal condition for pension credit; provided, however, that such credit may be granted for part time service by a three-fourth vote of those present and voting in the Annual Conference, on recommendation of the conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits.
- B. Full-time service shall mean that full time is devoted to the work of a pastor by one who has not attained the mandatory age of retirement for a Conference member, who is not attending school as a regular student, who is not substantially employed in non-pastoral work; and whose cash support per annum from all

church sources is not less than the schedule of equitable compensation adopted by the Annual Conference for those in this person's classification.

It should be noted that service of either a ministerial member or lay pastor is without pension credit if it is not full-time service as defined, except in cases of approved part-time service.

REPORT 12 – Resolutions Relating to Rental/Housing Allowances for Retired or Disabled Clergypersons of the Alabama – West Florida Annual Conference

The Alabama – West 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 2012 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 Clergy person rendered to this Conference or that an active, a retired, or a disabled Clergy person 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 Clergy person 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 Clergy person's pension or disability as part of his or her gross compensation.

NOTE: It should be noted that the above applies only to the minister and not to the surviving spouse. The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a Clergy person's gross income in any year for federal income tax purposes is limited under Internal Revenue Code section 107(2) and regulations there under to the least of: (1) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the Clergy person'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 Clergy person 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. If you need further information concerning this exclusion, please contact your CPA or the Conference Fiscal Office

REPORT 13 – Special Grants

The Conference Board of Pensions recommends that the following monthly grants be made for the 2012 Conference year:

Oakley W. Melton, III \$300.00

REPORT 14 – Homes for Claimants

The Board of Pension and Health Benefits owns 18 living units for persons who retired from the conference prior to 2003, through the leadership of the Ms. Beth Gordon, chairperson of the Homes sub-committee of the board. No additional assignments of homes to retirees will take place, and homes are being sold as they are vacated. Home sales proceeds are placed in the Homes/Claimants Fund at the United Methodist Foundation. \$80,137.97 was expended on insurance, maintenance, taxes and repairs in 2010.

Repairs, general maintenance, and general upkeep are performed as needs arise. The Board recommends that \$44,650 be apportioned for maintenance, taxes and insurance for the Homes for Claimants and for Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits Operations in 2012.

Homes Listing:

AUBURN

803 Cahaba Street

Rev. & Mrs. Jamie Pickard

DEMOPOLIS

1508 Powe Road

Mrs. Polly Hill

DOTHAN

913 Clearmont Drive

Mrs. Linda Arledge

1209 Frederick Road

Mrs. Everett Killmman

1657 East Selma Street

Vacant

JACKSON

432 Golfview Drive

Mrs. Jake B. Brown

MOBILE

3508 Pepper Ridge

Rev. Jean Spikes

3636 Vista Ridge

Vacant

MONTGOMERY

821 Bridleway Court

Rev. Jon C. Couey

3708 Duquesne

Rev. and Mrs. Leonard Shults

813 Hatcher Street

Mrs. Carolyn Wilson

LYNN HAVEN

1205 Massachusetts Ave

Rev. and Mrs. Charles Wimberly

OPELIKA

2008 Glenwood Drive

Mrs. Gerald Freeman

PENSACOLA

2003A. N. 15th Ave

Rented

2003B. N. 15th Ave

Mrs. Glen Greenhill

3585 Gatewood Drive

Mrs. Warren Lindsey

2743 Honeywood

Mrs. Thomas Sowell

6313 Langley Place

Mrs. Driftwood Rucker

REPORT 15 – Policy for Claimants Home Occupants

Should an occupant of a claimant's home choose to relocate from a claimant's home the following policy will apply:

Documented moving expenses not to exceed \$2,000 will be reimbursed.

A grant not to exceed \$3000 will be given to offset documented closing costs for the purchase of a home or documented rental deposit for an apartment, town home or assisted living facility.

The moving expenses and grant will be available to clergy persons or a surviving spouse occupying a claimant home. It is not available to family members when the home is vacated as a result of the death of a clergy person or surviving spouse.

REPORT 16 – Need-Based Housing Grants

By direction of the Annual Conference, the Board began selling vacant homes in 2003 to pay off all mortgages and create a Homes Fund with the United Methodist Foundation. Beginning in 2005, the Board began offering need-based housing grants for retiring clergy. The grants are made from the earnings of the Homes/Claimants Fund. As of December 31, 2010, the Homes/Claimants Fund at the United Methodist Foundation had a market value of \$2.5 million.

To qualify an applicant must be:

A clergy person who retires with a minimum of 20 years full-time service with pension credit on the Alabama-West Florida Conference and is receiving his/her pension.

An un-remarried surviving spouse of an active clergy person with a minimum of ten (10) years full-time service in the Alabama-West Florida Conference. He/she must have been married to the qualified clergy person during the years of qualifying service. Exceptions may be considered in the case of death prior to 10 years of service.

The surviving spouse of a retired clergy person who was married to that clergy person at the time of his/her retirement

Clergy Persons who are placed on Incapacity Leave by the Annual Conference

APPLICATION PERIOD:

Clergy that retire June 1, 2003 or thereafter may apply for a grant any time subsequent to their retirement. Surviving spouses may apply within one year of the date of death of the clergy person. Clergy persons who are placed on Incapacity Leave by the Annual Conference may apply within one year of being placed on incapacity leave or they may apply subsequent to retirement, provided they retire on or after June 1, 2003.

To be considered for a grant, the applicant and spouse's post-retirement earned income from all sources must be equal to or less than 1.25% of the denominational average compensation (DAC) in the year of application.

Applicants must submit a Board of Pension and Health Benefits Financial

Statement, along with the most recent 1040 Income Tax Form including all schedules. Applicants must also complete an interview with a Grant Committee appointed by the Board of Pension.

Grants are intended to assist retiring clergy to obtain housing. The money granted to applicants should be used to aid with some form of housing such as down payments, closing costs, rental deposits, etc. Grants are awarded on a one-time basis up to \$3,500, as set forth herein. Grants will be disbursed within 30 day after approval by the Grants Committee.

Grants are not guaranteed but will be awarded based upon the Grant Committee's discretion considering financial need, circumstances, available grant funds and the totality of the overall circumstances.

Amendments

These guidelines may be amended from time to time by simple majority of the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

REPORT 17 – Other Retirement Services

The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits offers other outstanding services to active and retired clergy, including free financial planning services through Ernst and Young and Long-Term Care Insurance through the John Hancock Insurance Company and Voluntary Supplemental Life Insurance through UNUM. For more information on these services, please contact Frank Dunnwind at the Conference Fiscal Office.

REPORT 18 – Alabama-West Florida Conference Policy on Incapacity Leave and CPP Disability Benefits (Approved June 2005)

This report can be found on page 399 of the 2009 Alabama West Florida Conference Journal. The Journal may be downloaded at www.awfumc.org.

REPORT 19 – Death Benefit Program

Since January 1, 1995 the conference has participated in The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits' Basic Protection Plan, now Clergy Supplemental Life. Clergy Supplemental Life is an additional death benefit added to the regular death benefit provided by the Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) in which each full-time clergy, with a base compensation and housing equal to 60% or more of the Denominational Average Compensation (DAC.)

2012 Death Benefits

Active participant CPP death benefit	\$50,000.00
Active participant Clergy Supplemental Life death benefit (under age 70):	\$25,000.00
Active participant Clergy Supplemental Life death benefit (70 or older):	\$16,250.00
Retired participant, receiving pension upon retirement CPP Death benefit:	\$18,834.30
Retired participants eligible for supplemental benefit:	\$ 5,000.00

Minimum Surviving Spouse Annuity Benefits

The surviving spouse of an active participant is eligible to receive a minimum annual pension of \$12,556.20 (20% of the DAC). The Comprehensive Protection Plan will supplement pension payments as needed to assure that eligible surviving spouses receive at least the 20% minimum pension.

Surviving Child Benefits

Children under age 18: \$6278.10 annually (10% of the DAC)

Children between the ages of 18-25: \$12,556.20 annually (20% of the DAC) for up to four years, if enrolled in school full time.

The amounts for surviving children are based on percentages of the DAC in effect on the benefit starting date. Once initiated, these benefits increase 3% annually on the anniversary of the benefit starting date.

Submitted by,
The Reverend Daniel W. Morris
Chair, Board of Pension and Health Benefits

CONFERENCE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REPORT 1

The Board of Trustees of the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference holds in trust all properties of the Annual Conference. The real properties held are the following: The Episcopal Residence: 3291 Lancaster Lane, Montgomery. The Board is the Trustee for the following bequests (cost value as of December 31, 2010):

<u>FUND</u>	<u>COST VALUE</u>	<u>BENEFICARY</u>
1. Norris Allen Fund	\$232,422.38	Board of Ministry
2. Hattie B. Norred Fund	\$ 75,997.90	Board of Trustees
3. C.B. Gilmore Fund	\$122,293.26	Board of Trustees
4. Lowndesboro Trust	\$ 6,126.85	Lowndesboro UMC
5. Mary Lloyd Reynolds	\$ 81,207.55	Board of Missions
6. J.B. Skinner Estate	\$868,422.23	Children's Home
7. Lida Malone Missionary Acct	\$ 4,589.94	Leprosy Hospital

The Board of Trustees holds these funds in trust, with the revenues being used as directed by the donors.

We call attention to the resolution adopted by the Annual Conference of 1988, which designated the Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation as the official depository for discretionary endowment funds owned by the Annual Conference and its related boards and agencies. Local churches are encouraged to use the Foundation for endowment funds in order to insure proper management and fiduciary accountability.

REPORT 2 - SIGNATURE AUTHORITY

Approved June 2001

This report can be found on page 404 of the 2009 Alabama West Florida Conference Journal. The Journal may be downloaded at www.awfumc.org.

REPORT 3 - DESIGNATION OF UMC OWNED PROPERTY AS CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, OR ARCHITECTURAL LANDMARK

Approved June 2003

This report can be found on page 405 of the 2009 Alabama West Florida Conference Journal. The Journal may be downloaded at www.awfumc.org.

REPORT 4 - GENERAL TRUST GUIDELINES

Approved June 2003

This report can be found on page 406 of the 2009 Alabama West Florida Conference Journal. The Journal may be downloaded at www.awfumc.org.

REPORT 5 - 15 PASSENGER VANS***Approved June 2003***

This report can be found on page 407 of the 2009 Alabama West Florida Conference Journal. The Journal may be downloaded at www.awfumc.org.

REPORT 6 - PARSONAGE STANDARDS - 2010***Approved June 2004***

This report can be found on page 408 of the 2009 Alabama West Florida Conference Journal. The Journal may be downloaded at www.awfumc.org.

**REPORT 7 - POLICY STATEMENT CONCERNING
SEXUAL MISCONDUCT BY CLERGY OF THE
ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC.*****Approved June 2003***

This report can be found on page 410 of the 2009 Alabama West Florida Conference Journal. The Journal may be downloaded at www.awfumc.org.

REPORT 8 - POLICY STATEMENT CONCERNING SAFE SANCTUARIES

Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference

SAFE SANCTUARIES POLICY

Approved June 2007

Updated June 2009

Updated June 2011

OUR MANDATE

Introduction: The General Conference of The United Methodist Church, beginning in April 1996, adopted a resolution aimed at reducing the risk of child sexual abuse in the church. The adopted resolution includes the following statement:

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes (a) child...welcomes me." (Matthew 18:5). Children are our present and our future, our hope, our teachers, our inspiration. They are full participants in the life of the church and in the realm of God.

Jesus also said, "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones..., it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea." (Matthew 18:6) Our Christian faith calls us to offer both hospitality and protection to the little ones, the children. The Social Principles of The United Methodist Church state that "...children must be protected from economic, physical and sexual exploitation, and abuse." (Paragraph 162C)

Tragically, churches have not always been safe places for children. Child sexual abuse, exploitation and ritual abuse occur in churches, large and small, urban and rural. The problem cuts across all economic, cultural and racial lines. It is real, and it appears to be increasing. Most annual conferences can cite specific incidents of child sexual abuse and exploitation within churches. Virtually every congregation has among its members adult survivors of early sexual trauma.

Such incidents are devastating to all who are involved: the child, the family, the local church and its leaders. Increasingly, churches are torn apart by the legal, emotional, and monetary consequences of litigation following allegations of abuse.

God calls us to make our churches safe places, protecting children and other vulnerable persons from sexual and ritual abuse. God calls us to create communities of faith where children and adults grow safe and strong.

(From *The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church* – 2008: copyright 2008 by The United Methodist Publishing House, pp. 245-247)

Therefore, in covenant with all United Methodist congregations, the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference adopts this policy and its accompanying procedures to demonstrate our absolute and unwavering commitment to the physical safety and spiritual growth of all our children, youth, senior citizens, and at-risk adults. Every congregation within the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference is expected to uphold this policy as its minimum standard in establishing safe sanctuaries for all God's children.

Statement of Covenant: In all of our ministries with children, youth, and adults, we are committed to demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ so that each person will be "...surrounded by steadfast love, ...established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal" ("Baptismal Covenant II," *United Methodist Hymnal*, p. 44).

Definitions of Abuse:

- Physical abuse – abuse in which a person deliberately and intentionally causes bodily harm to a child.
- Emotional abuse – abuse in which a person exposes a child to spoken and/or unspoken violence or emotional cruelty.
- Neglect – abuse in which a person endangers a child's health, safety, or welfare through negligence.
- Sexual abuse – abuse in which sexual contact between a child and an adult (or another older and more powerful youth) occurs.
- Ritual abuse – abuse in which physical, sexual, or psychological violations of a child are inflicted regularly, intentionally, and in a stylized way by a person or persons responsible for the child's welfare.
- Abuse of vulnerable adults – ritual, emotional, or sexual abuse of any person over 19 years of age with physical, mental and/or developmental disabilities.

The church at risk:

Any organization involved with young people is a place where abuse could occur. Several factors make local congregations, districts, and annual conferences more susceptible to risk:

- Churches behave as relatively trusting organizations, relying upon their members and their leaders to conduct themselves appropriately. Sometimes this trusting attitude persists even in the face of questions or reports of misconduct.
- Churches are notoriously inactive when it comes to screening its volunteers and/or employees who work with children and youth. Often, no investigation is done at all before total strangers are welcomed aboard.
- Churches routinely provide opportunities for close contact and for close personal relationships with children. Indeed, these are nurtured and encouraged as we try to live out the gospel message.

Consequences of abuse:

- When one child is abused within a church or Christian program, many victims are created, including the child, the congregation, the child's family, and often the family of the abuser.
- The congregation becomes a victim after abuse is revealed and relationships are fractured. It may also suffer for a long time when civil or criminal litigation ensues as a result of the abuse.
- Of foremost importance is the child who has been harmed and for whom care must be provided.
- In addition, paragraph 2702 of the [2008 Book of Discipline](#) names child abuse, sexual abuse, sexual misconduct, and sexual harassment as chargeable offenses for clergy and lay members.

Statement of Policy

No congregation or annual conference can afford, either financially, ethically, or morally to fail to implement strategies for the reduction and prevention of any and every kind of abuse. Therefore, it shall be the policy and covenant of the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church to do everything in our power to prevent physical, emotional or sexual abuse against children, youth, and adults with developmental disabilities involved in any ministry sponsored by the Annual Conference or in any of our local congregations.

Further, we are called to minister to those persons who are experiencing abuse and to those who have been victims of abuse in the past. To that end we covenant to be aware of our legal responsibilities and to comply with those responsibilities and go beyond those responsibilities when necessary to act justly in the best interest of those who have been abused or those who are most vulnerable to abuse.

Careful screening is the best way to reduce the risk of abuse of children, youth and vulnerable adults. It can be time consuming and expensive, but well worth the effort and peace of mind that comes with having the most reliable, committed and experienced staff and volunteer in place for every program that involves children, youth and vulnerable adults.

Although it is our fervent hope and prayer that child sexual abuse does not occur in our programs, we must put into place sufficient mechanisms to reduce the risk of abuse of children, youth, and those who work with them. For that purpose, our ministries shall implement the following procedures in congregation, district, and conference ministry programs and events. Local congregations may adopt their own policy provided the policies and procedures meet these minimum standards. Local congregations not adopting a policy shall be governed by this policy.

STANDARDS, CRITERIA, and RESPONSIBILITIES**Minimum age**

The following standards for authority figures (whether volunteers or staff) are designed to separate authority figures from the group they are serving by age or enough years to reinforce recognition of the authority figure's role.

1. Authority figures – defined as the primary leaders of youth and children's activities

- a. To work with youth (grades six and above), or children, (infants–fifth grade) the authority figure must be a minimum of age 19 and it is recommended they are at least four years older than the youth involved.
- b. To work with children (infants–fifth grade), the authority figure must be a minimum of age 18.
2. Assistants – defined as persons who lend aid to the authority figure and act at the direction of the authority figure, including volunteers, interns, and camp counselors. Whether working with youth or children, assistants must be:
 - a. A minimum of 12 years of age and four years older than the participants, and
 - b. In the judgment of a staff member, competent to assist in the activity.
 - c. An assistant less than 18 years of age may not be counted as an adult in the child/adult ratios.
 - d. An assistant less than 18 years of age may not lend aid unless two authority figures are present.

Two adult rule

A minimum of two non-related adults shall be utilized in all programming with children, youth, and at-risk adults. When it is impossible to staff with two non-related adults, there shall be an additional adult serving as a floater with visual and physical access to all areas.

Open-door policy

Classrooms or child care rooms shall be open to visitation at any time without prior notice by staff, parents, or other volunteers.

Sign-in and Sign-out Procedures

Sign-in and sign-out procedures shall be in place for all ministries for and with children in the local church.

Six month rule

It is highly recommended that a six-month rule be established in the selection of volunteers wishing to give service in the areas of children and youth ministry. This means that all volunteers demonstrate an active relationship in good standing in a local congregation or campus religious organization for a minimum of six months. Persons not meeting this minimum requirement may serve only in an assistant capacity with two other non-related adults.

Adult/Child ratios

All ratios must be understood in light of first having two adults present at all times. Adults and authority figures shall never be alone with a child or youth. This can include, but is not limited to an automobile while taking a young person home, a classroom with windowless or locked doors, or a cabin at camp.

State codes are required for day care centers and school-based programs and are a strong standard for all programs to follow. This includes Sunday school, mid-week, and summer programs.

Alabama State Codes for child care ratios:

- Birth to 18 months – 1 Adult to 5 Children
- 18 months to 2 ½ years of age – 1 Adult to 7 Children
- 24 months to 36 months of age – 1 Adult to 8 Children
- 2 ½ year to 4 years of age – 1 Adult to 11 Children
- 4 years of age to school age – 1 Adult to 18 Children
- School age to 8 years of age – 1 Adult to 21 Children
- 8 years of age and older – 1 Adult to 28 Children

Note: For more information contact the Alabama Department of Human Resources

Florida State Codes for child care ratios:

- Birth to 1 year – 1 Adult to 4 Children
- 1 to 2 years of age – 1 Adult to 6 Children

- 2 to 3 years of age – 1 Adult to 11 Children
- 3 to 4 years of age – 1 Adult to 15 Children
- 4 to 5 years of age – 1 Adult to 20 Children
- 5 years and older – 1 Adult to 25 Children
- Mixed Age Groups:
 - When children 2 years of age and older are in care, the staff-to-children ratio shall be based on the age group with the largest number of children within the group.
 - In groups of mixed age ranges, where children under 1 year of age are included, one staff member shall be responsible for no more than 4 children of any age group.
 - In groups of mixed age ranges, where children 1 year of age but under 2 years of age are included, one staff member shall be responsible for no more than 6 children of any age group.

Note: For additional information contact the Florida Department of Children and Families.

Participants who are physically or mentally impaired:

- Those needing constant and individual assistance or supervision – 1 leader to 1 participant
- Those needing close, but not constant, assistance or supervision – 1 leader to 2 participants
- Those needing occasional assistance – 1 leader to 4 participants
- Those needing minimal assistance – 1 leader to 5 participants

Overnight programs:

Overnight events include summer camps, retreats, mission trips, lock-ins, or any event that extends through the evening. The adults staying with the young people must always be the same gender as the young people. The adults must never share a bed with a young person and shall not be alone in the room with a young person at any time.

- Grades 1-3 – 1 adult to 8 young people
- Grades 4-8 – 1 adult to 10 young people
- Grades 9-12 – 1 adult to 12 young people

Motel/hotel settings

- A hotel shall be selected that has rooms opening to the interior (i.e. closed hallway) of the building. Where possible, select adjoining rooms on a single hallway.
- When two adults cannot be assigned to a room housing youth, the youth shall be roomed separately from the adults. If adjoining rooms are available with doors that can be left in the open position, a single adult in each of the adjoining rooms is acceptable.
- An adult shall not share a bed with a young person including their own child.
- Where adults need to be assigned to separate rooms, it is recommended that one adult room be located between every two youth rooms on the hall.
- Adults shall develop a rotating schedule allowing for the hallways to be monitored throughout the night.
- If room checks are needed, they shall involve two adults of the same gender as the room residents.

Transportation

- All drivers shall be screened in the same manner as other leadership for an event including a review of their motor vehicle record.
- When private vehicles are used to transport young people for programmed church-related events, leaders shall ensure that appropriate insurance is being maintained by both the church and the private driver.
- All drivers must be 21 years of age or older.
- Where possible, it is recommended that two adults be placed in each vehicle or the vehicles teamed in minimum groups of two that stay together at all times.
- The trustees or bus committee shall establish safety policies and guidelines for the operation of church-owned vehicles. These shall be strictly followed at all times.

- On all planned trips, a signed, permission slip with medical authorization should be on file. In the absence of such a form, the adult shall call an authorized parent or relative to pick up the child.

Mentoring

Mentoring programs or other efforts to pair young people with caring adults are often credited with being the key to a young person's success in life. Therefore, mentoring programs shall follow these guidelines:

- Provide basic screening and background checks for all adults who will be working with children and youth.
- Establish clear written guidelines for settings, boundaries, and the environment where the mentoring will occur.
- Provide training for all adults (or youth, if they will be working with children) who are interested in being mentors.
- Make it clear that all persons are expected to following congregation and conference guidelines for reducing the risk of abuse.
- Outings shall be in public places with routes and time frames agreed upon in advance, and known to all. Outings with several mentors and young people are preferred.
- One-to-one mentoring or tutoring shall take place in a group setting, such as one large room rather than individual rooms spread throughout the church building.

Counseling

At any counseling session with children, youth, or adults of the other gender, any non-windowed door of the room used shall remain open for the entire session. Ideally, the session will be conducted at a time when others are nearby, even if they are not within listening distance. A counseling session shall never be held in secret, even if the person being counseled makes that request.

Whenever someone seeks counseling, it is important to determine in the initial meeting if the counselor is actually qualified to address the needs effectively. If not, the person shall be referred to another counselor.

Interpersonal boundaries

Adult workers with youth and children must be attentive to:

- Appropriate dress codes
- Appropriate use of language
- Appropriate demonstrations of affection and encouragement. (i.e. an adult leader shall never initiate a hug and should always be the one to end the hug.)

Home visitation

When visiting a young person in their home, the two non-related adult rule still applies. If a young person drops by the home of an adult volunteer or staff person, the visit shall be conducted in the front yard or moved to a local restaurant. Educating young people of these requirements before they visit is most beneficial.

Cyber Issues:

- Firewalls on computer systems at churches need to be in place and kept up to date.
- Volunteer and Employees shall maintain Christian principles when using social networking sites, especially when referencing church and Alabama-West Florida Conference events.
- Those in authority and assistants are to be accountable for cyber communications.
- When utilizing pictures and videos from Alabama-West Florida Conference events no names are to be posted for those under 18 years of age. Churches are encouraged to establish policies for use of photographs and videos on the web.

RECRUITING, SCREENING, AND TRAINING

Recruiting and screening volunteer and paid staff

- A. All persons employed or volunteering as an authority figure for children/youth shall:
 1. Complete Application/Commitment Form. (form at end of this policy)
 2. Provide three character references. It is recommended that the three references be contacted on all applicants having access to children, youth and vulnerable adults. One of the references must be the applicant's pastor (clergy person's District Superintendent) and the other two must be non-relatives. (form at end of this policy)
 3. Be interviewed by the director of the ministry or program. (form at end of this policy)
 4. Consent to the following background checks:
 - a. Multi-state criminal and sexual offender check based on social security number
 - b. Motor vehicle records (for those who will be transporting children, youth, or at-risk adults)
 The Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference recommends background checks be run through the Trak-1 company. A background check is valid for-two years. If the individual changes physical addresses, the background checks must be run again. Details about running background checks are found in the appendix.
 5. Demonstrate an active relationship with the local church.
 6. Have the experience and qualifications for the position.
 7. Attend training by the church and/or annual conference in maintaining the Safe Sanctuaries Policies.
- B. All persons employed or volunteering as an assistant for children/youth shall:
 1. Complete an Application/Commitment Form.
 2. Be interviewed by the director of the ministry or program.
 3. Provide three character references.
 4. Consent to the following background checks:
 - a. Multi-state criminal and sexual offender check based on social security number
 - b. Motor vehicle records (for those who will be transporting children, youth or at-risk adults)
 5. Attend training provided by the local church or annual conference.
- C. In the event a substitute worker needs to be brought in under last minute circumstances, that person must:
 1. Complete an Application/Commitment form.
 2. Provide a character reference who can be contacted immediately by the director.
 3. Complete a basic orientation/training provided by the director or other supervisor before working.
 - a. Consent to a background check involving a multi-state criminal and sexual offender check based on social security number.
- D. Unfavorable background checks or a refusal to complete the screening procedures:
 1. Volunteers or Staff (other than clergy):
 - a. The person shall be notified with a "Notice of unfavorable background check" form (form at end of this policy) or notified by Trak-1 if applicable.
 - b. If the unfavorable report is a volunteer the Pastor and chair of the Board of Trustees shall meet with the person to discuss the report.
 - c. If the unfavorable report is a staff person the Pastor/Staff Parish Committee Chairperson shall meet with the person to discuss the report and a letter shall be placed in the person's file.
 - d. Review process may consider the following factors:
 - 1) The nature and seriousness of the crime
 - 2) The relationship of the crime to the purpose of the congregation
 - 3) The age of the person at the time of the commission of the crime

- 4) The time elapsed since the person's crime
- 5) Any charge that deals with sexual abuse or child abuse shall prevent the person from working with children and/or youth.
- e. Documentation of action taken should be placed in the person's file.

Training staff and volunteers

The church shall ensure that regularly scheduled (i.e., at least annual) training focused on current issues of child protection is available to and received by those working with children and youth. Attendance at this training shall be required of all paid staff members and adult volunteers who work with children and/or youth. Documentation of attendance shall be kept from year to year so that if an incident occurs, the church has proof that they followed the policy. (Note: Many insurance companies are mandating training and its frequency.)

The training shall include:

- A. The definitions and signs of child abuse.
- B. The church's policy and procedures on child abuse and the reasons for having them.
- C. The need to maintain a positive classroom environment, including appropriate discipline and age-level characteristics.
- D. The appropriate behavior for teachers and leaders of child/youth events.
- E. Child abuse reporting responsibilities and procedures.
- F. Definitions of appropriate interpersonal boundaries (ways of touching students, appropriate language, etc.)
- G. All forms used by the church for application, background checks, reporting, and teacher files.

REPORTING ABUSE

Reporting abuse or alleged abuse in Alabama:

Alabama's mandatory child abuse and neglect reporting law states that all school teachers and officials, social workers, day care workers or employees, mental health professionals, members of the clergy as defined in Rule 505 of the Alabama Rules of Evidence, or any other person called upon to render aid or medical assistance to any child, when the child is known or suspected to be a victim of child abuse or neglect, shall be required to report, or cause a report to be made of the same, orally, either by telephone or direct communication immediately, followed by a written report, to a duly constituted authority. When an initial report is made to a law enforcement official, the official subsequently shall inform the Department of Human Resources of the report so that the department can carry out its responsibility to provide protective services when deemed appropriate to the respective child or children.

Reporting abuse or alleged abuse in Florida:

All cases of suspected abuse must be reported to the Florida Abuse Hotline. Initial reports are NOT made to the county/local branch of the Florida Department of Children and Families. The Florida Abuse Hotline may be reached at **1-800-96-ABUSE**. Reports may be faxed in, however, the preferred option for the Florida Department of Children and Families is for persons to call the Florida Abuse Hotline and talk to a Hotline counselor.

IMPLEMENTATION IN THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The key to implementing a Safe Sanctuaries policy in our annual conference is communication with each congregation and conference agency regarding (1) the need for a policy, (2) to whom the policy applies, and (3) how it will be implemented. A form will be submitted with the Charge Conference packet to ensure that each congregation is actively providing a Safe Sanctuary for every age group. The Safe Sanctuaries Taskforce shall develop the policy.

This policy shall be evaluated at least every two years to ensure that it maintains its effectiveness. At a minimum, the policy shall include a brief theological statement, definition of child abuse, a strong statement that abuse will not be tolerated, standards to be followed, a commitment to investigate any and all allegations of abuse, and a place for alleged incidents of abuse to be reported. It must also comply with state laws and insurance requirements.

IMPLEMENTATION IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

The key to implementing a Safe Sanctuaries policy in a local church is communication with the congregation regarding (1) the need for a policy, (2) to whom the policy applies, and (3) how the congregation plans to implement it. It is recommended that the policy be implemented by a board nominated by the Lay Leadership committee and the Administrative Council.

I. Create an ongoing "Safe Sanctuaries Team."

Potential Members include:

- a. Pastor
- b. Staff Parish Relations committee member
- c. Trustees member
- d. Children's ministries coordinator
- e. Day Care Director (if applicable)
- f. Lay Leader
- g. One or two members at large
- h. Lawyer

II. Develop a policy

Implement an organizational policy for the protection of children and youth. At a minimum, the policy shall include a brief theological statement, definition of child abuse, a strong statement that abuse will not be tolerated, standards to be followed, a commitment to investigate any and all allegations of abuse, and a place for alleged incidents of abuse to be reported. Also, be sure to check conference policies and procedures, state law and the requirements of the insurance carrier. In writing a policy for a local congregation, language may be borrowed from this document.

III. Screen all staff and volunteers

- A. Implement a process for recruiting, screening and hiring workers (paid staff and volunteers) who will work with children and youth. A thorough screening process for staff (including clergy) and volunteers will:
 1. Deter persons who engage in predatory behavior from applying for a position,
 2. Identify possible predators,
 3. Show the church's commitment to protecting children and youth
- B. Always check prior employment and references. The screening process should include an application with information on previous employers, references and church affiliation. Make sure each source is contacted and information on each contact is in the staff/volunteer "personnel" files.
- C. Conduct background checks on:
 1. Multi-state criminal and sexual offender check based on social security number
 2. Motor vehicle records (for those who will be transporting children, youth or at-risk adults)
- D. Prior to beginning the screening processes, have a question and answer time about the implementation procedures. This might be led by someone from Human Resources, Child Protective Services, or a day care center director.
- E. Provide time after an educational event for new people to receive their screening packets and ask questions about filling out the applications.

IV. Train the volunteers and staff

All workers (staff and volunteers) shall be required to attend training annually on the church's policies, procedures and expectations for working with children and youth (i.e. two adult rule, four year older rule, sign in and sign out sheets, what to do if an accident occurs, reporting an alleged incident of child abuse, information on state child abuse laws, and the like).

V. Other information to consider:**A. Make the physical setting safe and conduct periodic safety inspections.**

1. All classroom doors shall have windows or a half door; if an office does not have a window in the door, the door shall remain open during counseling sessions or private meetings.
2. The bathrooms shall not be isolated or far removed from classroom/play areas and doors shall remain open where practical and given due consideration for privacy concerns.
3. Hall monitors shall patrol the halls during programs.
4. All other aspects of safety shall be considered as well to minimize the risk of serious injury when accidents occur.

B. Communicate regularly with parents.

1. Provide advance notice and full information/disclosure about events and activities, with written permission forms and information on who will be supervising and working with the children and youth.
2. Give information to families about the church's policies and procedures for preventing child abuse.
3. Encourage parents to communicate with someone in authority about any concerns, fears or worries about their children and/or a volunteer or staff person.
4. Know the church's families.
5. Be prepared for how to handle sensitive and confidential matters with families and concerned church members.

C. Maintain adequate liability insurance coverage.

1. The coverage must apply to all the different activities of the church, at and away from church premises.
2. The church shall work with a knowledgeable insurance agent who knows the needs of a church.
3. Remember, too, that the least expensive insurance may have significant gaps in coverage.
4. The church shall know what coverage it has for sexual misconduct.

D. Be prepared for the worst at all times.

1. "This is our church; it won't happen here" is a naïve viewpoint that can create an environment open to problems. Opportunities for accidents and abuse happen more frequently when prevention steps are not in place. Also be prepared for the worst, and never make assumptions about what might or might not happen in a church.
2. This also means being prepared with a plan for responding immediately to allegations of abuse, including state reporting obligations.

E. Always remember that this is a Church!

1. The Church is a sanctuary. Churches make a commitment to protect children each and every time a child is baptized.
2. Churches shall be role models in the community for the time and attention given to the care of children and youth.

F. Keep the records safe and secure.

1. Limit the number of persons who know the outcomes of the background and criminal checks to the appointed clergy person, the Safe Sanctuaries committee chairperson, and perhaps one other designee.

2. Copies of the applications and the actual reports shall be "double locked" - locked file cabinet in a locked office.
3. Electronically stored reports must be password protected and accessible only by those listed in (1).

G. No Exceptions!

1. No one is exempt from the screening, even the woman who has been working with children for many years.
2. The key to explaining this need is the reality that the procedure is designed to protect not just the children, but also the adults from false accusations.
3. Another key to explaining this need is that if all current staff and volunteers are properly screened, then new staff and volunteers more readily understand the need.

H. Know the child intervention resources in the area and make that information available to your church.

1. National Child Abuse Hotline 1(800) 4-A-CHILD
2. Florida Child Abuse Hotline 1(800) 96-ABUSE
3. Alabama residents should call the National Hotline
4. County Department of Human/Children Services
5. Area Child Protective Services
6. National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse 1(312) 663-3520
7. Parents Anonymous 1(800) 421-0353
8. Alabama Sex Offender Registry <http://community.dps.state.al.us>
9. Florida Sex Offender Registry www.flsexoffender.net

EDUCATIONAL COMPONENT

Implementing a comprehensive strategy for the prevention of abuse in a local church must be accompanied by a substantial amount of education being provided for the workers with children and youth, the parents of children and youth, the congregation, and the children and youth themselves. This model is designed to be used as a three or four hour workshop and shall be adapted for the target audience. It shall be offered periodically throughout the year and any time new volunteers are beginning service in the congregation.

I. Opening Worship

- A. Prayer of invocation – Gracious and most merciful God, you have brought us together in witness to your love for all children. Open our hearts and minds in this moment and prepare us to receive your message. Show us your will and fill us to overflowing with courage to face the reality of abuse within our midst. Give us energy and dedication enough, to make this, your church, a holy and hallowed place where all your children may be safe and secure as they grow in faith and in their knowledge of your presence in their lives! Amen.
- B. Suggested scriptures:
 1. Exodus 22:21-23 – You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt. You shall not abuse any widow or orphan. If you do abuse them, when they cry out to me, I will surely heed their cry.
 2. Matthew 19:14 – Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."
 3. Luke 9:46-48 – An argument arose among them as to which one of them was the greatest. But Jesus, aware of their inner thoughts, took a little child and put it by his side, and said to them, "Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me; for the least among all of you is the greatest."
- C. Brief devotion – Begin by recalling the baptismal ritual for children, reminding the participants of the pledge made by the congregation at each child's baptism. Acknowledge and list the many ways your

congregation lives out that pledge through its current ministries. Conclude by introducing the safe sanctuaries policies as the newest component of your church's ministries with children and youth.

II. Introductory information

- A. Current occurrences – Set the stage here for the substance of the event by introducing recent news reports from your own community's newspapers or television broadcasts related to incidents of abuse of children, youth, or the elderly in any locations or institutions. Also, at this time, present the material related to any current litigation involving the church or claims of abuse.
- B. Current statistics – Quote the statistical information from the conference Safe Sanctuaries policy or from other sources available to you. Emphasize the fact that two million annual incidents translates into one incident of abuse every fifteen seconds.
- C. Reasons to implement an abuse strategy:
 1. Our church is a community of faith that can offer a safe haven and sanctuary where children, youth, and adults can seek advice, help, and nurture.
 2. Our church is a place where more than just facts of abuse can be taught. We can also teach and proclaim our Christian values: compassion, justice, repentance, and grace.
 3. Our church is the place where all can come to learn and develop the inner strength and spiritual resources they will need to feel truly connected to God and to face suffering and evil.
 4. Our church can be the place where children and adults are able to learn how to respond to painful and confusing events using the wisdom of the Scripture.
- D. Summarize – These reports and data demonstrate that we cannot ignore the possibility that abuse could happen here. For the sake of our children and youth and the protection of our workers against false allegations, we need to intentionally work to prevent abuse.

III. What is abuse and how can we recognize it?

Use the information from the "Our Mandate" section of this policy to give the definitions of abuse.

IV. Who are abusers?

Abusers of children and youth are more often than not familiar adults trusted by others. Less than twenty percent of child abuse is perpetrated by strangers. Just as victims of abuse come from all segments of society, abusers can be from any racial, ethnic, economic, and social group. They will come into contact with their victim through their work in ministry or through their association with the congregation.

V. What are we doing to keep at-risk individuals and our workers safe?

Present the new policies and procedures for offering a safe sanctuary for all people. Give participants time to read the policies and review the forms. Allow time for questions and discussion as you review each section with the group.

- A. Screening of staff: employees and volunteers – Use your own policies and the information in this conference policy for the substance of this section. Provide copies of all screening forms, application forms, covenant forms, consent forms, and position descriptions. Allow time for a review of each form and for questions from the participants.
- B. Training of staff: employees and volunteers – Use your policies and the information in this conference policy for the substance of this section. Be thorough in reviewing all of the safety procedures, and allow time for questions.
- C. Reporting suspected abuse – Use your policies and the material specific to your state to explain the reporting procedures developed for your church. Explain the policy, the procedure for making a report, and the concept of confidentiality.
- D. Completing the task – If this is the first occasion the workers have had to see and review the screening, application, and position description forms, you may need to allow time for each of them to complete the forms.

VI. Closing worship

- A. Covenant forms – Distribute covenant forms to the participants. Invite people to celebrate the church's commitment to protecting vulnerable individuals and those who work with them by completing a covenant form. (form at end of this policy)
- B. Read Luke 9:46-48 and sing "Jesus Loves Me."
- C. Offering of covenant forms – Ask the participants to bring forward their signed covenant forms as a sign of offering themselves in ministry. Sing the Doxology.
- D. Benediction – May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit guide and direct you in all you do. Amen.

RESOURCES

The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church – 2008 (The United Methodist Publishing House, 2008).

The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church – 2008 (The United Methodist Publishing House, 2008).

Safe Sanctuaries: Reducing the Risk of Abuse in Youth Ministries by Joy Melton (Discipleship Resources, 2003).

Safe Sanctuaries: Reducing the Risk of Child Abuse in the Church by Joy Melton (Discipleship Resources, 1998).

REPORT 9

CONFERENCE - WIDE INSURANCE PROGRAM (UNITED METHODIST PROPERTY AND CASUALTY TRUST)

In 2007 the Annual Conference adopted, but did not make mandatory, a resolution to establish PACT as the conference-wide insurance carrier for all of the churches and ministries of this annual conference beginning January 1, 2008. Previously in September 2006 the Board of Trustees joined UNITED METHODIST PROPERTY AND CASUALTY TRUST (PACT) by insuring all of the annual conference owned property and operations.

In December 2007 the Trustees were informed by PACT that there was not enough committed participation in the annual conference to sustain a conference wide insurance program. However, PACT was committed to providing coverage for the churches who wanted it, particularly Named Wind Storm coverage. The end result was that a commercial carrier providing excess coverage in PACT was willing to provide the necessary property coverage.

In 2010 Seventy Six churches and agencies were insured by PACT through the Alabama-West Florida Conference.

The Conference began 2010 with a balance of \$199,175.66

We receive premium, capitalization fees and risk management fees totaling \$ 1,414,762.51

We received return of 2009 retention escrow in the amount of \$25,000.

We paid premium, capitalization and other fees in the amount of \$ 1,546,040.51

We ended 2010 with a balance of \$92,897.66.

At the December 31 year end we were still awaiting a return of “excess property” premium paid in 2010 that is expected to bring the operating balance back in line with the funding available at the beginning of year.

We will continue to offer the PACT coverage to churches in the Alabama-West Florida Conference via the new PACT partnership which began January 1, 2010, with the Church Insurance Agency Corporation (CIAC). The Church Insurance Agency Corporation is the Episcopal Church equivalent of PACT, that is, a captive that has provided ministry protection for the Episcopal churches in the US for over 100 years. CIAC will provide PACT the program administration services formerly provided by AJ Gallagher in Itasca, IL. Their Alabama representative, Mr. William (Bill) Bullock who lives in Spanish Fort, has proven to be of benefit to the local churches of the annual conference. Because of these changes the 2011 premiums remained at the 2010 level. Rather than using only one insurance company for all coverage our new partnership now works with several different companies, for example; Progressive for auto; and QBE for property. Bill has been visiting the churches in the conference providing ministry protection information, property value assessments and quotes for coverage. If your church trustees are interested in meeting with Bill he can be contacted at (251) 621-2041.

The Board is also encouraged by the news that, in an effort to lower costs, the denomination's top financial agency will become the single owner of the PACT program. The General Council on Finance and Administration approved a plan to allow the United Methodist Property and Casualty Trust Company to buy out the 12 annual (regional) conferences and two general agencies that now own the company.

The Trustees continue to believe that the maximum benefit will be realized when all conference churches are enrolled in the PACT insurance program.

REPORT 10 – INSURANCE STANDARDS

Approved June 2008

This report can be found on page 429 of the 2009 Alabama West Florida Conference Journal. The Journal may be downloaded at www.awfumc.org.

Submitted by,
Reverend Debora Bishop, President
Conference Board of Trustees

COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

"It is the purpose of the commission on equitable compensation to support full-time clergy serving as pastors in the charges of the annual conference by: (a) recommending conference standards for pastoral support; (b) administering funds to be used in base compensation supplementation; and (c) providing counsel and advisory material on pastoral support to district superintendents and committees on pastor-parish relations." (625.2, 2008 *Discipline*)

In our desire to help thriving congregations secure an appropriate pastor salary, we recommend the **following guidelines** to be strongly considered as a church applies for assistance through the Commission on Equitable Compensation (CEC).

Only full-time pastors who are in full connection, provisional, and associate conference membership, full-time local pastors, retired pastors, and part-time local pastors serving as student or seminary student pastors are eligible for equitable compensation support. These pastors must be certified by the board of ordained ministry (district and conference levels as applicable), approved by the annual conference, and appointed to a church or charge. Each pastor who is in good standing, and who is appointed by the bishop to less than full-time service, is eligible for equitable compensation to total no more than that percent of equitable compensation to which they are appointed. No associate pastor, part-time local pastor (other than student and seminary student pastors), or supply pastor shall receive salary support from this fund.

To receive fully scheduled equitable compensation for the minister's category, the **church must pay 80%** of the minimum salary for the year for which equitable compensation is desired.

The amount of equitable compensation a pastor is eligible to receive is based upon the total of his/her base salary, travel allowance and utilities, and other approved related allowances (total salary package), excluding housing allowance given in lieu of a parsonage

No pastor of any classification shall receive aid from CEC if he/she receives income from any other church source if that income plus salary from the charge he/she serves is more than minimum salary. No person qualifying for equitable compensation which amounts to less than \$600 per year will receive any equitable compensation.

We recommend that no pastor serving outside the bounds of our conference be eligible to receive equitable compensation unless there is no appointment available for him/her in the conference, or unless it is a special appointment by the presiding bishop. Appointment for the convenience of the pastor shall not be considered a sufficient reason.

The CEC recognizes there may occasionally exist certain situations within our conference in which special funding consideration beyond the stipulated requirements may assist a church to become self-sustaining more quickly. In such situations, a supplement determined by the CEC, above the regular equitable compensation may be given the pastor provided the money is available. Normally, no situation will receive this special consideration for more than three years. Such cases will be determined by growth criteria such as growth potential, leadership requirements, age of church, and indebtedness.

In the case of cooperative parish ministries or specialized ministries, the district superintendent may recommend that the CEC, in consultation with the District Board of Missions, give consideration to supplement the salary of a pastor/director or associate director even though the person comes under the benefit of equitable compensation, without any reduction in the equitable compensation support.

The CEC recognizes that there may occasionally exist hardship cases which should be considered for financial assistance. Sensing a need for such assistance for a charge, the DS should assess the situation and present the findings and request rationale to the CEC upon whom rest the final decision.

To motivate churches toward the goal of total pastoral support, the CEC proposes to give a **bonus** (as funds are available) of 60% of a charge's salary increase over the previous year, provided 80% of the minimum for the pastor's category is also reached.

The CEC recommends that all charges receiving equitable compensation develop and implement a **plan** to become **self-sustaining**, i.e. to no longer need CEC's assistance and that such a plan be submitted to CEC through their DS; that no charge be eligible to receive equitable compensation for more than **5 consecutive years**; that charges must have, in the past year, a **net gain** in membership and worship attendance, pay 100% of their **apportionments**, and have at least 1 **profession of faith**.

Concerning a church/charge’s submission of a plan for financial self-sustenance, each applicant church self-selects whether it is on CEC’s **3- or 5-year maximum** plan. Churches who do not submit a written plan for becoming self-sustaining may receive CEC funds for a maximum of 3 years while churches who do submit such a vitality plan may receive funds for a maximum of 5 years. A church may move from CEC’s 3-year plan to the 5-year plan upon submitting the aforementioned plan anytime during their first 3 years of receiving CEC funding. These 3- and 5-year plans refer to maximum numbers of years; CEC funding awards are for 1 year at a time.

The district superintendents are required to review all equitable compensation situations in their districts to ascertain the necessity for such funds and whenever possible seek to reduce the need for this supplement. The CEC recommends that charges have 100 or more members in order to qualify for CEC funds, except in the case of a new church.

It is the responsibility of the district superintendent to follow the guidelines set forth by CEC when recommending charges and pastors for equitable compensation. Also, the DSs shall be responsible for the accurate completion and submission to the CEC the forms provided by the CEC for this purpose. The secretary of the CEC shall not issue a check order for equitable compensation funds until all criteria have been met as determined by the CEC. When the status of a pastor receiving these funds changes the DS should immediately notify the CEC of the changed status.

Full-time local pastors who do not have a parsonage must receive a housing allowance to bring their total plan compensation up to 60% of the denominational average compensation.

The CEC shall file with the conference office personnel related to the AWF Journal publication each year a schedule listing the equitable compensation payments during the year, giving names of charges and amounts paid to each.

The Commission on Equitable Compensation recommends the following Equitable Compensation Schedule for 2012, reflecting (1) the removal of minimum salary for Part-time Local Pastors Serving as **Students/Seminary Students**, and (2) **no change** in minimum salary amounts for **all remaining categories**:

Recommended Minimum Salaries for 2010

Full Connection	\$36,500
Provisional Member (serving full time)	\$36,500
Associate Member	\$35,290
Full-time Local Pastor	\$30,535

Additionally, the CEC recommends that **Direct Bill** health insurance and pension payments for CEC-supported churches/charges **be waived until December 31, 2013**, with the AWF Board of Pension and Health Benefits absorbing that cost through apportionments. Beginning January 1, 2014, all CEC-supported churches/charges would be direct-billed as per normally applicable formulas.

Equitable Compensation Disbursements for 2010

Bascom	\$ 2,220.00
Greenwood	2,220.00
San Pedro Mission	8,004.00
Mt. Hermon	2,512.00
Hiland Park (Marianna/PC)	8,496.00
Bowen	7,308.00
Pine Hill	9,072.00
St. Francis-West Wilmer	9,996.00
Uriah/Mineola	3,864.00
Noah's Ark	3,918.00
St. Paul	16,152.00
Pine Level	5,004.00

Submitted by,
Rev. Francis Turner, III
Chairperson, Commission on Equitable Compensation

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Report 1 - ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Purpose: To develop, maintain, and administer a comprehensive and coordinated plan of fiscal and administrative policies, procedures, and management services for the Alabama-West Florida Conference.

1. The Council on Finance and Administration (CFA) shall be organized in accordance with paragraph 610 and 611 of the *2008 Book of Discipline* of the United Methodist Church and Standing Rule No. 36 of the *2008 Journal of the Alabama-West Florida Conference*.
2. The Council on Finance and Administration (CFA) shall meet prior to Annual Conference and during session as needed. A fall and winter/spring meeting of CFA shall be held. The president of the Council may call other meetings.
3. All persons interested in presenting a request to CFA are invited to do so or to attend any of the Council meetings. All Council meetings

shall be open to all interested persons, except when, by majority vote, the council elects to meet in executive session.

4. The Committee on Investments within CFA shall be responsible for reviewing, approving, and supervising all banking relationships of CFA with special attention given to investments including those of conference agencies.
5. The Committee on Audit and Review within CFA shall have responsibility for reviewing audits of all agencies receiving funds from the Annual Conference.
6. The Regions Bank shall be designated to serve as the conference depository to receive funds and keep specified records.

Report 2 - CONFERENCE OFFICERS

The Council on Finance and Administration shall be responsible for budgeting and for the work of the conference officers as listed in Standing Rule No.2.

A. Conference Secretary

The conference secretary fulfills the responsibilities prescribed by the 2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church and the Standing Rules of the Alabama-West Florida Conference.

B. Conference Fiscal Officer and the Fiscal Office

1. The responsibilities of the Fiscal Office shall include: Conference treasurer/Director of Administrative Services; Statistician; Conference Benefits Officer and Executive Secretary of the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits; and other responsibilities assigned by the Council on Finance and Administration.
2. The Fiscal Officer shall keep records, make reports, and handle all financial transactions of all conference agencies.
3. The Fiscal Office shall prepare reports as required by the Council on Finance and Administration (CFA), and mail copies to persons who may need such reports.
4. All apportioned district and conference funds shall be channeled through Regions Bank and records kept by the Fiscal Office of the Conference.
5. The Fiscal Office shall disburse all checks pertaining to every fund and keep proper files of the copies of the check orders from the secretaries authorizing the issue of such checks. Copies of the checks issued shall be filed after having been charged against the account upon which they have been drawn.
6. The Fiscal Office shall tabulate, church by church, fund by fund, the information given on the remittance blanks for the conference depository.

C. Journal Editor - Conference Journal and Brochure of Reports

1. The Journal Editor shall chair the Editorial Committee (Standing Rule No. 15), and be responsible for the publication and distribution of the *Annual Conference Journal* and the *Brochure of Reports* for the Annual Conference.
2. All boards, commissions, committees and other agencies submitting reports to be included in the Brochure of Reports must have the reports in the hands of the editor no later than the second Monday in March.
3. The Journal Editor shall have authority to edit reports but not to change the meaning of any part of any report.
4. Standing Rule No. 15 shall be followed in distributing the *Brochure of Reports*. It shall be the responsibility of the district superintendents to supply the names and addresses of lay members no later than the second Monday of March. Additional copies shall be made available to the conference registrar.
5. All memoirs (including photographs) must be in the hands of the editor by the closing of the last business session of the annual conference. Responsibility for this material shall reside with the Commission on Archives and History.
6. All material to be included in the Journal (other than those in 5 above) must be in hands of the editor not later than ten (10) working days after the close of the Annual Conference.
7. The *Annual Conference Journal* shall be distributed according to Standing Rule No. 15. An order blank for the Journal will be provided prior to Annual Conference with the final day to order a Journal to be not later than July 31st.

D. Conference Registrar and Registration Policies

1. The Conference Registrar shall have full responsibility for interpreting the eligibility of those covered under Standing Rule No.8 for entertainment at the Annual Conference Session. This may be appealed to the Council on Finance and Administration.
2. The Conference Registrar shall supervise registration of and assignment of rooms to Annual Conference delegates and handle calls for persons attending sessions.
3. Chairpersons of boards and agencies who are not elected delegates and attend the Annual Conference in order to give reports shall have their expenses paid by their own board or agency.
4. All physical preparation for Annual Conference shall be under the Registrar's supervision in cooperation with the Dais Committee, Worship Committee, and host facility staff.
5. No materials will be allowed on the registration table other than that necessary for registration. Other arrangements should be made to distribute materials through the site manager.
6. Use of dining halls, rooms, or areas shall be determined by the site manager. Fees for dining rooms shall be paid by the group

using such rooms.

7. Space and/or rooms to be used for displays shall be assigned by the site manager and no other. Space shall be assigned on a first come basis.
8. Commercial displays will be allowed only in a room assigned and publicized for this purpose, with the exception of Cokesbury, which will continue to have a room assigned only to it.
9. Special needs, such as hymnals, altar furnishings, projectors, etc., shall be arranged through the site manager at least two weeks before conference. Needs arising during Annual Conference, which could not be anticipated, will also be arranged through the site manager.

Report 3 - BONDING REQUIREMENTS

Paragraph 618.1 of the *2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* gives CFA responsibility for the fidelity bonding of the conference treasurer. CFA recommends that the present policy of bonding be continued through the United Methodist Property Casualty and Trust. Paragraph 618.2 of the *2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* gives CFA the responsibility of requiring all agencies and boards for which the conference treasurer does not serve as treasurer to have fidelity bonding of their treasurers in such amounts as it deems adequate.

In order to avoid the depositing of conference funds in any one bank in excess of the insured limits, CFA shall serve as the clearing house for all agencies in the Annual Conference making deposits in any bank, either savings or checking accounts. Bank accounts shall not be opened by any agency without approval by CFA. No agency shall permit the total amount deposited in anyone bank to exceed insured limits without CFA approval.

Report 4 - BUDGETING, FUNDING, AND AUDITING PROCEDURES

1. All boards and agencies are required to cooperate with the conference treasurer in the development of detailed financial reports of the income, expenditures, remaining balances, and audits.
2. Program budget requests shall follow the prescribed procedures established by the CORE Team.
3. Agencies may request, or be asked, to meet with CFA to clarify their budget request or report.
4. The Conference Resource Center and all boards and agencies receiving funds from conference benevolences with budget amounts approved by the Annual Conference shall be allowed to draw funds or make expenditures on a monthly basis as needed. Funds available monthly for the program boards will be those

approved by the CORE Team from the available pool. Funds available for the Conference Resource Center will be based on the benevolence receipts of the current year. Agencies of the Annual Conference that require monthly support will receive 1/12 of the approved allocation each month. Any expenditure more than the amount approved by the CORE Team in any conference program board account shall be cleared with the President of CFA and the Director of Connectional Ministries.

5. All expenditures from the Interest on Investments Account shall be approved by a majority vote of CFA.
6. Each Agency, whose records are not kept by the Fiscal Office, is required to bond its treasurer and provide a certificate of insurance to CFA. Such agency shall provide a copy of its audit and other reports to CFA as deemed necessary by CFA. (Paragraphs 618.2 of the *2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*) Reports to CFA shall be in such detail, and provided at such times, as the Council shall direct.
7. CFA may withhold conference funds from any agency or board that fails or refuses to present proper bonds or audits. Such withholding shall continue until proper requests are met.
8. An audit of the complete financial status of the Annual Conference shall be published in the Conference Journal.

Report 5 - ZERO-BASED BUDGETING

The following proposal for “zero-based” budgeting is presented by the Council on Finance and Administration (the original proposal was adopted by the Conference on June 1, 1988):

1. All program area budgets of Annual Conference boards and agencies will begin the year with a zero balance.
2. The annual budgets for program boards and agencies shall be prepared on a “zero-base.” It is intended that all programs, projects and functions, old and new, be analyzed and reevaluated regularly and systematically by the CORE Team. Groups requesting budgeted funds shall be required to justify those requests in detail to explain why money is needed, specifically what it will be used for, the resulting benefits, and what would result if the request were denied.
3. At the end of the fiscal year, the unused balances for each board and agency shall be transferred to a reserve account, which shall be designated the “Mission and Ministry Fund.”
4. The Mission and Ministry Fund shall consist of the following:
 - a. Funds remaining in the CORE Team program pool at the end of the year
 - b. Funds which may be budgeted for the Mission and Ministry Fund
 - c. Funds received from terminated activities which remain

- unused for those activities when transferred by the CORE Team
 - d. Interest earned from sources as may be provided by the Council on Finance and Administration
 - e. Funds from other sources that may be deposited by any board or agency or group within the Annual Conference.
- 5. Additional use of Mission and Ministry funds by program boards and agencies or for other program purposes of the Annual Conference shall be approved by a majority vote of the CORE Team.

Report 6 - FUND RAISING AND COLLECTION POLICIES

CFA makes the following recommendations for those causes for which no funds are allocated:

1. That each local church observe World Communion Sunday, Human Relations Day, One Great Hour of Sharing, United Methodist Student Day, Peace with Justice Sunday, Native American Awareness Sunday, and Golden Cross Sunday and that special offerings be received or budgeted for these special days.
2. That our conference continue to give its hearty support to the Advance Special program at both the General and Conference levels. (See complete listing of approved Conference Advance Special programs in the Journal Report of the Board of Global Ministries or the General Conference catalog of Mission Handbook.)
3. That the Alabama-West Florida Conference fully support the following programs and give sponsoring agencies permission to raise and receive funds, provided that there be no goals or quotas placed on local churches:
 - a. The White Christmas and fifth Sunday church school offerings for the Children's Home
 - b. "Fountain of Love Offering," for Homes for the Aging (primarily in February) (The Board of Global Ministries)
 - c. Golden Cross Ministries (primarily on Mother's Day) (The Committee on Health and Welfare Ministries)
 - d. Camps for the underprivileged and special youth (Blue Lake Assembly Ground Trustees)
 - e. Youth Service Fund (United Methodist Youth)
 - f. United Methodist Women's Blue Lake Support
 - g. Blue Lake Partner Program (Assembly Ground Trustees)

- h. “Camping Sunday” for Blue Lake improvement and volunteer recognition (Second Sunday in September)
(Assembly Ground Trustees)
- i. Huntingdon College (Board of Higher Education)
- j. Mobile Inner City Mission Endowment Fund (Board of Global Ministries)
- k. United Methodist Men’s Kingdom Builders Project (Board of Laity)
- l. New Church Development Fund (Commission on New Congregational Development)
- m. Support for New Homes sponsored by Methodist Homes for the Aging
- n. University of South Alabama Wesley Foundation Capital Fund Campaign
- o. Central Conference Pension Initiative (Board of Pension and Health Benefits)
- p. University of West Alabama Wesley Foundation Capital Fund Campaign

Report 7 – APPORTIONMENTS

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>% +/-</u>
District Superintendents Fund	909,072	909,072	0.00
Episcopal Fund	525,686	559,715	6.47
Conference Claimants Fund	1,600,000	1,600,000	0.00
Health Insurance Fund	1,000,000	1,060,000	6.00
Equitable Compensation Fund	69,750	69,750	0.00
General Administration Fund	204,386	209,863	2.68
SEJ Administration Fund	116,760	116,760	0.00
2012 General Conference Hosting	6,000	6,000	0.00
Lake Junaluska Restoration Fund	25,500	25,500	0.00
(1) Conference Administration Fund	647,898	645,873	-0.31
Interdenominational Coop. Fund	49,307	48,258	-2.13
Africa University Fund	56,488	54,422	-3.66
World Service	1,873,032	1,837,516	-1.90
(2) Conference Ministries	1,176,561	1,176,561	0.00
(3) Congregational Development	348,690	368,690	5.74
Ministerial Education Fund	632,756	609,653	-3.65
Board of Pension and Health Benefits	44,650	44,650	0.00
Blue Lake Operation	187,000	187,000	0.00
Blue Lake Capital Improvement			
And Debt Retirement	84,432	84,432	0.00
Huntingdon/Birmingham Southern College	608,678	608,678	0.00
Student Aid, Huntingdon College	241,609	241,609	0.00
Capital and Operating Fund (Trustees)	171,120	171,120	0.00
Black College Fund	252,395	243,163	-3.66
Homes for the Aging	60,450	60,450	0.00
Wesley Foundation/Campus Ministry	490,509	490,509	0.00
TOTAL CONFERENCE BUDGET	<u>11,382,729</u>	<u>11,429,244</u>	.41

(1) Includes:

Fiscal Office	241,662	241,662	0.00
Moving Fund for Retirees	4,000	4,000	0.00
Annual Conference Administration	149,000	149,000	0.00
Board of Ordained Ministry	143,836	143,836	0.00
Archives and History	74,400	72,375	-2.72
Episcopal Office Expense	<u>35,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>	0.00
Sub Total	647,898	645,873	

(2) Includes:

Conference Resource Center	687,846	687,846	0.00
Programming Pool	<u>488,715</u>	<u>488,715</u>	0.00
Sub Total	1,176,561	1,176,561	

Connectional Ministries: \$687,846.00

Supports salaries, benefits and expenses for six (6) program staff and two (2) support staff. Also supports general office expenses including telephone, printing, mailing, computer and miscellaneous. The Connectional Ministries budget for 2011 represents a reduction in staff by one full-time and one part-time position.

Programming Pool: \$488,715.00

This fund supports eight (8) of the Boards related to the Conference CORE Team. They are Discipleship, Advocacy and Ethnic Ministries, Higher Education and Campus Ministry, Laity, Church and Society, Global Ministries, Communications and Hispanic Ministries. The programming pool also provides support for eight (8) agencies related to the annual conference. They are Dumas Wesley Community Center, Mobile Inner City Metro Ministries, Nellie Burge Community Center, Noah's Ark, Pastoral Care, Counseling and Training, Alabama Rural Ministries, Pensacola United Methodist Community Ministries and Milk and Honey.

The response of the churches to these to missional giving funds in 2012 will determine the funding available in 2013. Just as missional giving funds received in 2010 provided the funding available in 2011.

(3) Includes:

Congregational Development Office	148,690	148,690	0.00
New Church Pastors' Salaries	130,000	150,000	15.38
New Church Development Fund	50,000	50,000	0.00
Church Revitalization Fund	<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>	0.00
Sub Total	348,690	368,690	

**Report 8 - STEWARDSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES AND
LOCAL CHURCH CONCERNS**

1. CFA believes that all apportionments are needed in the amounts apportioned. Furthermore, CFA believes that all churches have the capacity to pay apportionments in full. In 2009, 74.3% of apportioned funds were paid by local churches. In 2010, 73.2% of apportioned funds were paid by local churches. CFA continues to encourage all churches and all United Methodist Christians in the Alabama - West Florida Annual Conference to participate fully in our connectional ministries through generous serving, generous giving, generous living, generous leading, and generous praying. The 2012 Conference budget reflects an increase of 0.41 %. General Church apportionments have decreased by \$31,460 or -0.88%. Jurisdictional apportionments remain the same as in 2011. Annual Conference apportionments have increased by \$ 46,515 or 1.02%
2. By action of the 2001 Annual Conference, the following schedule shall be used in setting apportionments for new churches:
- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1st full year | no apportionment |
| 2nd year | 25% apportioned |
| 3R year | 50% apportioned |
| 4th year | 75% apportioned |
| 5th year & following | 100% apportioned |
3. Apportionments shall be made to all churches using the apportionment formula outlined in CFA Report - Formula and Allocations.
4. Local churches shall provide for the audits of local church records as provided in paragraph 258.4d of the *2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*.

Report 9 - FORMULA AND ALLOCATIONS

1. CFA will continue to be in conversation about possible adjustments to the apportionment formula and is committed to reviewing the formula on a quadrennial basis. Therefore, the apportionments shall be developed using a formula based on financial strength of the local churches and membership of the local churches. Financial strength will be weighted 75% and professing membership will be weighted 25% in the formula. Apportionments will be determined by local church decimal applied to the amount of each budget item at the conference level.
2. The financial strength of a local church in calculating the decimal formula shall be based on all local expenditures (lines 53-62 of the Local Church Report to the Annual Conference). This eliminates all apportionments and special giving from the formula. (Listing: Standing Rule No. 22)

3. The winter/spring meeting of the Council on Finance and Administration shall be the time for receiving requests from all boards and agencies for the ensuing year. All boards and agencies should be advised that they place their allocations in jeopardy when they fail to submit timely budget requests.
4. The local church will enter the Local Church Report information using the "UMC GCFA Statistical Input System" located on Alabama West Florida Conference Web Site (www.awfumc.org) Contact the District Superintendent's office for the User Name and Password if they are not known by the church pastor. The pastor and chairperson of the Committee on Finance or the church treasurer shall review the annual local church report as being correct before its final submission. The Fiscal Office will establish a date by which it should be notified if corrections are necessary. If no corrections are identified by that date, the fiscal officer will consider the report accurate. When the new year's apportionments are run in July, there will be only one set of apportionments, which will be the final set. There will not be a "Trial Set" of apportionments.

Report 10 - DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS' COMPENSATION

The Council on Finance and Administration continues to pay close attention to the subject of compensation for district superintendents. The Council recommends that superintendents' salaries be based on salary figures from within the conference. The formula we have used for guidance in determining the superintendent's salaries is based on an analysis of the average percentage raise of the top three senior pastors' appointment salaries from each of the eight districts. However, at the request and recommendation of the Cabinet, CFA recommends that the base salary of the district superintendents be continued at the 2009 level, \$102,134.

1. The base salary of the district superintendents shall be set at \$102,134 for 2012 with travel expense paid on voucher from a travel pool of \$92,000. The executive committee of CFA shall adjust the rate per mile, as needed, within this limit.
2. District superintendents shall receive no supplementary travel funds from district administration funds.
3. Each district shall place funds in its budget for district parsonage utilities, up to a total of \$4,500, for each calendar budget year. Utilities to be included are electricity; gas, water sewage, and basic television cable or satellite services, telephone, Internet service, and trash collection.
4. The districts which provide district superintendents a housing allow-

ance in lieu of a parsonage shall designate the housing amount in the minutes of the District Conference. This designation shall be made in advance of payment of such allowance, either upon appointment or in advance of the calendar year thereafter.

5. Each district shall place in its district administration fund an amount not to exceed \$2,000 for continuing education.

Report 11 - MOVING GUIDELINES AND EXPENSES

The second Sunday following the adjournment of Annual Conference shall be the last Sunday of pastoral responsibility for each conference year. The official moving day will be Tuesday, June 21, 2011 and may be adjusted according to the needs and concerns worked out in consultation with the clergy persons, the churches and approved by the District Superintendent. The entire June salary shall be paid to the pastor by the church from which he/she is moving. In effect 50% of the annual salary will be paid January through June; with the remaining 50% paid by the church receiving a new pastor. Health insurance, Retiree Benefit Stabilization Fund contributions and/or premiums, as well as any UMPIP payments are to be deducted from the pastor's compensation for the full month of June, with the receiving church beginning such payments in July.

Upon retirement, disability or death of a minister serving within the bounds of the Annual Conference and serving a full time appointments under the provisions of Paragraph 334.1 of the *2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*, the conference shall pay up to \$2,500 for documented moving expenses to the first place of retirement or disability or the first place of dwelling for a surviving spouse. Moving expenses to be reimbursed shall not be incurred prior to retirement notification to the Bishop and will be reimbursed after the retirement move is completed.

Guidelines for clergy under appointment:

1. Following notification of appointment change by the district superintendent, the Chairperson of the PPRC should contact the minister to be appointed to communicate the church's policy in paying moving expenses and to discuss moving plans.
2. The receiving church is responsible for the first \$3,000 of documented moving expenses and is encouraged to pay all documented expenses for the incoming ministerial family.

Report 12 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE EXPENSES

1. A charge of \$28.00 per person, per night, will be made for all who use Conference provided housing. (Standing Rule No.8) CFA will be responsible for studying and investigating possible locations and expenses for future sessions of the Annual Conference.
2. The *Brochure of Reports* will contain an order blank requiring orders to be placed for the *Conference Journal* at \$20.00, including the cost of mailing. (Paid upon order) Deadline for ordering will be July 31st. Orders received after the deadline will incur an additional mailing charge. Order forms will be available in other places as well. (Standing Rule 15)
3. Retired clergy and surviving spouses of clergy may receive one (CD) copy of the *Conference Journal* free, provided it is ordered using the order blank. Should a retiree or surviving spouse wish to have a printed copy, they may order and pay for a regular or spiral bound *Conference Journal*.

Report 13 - INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT

The CFA Investment Committee reviewed the Investment Policy in 2010. There were no recommended changes to the policy. This report can be found on page 444 of the 2009 Alabama West Florida Conference Journal. The Journal may be downloaded at www.awfumc.org.

Report 14 - FISCAL YEAR END

1. The Fiscal Office will close the annual financial records on the fifth working day of January.
2. This date will be the last day that apportionment payments can be credited to the prior year asking.
3. Churches sending apportionment payments AFTER December 31 must do one of the following:
 - a. Deliver payment to the Fiscal Office 100 Interstate Park Drive, Suite 106, Montgomery, AL any time before 10:00 a.m. on the closing date.
 - b. Mail the payment. Regardless of the postmark date, payments received after 10:00 a.m. on the closing date cannot be credited to the prior year apportionments.

- c. Deposit payment in the Annual Conference account on or before 1:00 p.m. on the closing date at a local Regions Bank. **Fax** a copy of the **bank receipt** and a copy of **the remittance breakdown** to the Fiscal Office when the deposit is made. Call the Fiscal Office (1-888-873-3127) to obtain the current deposit account number.

4. The Fiscal Office must know of these deposits on the closing date. Persons without access to a fax machine should call 1-888-873-3127 and report the deposit information. **Please Note:** The bank's business day may end earlier than the time the bank closes. For example, often deposits received after 2:00 p.m. are credited to the next day's business. CONTACT THE LOCAL BANK TO DETERMINE WHEN A DEPOSIT MUST BE MADE, IN ORDER TO BE CREDITED ON THE CLOSING DATE.

Submitted by,
Mr. Ronny Mobley, President

CONFERENCE AUDIT

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
ALABAMA - WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES ACCOUNT
CONFERENCE YEAR 2010

Report
of the
Auditors
of the
Church



March 11
2011
WILSON PRICE
LLP

Independent Auditors' Report

Council on Finance and Administration
Alabama - West Florida Conference of
the United Methodist Church
Montgomery, Alabama

We have audited the accompanying statement of cash receipts, disbursements, and transfers of the Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church - Constitutional Ministries Account for the conference year 2010. This statement is the responsibility of the Council's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of cash receipts, disbursements, and transfers is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, this statement has been prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the cash receipts, disbursements and transfers of the Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church - Constitutional Ministries Account for the conference year 2010, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

W. R. Brown, Philip J. King, P.C.

Montgomery, Alabama
March 11, 2011

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

ALABAMA WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS
 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011
 (CONSTITUTIONAL MINISTRIES ACT 1001)

CASH BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 1,884.63
CASH RECEIPTS	1,884.63
TRANSFERS IN	
Conference benevolence	217,464.50
Telephone, postage and supplies	6,556.13
Miscellaneous receipts	0.00
Total transfers in	218,020.63
CASH DISBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS OUT	
Salaries	
Staff	508,565.08
Support staff	41,717.73
Ramp maintenance	19,008.10
Computer	10,638.81
Contract maintenance	450.00
Copy and print charges	6,130.81
Fees	347.25
Equipment activities	480.00
Equipment rental	10,805.46
Pay pension and disability	11,566.41
Office	811.75
Payroll taxes	12,512.90
Postage	25,651.64
Supplies	9,000.00
Telephone	16,054.94
Total cash disbursements and transfers out	655,541.27
CASH BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$ 166,163.99

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

ALABAMA - WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 2010 STATEMENT
 CONFERENCE YEAR 2010
 GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT'S ACCOUNT

I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Organization

The United Methodist Episcopal Association of the Alabama - West Florida Conference (the Conference) of the United Methodist Church. The Board assumes for the program other operation and supervision conference program support and expenses.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. Unmodified financial statements have been prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Under this method of accounting, revenues are recognized when received rather than when earned and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when incurred.

Receipts, disbursements and transfers include items from January 1, 2010, which are designated for the conference year 2010.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. Unmodified financial statements will also reflect highly liquid investments purchased with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated such as per event through March 31, 2011, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
ALABAMA - WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
BISHOPAL OFFICE ACCOUNT
CONFERENCE YEAR 2010

McLure
Chartered Accountants
at Charlotte, N.C.
P.O. Box 5000



McLure
Chartered Accountants
at Charlotte, N.C.
P.O. Box 5000

Independent Auditors' Report

Committee on Finance and Administration
Alabama - West Florida Conference of
the United Methodist Church
Montgomery, Alabama

We have audited the accompanying statement of cash receipts, disbursements and transfers of the Episcopal Office Account of the Committee on Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church for the conference year 2010. This statement is the responsibility of the Church's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this statement based on our audit. The prior year summarized comparative information has been derived from the Episcopal Office Account's 2009 statement and, in our report dated March 29, 2010, we expressed an unqualified opinion on that statement.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of cash receipts, disbursements and transfers is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, this statement has been prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the cash receipts, disbursements and transfers of the Episcopal Office Account of the Committee on Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church for the conference year 2010, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Wilson Price, Bureau of Accounting & Consulting Services, P.C.

Montgomery, Alabama
March 11, 2011

EPISCOPAL OFFICE ACCOUNT

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

ALABAMA • WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS

FOR THE CONFERENCE YEAR 2010 WITH COMPARATIVES FOR 2009

	Episcopal Funds	2010 Miscellaneous Funds	Total	2009 Total
CASH RECEIPTS				
CEA allocations	\$ 24,800	\$	\$ 24,800	\$ 24,800
Miscellaneous income	79,171	79,171	15,856
Total cash receipts	<u>24,800</u>	<u>79,171</u>	<u>103,971</u>	<u>89,456</u>
CASH DISBURSEMENTS				
Secretary salary and benefits	20,087	.	20,087	18,857
Employee payroll	2,995	.	2,995	335
Payroll taxes	3,067	.	3,067	2,972
Audit	1,500	.	1,500	1,500
Computer expense	927	.	927	756
Continuing education	1,063	.	1,063	75
Dues	65	.	65	138
Entertainment	2,239	.	2,239	1,987
Marriage preparation contracts	576	.	576	144
Miscellaneous expense	1,082	.	1,082	695
Office rent	27,455	.	27,455	28,409
Office supplies	1,120	.	1,120	967
Postage	264	.	264	313
Printing	.	.	.	6,454
Staff travel	528	.	528	1,475
Telephone	3,623	.	3,623	4,504
Total cash disbursements	<u>80,455</u>	<u>.</u>	<u>80,455</u>	<u>88,517</u>
EXCESS (DEFICI) OF CASH RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(11,655)	29,171	17,519	909
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	6,457	.	6,457	5,448
CASH TRANSFERS	<u>23,171</u>	<u>(29,171)</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.</u>
CASH AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 23,876</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 23,876</u>	<u>\$ 6,357</u>

See independent auditors' report

EPISCOPAL OFFICE ACCOUNT

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

ALABAMA - WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 2011 YEAR-END REPORT
 CONFERENCE YEAR 2010

I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Name of Organization

The Episcopal Office Account is a fund of the Alabama - West Florida Conference (the Conference) of the United Methodist Church and accounts for the operation and support of the Bishop's office.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Episcopal Office Account of the Conference Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church has been prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles usually accepted in the United States or America. Under this method of accounting, revenues are recognized when received rather than when earned and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when incurred.

Receipts, disbursements and balances include transactions through January 30, 2011, which are designated for the conference year 2010.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Episcopal Office Account of the Conference Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church includes all duly checked highly liquid paper deposits purchased with an amount immaterial of three months or less for cash equivalents.

Comparative Financial Information

The financial statement includes comparative financial information as reflected in prior year by fund. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Episcopal Office Account's financial statement for the conference year 2009, from which the substantiated information was derived.

Subsequent Events

Management has reviewed subsequent events through March 11, 2011, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
ALABAMA - WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT
CONFERENCE YEAR 2010

Member
Accountable Church
United Methodist
Church



Member
Accountable Church
United Methodist
Church

Independent Auditors' Report

Council on Finance and Administration
Alabama - West Florida Conference of
the United Methodist Church
Montgomery, Alabama

We have audited the accompanying statement of cash receipts, disbursements and transfers of the Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church Conference Administration Account for the conference year 2011. This statement is the responsibility of the Council's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on that statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of cash receipts, disbursements and transfers is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, this statement has been prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the cash receipts, disbursements and transfers of the Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church Conference Administration Account for the conference year 2011, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Mark R. Brown, Anthony J. Rodriguez, P.C.

Montgomery, Alabama
March 11, 2011

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**ALABAMA • WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS
FOR THE CONFERENCE YEAR 2011
CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT**

CASH BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 1,000.00 *
CASH RECEIPTS AND TRANSFERS IN	
Appointments and late receipt	176,970.12
Transfer in:	
Changes from agencies	8,207.46
General receipts	1,186.00
Interest	1,500.00
Other	0.00
Total cash receipts and transfer in	<u>186,863.58</u>
CASH DISBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS OUT	
Salary - Treasurer	131,380.00
Supplies - equipment - Treasurer	17,550.00
Salary - Administrative Assistant	27,500.00
Apartment cleaning expense	
Homebased only	1,793.34
Homesight and before	25,667.10
Program committee	1,094.90
Postage	1,825.12
Miscellaneous	918.89
Apostrophe bill	1,290.00
Rent house and ground	15,078.11
Traveler expense	19,118.69
Committee expenses	361.31
Conference expenses	13,212.50
Conference secretary expense - homebased	1,150.86
Contributing education	1,053.00
Dues	501.05
Employee FICA and pension	22,000.00
Journal Edition expense - homebased	2,706.64
Marketing expenses	1,790.60
Miscellaneous	180.98
Office supply expense	1,232.92
Postage	1,856.60
Printing and copies	1,045.12
Supplies	1,587.42
Telephone	1,053.66
Travel expenses	<u>1,120.28</u>
Total cash disbursements and transfers out	<u>333,513.18</u>
CASH BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$ 117,350.40

See independent auditor's report

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

ALABAMA - WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 NOTICE TO STAKEHOLDERS
 CONFERENCE YEAR 2010
 CONFERENCE ALABAMA/WEST FLORIDA

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Organization

The Conference Administration Account is a fund of the Alabama - West Florida Conference (the Conference) of the United Methodist Church. The fund accounts for the operations and support of the administrative and executive offices of the Conference and the annual meeting.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statement of the Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. Conference Administration Account has been prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Under this method of accounting, revenues are recognized when received rather than when earned and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when incurred.

Receipts, disbursements and transfers include transactions through January 10, 2011, which are designated for the conference year 2010.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama - West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. Conference Administration Account considers all unrestricted highly liquid investments purchased with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through March 11, 2011, which is the date the financial statements were prepared to be issued.

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
ALABAMA - WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SCHEDULE OF CASH RECEIPTS,
DISBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS

CONFERENCE YEAR 2010

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
ALABAMA - WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
COMPLETING YEAR 2010

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Schedule of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Transfers	3
Notes to Schedule	7

Wade
Applegate
United Methodist
Church



Wade
Applegate
United Methodist
Church

Independent Auditors' Report

Council on Finance and Administration
Alabama – West Florida Conference of
the United Methodist Church
Montgomery, Alabama

We have audited the accompanying schedule of cash receipts, disbursements and transfers of the Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama – West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church for the conference year 2010. This schedule is the responsibility of the Council's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this schedule based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the schedule of cash receipts, disbursements and transfers is free of material misstatement. An audit on such a basis, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the schedule. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall schedule presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, this schedule has been prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the schedule referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the cash receipts, disbursements and transfers of the Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama – West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church for the conference year 2010, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Wade Applegate, CPA, CFPA, CFE

Montgomery, Alabama
March 11, 2011

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
ALABAMA - WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SCHEDULE OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFERS
FOR THE CONFERENCE YEAR 2010

	BALANCE BEGINNING OF YEAR	RECEIPTS	DISBURSES		CASH REQUESTS	BALANCE END OF YEAR
			IN	OUT		
W.M. Church Remittances	\$ -	\$ 3,777.40	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,777.40	\$ 3,777.40
W.M. Church Remittances	-	3,777.40	-	-	3,777.40	3,777.40
TOTAL	\$ 4,542,255.29	\$ 3,777.40	\$ 3,777,755.00	\$ 3,777,755.00	\$ 3,777,755.00	\$ 4,542,255.29
RECEIPTS FOR 2010 IS						
W.M. Church Remittances	\$ 3,777,755.00					\$ 3,777,755.00
W.M. Church Remittances	3,777,755.00					3,777,755.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,777,755.00					\$ 3,777,755.00

See separate exhibit for notes

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

ALABAMA – WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NOTES TO FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS FOR YEAR 2010

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Organization

As a substantial agency of the Alabama – West Florida Conference (the Conference) of the United Methodist Church, the Council receives certain funds of the Conference primarily from member churches and related individuals in South Alabama and West Florida. The Council on Finance and Administration disburses these funds to or on behalf of and in accordance with the direction of the various funds and agencies of the Conference.

The accompanying schedule does not include all of the agencies of the agency funds and agencies, each of which has its own governing body and maintains its own separate accounts.

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying schedule has been prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Under this method of accounting, revenues are recognized when received rather than when earned and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when incurred.

Receipts, disbursements and transfers include transactions through January 10, 2011, which are designated for the conference year 2010.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Conference considers all unrestricted highly liquid investments purchased with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through March 11, 2011, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

2. FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CREDIT RISK

The Council on Finance and Administration of the Alabama – West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church maintains cash and cash equivalents in an interest-bearing demand deposit account and money market investment account. Deposits of \$250,000 or less are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). As of January 10, 2011, there was \$1,033,327 in uninsured balances.

MISSION TEAM r EpOr TS

CONFERENCE BOARD OF ADVOCACY AND ETHNIC MINISTRY

The Board of Advocacy oversees the ministries related to the divisions of the Status and Role of Women (COSROW), Disability Concerns, Religion and Race, Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, Strengthening of the Black Church, Hispanic Ministries, Native American Ministries, and Asian Ministries. The board's core mission is to work alongside and to assist with resources and programs for churches as they minister with and to ethnic constituencies and keeps the vision of ethnic local concerns before the annual conference. (See ¶632, the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2008 pg 410.) The Board of Advocacy is committed in doing its part, to help build up the kingdom.

Rev. Dunford C. Cole, Chairperson
Board of Advocacy and Ethnic Ministry

DIVISION OF HISPANIC-LATINO MINISTRIES

According to the 2010 Census, the Hispanic-Latino population in the nation has reached 50.5 million and Alabama is among the five states with the highest increment in Hispanic population with approximately 180,000 according to the Pew Hispanic Center. <http://pewhispanic.org>

Hispanic-Latino Ministries have been incorporated in our denomination by our General Conference since 1992. In 1997, a Coordinator of Hispanic Ministries was hired and a comprehensive plan for Hispanic-Latino Ministries was developed encompassing these project ministries:

Project Ministry 1: Expanding & Engaging Our Communities

- Identify & hire potential leaders to develop new starts in the Districts where there's no Hispanic UM presence.

Project Ministry 2: Educating for Change & Empowerment

- Leadership training in the Modules of National Plan of Hispanic-Latino Ministries (NPHM) and *Un Millón de Líderes* or *Million Leaders Mandate* by Dr. John Maxwell. The latter started in February 2010 with the first of 6 workshops. Our workshop #6, the last in the series, will take place on April 30, 2011.
- Training of existing Lay Speakers to go into the ordained ministry route via Course of Study. Training of new lay speakers/leaders to propel the missions/congregations.
- Have representatives in the Board of Ordained Ministry.
- Licensing School: a) Have someone present that can bridge the language barrier. b) Identify other Conferences where they have

- Licensing School in Spanish.
- Lay Speakers basic & advanced trainings at District level.

Project Ministry 3: Seeking & Caring for Christ's Sake

- Work with UMW units, at Conference and District level.
- Offer immigration workshops across-the-board to raise awareness.
- Networking with government, local officials and communities.
- Offer training to non-Hispanics on how to do outreach to Hispanics-Latinos.
- Partnerships/Mergers with community institutions that are already providing education on health, finances, immigration, and life in the U.S.

Hallmarks

- New starts in 4 years: a) Pensacola First UMC (*Pensacola District*) under the leadership of Rev. Francisco Castillo, Methodist local pastor under appointment. b) St. John UMC/ El Lugar de Gracia/ The Grace Place, (*Mobile District*), under the leadership of Irving Santos, Certified Lay Speaker. There was no Hispanic Methodist presence in these two districts. c) In Gulf Shores UMC (*Baypines District*), Hispanic third worship service, under the leadership of Rev. Enrique Escobar, local pastor under appointment. d) In Clanton (*Montgomery-Prattville District*), La Casa de Oración (The House of Prayer), under the leadership of Certified Lay Speakers, Ana and Raúl Guajardo (Montgomery-Prattville District). e) Good News UMC, a brand new outreach Hispanic program has started under Pastor Fredy Iscano in Santa Rosa County (*Pensacola District*). f) Harvest UMC/Harvest En Español under Wilson Garzón (*Dothan District*). Translated in numbers, approximately 150 souls have been conquered for our Lord and Savior with these new starts.
- Teaching English as a Second Language via computer labs and Rosetta Stone software –community service. At present, these labs are located in Richards Memorial UMC, Pensacola District, El Lugar de Gracia/The Grace Place/St. John UMC, West Mobile, and in Saraland UMC, Saraland, AL., both in Mobile District.
- Awareness of Hispanic-Latino Ministries has risen significantly across the board, in our communities and conference. For a complete list of our missions, San Juan and San Pedro, communities of faith and leaders, you can visit our website at www.awfumc.org or for additional information, you can reach me by email at martharr@awfumc.org or martha_r@comcast.net or via telephone at 251-975-7575.
- The Coordinator serves on the Hispanic/Latino Advisory Team for Lake Junaluska and also serves as Secretary of the National Association of Hispanic-Latino Staff, District Superintendents, Directors/Coordinators of Hispanic-Latino Ministries.

We pray for God's grace, wisdom and guidance as we move forward in this thriving and challenging ministry. We are praying for abundant resources to continue to grow this ministry for God's glory.

Your sister in Christ,
Martha Rovira-Raber
Coordinator, Hispanic-Latino Ministries

DIVISION OF STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN (COSROW)

The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women is one of 12 church-wide agencies of The United Methodist Church which is financed through the World Service Fund (apportioned giving from local congregations). It is one of two independent commissions, the other being the General Commission on Religion and Race, charged with advocating, monitoring and challenging the church to seek justice and inclusiveness. The Commission is accountable to the General Conference and is a member of the Connectional Table, the denomination's body for coordinating the program and administrative life of the church-wide agencies.

The Commission challenges the United Methodist Church to a commitment for the full life and participation of women in the complete life and mission of the church. It serves as an advocate for and on behalf of women and seeks to eliminate inequities in relation to women in the church as to the diversity of the United Methodist Church, including laity and clergy, youth and young adults, older adults, racial/ethnic women and men, persons with disabilities and regional representatives.

The Commission is helping the church be a more reliable and trustworthy agent of the liberating Gospel of Jesus Christ so that we recognize every person as a "full and equal part of God's human family." (The Book of Discipline)

Through training, education, research and monitoring, the Commission:

- Nurtures women leaders in the church
- Addresses gender discrimination
- Confronts sexual harassment and abuse and advocates for victims
- Raises awareness about women's issues and opportunities
- Identifies institutional sexism and recommends ways to diminish it

Annually, there is a conference event, usually in January, that centers on education, strategy and/or awakening. The event is led by speakers/presenters from our conference and beyond. The current event, January 21-22, 2011 is centered on Issues, Elections and Information about General Conference 2012. The title is "May Those Who Come Behind Us Find Us Faithful."

Also annually, an award named for a truly great leader in Alabama-West Florida Conference, Alice Lee of Monroeville, Alabama, is given to another outstanding female leader from our conference. She must have church and community leadership and be an outstanding person to carry forth the leadership of Alice Lee. The 2010 recipient was Ruth Gynther of Auburn, Alabama. Ruth is the twentieth winner of the award.

To carry out our mandate to full ordination of women, the conference COSROW presents at least one \$1,000 scholarship to a clergy candidate attending a United Methodist seminary. To date, COSROW has presented 17 scholarships since 1997. The scholarship is named for Jane Walker of Opelika, Alabama, who was an outstanding woman in her own right. The 2010 recipients were Angie Long and Katherine McMath. The scholarships are presented at the Annual Conference COSROW Breakfast on Tuesday morning at 7:00 AM.

New since 2009 is a scholarship named for the immediate past chair of COSROW, Ruth Gynther of Auburn, Alabama. Ruth worked tirelessly during her tenure to make the conference organization viable and visible. Her scholarship assists persons to attend the annual COSROW Event.

In 2010 COSROW was able, with the help of Montgomery-Prattville District, to send a representative to the "Strong Black Women-A Gentle Force for God" seminar at Lake Junaluska, N.C.

Another first is the sponsorship of two Alabama-West Florida clergywomen to the SEJ Clergywomen's Convocation, "Sister Strength: Grace, Growth and Grit". It is scheduled to be at Emory University in April 2011.

COSROW monitors Annual Conference and the Annual Conference Committee on Nominations for equal representation and equal access to leadership, helps members attend General Church trainings and represents the majority membership in the United Methodist Church.

Applications for all awards and scholarships are available on the conference website at: www.awfumc.org or by contacting the Alabama West Florida Conference Headquarters at: 334-356-8014.

Submitted by,
Ruth Ann Powers

DIVISION OF STRENGTHENING THE BLACK CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Huntingdon College was the venue for the conference's first collaboration with SBC-21, Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century. The July 2010 event titled, "We've Come This Far by Faith," brought together

both African-American congregations from across the Alabama-West Florida Conference and renowned presenters from across our United Methodist connection. The gathering offered a time of fellowship and learning as participants worked to become more effective in ministry and mission. This training event focused on: Creative Worship, Ministry in the Small Church Setting, Hospitality, Mission, and Leadership.

Submitted by,
Rev. Jackie Slaughter

CONFERENCE BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

The purpose of the Board of Church and Society is to challenge United Methodists to work in areas of important social concern and to develop resources to inform, motivate, and train United Methodists on issues of social justice in the society. The Conference Board met by conference call several times to discuss and plan activities related to our mission.

The Board provided support for the 2010 Cooperative School of Christian Mission, which was held at Blue Lake in July and included the study “Joy to the World: Mission in the Age of Global Christianity,” led by Rev. Clayton Childers of the General Board of Church and Society. The Board also provided continued support for Alabama Arise, a citizens’ advocacy organization that promotes public policies to improve the lives of low-income Alabamians.

The Conference Board, along with the Board of Church and Society of First United Methodist Church, Montgomery, sponsored a prayer breakfast for state elected officials of Alabama on March 3. Alabama Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey, Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb, numerous legislators, and area United Methodist pastors and lay persons gathered to pray that the decisions made for the state in 2011 will be for the good of all people in accordance with God’s will. Rev. Neil McDavid, Conference Director of Connectional Ministries, delivered a message on the legacy we leave by the actions we take. The Board will also encourage local congregations to be in active prayer for legislators by forming prayer partnerships.

One area of concern that the Board is focusing on is substance abuse. We plan to use training kits from Celebrate Recovery, a program that has had great success in this area, to encourage local churches to sponsor support for individuals seeking a Christ-centered path to sobriety. A resolution on substance abuse will be submitted to Annual Conference, and a training seminar will be planned for later in the year.

Submitted by
Brenda Boman, Chair
AWFC Board of Church and Society

CONFERENCE BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

During 2010, using a model which had been successfully developed and utilized by The Florida Conference, we implemented a process to formally assess and evaluate candidates for pastors to start new churches. This process involves interviews with candidates and spouses who have been identified by a District Superintendent, or as an alternative, were self nominated with the approval of their District Superintendent to be considered as a new church pastor. In the past year, three candidates completed the initial evaluation, and a panel consisting of Rusty Hutson, Barbara Sadler, and Paul Wolfe is in place to conduct further evaluations for our Conference. This process, along with coaching and training designed to further prepare candidates will better assure a pool of capable pastors for appointment to new church starts. These steps will support the successful development of a growing number of new churches in our Conference in future years.

During the year, we also provided \$100,750 in supplemental support to six pastors who are currently starting new churches in our Conference. The board also authorized a grant of \$30,000 to further support the early development of Engulf UMC near Gulf Shores, Alabama.

In the area of church revitalization, we supported Perry Hill UMC with a \$5,000 grant. A further element of revitalization for existing congregations is Natural Church Development (NCD). This is a process where church members complete a survey to identify how their church compares with other churches in church health areas such as empowering leadership, passionate spirituality, gift oriented ministry, effective structures, inspiring worship, need based evangelism, holistic small groups, and loving relationships. Results from this survey then identify for the local church specific areas in which emphasis on improvement efforts will have the greatest benefit on their vitality. In the past year, Park Memorial in Troy, AL, St. Mark in Montgomery, Luverne UMC in Luverne, AL, Brantley UMC in Brantley, AL, and Capitol Heights in Montgomery have participated in the NCD process. Barbara Sadler serves as the Natural Church Development coach for our conference. For further information on NCD, contact may be made with your District Superintendent or e-mail Barbara at barbara.sadler@mchsi.com. A seminar, "Becoming a More Inviting Church", has also been developed for presentation in local churches throughout our conference.

This report is submitted with sincere appreciation to the dedicated supporting staff and members of the board.

June C. Thomason, Chairman

CONFERENCE BOARD OF DISCIPLESHIP

Theology is not just about God. It is also about us. We live out of our understanding of who we are in relationship to God, to one another, and to the world. The Christian faith is grounded in the love and grace of God, experienced through Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Christian life is our response to God's love and grace.

The church calls our response to God Christian discipleship. Discipleship focuses on actively following in the footsteps of Jesus. As Christian disciples, we are not passive spectators but energetic participants in God's activity in the world. Because of what God has done for us, we offer our lives back to God. We order our lives in ways that embody Christ's ministry in our families, workplaces, communities, and the world. (What Every Teacher Needs to Know About Theology (Discipleship Resources, 2002), pp. 35-38.)

The Alabama West- Florida Conference Board of Discipleship (CBOD) includes the areas of evangelism, stewardship, worship, spiritual formation, and education. These five areas help our conference and local churches put into practice ways in which people can faithfully follow Jesus Christ. Below is a list of some of the areas and ministries supported by the CBOD:

- **Spiritual Direction Training** is a new initiative of the AWF Conference. 35 people (lay and clergy) are currently being trained as Spiritual Directors. This training promises to have a profound impact upon the leadership and spiritual vitality of our conference.
- **Soul Care** is a time of inspiration and renewal for clergy and their spouses sponsored by The Order of Elders, The Order of Deacons and The Board of Discipleship -Spiritual Formation Team. We were blessed in so many ways to have Dr. Robert Mullholland lead our 2010 Soul Care Retreat, and we look forward to Dr. Roberta Bondi leading the 2011 retreat, October 2-5.
- **Walk to Emmaus**—An ongoing spiritual renewal ministry designed to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders.
- **The Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation** is a joint venture between the Alabama-West Florida and North Alabama Conferences. Our next 5-day Academy will be at Blue Lake in late 2011 or early 2012.
- **The Experiential Prayer Room** is offered at each annual conference with various stations of prayer such as remembering your baptism, knitting prayer shawls, making prayer beads, prayers for the world, a spiritual reading book table and "The Resting Place",

which is an area of rocking chairs and prayer shawls; a place to get away for prayer, rest and reflection.

- **Labyrinth Ministry**—AWF Conference's large and small prayer labyrinth is available for congregations and retreats
- **The Bishop's Confirmation Retreat** invites hundreds of young people in our conference to explore the meaning of discipleship and participating in Christ's church.
- **Children's Ministries** are under the direction of Rev. Leigh Meekins. This includes the conference "Safe Sanctuary Training," camps, retreats, and "The Academy for Ministries with Children,"
- **Inspirit** is the older adult retreat at Blue Lake Assembly and it meets during the Spring of the year offering a time of spiritual nurture, training and fellowship.

The list above is a sample of the broad range of ministry areas supported by the CBOD. We are blessed in our conference to have had great leaders before us who developed these ministries that are vital and life changing. Currently the board is in a process of re-structuring its leadership. Many of the current leaders of the CBOD for 2011, including the one writing this report, are new and excited about the possibilities for expanding the roles of evangelism, stewardship, worship, spiritual formation, and education in the Alabama West-Florida Conference in the years to come. We humbly ask for your prayers.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Cory Smith, Chair
Board of Discipleship

CONFERENCE BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES

DIVISION OF ADVANCE SPECIALS

As United Methodists we share in the rich tradition of realizing the exponential opportunities for impacting the world for Jesus Christ through our connectional giving. On an annual conference level the ADVANCE represents our arm of intentional giving in support of emerging ministries within the AWF Annual Conference.

In reviewing the requests for continuing to be an ADVANCE recipient, it was noted that several organizations had not received funds through the ADVANCE. It is the belief of the CBGM that, while some local churches are supporting these organizations, the funds are being sent directly to the organization rather than as a Conference Advance. The CBGM recommends that whoever in the local church is responsible for making these decisions, on what group or groups to support, that they be made aware of the organizations that CBGM has approved as Advanced Specials and to support these groups.

The following organizations have applied to the Conference Board of Global Ministries to continue as a Conference Advance Special. The Board has approved these applications.

0110-19	Alabama Rural Ministries
0110-139	Alabama State University Wesley Foundation
0110-162	Blue Lake Camp Discovery
0110-163	Blue Lake Camp Sunshine
0110-1	AWF Conference Hispanic-Latino Ministries
0110-2	Dumas Wesley Community Center
0110-30	Milk and Honey
0110-14	Noah's Ark (granted CASS for a period of one year)
0110-133	PJC/UWF Wesley Foundation
0110-40	Society of St. Andrew
0110-135	Troy University Wesley Foundation
0110-90	United Methodist Children's Home
0110-3	United Methodist Inner City Mission
0110-22	UMC/Goodwill Transformational Recovery Mission
0110-131	USA Wesley Foundation
0110-136	UWA Wesley Foundation

Also received were two new applications from Tuskegee University Wesley Foundation and Mary Ellen's Hearth Ministries.

0110-132	Tuskegee University Wesley Foundation
0110-6	Nellie Burge Community Center: Mary Ellen's Hearth

Receiving Conference Advance Special status does not guarantee any funding, only the opportunity to open channels for extra-mile giving throughout the bounds of our Annual Conference. The actual amount received will depend completely upon donor gifts. Extra mile giving to any of these Conference ADVANCE Specials should be sent to the Conference Treasurer. 100% of every ADVANCE gift is sent directly to the mission or ministry of your choice. Through our ADVANCE giving, we continue to make a positive and enduring impact on the world Christ has called us to serve.

Blessings,
Bill Felio, Chairperson
Conference Board of Global Ministries-Advance Specials

DIVISION OF DISASTER RESPONSE

The mission of the Disaster Response & Recovery Ministry is to meet the challenges of natural and man-made disasters by first using local, district, and conference resources and then if need be, coordinate with UMCOR and other responding agencies. The ministry also coordinates volunteers under the guidance and support of the Conference UMWIM Coordinator.

Preparation & Training

In 2010 the ministry focused on training and preparation. The Bishop, Cabinet, and District Superintendents were trained on procedures and stages of response in January. Adding more certified trainers and developing a network of communication has been accomplished. Currently, three members of the Conference are certified UMCOR trainers: Amelia Fletcher, Christopher Perry, and Michael Lawler. Two other trainers await final observation for certification. Christopher Perry is also certified in chainsaw training and offers on-going training for the Conference.

Early Response Teams have been trained Conference-wide using the Connecting Neighbor program. This program offers all size churches a blueprint to be better prepared for many types of emergency, i.e. fire or water damage to building or situations within a community needing volunteers or facility.

Response

Cleaning kits were sent to the North Georgia Conference after flooding and aid was sent to the Memphis Conference after ice storm damage.

In the aftermath of the earthquakes in Haiti, churches assembled thousands of health kits and transported them to Sager Brown Depot. The district disaster coordinators facilitated this collection along with the Conference Mission & Advocacy Office.

In April, the Deepwater Horizon Oil Rig exploded and caused a flood of oil into the Gulf of Mexico affecting all of the coastal communities along the Gulf. Response to the natural, economic, and social damage from this event has been needed and continues. With the support of UMCOR, the Conference initiated a year-long response. Financial aid for individuals, spiritual & respite support for pastors and staff, and community programming has been the focus for this response. The Conference also collaborates with the Coastal Resiliency Coalition in Baldwin County to address the mental and emotional issues the coastal communities have faced, and with the state VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster).

Submitted by,
Amelia Fletcher

DIVISION OF HEALTH AND RELIEF MINISTRIES

In 2009, the Health and Welfare Ministry of the GBGM and UMCOR decided to merge and become what is now known as UMCOR Health. A subsequent transition occurred at the Annual Conference of 2010, when long-time leader, Mrs. Guthrie Childs, stepped down from her ten-plus year term as Chairperson of Health and Welfare, to pursue retirement and time with grandchildren! We wish her and her family many wonderful years ahead.

Julie Terrell, RN, became the new Chairperson of UMCOR Health in 2010.

The work of UMCOR Health can be divided into many areas to benefit both the global and local communities. For the Alabama-West Florida Conference, UMCOR Health will continue the work of the Congregational Health ministry book, "Health for All," developed after the 1984 General Conference resolution calling for members of the church to work for health for all individuals.

Our focus remains the same: providing health education throughout the conference and our communities. We provide information to assist the local church in the process of becoming congregations of health, healing and wholeness. We provide leadership by raising awareness through wellness forums, health fairs, health displays at Annual Conference and health presentations in the local church and community.

ACTIVITIES June 2010 through May 2011

- Transition training of new chairperson
- UMCOR Health display at Conference School of Missions, Blue Lake Methodist Assembly, July, 2010.
- UMCOR Health display at Pensacola District UMW Annual Day, September, 2010.
- NewsConnection article on Disability Awareness in the local church.
- Golden Cross Sunday, May, 2011
- Planning of 4th Annual Health Ministries Conference, Spring, 2012.

Our goals for the coming year include working on connecting with those health ministry contacts already established in our Conference and assisting local churches that desire to initiate a health ministry. We will continue our focus to provide health education throughout the AWF conference by sponsoring various health seminars in the local church. If your church is interested in hosting a seminar, would like a speaker regarding health ministry or assistance in establishing a parish nursing program, please contact Julie Terrell, cdt130@aol.com for details.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie M. Terrell, RN, Chair

DIVISION OF UMVIM (UNITED METHODIST VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION)

UMVIM has long been a member-driven movement in the United Methodist Church and serves a vital role in allowing members an opportunity to serve in short-term mission internationally, across the US and in their own communities. UMVIM Best Practices include only serving where

invited by a church leader (such as a Bishop in another country) or by an appropriate NGO, having an UMVIM-trained team leader, obtaining UMVIM Insurance and other practices that will help insure a successful mission trip.

Based on Conference mission report forms and SEJ UMVIM registered teams, there were 115 international and 109 domestic mission teams from the Conference during 2010, composed of approximately 3412 team members, expending about 23,342 person-days and over \$2.6 million in ministry. This is an underestimate of mission activity as many teams do not register with UMVIM, particularly domestic teams, and a number of churches likely involved in mission work did not report mission activities on charge conference reports. UMVIM teams in 2010 worked in Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Columbia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Russia, Ukraine and Zambia, as well as at least 11 U.S. states.

A major emphasis in 2010 was UMVIM Team Leader Training. The SEJ UMVIM Office trained 10 “trainers” in February. This allows team leader training sessions to be scheduled at convenient locations around the conference. Anyone leading a mission team, in-country or abroad, are encouraged to complete training (see Conference website under UMVIM for more information). In 2010, 84 team leaders were trained. Additional training sessions are planned for 2011.

Another focus for 2010 was development of two Conference mission teams, with the purpose of not only serving with the people of Haiti following the devastating earthquake, but also developing experienced team leaders. UMVIM is requiring that any team leader to Haiti must have had experience in Haiti. A number of participants in the Conference Haiti trips were from other Conferences and Jurisdictions, giving their leaders the needed Haiti experience.

A list of volunteer opportunities is now available online so churches can more easily find locations to serve, both within and outside the conference. This list will focus on AWF-related projects, either projects available within the AWF or projects on which AWF churches are working and wish to seek partners.

Respectively submitted,
Dr. Glenn R. Glover, Conference Coordinator
United Methodist Volunteers in Mission

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Indeed we were greatly blessed with the Memorial Service of Annual Conference 2010. Dr. John Ed Mathison shared a message that was appropriate and very meaningful to all. Every part of the service seemed to minister to our hearts as we remembered those who served Christ and served our Alabama-West Florida Conference. The Memorial Luncheon was superb. We are fortunate to have Raleigh Wilkerson, who operates "Blue Spoon Catering" to serve delicious food. The members of the COAH always serve the attendees' every need from the moment they walk onto the Frazer Memorial UMC campus until the Memorial Lunch has ended.

The Commission on Archives and History worked with the AWF Conference Historical Society to sponsor "The Three Notch Road Fall Festival" in October 2010. It was a success, and we appreciate all those who attended the overnight event and discovered history can be a lot of fun. This year we are working closely with Blue Lake Camp Director Phyllis Murray to plan a great "60th Anniversary of Blue Lake Camp Retreat" on October 28-30, 2011.

We are pleased with the donations received at the Methodist Archives Center. Archivist Sharon Tucker and Assistant Archivist Mary Ann Pickard have been busy filing important documents. The Archives Center received materials of valuable historical significance pertaining to the years Bishop Kenneth Goodson served the Conference (1964-1972) from Reverend Leo Brannon. We thank him for those documents.

The Commission on Archives and History continues to look for ways to promote both the preservation and celebration of our history. Please visit the Archives Center on the Huntingdon College campus. Share your ideas and comments with us concerning the gathering, recording, and preservation of history in the Alabama-West Florida Conference.

Rev. Ed Shirley
Chairperson of the Commission on Archives and History

ARCHIVISTS REPORT

The Methodist Archives Center has been very busy this year. We have answered almost two hundred research questions. Twenty of these were related to Huntingdon College and the rest were concerning the history of the people and property of the Alabama West Florida Conference.

The Methodist Archives Center assists the Commission on Archives and History in preparation of the Memorial Service held at annual conference. This service is to honor those pastors and spouses who have passed away during the year. During the 2010 annual conference session, thirteen preachers and nine spouses were memorialized. The Rev. Dr. John Ed Mathison presented the message for the service. A candle was lit as each name was read and the individual was recognized for their service to our conference. The Methodist Archives Center assumed responsibility for the memoirs written for each life honored. After the memorial service, family members were invited to join the members and guests of the Commission on Archives and History at a Memorial Luncheon provided by the COAH.

The Alabama West Florida Conference Historical Society held their annual meeting, an overnight retreat at Blue Lake Camp, in October. The Methodist Archives Center assisted this group with their celebration.

METHODIST COLLECTION ACCESSIONS 2010

- MC636 – 2010 Additions to the Historical Library
- MC637 – 2010 Additions to the Reference Files
- MC638 – 2010 Additions to the Audio Visual and Artifact Collections
- MC639 – AWFC Office Communications (Clippings 2004, 2005)
- MC640 – Lambuth Church Shrine
- MC641 – Bishop Joel D. McDavid
- MC642 – Journals Collected by Joe Curtis
- MC643 – History of Union United Methodist Church
- MC644 – Matthew P. Sturdivant Papers
- MC645 – Curtis Coleman Papers
- MC646 – Center Chapel United Methodist Church
- MC647 – Charge Conference Records for Montgomery/Opelika District and Montgomery/Prattville District 2006 and 2007
- MC648 – Relocation of Offices
- MC649 – Missions
- MC650 – Erquhart Family Papers
- MC651 – CORE Team/Council On Ministries
- MC652 – Alabama West Florida Conference Headquarters
- MC653 – Insurance Policies for Marianna/Panama City District (1992-2005)
- MC654 – District Superintendent's Manual
- MC655 – Demopolis District Peace Initiative
- MC656 – Personal Papers for Dr. & Mrs. Raleigh Pickard
- MC657 – Records of the Mobile District
- MC658 – Eight Mile United Methodist Church
- MC659 – Heritage United Methodist Church
- MC660 – Dumas United Methodist Church/Hubbard Memorial Chapel
- MC661 – Coordinator of Ministries with Children
- MC662 – Legislative Breakfasts
- MC663 – SEJ Historical Society

HUNTINGDON COLLEGE ACCESSIONS 2010

- HC169 – 2010 Additions to Reference Files
- HC170 – 2010 Additions to Audio Visual and Artifact Collections
- HC171 – 2010 Additions to Historical Library
- HC172 – HC217 Artifacts
- HC218 – Photographs – Mary Ann Neeley
- HC219 – May Day Queen's Dress and Crown; Woman's College of Alabama Bowl
- HC220 – The Red Lady
- HC221 – Patrons Of The Library
- HC222 – Director of the Library Reports
- HC223 – Alumni Records
- HC224 – Office of College and Alumni Relations
- HC225 – The American Chestnut Tree Planting

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Tucker, Archivist

HISTORICAL SOCIETY - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Blue Lake Camp was the host and site of the 2010 Annual Meeting on October 29 – 30 at Oakwood Lodge and Vickers Gymnasium. There were 80 present with special presenters following the chosen theme, "Three Notch Road." Ed Shirley, Chairperson of the Commission on Archives and History, led in singing old time blue grass gospel songs intermittently throughout the two-day event. Crafts, antiques, books, collectibles, knick-knacks and Christmas bazaar items were available for purchase in the gymnasium. Time was set aside for games, a movie, and a hayride experience touring Blue Lake Camp in the moonlight for all brave souls.

Three Notch Trail and its significance to the development of the state and the Methodist Church were revealed by Curtis Thomasson, a historian and columnist in Andalusia. Doug Purcell, grandson of Bishop Purcell and a noted historian, presented an overview and history of the Historical Society of the Conference. Dulcimer pickers demonstrated use of musical instruments in early camp meetings and churches. Mrs. Lorenzo Dow visited and told of her frustrations with her husband's zeal as a circuit rider as presented by Anne Chancy Dalton. Michael Guy, horse enthusiast and collector of antiques tack, presented the need, care, and value of a circuit rider's horse with demonstrations. Susanna Wesley, portrayed by Anne Chancey Dalton, told of the ghost in the parsonage. Ed Shirley brought the group "That a Boy Luther," about a 16th Century monk, Martin Luther.

Myrtice Carr presented a view of the modern use of Three Notch Road and its impact upon the modern Methodist church. Three Notch Road was built by the federal government to help develop the state and started in Phenix City. It cut through many modern towns and ended in Pensacola.

Some modern highways intersect or were superimposed upon it. During the 1940's and into modern times, this road has provided access to summer camps for youth, the first of which was Camp Glory on Perdido Bay, Palmetto Cove. Research brought out numerous outstanding and beloved Methodist ministers who answered the call to preach at Camp Glory. Many still serve churches in this conference and a few even found their helpmates at these camps.

During the business meeting, elections of new officers were held and a discussion as to the location and program of the 2011 Annual Meeting was presented. It was voted to hold that meeting at Blue Lake again and the theme will be the history of Blue Lake Camp, ending its 60th year anniversary. Myrtice Carr was elected vice president and Betty Letlow, secretary.

The closing service was held at Lambuth Shrine Chapel where Mary Ann Pickard presented its history, and old time blue grass gospel songs were sung. Ed Shirley portrayed Sam Jones, the Circuit Rider, preaching his sermon, "Fighting with the Devil."

Respectfully submitted,
Claud Brown, President

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY

As we gather together for the 2011 Annual Conference of the Alabama-West Florida Conference, Bishop Leeland is beginning his third year as our Resident Bishop. Bishop Leeland continues to travel extensively in our conference meeting with both clergy and lay leadership.

He does a great job of combining pastoral care and visionary leadership. He has provided many opportunities for the clergy to grow and develop as spiritual leaders through events such as the Bishop's Day Apart and the Global Leadership Summit now offered in 3 locations in our conference. And Bishop Leeland is a passionate worker for the advancement of the Kingdom and the Good News of Jesus Christ in the AWF Conference and beyond. The Episcopal Committee's role is to support, encourage, and work closely with Bishop Leeland as he seeks to build upon the tremendous growth of the Body of Christ in our conference over many decades.

The Episcopal Committee, on behalf of the entire AWF Conference, wishes to express our appreciation to Mrs. Janet Leeland! She has been very involved in the ministry and mission of our conference and is a wonderful ally and support to Bishop Leeland.

The AWF Conference has been blessed with a legacy of great growth over the last several decades! We also have some of the best leaders and pastors in United Methodism! For example, ten of the top 100 largest

United Methodist churches in America are located in our conference. We are thankful and appreciative of Bishop Leeland and his leadership as we in the AWF Conference continue to reach more and more people with the good news of Jesus Christ!

I would like to thank the following members of the Episcopal committee for their leadership and service: Rev. Ron Ball, Mrs. Jean Belt, Mrs. Guthrie Childs, Mrs. Marjorie Ann Ellisor, Dr. Steve Furr, Rev. Alecia Glaize, Mrs. Eileene Griffith, Mr. Ed Hand, Mrs. Betty Helms, Mr. Frank Jenkins III, Mrs. Beverly Maddox, Dr. John Ed Mathison, Mr. Dale Segrest, Rev. Robert Spicer, Rev. John Wesley Spivey, Mrs. Gerry Stiffler, Rev. Reba Wiley, and Dr. Shirley Woodie.

“‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’” Jer 29:11.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Lester H. Spencer, Jr.
Chair of the Committee on Episcopacy of the AWF Conference
Senior Pastor, Saint James UMC, Montgomery, AL

CONFERENCE AGENCY REPORT

AWF METHODIST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

The Alabama West Florida Methodist Federal Credit Union has been serving its members well since 1967.

The financial pressures in today's economy are brutal for small credit unions that are trying to expand service offerings and delivery systems for members. In a decidedly visionary strategy, the board of directors of the Alabama West Florida Methodist Federal Credit Union chose to seek a partner to enable the expansion of member services and to strengthen the financial cooperative's ability to thrive – not just survive – during these tough economic times. We chose Georgia Florida United Methodist Federal Credit Union because of their capital strength and a 50 plus year history of dedication to United Methodists.

We will also become part of the Shared Service Center Network. This will allow members to make deposits, withdrawals, payments and cash checks at locations all over Alabama, Florida or Georgia. In fact, the Shared Service Center Network is nationwide which gives you greater access to your accounts.

We will also offer the convenience of online account management, online bill payment, a VISA Platinum Credit Card with a low-interest rate, many loan options not currently available to you and a variety of investment

accounts. Those investment accounts include Savings, Money Market Savings, Share Certificates of Deposit, Individual Retirement Accounts and Checking accounts. Our loan accounts include mortgages, home equities, personal loans, share secured loans and auto loans (new or used).

Visit www.unitedmethodistcu.com to learn more about the benefits of membership that the Alabama West Florida Methodist Federal Credit Union will offer you by joining with Georgia Florida United Methodist Federal Credit Union. In addition to clergy, church employees, and employees of conference-related institutions, membership will now be open to members of local United Methodist Churches.

We look forward to serving you for years to come.

Jim Reece, Loan Officer

BLUE LAKE ASSEMBLY

BLUE LAKE ASSEMBLY 2011 – 60 YEARS IN THE MAKING!!!

By honoring the faithful efforts of the past and planning for a great future, Blue Lake is proud and thankful to be celebrating its 60th year of camping and retreat ministry.

Once again, in a year of social and financial uncertainty, Blue Lake has grown in its opportunity to change lives and impact communities. The 2010 summer program grew as children and adults enjoyed exciting new and expanded programs. Summer 2011 will see an increase in new offerings, such as *Dangerous Camp for Guys*, and *Daring and Dangerous Diva Disciples for Girls*. A joint offering of Blue Lake and School of Christian Missions will be the all girl *Princess Camp* this year. Great opportunities are available for every age.

Partnering is a core value at Blue Lake, and 2010-2011 saw exciting new programs develop. *Extreme Vision* camp was a program for blind and sight-impaired adults, which brought campers from across the South and Mid-west to join in fun, independent learning opportunities, and support through fellowship. The special program *Sunshine Camp* continues to offer opportunities for a camp experience to a special needs community. The camp now partners with inner city ministries in Mobile, Montgomery, and Pensacola to provide Christian camping opportunities for children and youth.

A new local partnership is organizing a *Christian Coaches Family Camp* scheduled early summer. And Blue Lake is excited to be involved in efforts to expand youth activities and spiritual development for our conference. Every program is intentional in its ministry to change lives for Christ.

The Hospitality House was dedicated in 2010 in honor of Revs. Jim Carpenter and Wesley Spivey and has become a place of rest and respite for clergy and others.

Upgrades at the facility continue to make Blue Lake look fresh, while honoring the special history of the camp. A remodel at Oakwood has increased energy efficiency, as well as added a contemporary décor. Colorful murals and walls, flowerbeds, and outdoor seating have changed the face of several areas. The work of maintaining our wonderful camp has been enhanced by the efforts of many United Methodist Men and the NOMADS. People from across the region have raised funds, provided labor, and offered support in many ways to sustain our camp.

Our vision is to operate a ministry that impacts lives and is a viable and thriving arm of the conference. To that end a development director has been engaged to help sustain that effort and to support future growth.

In October we will celebrate our 60th Anniversary, a history rich of ministry and service with groups like UMW, Emmaus/Chrysalis, Older Adults, UMM, churches, choirs, youth and children's groups, and many special groups who have chosen Blue Lake for their ministry sessions. Our future is bright, and we are continually humbled by the support of the people of the Alabama West Florida Conference, and to you we give our thanks.

2010 Board of Trustees of Blue Lake Assembly

President: Rev. Rob West
 Vice President: Eliese McAllister
 Treasurer: Henry Gross
 Secretary: Jo Blount
 Lay Member: Janean McCawley
 Members: Pam Barnhardt, Allen Bell, Jim Busby, Charlie Carlton,
 Clay Carnathan, Rev. Jim Carpenter, Terry DuBose, Emily
 Garner, Ed Hand, Bill Hill, Terry Legg, Bill Price, Lockwood
 Wernet, Edna Williams, Rev. Bob Yawn

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Rob West
 President

Phyllis Murray
 Executive Director

March – December 2010

Honorariums and Memorial Gifts to Blue Lake Assembly

Gifts in Honor

Carolyn Gaither
 Anthony Hall Complex
 Jim Busby and Henry Gross
 Rev. and Mrs. Joel Jones

Dr Billy Gaither
 Sam and Elizabeth Starr
 Charles and Monet Walker
 McKenzie UMWomen

Patric Newton
 Deaconess Anne MB Roberson
 Pam Barnhardt
 Blue Lake Staff
 Rev. T Leo Brannon
 “Jimmy” Scruggs
 Amanda Stone
 Rev Tonny Algood
 Averette MartinHale
 Mrs Clay Fleming
 Mr Griffin Sikes
 Blue Lake Kitchen Staff
 M/M Applegate 50th Anniversary

Rev. Tonny Algood
 Anne Roberson
 Ruth Penton
 Charles and Marg Perelli
 Walter and Dean Allbritton
 James Barnes
 Kelly Bethea
 Tonya Elmore
 Frank Martin
 Sam and Elizabeth Starr
 Sam and Elizabeth Starr
 Jonathan Couey
 Delia Martinez Pischek

Gifts in Memory

June Loftis

Howard Register
 Clay Fleming
 Elma Stevenson
 Browder and Florence Camp Beasley
 Frank and Berta Baker
 Robert Fleming
 Bill Davidson
 Eunice Bryant
 Lee Olive Steele
 John Fountain
 Betty Lois Crosson

Nondie Harten Robinson
 Winn Murphy
 “Chuck” Lindley

Rev. and Mrs. Walker Epps
 Jack and Marcia Reichart
 Mrs. Ronald Martin
 Terry and Katherine DuBose
 Karl Stevenson
 Jere and Sara Beasley
 Jere and Sara Beasley
 Sam and Elizabeth Starr
 Sam and Elizabeth Starr
 Sam and Elizabeth Starr
 Sam and Elizabeth Starr
 Eva Fountain
 Billie and Betty Flowers
 Wm and Patricia Ellis
 Col. and Mrs. Thomas Linn
 Dr. and Mrs. Howard Fisher
 Maj Gen. and Mrs. Richard Comer
 Charles and Nancy Dyess
 Jerry and Joyce Loughride
 Carl, Riggs, and Ingram, LLP
 Brett and Karen Latham
 Katrina McLaughlin
 Norma Unruh
 Betty Glass
 John and Jan Brown
 Fairhope UMC
 Sam and Elizabeth Starr
 Virginia Lindley

CONFERENCE BOARD OF PASTORAL CARE, COUNSELING, AND TRAINING (PCCT)

The purpose of PCCT is to provide a comprehensive program of care, counseling, and training to members of the clergy and their families within the Alabama West Florida Conference.

The mission of PCCT includes, but is not limited to:

- Offering subsidized professional counseling for individual, marital, and family.

- Offering a wide range of training support to clergy, churches, and districts.

- Providing resources, collaboration, and consultation services.

- Providing response to requests for assistance, guidance, and support.

- Exemplify the concept of Christian Caring and offer Caring Training.

This Board operates under the auspice of an elected Board of Directors and an established set of Bylaws that allowed the Board to suspend the section relating to elections of new Board members for a final year for the purpose of retaining experienced directors during the financial uncertainty.

PCCT remained strong in 2010, continuing to offer services to our clergy. The number of subsidized counseling sessions for our clergy and family was 158, for 22 clients, and utilizing 19 counselors. The total amount paid for these counseling sessions in 2010 was \$11,021.83.

PCCT continues to work with Ministerial Services to offer the required Sexual Ethics training. The workshop for the Beginning Pastors was offered in August at Capitol Heights UMC and facilitated by Stephen King.

PCCT maintains a network of Christian counselors made available to all clergy for the referral of congregation members. Clergy or family members of this conference may obtain subsidy for private, confidential counseling by contacting Zanatta Hagan at the office of Pastoral Care, Counseling, and Training (O)334-793-0686, Toll Free 800-258-6474 or email umc@pcctawf.org.

The services of PCCT are geared to crisis intervention, but prevention continues to be a key goal and this ministry is a vital aid to ensure that we have healthy clergy leading healthy congregations.

Rev. Glenn Butler, Chair

Rev. Stephen T. King, Conference Counseling Consultant

BOARD OF DIRECTORS**CLASS OF 2011-2012**

Rev. Danny Arnold, Troy, AL (President)
Rebecca Crews, Prattville, AL (Secretary)
Teressa Ramsey, Daphne, AL

CLASS OF 2012-2013

Leslie Davis, Prattville, AL (Vice-President)
Rev. Dr. John Friedman, Panama City, FL
Rev. Ellie Stoudemire, Prattville, AL

CLASS OF 2013-2014

Rev. Dr. Jerry Dooling, Dothan, AL (Treasurer)
Diana DuFriend, Jackson, AL
Henrietta Thomas, Millbrook, AL

CLASS OF 2014-2015

Shirley Jordan, Montgomery, AL
Rev. Michael Lawler, Brundidge, AL
Rev. David Willis, Dothan, AL

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Resident Bishop: Bishop Paul L. Leeland
Director of Ministerial Services: Rev. June Jernigan
Conference Counseling Consultant: Rev. Stephen T. King
Honorary Life Member: Rev. John Bonner
Honorary Life Member: Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Butts

NOAH'S ARK (PANAMA CITY BEACH MINISTRIES)

The past year of the Ark has been one of transition and continued renewal. As we have renewed and restructured our Board of Directors they have become a vital part of the daily life of the Ark. With 2 currently active winter ministry team members and former Two by Two Alumni, they are intimately aware of the Ark's daily activities. Through organizational changes and changes in the use of available resources throughout the programs of the Ark we have been able to "lean" up the expenses while becoming more efficient and effective in our current ministries. This has been possible in spite of a reduction of full time staff from 4 persons to 3 persons and a reduction of our summer Two by Two college staff from 10 to 7 persons (4 being from our Conference).

Summer 2010 at Noah's Ark was a summer of learning how to be closer to God. Over 42 groups came and visited and helped us to continue to make God's presence known on Panama City Beach. All of our groups along with staff participated in mission opportunities which included serving food

at the Rescue Mission, and a community park down town. They visited and ministered through song and service at area nursing homes and children's homes as well. Many groups sorted clothes for clothing drives and packed food boxes at Noah's Ark for our monthly gift to a local soup kitchen.

During the day all these mission projects and more were completed including walking up and down our beach and sharing about Noah's Ark and our Lord. Praise and worship filled the air along with some tears of some teenagers getting their first true feel of the loving presence of God in our evening worship, which is open to the public and broadcasted outside our front doors by visual and audio devices along the main strip of Panama City Beach. It is amazing that these groups of young people come to the world's most beautiful beaches to spend very little time at the beach by their own choice and then come to serve and work their whole vacation in service for others.

The summer ministry was to some degree affected by the oil spill in April, but all but one of our summer retreat groups continued with their plans for the summer. We usually book as much as 30% of our total bookings after mid-April, and we did not see any bookings after that time. Reservations for the coming summer 2011 are already beyond (as of March 2010) last year's levels, and most of our summer Two by Two college staff will be returning for summer 2011.

Our winter ministry continued its efforts to reorganize and become more team driven rather than staff driven. The ministry team made great progress in this area this past season with its 8-10 member team taking on almost total responsibility of planning and organization. Although there were fewer winter visitors to Panama City Beach this winter and thus fewer participants in our programs, the level of active participation continued to increase. The decrease was due to the oil spill and also the economy as continued financial uncertainty caused many to shorten their stay. Art, wood working, craft, and exercise classes continued to be a part of our activities, but we increased our small group Bible studies and prayers groups with one being a group centered around Rick Warren's *40 days of Love*. Through some of our trained Stephen Ministers and a retired UM minister from Michigan we continued our worship services throughout the winter season.

Community outreach has continued to become more central to the activities of the winter ministry at the Ark as retirees look for something beyond themselves. Visiting nursing homes, work with the local Council on Aging, the Senior Center, and local soup kitchens are becoming a central part of how we make God's presence known in the winter time.

Plans for next winter as of this time (March 2011) and volunteerism are running high. Expansion of the outreach programs and transition and leadership development are a high priority for next winter. Plans to continue existing programs and expand are under way for next season.

The Ark is also in the process of working on cooperative programs with Blue Lake Campground, and we are working on the possibility of joint camps with Blue Lake along with sharing resources such as summer staff and other information that can help both ministries be more effective. Developing college staff and leadership training for them is an area which Blue Lake and the Ark hope to increase our connectedness with Huntingdon College, and by next year we hope to have more news of these efforts.

Prepared by

Luke Pinegar, Director, Noah's Ark

Mary Lou McCann, Winter Ministry Team Chair, Board Member

Heather Jeter, Assistant to the Director, Noah's Ark

Board of Directors Jan 2011

Chair – Rev. Allen Newton

Vice Chair – Jeremy Smith

Treasurer – Rosemary Stewart

Secretary – Rev. Chris Cook

2011: Ron Mashburn, Mike Owenby, Melissa Gregg

2012: Allen Newton, Chris Cook

2013: Tim Meadows, Rosemary Stewart, Jeremy Smith, Starr Olivo,
Rob Talent

Ex officio members (with vote):

UMW Representative: Kathy McQuagge

District Superintendent: Gary Daniel

Conference Representative: Leigh Meekins

Winter Ministry Chairperson: Mary Lou McCann

Winter Ministry Treasurer: Mary Quirk

Ex officio member (without vote):

Executive Director: Luke Pinegar

UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME

Over 100 years ago, it was very appropriate to serve children in out-of-home placement in a large "institutional" setting. The goal was to separate the child from their family, which was considered to be either non-existent or dysfunctional. The placement(s) was long-term and very little, if any, work was done with the family. The goal of the placement was to provide a reasonable life-style and prepare the child for independent living.

In the last few years, the manner in which children and families are served has changed dramatically. We have come "full circle", with placements now more family-oriented and of much shorter duration. The goal now is to either work with the family in the family setting or to minimize an out-of-home placement, if found to be necessary.

This shift in service delivery has required the United Methodist Children's

Home, as well as other like agencies, to be innovative in how to best help the child and family. In addition, the economic situation that we find ourselves in today requires us to be good stewards of the funds entrusted to us. How can we honor our mission, serve children and families, and be good stewards at the same time?

The Strategic Plan developed by our Board of Directors in 2007 was based on the realization that the way we serve children and families would have to change if we were going to continue to be successful. The Board had two objectives. One was to consider the sale of the Selma Campus, the original location of the Children's Home. Two was to consider alternative ways to provide for a Christian-based service.

Following an extensive search for a buyer of the Selma Campus, a sale was consummated in September of 2010. The buyer was a local college. The Campus would continue to serve children, but in an educational setting. Referrals for an institutional setting had dwindled over the last few years. With the sale of this campus, UMCH was able to save over \$800,000 per year.

Over twenty years ago, UMCH had begun to develop small residential, family-like settings in local communities, i.e. Florence, Scottsboro, Tuscaloosa, Birmingham, Dothan, Mobile, Milton, and Crestview. This was the prelude to the closing of our institutional campus. In addition, more emphasis was placed on preventive services, such as our FOCUS program in Dothan and our Comprehensive Family Support Services program in Andalusia. The latter two services allowed qualified staff to frequently meet with family members in their homes, thereby keeping the family intact and avoiding out-of-home placement. In addition, UMCH began to offer foster care services throughout both the Alabama-West Florida Conference and the North Alabama Conference.

To more efficiently serve all of our service locations, the Administrative Headquarters, formerly located on the Selma Campus, was centrally relocated to Montgomery, allowing for efficient use of staff time and to minimize travel costs.

What's next for the ministry? How do we continue to serve those in need and to follow the example of Christ?

Residential placement in small neighborhood settings will always be a part of what we do. Some children cannot emotionally bond in a foster home and only see marked improvement in a group home when they are not required to bond with any one person.

Moving forward, the Board plans for expansion in foster care with services to children that have severe needs, i.e. autism, extreme acting out, and

physical aggression. These young people are also children of God. Other expansion will involve family counseling and “coaching.” The latter involves working with clients on issues as they move forward in their lives.

As we enter another century of service to those in need, we continue to do what we do well---“to follow the example of Christ, by embracing all God’s children...one child, one family at a time.”

In His Service,



Steve Hubbard
President/CEO
United Methodist Children’s Home

United Methodist Children’s Home BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairperson: Juddy Stephenson

Vice Chairperson: Jane Roberts

Secretary: Maurine Johnston

Treasurer: Dr. T. Michael Morgan (North Alabama Conference)

Honorary Members

The Resident Bishop: Bishop Paul L. Leeland

Representing Alumni Association: Louise Iverson (North Alabama Conference)

Representing the UMW: Jo Anne Minnitt (North Alabama Conference)

Representing the UMM: John Croft

Term to Expire 2011:

Earl Edwards (2004), Maurine Johnston (2007),
Jane Roberts (2004)

Term to Expire 2012:

C. Juddy Stephenson (2008), Rev. Jacqueline Slaughter (2009)

Term to Expire 2013: Rick Dye (2009), Rev. Leigh Meekins (2011)

Term to Expire 2014: Jerry Maygarden (2009)

Term to Expire 2015: TBD

Effective until July 1, 2011

UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME FINANCIAL RECORD

INCOME:	Actual 2010	Budget 2011
Alabama-West Florida Conference	\$708,052	\$831,891
North Alabama Conference	376,868	455,976
Individual Contributions	490,433	528,395
Rents and Miscellaneous	292,050	277,347
Memorials and Scholarships	144,885	237,312
Foundations and Trust Accounts	27,196	31,200
Interest and Dividend Income	13	0
Endowment Fund Transfers	1,610,500	979,819
State, County & Medicaid Payments	3,129,771	3,768,266
Designated Gifts	73,707	86,440
	\$6,853,475	\$7,196,646
EXPENDITURES:	Actual 2010	Budget 2011
Programs:		
Alabama Regional Office	87,614	122,254
Birmingham Babies First	237,999	338,626
Children's Village	103,935	0
Christain Nurture	93,289	85,458
Community Service Regional Office	81,072	84,119
Continuum of Care	31,635	0
Crestview Group Home	458,294	451,126
Family Support Covington County	236,261	240,590
Florence Group Home	245,892	317,780
Florida Foster Care	94,918	105,275
Florida Regional Office	83,848	48,442
Gulf Coast Group Home	289,605	296,124
Mobile (Delchamps) Group Home	339,719	349,772
Scottsboro Group Home	222,263	312,386
Southeast FOCUS Program	599,370	630,103
The Settlement	335,478	354,198
Therapeutic Foster Care	926,387	1,033,448
Tuscaloosa Group Home	425,986	510,151
TOTAL PROGRAMS	\$4,893,565	\$5,279,852
Supporting Services:		
Management and General	\$1,398,080	\$1,062,953
Public Relations & Development Office	445,311	553,841
Federal Earmark Grant	32,980	250,000
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	6,769,936	7,146,646
PLANT FUND APPROPRIATION	139,479	50,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 6,909,415	\$ 7,196,646

NOTE: All figures are unaudited.

UNITED METHODIST DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

The Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation would like to thank the members of the Annual Conference for your support and partnerships in service. By using the services of the Foundation, you have allowed us to be self-supporting and to continue to provide all of our services and resources at either no cost or a very low cost to our United Methodist churches and institutions. The Foundation provides stewardship educational programs, donor consultations, draft investment and endowment policies, investment management, fund accounting, scholarships as well as many other services to hundreds of United Methodist churches, donors and institutions.

In this recent economic environment, it has been apparent that those churches and institutions with a plan that garners endowment and reserve funds were in a better position to withstand the effects of a down economy. The Foundation is committed to helping all of our churches be prepared to fund ministry in their community and beyond. In 2010 there was over \$2.6 million deposited with the Foundation in the form of new trust funds or new contributions to existing trusts and funds. In turn, the Foundation sent out over \$1.75 million to local churches and institutions for various uses in ministry.

In addition to supporting our churches, the Foundation is available to assist donors in establishing a planned gift. Working with the donor or donor's attorney we can accomplish the goal of finding the best way to set up a planned gift to benefit the donor, the church or any other United Methodist institution. With hundreds of examples of gifts, the Foundation's resources prevent donors from having to "reinvent the wheel." One resource we provide is a Charitable Gift Annuity contract that is a simple way to establish a gift but to receive an annuity on the gift for life. For a free personal illustration on the rate and tax advantages you would receive, please call the Foundation office at (334) 793-6820.

One example of the Foundation's work in the Conference is our involvement with local and area scholarships. In 2010, \$151,991 in scholarships were awarded through funds held at the Foundation. Other disbursements were for building maintenance, for cemetery maintenance, for missions, for specific programs and for pastor housing to name a few.

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors, we say thank you for the opportunity to serve you and the Church. The Board of Directors unanimously endorses and recommends the following board and officers.

Harold Faulkner, President
Terri Turner, Executive Director

ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION, INC.

President: Harold Faulkner
Vice-President: Lany Simmons
Secretary: Aubrey Stabler
Treasurer: Herbert Barr
Executive Director: Terri H. Turner

Board Members**LAY DIRECTORS**

Class of 2011: Tommy Boyd, Ross Cotter, James Y. Carroll, James Hall, Guy Keller, Gene Floore, Aubrey Stabler, Mike Tucker

Class of 2012: Herbert Barr, Harold Faulkner, Scott Hunter, John Heath, George Mingledorff, Jeff Outlaw, Lany Simmons

Class of 2013: John Bullard, Phyllis Cleaver, Laureen Lynn, Harry Nelson, Mike Norris, Tom Norris, Robert Powers, Jeff Sessions, Talana Wilkins & Jerry Patee.

Ex-Officio Members: The Resident Bishop, The District Superintendents, and the Conference Lay Leader.

UNITED METHODIST DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Development Fund is an agency of the conference committed to providing low cost loans to United Methodist churches and institutions for land, building or renovation projects. The loans are made on a first mortgage basis, and as of March 2011 the loan rate was a competitive 4.50%. The Development Fund also charges no points or closing cost on loans. The Development Fund currently manages over \$11 Million in total deposits and has considerable funds available for loans.

The Board of Directors of this Fund continues to monitor both our deposit and loan rates to maintain the best possible balance in providing fair interest rates to both our depositors and churches borrowing money. For loan and deposit applications visit our web page at www.alwfumf.org.

Executive Director: Terri Turner
President: Leon Hilyer
Board of Directors: Steve McCarroll, Leon Hilyer, Adam Metcalfe, Henry Hooks, Clay Carnathan, John Sherrer, plus the Executive Director, Foundation Board President, Conference Treasurer, Conference Missions Director, Conference Lay Leader and one District Superintendent.

UNITED METHODIST HOMES FOR THE AGING

A ministry reaching its 50th Anniversary has every reason to celebrate. Methodist Homes Corporation opened its first facility in Birmingham (Fair Haven) in 1961 and for 50 years has remained a strong leader in the care of elders in Alabama and Northwest Florida. Over that period of time, Methodist Homes has grown from that one facility providing a home for 140 assisted living residents to the only organization in Alabama providing garden homes, retirement apartments, assisted living, specialty care assisted living, skilled nursing and Alzheimer's care. However, the true legacy of Methodist Homes cannot be measured by counting licensed beds and square footage. Its true legacy is in the lives that have been changed.

In the direct path of our efforts to change lives is a Master Plan for Methodist Homes' Dothan facility, Wesley Manor Retirement Center. This plan not only changes the exterior appearance of the facility, but also the interior, which will undergo a renovation that will completely redefine skilled nursing care. The hospital-like method of caring for elders will vanish, becoming transformed into a home-like model of care known as households. The households will function without regimented schedules and rigid routines that you might expect to find in a nursing setting. Instead, Wesley Manor will enjoy an environment that reflects the lifestyles of the residents who live there. The impact of this "culture change" is a richer, fuller life experience for those who need skilled nursing care, and a design which will inspire other retirement centers to "go and do likewise."

Also in the path of changing lives are significant developments at two other Methodist Homes facilities. First, I am pleased to announce the approval from our Board of Trustees for construction to begin on the Life Enrichment Center at Wesley Gardens (Montgomery). This project will add much-needed worship and activity space for elders living in our Montgomery community. Second, Mathison Retirement Center (Panama City) will convert existing space into a secure wing for residents with mild to moderate dementia. This will mean that some residents will be able to continue living longer at Mathison Retirement Center instead of having to seek a higher level of care elsewhere due to mild health and mental changes. These residents will be able to receive that extra care they need without having to leave the place they call home.

Outside of our own walls, we have a responsibility to influence and connect with a greater community of people. Methodist Homes pursues ongoing relationships with industry organizations such as The Pioneer Network, Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation, Alabama Coalition for Culture Change, The University of Alabama at Birmingham Center for Aging, Alzheimer's of Central Alabama, Advancing Excellence in America's Nursing Homes, and The University of Alabama Center for Mental Health and Aging. In this way, Methodist Homes' reach extends far beyond the

borders of its property boundaries to impact people's lives with the touch of God's love, which, as our mission states, is "ever-present and ageless."

I know in my heart that the accomplishments of Methodist Homes throughout these 50 years could not have been achieved without the progressive leadership of our Board, the high-quality care given by our associates, the unwavering trust afforded to us by our residents and their families, and the faithful stewardship of our donors, including the churches of the Alabama-West Florida Conference. We are eternally grateful for the annual conference apportionment to the Fountain of Love Fund which provides financial assistance to the needy elders who live at Wesley Gardens (Montgomery), Wesley Manor (Dothan), Mathison Retirement Center (Panama City), and Wesley Haven Villa (Pensacola). We also extend our heartfelt thanks to the many churches that participate in an annual offering for Fountain of Love. With your support, the Fountain of Love provided just over \$230,000 in 2010 to individuals in our Alabama-West Florida Homes who otherwise would not have been able to pay for their care. You help make it possible for us to hold true to our long-standing policy that "no one will ever be asked to leave a Methodist Home because they are unable to pay."

As we celebrate Methodist Homes' 50 years of serving older adults, we echo the words of Betty Friedan, a pioneer of the women's movement, who said, "We couldn't possibly know where it would lead, but we knew it had to be done." In 1961, the leadership for Methodist Homes could not possibly have known where the ministry they were creating would lead, but they knew it was right and they knew it had to be done. And so it is with great anticipation that we look forward to what God has in store for us during our next 50 years.

Christopher W. Tomlin
President & CEO

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Class of 2012

Martha John Allison – Montgomery
Dr. Jerry Dooling – Dothan
Dr. Henry Roberts – Pensacola
Dr. W. Herb Sadler – Gulf Breeze
Terrye Takacs – Gulf Breeze

Class of 2013

Marty Clark – Dothan
Dr. Chris Eckert – Ozark
James P. Hall – Dothan
Dr. Douglas C. Newton – Niceville
Betty Salter – Pensacola

Class of 2014

Rev. John I. Baxter - Pensacola
Rev. Edward Deabler - Montgomery
Fayette Dennison - Pensacola
Susan Eberhardt - Panama City Beach
Dr. Dianne L. Griswold - Montgomery
Dr. John Ed Mathison – Montgomery

CONFERENCE MISSIONS AND MINISTRIES REPORTS

ALABAMA RURAL MINISTRY (ARM)

Extending an ARM of Love!

Despite the economic downturn and the frustrations of our economy, 2010 was a great year for ARM and God worked in very powerful ways. Donations were up, volunteers were up, and our fundraisers were successful. Goals we had been praying to achieve were accomplished. We are grateful for the ways He has worked through us and have high hopes for 2011.

Sharing the love of Christ through home repair and children's ministry:

So, what happened in 2010? A record of our service:

Number of work teams: 16 (summer and spring break-not weekend groups)

Number of summer volunteers: 303

Number of total volunteers (year around): 650

Number of volunteer hours worked: 14,960

Number of families served: 48

Number of children in day camp: 37

Conference Work Teams/volunteers:

Woodbine UMC-Pensacola

Trinity UMC- Fort Walton

Jubilee Shores UMC-Fairhope

Jackson First UMC- Jackson

Grace UMC-Auburn

Tuskegee Wesley Foundation

Auburn Wesley Foundation

Auburn UMC and Dive student ministry

Cornerstone Church-Auburn

What is ARM? It is a volunteer home repair mission camp! Yes...camp. Meaning that summer and spring break are where we place most of our emphasis. During the summer, 90% of the volunteers are youth and young adults. Running two camps in our conference allows us to host several teams and work with different demographics of people and families. So, if your church, youth group, or small group has never served with ARM or maybe it's been awhile, consider staying within the conference and serve close to home! And, if you are small and trying to get missions started, allow us to set up a mission retreat weekend in Tuskegee where you can build upon team dynamics, study, pray, serve, and fellowship together; then you can take this back home and continue to grow your group! And imagine getting a group of energetic youth serving and sharing! They will be an incredible witness and dynamic in your church. So, consider setting up a team this upcoming summer. Don't wait; slots go fast! And thanks to all the teams that came last summer and spring break! Hope to see you all again very soon!

Events:**Buildmore Store Opens! www.buildmorestore.com**

We opened our doors to a new venture, a building supply thrift store in Opelika. We receive donations of furniture, building supply materials, appliances, tools and more. We resell at thrift store prices or use on our existing homes. The proceeds are helping us grow needed staff positions so we can be more responsive to the home repair requests we receive. We also created 5 more jobs in our community through this opening! We are grateful to the Auburn Wesley Foundation for allowing us to stay in their building for the past nine years and the amazing relationship we have had with them. All of our offices and staff are now located at our new facility: 1302 1st Avenue Opelika, AL. 36801.

Other Events throughout the year:

1. MLK Youth Retreat - 2010 (Elkmont UMC)/2011-Combined worship in Tuskegee Community and a subsequent work day with local volunteers (50 volunteers from Tuskegee community)
2. Cycle of Service - Three day ride across the state of Alabama-raised \$10,000 and served in Montgomery (next ride is June 24-26 2011) - register at <http://cycleofservice.arm-al.org>
3. Make A Difference Day- National Day of Service last weekend of October- 200 volunteers and hosted by Auburn United Methodist Church
4. Poverty Awareness Week- "Lisa in the Shack"- Lisa lives in a "shack" for a week on the lawn of the Auburn Wesley Foundation to raise funds and awareness about poverty housing- raised \$5000.
5. We hosted volunteers on weekends in Lee/Macon County approximately 2 weekends/month
6. Day camp sponsorships funded our day camp with \$6700 this year! We are recruiting sponsors now
7. Annual Conference 2010 snack bar raised \$1400! We hope to serve you again in 2011!

Goals for 2011/2012:

1. Renovation of Tuskegee UMC and creation of a "mission hub" in the community (\$100,000)
2. Beginning of a summer day camp in Tuskegee (\$10,000)
3. Start of a 5-6 member full time internship ministry in Tuskegee
4. Full time ministry presence in Livingston

Thank you for bringing work teams, for sponsoring children at our day camp, and giving so generously! Your prayers and partnership translate Christ's love directly into families and children's lives. Let us keep going the extra mile and giving cheerfully!

Come bike ride with us in June and look for our Snack Bar/Caffeine Station at Annual Conference!!!!

Grace and peace,
Lisa Pierce

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2011

Rev. David Goolsby	675 Scottsboro Drive Auburn, AL. 36830
Mr. Paul Grisham	262 Lee Rd. 48 Opelika, AL. 36804
Mr. Heath Spurlock	1227 Norman Rd. Auburn, AL. 36830
Mrs. Tara Lontz	627 E. Glenn Avenue Auburn, AL. 36830

Class of 2012

Mrs. Debra Beil	802 Tullahoma Drive Auburn, AL. 36830
Mr. Craig Hamm	190 E. University Dr. Apt 1107 Auburn, AL. 36832
Mrs. Emily Gentry	4355 Live Oak Dr. Auburn, AL. 36830
Ms. Andi Longest	P.O. Box 1955 Auburn, AL. 36831
Mrs. Ethel White	P.O. Box 262 Auburn, AL. 36831
Ms. Edna Williams	2801 Bulls Avenue Tuskegee Institute, AL. 36088

Class of 2013

Mrs. Nicole Beasley	304-A Clemmie Street Tuskegee, AL. 36088
Mrs. Robin Duke	1227 Ferndale Dr. Auburn, AL. 36832
Mrs. Jill Jones	1503 Rocky Brook Rd. Opelika, AL. 36801
Mr. Roland Vaughn	P.O. Box 830248 Tuskegee, AL. 36083
Mr. Rick Wheatley	1607 Leo Lane Opelika, AL. 36801

Class of 2014

Mrs. Lois Curtis	635 Seminole Street Auburn, AL. 36830
Mr. David Goolsby	675 Scottsboro Drive Auburn, AL. 36830
Mrs. Jennifer Jones	289 Solamere Lane Auburn, AL. 36832
Mr. Mike Martin	228 Belmonte Dr. Auburn, AL. 36830
Mr. Paul Grisham	262 Lee Rd. 48 Opelika, AL. 36804
Mr. Randy Stephens	1980 Hillbrook Circle Auburn, AL. 36830

By Virtue of Position:

Lisa Pierce, Executive Director

Ex Officio:

Bishop Paul Leeland

Susan Hunt – Conference Director of Advocacy and Missions

Rev. John Bonner – Demopolis District DS

Rev. Ronald Ball – Montgomery Opelika District DS

Mr. Glenn Glover – Conference UMVIM Chair

COOPERATIVE SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

The 2010 Cooperative School of Christian Mission was held July 22-24 at Blue Lake Assembly Grounds with the theme "Faith – Hope – Love in Action." The annual event is sponsored by the Board of Church and Society, Board of Global Ministries and United Methodist Women and is open to all members of the church interested in mission study. Elizabeth Andrews, representing Church and Society, served as Dean and Betty Helms, representing United Methodist Women, served as Assistant Dean.

The theme challenged participants to welcome the Holy Spirit and to go forth into the world sharing and celebrating the love of God. Studies included *For the Love of God: John's Letters* taught by retired Bishop William Morris; *Joy to the World: Mission and Evangelism* taught by Rev. Dr. Clayton Childers, director of Conference Relations with the General Board of Church and Society, and Rev. J. Walker Epps, District Superintendent for the Dothan District; and *The Beauty and Courage of Sudan* taught by Ruth Gynther, retired Auburn professor. Rev. Pam Avery, Minister at the Latham Chapel United Methodist Church, and Heidi Branch, Assistant Director of Music at Pensacola First United Methodist Church, provided music.

Those attending were able to participate in one or two of the eight-hour studies. Also available at the school was a Mission Fair, worship sessions, a Sudanese banquet, a Prayer Room, the SERV Shop with handmade merchandise from third world countries, and a Literature Room with books and resources relevant to the studies along with a selection of books from the UMW reading program. An offering received at the School benefitted Advance Specials in Sudan and Haiti.

Betty Helms serves as Dean of the 2011 Cooperative School of Christian Mission, scheduled for July 21 – 23 at Blue Lake. Lynn Hamric, representing the Board of Global Ministries, is Assistant Dean. Scheduled studies include *Coming Out on the Side of Grace: Reconciliation, Haiti, and Joy to the World: Mission and Evangelism*. Special features of the School include a special mission study for girls ages 6 to 12 and the *Coming Out on the Side of Grace: Reconciliation* study will be offered in both English and Spanish. An excellent team of study leaders includes: Rev. Dr. T. J. Wesley, minister and professor from Jackson, TN; Jodi Cataldo, Director of Leadership Development for the Dakotas Conference; Charlene Black, an author and former Women's Division Director from Sylvester, GA; Nancy Hudson Beardon, a current Women's Division Director from Macon, Georgia; Judith Pierre-Okerson, a native of Haiti who currently resides in Miramar, FL; Susan Hunt, Director of Mission Advocacy & Ethnic Ministries for the Alabama-West Florida Conference, and Martha Rovira, Coordinator of Hispanic/Latino Ministries for the Alabama-West Florida Conference.

Grace and Peace,
Elizabeth Andrews

2010 Dean of the Cooperative School of Christian Mission

REGISTRATION FORM – REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JULY 7, 2011**ALABAMA WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE
COOPERATIVE SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION****JULY 21-23, 2011****BLUE LAKE ASSEMBLY GROUNDS – ANDALUSIA, ALABAMA**

NAME ADDRESS CITY		
	STATE	ZIP
PHONE	HOME:	CELL:
*EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ DISTRICT: _____ *email address will be used for confirmation of registration		
<p style="text-align: center;">Please check all that apply</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy <input type="checkbox"/> Conference Officer & Position _____ <input type="checkbox"/> CEU Credit <input type="checkbox"/> Lay <input type="checkbox"/> District Officer & Position _____ LIST SPECIAL NEEDS: (dietary, physical, handicapped accessible, etc.) _____		
<p style="text-align: center;">MISSION STUDY SELECTION</p> <p>Please complete this section to select your study class – Select 1st and 2nd choices</p> <p>Coming Out on the Side of Grace: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Reconciliation & Forgiveness 1st choice 2nd choice English Spanish</p> <p>Joy to the World: Mission & Evangelism.. 1st choice 2nd choice</p> <p>Haiti: Challenge & Hope..... <input type="checkbox"/> 1st choice <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd choice</p>		
<p>ROOMMATES MUST MAIL REGISTRATION FORMS AND FULL PAYMENT TOGETHER</p> <p>Make checks payable to AWFCSCM-Mail to-Sheila Hare, Registrar, 91 Hoots Ln-Forkland, AL 36740 – Phone: 205-361-3858 – email: s.share13@gmail.com</p>		
*OAKWOOD: OLD WING (Center Section) Triple Occupancy: \$92.00 per person Double Occupancy: \$106.00 per person Single Occupancy: \$146.00		*OAKWOOD: LINWOOD NEW WING Single Occupancy: \$156.00 Double Occupancy: \$111.00 per person
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes lodging, meals, bed linens, 1 face cloth, 1 hand towel & 1 bath towel. Bring your Study book(s), Bible, notepad, pen & light jacket/ sweater (room temperature varies), completed Health Form sealed in envelope with your name of the outside. outside. Lodging in the Linwood Wing (New Section) is very limited and will be assigned on a first come basis. 		



DUMAS WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

Introduction

Dumas Wesley Community Center was founded in 1903 by Methodist Church women, with the purpose of ministering to the poor in the downtown area of Mobile. Several years later, the Dumas Wesley House moved its ministry to the outlying community of Crichton, a large mill village. The mission served the families who worked in the mills and warehouses. Over the years, Dumas Wesley has evolved and changed to meet the needs of the people we are privileged to serve. Today, while some of the Center's programs serve specifically the low-income, minority Crichton neighborhood, others are open to all citizens of the metro area who have need.

Mission Statement

The purpose of Dumas Wesley Community Center is to provide a community center in Mobile, Alabama, which offers service activities for men, women, youth, and children to strengthen family life, and to develop leadership and responsibility within the residents of the neighborhood and the community. It shall offer, through its services to individuals and groups, the opportunity for growth in understanding the will and unconditional love of God.

Neighborhood Outreach

The intent of our Neighborhood Outreach and Advocacy program is to implement and foster trust and belief in the residents of Crichton, thus serving as a catalyst for the advocacy and betterment of the community. Our major goals at this time are:

- a.) Rehabilitation of family life through education and services that enhance awareness of the needs of self, other family members and neighbors.
- b.) Improve the lives of disadvantaged and underserved area youth, families and senior citizens by ensuring adequate nutrition, healthcare, preventative education, and referrals to area social service agencies and resources
- c.) A renewal of community interest in the neighborhood as a place of pride, resulting in increased personal self-esteem and security in the home environment

Youth Programs

The Youth At-Risk Program provides a safe environment for community youth to participate in age-appropriate activities. Specific programs include:

Sports - Teens participate in church and city basketball leagues each year.

“Safe Haven” Daily Recreation - This program gives our community youth a safe place to go after school. We offer two game rooms, outside play and basketball.

Summer Recreation and Camp – Our summer recreation program offers sports, arts & crafts, a variety of field trips, and a week-long camping experience at Camp Blue Lake. We are looking forward to the summer of 2011 when college interns from the 3.0 Missional initiative will return to coordinate the summer camp activities.

Lights of Empowerment is a non-profit organization which is now providing an after-school program at Dumas Wesley for young girls ages 12 – 18. This successful program teaches young women that they are truly beautiful and made in God’s image. Activities include classes in dance, exercise, nutrition, etiquette and building healthy relationships.

Sybil H. Smith Family Village Transitional Housing Program

The Sybil H. Smith Family Village transitional housing program began serving homeless women and their children in July, 1999. To date, we have served over 600 women and children from seven Alabama counties, the Mississippi coast area and the Florida panhandle. This unique program provides homeless families with the tools to establish and maintain self-sufficiency. It combines transitional housing of up to 24 months with on-site support services as well as referrals to other community agencies and institutions. Major program goals are:

- To meet families' immediate need for stable housing, so they are free to work on overcoming obstacles to self-sufficiency.
- Help mothers obtain job skills and educational skills so they can financially support their families.
- Help families overcome other critical obstacles such as lack of affordable childcare or other resources needed to work outside the home.
- Help women and children recover from and avoid the trauma which homelessness and lack of economic stability causes to their health, self-esteem and emotional development.
- Help families secure and retain permanent housing when they complete the Family Village program.

Seniors Program

The Dumas Wesley Seniors Program provides seniors age 60 and over

with dependable transportation to medical appointments and with activities through a daily Seniors Assisted in Living (S.A.I.L.) program.

Transportation: The purpose of the program is to provide seniors with transportation to doctors, hospitals and other health facilities. There is no set fee, but donations are accepted. Seventy percent of those served live alone and are dependent upon Dumas Wesley for this much needed service. Transportation is also provided to Dumas Wesley's S.A.I.L. program daily.

Senior Activities for Independent Living (S.A.I.L.) provides daily activities Monday through Friday for an average of 65 seniors daily. A hot, nutritious meal is served to 45 seniors at the center, and in addition, meals are transported to 35 homebound seniors. Participants enjoy a variety of activities, including games, sing-alongs, nutrition education, speakers, health checks and field trips. Trips to the grocery store are provided one day per week. Information referrals on health issues, Medicare, Social Security and Fair Housing are made.

Other Services/Programs

Monitoring of Home Day Care Feeding Program - Dumas Wesley staffs the monitoring of the feeding program in 94 home daycares in Mobile and Washington Counties.

Wellness Center: In collaboration with the University of South Alabama's College of Nursing, a Wellness Center is now located at Dumas Wesley. Classes, health assessments and referrals to medical services are offered free of charge to the families and individuals served by Dumas Wesley.

Community Gardens: Through a partnership with The Center for Family and Community Development, a new project was started in February: a Children's Garden, Youth Garden and Community Garden. The Children and Youth Gardens will focus on educational activities, while the Community Garden will provide neighborhood residents with a source of fresh fruits and vegetables. Future plans include nutrition, cooking and canning classes.

Assistance to Refugee and Immigrant Populations: Attorney Perry Noble has brought pro bono legal services to Dumas Wesley, serving immigrant and refugee families and individuals.

How can you participate in the ministry of Dumas Wesley Community Center?

As we all face the financial uncertainty of our times, Dumas Wesley will continue to evaluate and improve our programs and services to assist those

who are struggling with loss of employment, homelessness, and the personal and familial stress inherent in these situations. Along with all ministries of the Conference, Dumas Wesley is experiencing drastic reductions in funding, while the needs of the people are increasing. We ask for your continued prayers, monetary support and sharing of your talents and skills through volunteerism. Thank you!

Submitted by,
Brenda Carlisle

GOLDEN CROSS

Golden Cross is a special fund of the United Methodist Church. It exists in order to:

- Respond to the most pressing health care needs.
- Allow the local church to give with compassion.
- Adhere to the guidelines set forth by the conference.

The Golden Cross represents Christ's healing presence in a hurting world. As United Methodists, we are active in and support the ministries of Christian care by reaching out to those in need. The Golden Cross offering is retained within the conference where it is received. The conference designates the use of the offering. The contributions you give to the Alabama-West Florida Conference provide the opportunity to make available financial aid for delinquent medical expense charges from a hospital, physician or pharmacy. Golden Cross receives no funds from apportioned items; the only source of income is from the people of the local church within our Conference. Please send your offering to the AWF Conference Treasurer.

The First Sunday in May is Golden Cross Sunday. Local churches are encouraged to give on this day – or any day of their choosing – so that the most urgent requests can be fulfilled.

Guidelines used to assist those in need:

- Assistance shall be available for United Methodists of the conference. Payment toward financial assistance shall be made directly to the hospital, physicians, or pharmacy.
- The Director of Golden Cross will provide each applicant with a form that must be filled out in advance of receiving assistance. It is also available on the website of the AWF Conference.
- A copy of the balance with past due, unpaid balances must be provided with the completed application form.
- This information is to be returned to the Director of Golden Cross.
- Assistance will be granted to a person only upon the recommendation of a pastor or District Superintendent who is in a position to know of the need or circumstances. Assistance will be granted for

a pastor only on the recommendation of the District Superintendent. Upon receiving a request from a pastor or District Superintendent, an application form will be sent to the person needing assistance. The form is to be filled out by the person or pastor requesting help.

A copy of the past due bills and the completed application form is to be sent to the Golden Cross Director, Julie Terrell, RN, 4570 Sailboat Lane, Pensacola, FL 32514. The amount of assistance granted to any person shall be limited to a total of \$1,200.00 for any combination of hospital, physician, or pharmacy bills when funds are available.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Terrell, RN

MILK AND HONEY OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Milk and Honey Outreach Ministries was established in 1994 as a children's Bible study program within a low-income, inner city housing project. It soon became apparent that many of the children were having difficulty with reading and faced many other challenges that were not being addressed by the services that were being provided. By 1996, the program was incorporated as a community-based non-profit organization (501(c)(3)) and children received after school care, tutoring, mentoring, and nutrition, in addition to Christian education.

This ministry is an expression of God's love in the world and serves to bring God's healing, hope, and help to people in need. Milk and Honey has partnered with and been supported by a number of churches including Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist, and the Protestant Navy Chapel, as well as a number of community and governmental organizations including the City of Pensacola, United Way of Escambia County, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the Community Drug and Alcohol Commission.

By providing services within the neighborhood, by consistent, trusted African-American role models and dedicated volunteers, the program has become a valuable part of the lives of needy children. Our current programs include:

Kids Club After-School program provides services to 30 children 4 times per week, 2 hours per day from August to May. Services include academic tutoring, counseling, computer training, and weekly Bible study. Volunteers help with basic reading, math skills, and homework assignments. Nutritious snacks donated by the community are also provided during Bible study. Our efforts have been to provide consistent nurturing, support and encouragement to our students and families during these challenging times as well as academic assistance.

Summer Camp Program operates from June to August, Monday - Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., to provide safe, fun, enriching activities in a safe and nurturing atmosphere. Many of the children we serve are from low-income single-parent families and providing supervised activities during off-school hours is very important. Children are most at risk to be involved in delinquent activities during the after-school hours and school breaks. Our Summer Camp is an opportunity to make a positive difference in their lives. Each week an average of 30 students participate in this program that includes a daily meal provided by Florida Impact. A large part of the program involves off-site activities and providing safe, reliable transportation is the limiting factor in the number of children served by this program. Activities include swimming, skating, bowling, and field trips to museums and other places of local interest. We also provide ongoing Christian education and partner with local churches to provide Vacation Bible School.

Spring Break Camp provides children in the program with a nutritious lunch, activities to reinforce core values and a safe, fun place to be during school breaks. The program serves approximately 50 children, ages 5-15, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. The date for Spring Break Camp 2011 is April 25 to April 29.

Girls Embracing a More Excellent Way (GEMS) targets African American girls, 10-16 years old, from a single-family home and/or from a high-crime neighborhood. Our programs focus on improving self-esteem, identifying personal strengths and weaknesses, effective goal setting, health and wellness, and preventing teen pregnancy by promoting sexual abstinence until marriage. We recognize that girls with the above background need a support system to ensure successful entry into adolescence. For many of our girls, there is a family history of teen pregnancy, lack of parental involvement, peer pressure for sexual activity, inadequate positive role models, inadequate communication between children and adults, and large quantities of idle time. The program provides between 23 workshops and/or lock-ins for 20 young women.

Seven Angels program serves 7 girls, ages 11-14, 1 time per week (Saturday), 3 hours per day. The program began in October 2007 and provides educational training in all aspects of creative production (digital, video, and audio) with extensive hands-on experience. It provides the tools necessary for the students to use in the creative process that could ultimately be the tools of their new career. This program also helps students realize their potential to change their world in a positive way, and the students donate their training and mentoring time to young people in the inner-city. Training is located at Digital Media Education, Pensacola, Florida.

Thanksgiving and Christmas activities include every family participating in any program offered to the Kid's Club. The program provides food baskets with all the ingredients for a traditional holiday feast including turkey,

dressing, gravy, cranberries, green beans, corn, sweet potatoes, rolls, and dessert. At Christmas (in partnership with other organizations and individuals) new clothing is provided for parents and siblings (new undergarments, socks, and t-shirts for each child), new household items (given at the parents' request), and toys (the latest electronics and traditional dolls and trucks).

Submitted by,
Sonya Culliver

UNITED METHODIST INNER CITY MISSION

This past year the United Methodist Inner City Mission has experienced a significant increase in the number of people we are serving. The Mission continues to assist in the staffing and operating of McKemie Place, which is the only emergency overnight shelter for homeless women in a three county area. In June 2010, the renovation of the shelter was completed, and our capacity grew from 25 to sixty five beds. This past year beds in the shelter were filled over 15,000 times with 459 individual women ranging in ages from eighteen to seventy-eight years old. Approximately 1,275 volunteers prepared meals and brought them to the shelter to feed the women. This continues to be a wonderful opportunity for volunteers to do mission work. Today, the challenge is raising the funds to pay the staff and keep McKemie Place open. One woman who stayed in the shelter wrote, "McKemie Place is strength, it's courage, it's friendship, it's understanding, but most of all it's love from strangers who know women need help. I know I'm going to get up and have the world. I know I'm going to give McKemie Place the same love they gave me. I know God has my back."

This continues to be challenging financial times for many of our churches and the Mission. However, we continue to see more volunteers, especially youth and young adults coming to the Mission to volunteer their services. They assist with everything from tutoring children in our After School Tutorial Program, painting and making repairs to the homes of senior citizens, maintaining the grounds of the Mission, and coming on Sunday afternoons to play with the children in the Park and lead them in Bible studies. The Mission's Summer Tutorial and Enrichment Programs at Taylor Park continue to provide a safe haven for our children and youth while instilling in them the importance of getting a good education. In the summer of 2010, one hundred and twenty five children participated in our summer programs. This past summer the Mission hosted six 3.0 college interns who worked with the children and youth in our programs. The college interns were able to experience hands-on mission service while at the same time deepening their own faith and growing spiritually.

Each summer, we partner with the Drug Education Council and the Junior Achievement Program to present their curriculum to the children and

youth at the park. The Mission and Pro Kids, Inc. work together to provide counseling with a licensed clinical child psychologist to help children with behavioral problems that cause them to have difficulties at school and in the community. This continues to make a tremendous difference in the lives of the children receiving these services. Children have gone from failing in school and continuously getting into trouble to making the A-B honor role and being selected the most outstanding students in their classes.

The Mission is continuing its full scope of programs to minister to the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of the community and adding new ministries. During the past year, the Mission was able to provide emergency assistance to families in need of food and medicine, or who needed assistance with utilities and rent due to unforeseen emergencies. Our Community Enrichment staff continues to work with senior citizens and youth to improve their quality of life. Many senior citizens in our community live alone and do not have any means of transportation. Transportation and daily activities are provided for the "Taylor Park Seniors" including daily devotionals, recreation, field trips, ceramic classes and monthly luncheons. The staff also works with the Oakdale Community Service Club, which is a large group of community residents who address a wide variety of issues in the community from environmental issues to safety issues by working with the Enhanced Neighborhood Policing. The staff ministers to those whose lives are torn apart by drugs and violence by providing assistance in entering rehabilitation programs. Monday through Fridays the Mission serves breakfast for the homeless of our community. Each morning before breakfast there is a worship service which is often led by those attending. This is the only church that many of them know, and once-a-month communion is given to those present.

This past year, we experienced a significant increase in the number of people needing our services. Please know how much we appreciate and depend on the support of our brothers and sisters throughout the Alabama – West Florida Conference to carry on God's ministries to the least of these. Continue to keep us in your prayers.

Rev. Tonny H. Algood, Director
United Methodist Inner City Mission – McKemie Place

OTHER r EpOr TS

LAKE JUNALUSKA ASSEMBLY, INC.

There is great excitement at Lake Junaluska these days. We are preparing to celebrate our 100th anniversary in 2013, we are taking advantage of the energy that often accompanies a transition of leadership, and we are beginning to realize the incredible untapped potential that exists in this wonderful place we call Lake Junaluska.

As we prepare for the Centennial Celebration in 2013 we are reflecting on the amazing history of this place and the important relationship we have with the Southeastern Jurisdiction and each of the annual conferences making up the SEJ. **Thank you** for your generous support over the years; we would not be here today if it was not for you and, as you know, we belong to you. We realize that the world has changed, that the United Methodist Church is changing, and that the old models of financial support within our church will also need to change. It is our hope that any future financial support that we receive from annual conferences in the SEJ will occur because of who we are and that what we do adds significant value to fulfilling the mission of local congregations, the annual conferences, the Southeastern Jurisdiction, and The United Methodist Church as a whole.

In our efforts to live fully into the potential that exists at Lake Junaluska we have begun a four- step process:

- 1) Clarify and own the mission and vision statements,
- 2) Develop a strategic plan that will allow us to fulfill that mission and vision,
- 3) Secure the resources that are necessary to fund the strategic plan, and
- 4) Fully implement the plan.

The Board of Directors of Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc. affirmed a revised mission statement in March 2011: “The mission of Lake Junaluska is to be **a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind, and body.**” A Strategic Planning Task Force has been appointed by Bishop Goodpaster with the charge of bringing a comprehensive strategic plan to the October board meeting. We are dramatically strengthening our Development program to be ready to provide opportunities for people and organizations to help us fund the new plan. We have already begun to make changes in the way we operate that will continue to be modified and improved as we “move on to perfection,” a good Wesleyan concept.

Of course, one of our greatest challenges is how to appropriately remember the past but boldly embrace the future. We are diligently working to identify those things from our past that must be preserved, at the same time envi-

sioning a future that will require us to do things very differently than we have in the past. We are looking forward to working in partnership with you.

I was attracted to this new position not only because I have come to love this place we call Lake Junaluska but also because I see so much potential for this “holy ground” playing a critical role in impacting the world for God and for good. And I am convinced that the potential I see for this place today is only a small fraction of what we can become. I am so grateful for the vision of those who founded Lake Junaluska almost one hundred years ago and am humbled by the opportunity to provide guidance as we enter into the next one hundred years of helping to usher in the Kingdom of God through Lake Junaluska.

The future of Lake Junaluska is indeed very bright.

Jack Ewing, Executive Director

SCHOOLS OF THEOLOGY

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Greetings from Boston University School of Theology, one of your United Methodist partners in mission! We thank you for your prayerful support of us through the past year, and will share some new developments in our School.

News flashes from the School!

- **New Faculty:** We welcomed three new faculty this year and they are already contributing mightily to the life of STH. *Dr. Walter Fluker* is the Martin Luther King, Jr. Professor of Ethical Leadership. He teaches exciting courses, consults with international organizations on ethical leadership, and leads the Howard Thurman Papers Project, now based at STH. *Dr. Christopher Evans* is Professor of the History of Christianity and Methodist Studies. He brings expertise in American Christianity and the history and theology of Wesleyan traditions. Besides, he is a great teacher. *Dr. Courtney Goto* is Assistant Professor of Religious Education, reviving the STH program in educational ministry with her distinctive interest in teaching and the arts. She has recently studied the artful ministry of her Japanese-American UMC congregation, especially its sanctuary art, worship, and Japanese garden.
- **New Curriculum:** The new curriculum – “Faith Engaging the World” – has arrived, and we are discovering the potential of this curriculum to prepare spiritually-centered, prophetic, intelligent, practical religious leaders who can contribute to renewing and transforming the church and the world. Not only are M.Div. and M.T.S. students benefitting from the new curriculum, but we have also launched our new one-year Master of Sacred Theology program for military chaplains, responding to their increasing needs to address issues of ethics, trauma, and conflict transformation.

- **Church Connections:** United Methodist Women will read two books authored or co-authored by our faculty in the UMW Mission Studies this summer: Dana Robert's *Joy to the World!: Mission in the Age of Global Christianity* and Stephanie Hixon and Tom Porter's *The Journey: Forgiveness, Restorative Justice and Reconciliation*. In addition, Bryan Stone and his students continue to initiate and support new church starts; several of our faculty and students have spoken or consulted with church boards and agencies; and our graduates are giving strong leadership in their home churches and conferences.
- **Global Connections:** Travel seminars have studied this year in Ephesus (modern Turkey) and Russia, and the School has collaborated with people in Korea, China, South Africa, Norway, and Australia. Dr. Thomas Thangaraj has been Visiting Professor in Global Christianity and Mission, teaching courses in Images of Christ and Christian Encounters with Hinduism. Professor Dana Robert, Truman Collins Professor of World Christianity and Mission, delivered the opening keynote address in the 100th anniversary of the Edinburgh World Missionary Conference and in the opening convocation of the 2010 Boston Conference: The Changing Contours of World Mission and Christianity. The Reverend Canon Ted Karpf, recently of the World Health Organization, has joined our team as Director of Development. He is already building new global connections that will challenge and stretch us!
- **Contextual Engagement:** The School received a grant of \$200,000 to support its LINC program – *Learning in a Nexus of Communities*. We continue to build partnerships with local churches and service agencies, as we contextualize theological education at STH. We are grateful to the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations for supporting these efforts.
- **Community Building:** Community life is buzzing with dynamic weekly worship, followed by a community meal, and with daily morning prayer. We have expanded our efforts to strengthen community and spiritual life with the addition of a Spiritual Life Coordinator, the Reverend Robin Olson, and the addition of a Coordinator of Communications and International Student Life, Philippa Mpunzwana.
- **Sustainability Charge:** We have charged ourselves to build toward greater sustainability, having implemented energy conserving practices, designed a green community center for our basement, and launched an intentional living community for some of our students in the “Green House.”

Still to Come!

- **New faculty searches:** We are presently searching for faculty in preaching, pastoral theology, and history of Christianity.
- **People's History:** The STH People's History Project continues, and we have had some wonderful oral history interviews with alums this year. Contact the Alumni Office if you are interested in sharing your story with us: (617) 353-2349.
- **Lifelong Learning:** Our work in lifelong learning has just begun, but we have begun collaborations with churches and other educational in-

stitutions to respond to the needs of local churches, clergy, and lay leaders. We welcome your ideas.

- **Alumni Networking:** We are decentralizing alumni activity to conferences and regions in order to facilitate the exchange of ideas, knowledge and collaborations. Jaclyn Jones is the point of contact for these efforts to stimulate the connection between alumni and Boston University School of Theology. Jaclyn is reached at sth alum@bu.edu.

We are abundantly grateful for our BU graduates and friends in your conference, and also for our church partners throughout the United Methodist connection. We continue to pray for you and we welcome your prayers for us. We are in this ministry together!

Gratefully,
Mary Elizabeth Moore
Dean, Boston University School of Theology

CANDLER

Candler School of Theology prepares *real* people to make a *real* difference in the real world. Our distinctive 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 of evangelical piety, ecumenical openness, and social concern. As a school located in the major metropolitan area of Atlanta, Candler offers students a learning laboratory 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 469, with 358 seeking the Master of Divinity, 67 the Master of Theological Studies, 16 the Master of Theology, 14 the Doctor of Theology, and 14 enrolled as Special, Non-Degree students. The total student population is 25% US ethnic minority, 9% international, and 52% women. Forty-six denominations are represented, with 52% of MDiv students being United Methodist. The median age of our entering class of MDiv students is 26, with 57% of total enrollment under thirty.

To ensure that our students are prepared for leadership in an increasingly global context, Candler continues to emphasize internationalizing the curriculum. This year, Candler has academic exchange partnerships with theology schools across five continents and nine countries, including many related to The United Methodist Church.

A hallmark of the Candler MDiv experience, the two-year Contextual Education program shapes our students' pastoral identities by interweaving service at ministry sites and churches with academic analysis in the classroom and spiritual reflection in pastor-led small groups. In any given week, Candler deploys more than 250 ConEd students throughout the region to minister to people in congregations, hospitals, and social service agencies.

Despite today's challenging economic climate, Candler remains committed to making theological education financially possible for our students. Although our operating budget essentially remained flat this year, we increased our total financial aid investment to over \$5 million. Eighty-three percent of eligible students received Candler-based financial aid, with the average award covering 76 percent of tuition.

Candler draws considerable vitality 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 strengthen this essential ministry in the life of our denomination. We invite you to 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

DREW UNIVERSITY

My predecessor, Dean Maxine Beach, has said to me that Drew University Theological School is "a special place" on more than one occasion. Since coming to Drew I have begun to see how right she is. It is a welcoming, hospitable, and caring community. We do not pretend to be a perfect community but we strive hard to welcome all who come through our doors and care for the *shalom*, the well-being, of each individual, as well as, the Common Good.

Drew is "a special place" because of the many ways we seek to equip and empower leaders for Christian ministry through the numerous programs we offer:

- M.Div., S.T.M., M.A., M.A.Min., D.Min., and Ph D.;
- Continuing Education opportunities for pastors and lay people;
- Internships through Communities of Shalom in Shalom zones world wide
- Partnership for Religious Education in Prisons program in a local men's prison and women's prison, where Drew students and inmates study and learn together;

- Certification in Spiritual Formation and Camp and Retreat;
- Cross-Cultural Courses in India, Turkey, El Salvador, Mexico, Taizé, and Ghana;
- United Methodist Liaison and Deacon Liaison to assist students in their discernment.

In my first weeks, I have begun to visit churches and alumni in the vicinity. I believe very strongly that we can only do theological education *with* communities, both communities of faith and other kinds of communities that our alumni serve. In many ways, we owe a debt to our churches and other agencies that work *with* us to train and form our students for leadership.

We take pride in having a faculty that is perhaps one of the most diverse in theological education with an almost equal number of women and men. Our student body is equally diverse. We take seriously our United Methodist identity. Drew is well positioned to be a leading progressive United Methodist seminary. I welcome ongoing dialogue as we work together to shape a vision in equipping the saints for ministry. Together we can make Christian disciples that transform the world.

The Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, Ph.D.
 Dean and Professor of Hebrew Bible
 The Theological School
 Drew University
 36 Madison Avenue
 Madison, NJ 07940
 Email: jkuan@drew.edu
 Voice: 973-408-3258

GARRETT-EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The core purpose of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary is to know God in Christ and, through preparing spiritual leaders, to help others know God in Christ. We continue our deep and abiding commitment to prepare bold and articulate leaders who share the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

Last fall the seminary welcomed 122 new students, the largest entering class in twenty years. The average age of the diverse and highly qualified MDiv class is thirty-one. Garrett-Evangelical provides \$2 million in institutional financial aid to students each year.

Class of 1961 alumnus Dr. James H. Cone was the keynote speaker during the fall convocation. The event also celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the seminary's Center for the Church and the Black Experience.

To commemorate twenty-five years of leadership in spiritual formation, the seminary is raising \$2 million to endow the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation. The chair will assure the seminary remains at the forefront of

developing and enhancing spiritual formation studies. Contributions will honor Bishop Job and assure the ongoing nurture of spiritual leaders for the Church and the world.

The Institute for Transformative Leaders and Communities develops programs for the continuous education and lifelong learning for leaders and communities. The Institute's MDiv *Plus*, the first of its kind, is a three-year executive education program in cooperation with Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management. It includes six seminars and a one-on-one coaching program. All clergy with an MDiv degree are eligible to participate.

The expanded Doctor of Ministry program offers four tracks: Congregational Leadership, African-American Congregational Leadership, Spiritual Direction, and Mission in the Contemporary United States. The DMin program also is a portal to the Association of Chicago Theological Schools (ACTS) DMin program in preaching.

Renovation of Loder and Lesemann Halls nears completion. Loder will feature a student center, student lounge, state-of-the-art classroom, kitchen and dining room, modern residence rooms, and guest suites. Lesemann will house the Stead Center for Ethics and Values, expanded library facilities, a conference room and other offices. Loder Hall will be LEED certified.

Garrett-Evangelical is welcoming several new faculty and staff:

- Dr. Anna Johnson, Visiting Assistant Professor of Reformation Church History
- Dr. Hendrik Pieterse, Associate Professor of Global Christianity and World Religions
- The Rev. Becky Eberhart, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management
- The Rev. Mary Ann Moman, Senior Advancement Specialist and Director of Course of Study
- The Rev. James Noseworthy, Senior Assistant to the President

Joining the seminary's faculty this summer are:

- Dr. Charles H. Cosgrove, Professor of Early Christian Literature
- Dr. Virginia A. Lee, Associate Professor of Christian Education

Garrett-Evangelical serves over 550 students in degree-related courses, certificate programs and our summer Course of Study School. We encourage you to visit our website, www.garrett.edu, and to visit us on campus. We are proud to serve the United Methodist Church, and we ask for your continuing prayers and support as we pursue our mission and our renewed vision.

Philip A. Amerson, President

UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

“Spirit led: Renewing the Church!”

United has one goal: to train dynamic leaders for the ministry of Jesus Christ. As you consider whether God is calling you or someone you know into ministry, we invite you to explore the opportunities at United!

United offers:

- Degree and certificate programs relevant to today's followers of Jesus Christ!
- Emphases in Christian Ministry, Pastoral Care and Church Renewal!
- New: An Online/Hybrid Master of Divinity that meets UMC and ATS standards!
- A growing number of Life-Long Learning courses online and on campus!
- New Doctor of Ministry degree focus groups and mentors!
- Deep learning opportunities for both clergy and laity!
- Appreciative theological reflection on the central teachings of the Bible and the doctrines of the Christian faith!
- Spiritual formation in a variety of cultural contexts, including international communities!
- A technologically advanced, fully accessible, state-of-the art campus!
- A youthful, diverse, widely published faculty committed to the Christian faith!
- Friendly and helpful staff and students!
- A UM matching scholarship program and scholarships for others as well!

At United, we are committed to following the Spirit's lead in renewing the Church for the mission of Jesus Christ in the world!

Enrollment at United is growing steadily and we invite you to call, visit or sign up for a class or program that meets your needs!

For more information, contact admissions@united.edu.

Thank you for your prayers, partnership and service in the ministry of Jesus Christ!

By Wendy J. Deichmann, President
4501 Denlinger Road
Dayton, OH 45426
937-529-2201
www.united.edu

AppENDIX

CD/DVD Order Form 2011 Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference

Name: _____ Phone Number(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

of copies:

DVD (\$10*): _____

Audio: CD (\$5*): _____

Amount Paid \$ _____

**Price includes shipping*

Please make checks out to FRAZER UMC.

***Orders will not be filled until payment is received. Orders below will be available in CD or DVD. The business sessions will be available on CD only. The Ordination Service will only be available through First United Methodist Church, Montgomery (334-834-8990).*

Opening Worship Celebration (Bishop Alfred Gwinn, Jr.) _____

Service of Commemoration and Holy Communion (Rev. Frederick Outlaw) _____

Monday and Tuesday Speaker (Dr. P. Alice Rogers) 2 DVDs or 2 CDs _____

Tuesday Teaching Sessions (Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr.) (2 DVDs or 2 CDs) _____

Recognition of Retiring Clergy _____

Laity Banquet (*Mary Ellen Bullard Leadership Address*) _____

Wednesday, Sending Forth Service _____

Please send order form and money to:

Janice Stough

Phone 495-6361

Email: Janices@frazerumc.org

Frazer Memorial UMC

6000 Atlanta Highway

Montgomery, AL 36117



**2011 JOURNAL ORDER FORM**

Alabama - West Florida Conference

ATTN: CONFERENCE JOURNAL

100 Interstate Park, Suite 106

Montgomery, AL 36109

888-873-3127 phone/334-274-1052 fax

1 - All Conference JOURNALS must be pre-ordered and pre-paid.2 - **Deadline** to order postage free: July 31, 2011.

3 - Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses receive a complimentary **CD** of the Conference JOURNAL. You must fill out an order form and check the box below in order to receive a complimentary **CD**. *****IF YOU DESIRE A PRINTED COPY OF THE CONFERENCE JOURNAL, YOU MAY CHOOSE TO PURCHASE A SPIRAL OR REGULAR BOUND BELOW*****

4 - Payment for the JOURNAL cannot be combined with payment for Clergy Directory order(s).

Check here if you are a retired clergy or surviving spouse

☐

NAME (Please type or print)

ADDRESS where you would like your Journal mailed (must include zip code)

____ Copy(ies) of a CD \$5.00 each \$_____

____ Copy(ies) of regular-bound at \$20.00 each \$_____

____ Copy(ies) of spiral-bound at \$22.00 each \$_____

Total (Payment must be enclosed with order.) \$_____**Postage: (only if order is made after July 31, 2011)**

One JOURNAL - \$5 added to above total \$_____

Two JOURNALS - \$7 added to above total \$_____

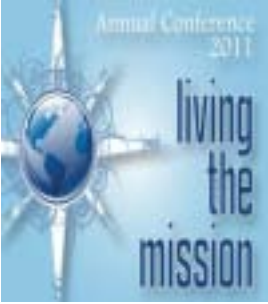
Three or more JOURNALS - \$10 added to above total \$_____

Total Payment with Postage (if after July 31) \$_____

Make check or money order payable to:

ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE





CLERGY DIRECTORY ORDER FORM

Alabama - West Florida Conference

Attn: CLERGY DIRECTORY

100 Interstate Park, Suite 120

Montgomery, AL 36109

1.888.873.3127 phone/334.356.8029 fax

www.awfumc.org

- All Clergy Directories MUST be **pre-ordered** and **pre-paid**
- Cost = \$ 10.00 each
- **Deadline** to order: July 31, 2011. After deadline cost may increase.
- Payment for the DIRECTORY cannot be combined with payment for Conference JOURNAL order(s)

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT THE ADDRESS YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR
DIRECTORY MAILED TO:**

Name (church or individual): _____

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

_____ x \$ 10.00 each = _____
quantity total

Make check or money order payable to:

ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE

and mail to the address above



FRAZER CAMPUS MAP



From the north, take I-65 South to Montgomery. As you approach Montgomery, merge onto I-85 N via exit number 171 toward ATLANTA. Go 6.4 miles and merge onto US-231 N/US-80 E/AL-21 N via exit number 6 toward GUNTER AFB/WETUMPKA. Take the ramp toward US-80 E/ATLANTA HWY. Stay straight to go onto Eastern Blvd. Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto ATLANTA HWY/US-80 E/AL-8 E. Frazer is 1/2 mile on your right.

From the south, take I-65 North to Montgomery. As you approach Montgomery, merge onto I-85 North toward Atlanta. Follow above directions.

From the east, take I-85 South to Montgomery. Take the US-80 exit, exit number 11, toward MITYLENE. Turn right onto U.S. 80 W. Go 3.8 miles to Frazer, on the left.

From the west, take US-80 E. Merge onto I-65 N toward MONTGOMERY/BIRMINGHAM. Merge onto I-85 N via exit number 171 toward ATLANTA. See above directions.

CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Paul L. Leeland, Resident Bishop

100 Interstate Park Drive, Suite 120-A, Montgomery, AL 36109

Email: bishop@awfumc.org • Telephone: 334.277.1787

or 1.888.873.3127 • Fax 334.277.0109

Dr. Shirley H. Woodie, Conference Secretary

171 Meadowview Drive, Ozark, AL 36360

Email: swoodie171@cobridge.tv • Telephone: 334.774.5516

Rev. Sara Shaver, Journal Editor

324 Pineville Road, Monroeville, AL 36460

Email: srevshaver@gmail.com • Telephone: 251.575.2790

Rev. Ed Deabler, Registrar

3817 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, AL 36109

Email: dalraidaumc1@knology.com • Telephone: 334.272.2190

Dr. Steve Furr, Conference Lay Leader

214 Plantation Trace • Jackson, AL 36545

Email: furrs@bellsouth.net • Telephone: 251.246.5266

Rev. R. Neil McDavid, Director, Office of Connectional Ministries

100 Interstate Park Drive, Suite 120 • Montgomery, AL 36109

Email: neil@awfumc.org • Telephone: 334.356.8014

or 1.888.873.3127 • Fax 334.356.8029

Mr. Frank Dunnewind, Treasurer-Pensions Officer

100 Interstate Park Drive, Suite 106 • Montgomery, AL 36109

Email: frank@awfumc.org • Telephone: 334.274.1051

or 1.888.873.3127 • Fax 334.274.1052

The District Superintendents (see corresponding page)

Dean of the Cabinet: Rev. Tonya Elmore

Secretary of the Cabinet: Rev. J. Walker Epps

DISTr ICT CONTACT INFOR MATION

District Superintendents

Baypines: Frederick G. Outlaw P.O. Box 1711, Bay Minette, AL 36507-1711
251.580.2021 • Fax: 877.580.8141

Email: bpdist@bellsouth.net

Administrative Assistant: Rhoda Sweet

Demopolis: John Bonner P.O. Box 1279, Demopolis, AL 36732-1279
334.289.0519 • Fax: 334.289.3828

Email: umcddoff@bellsouth.net

Administrative Assistant: Patty Kirkpatrick

Dothan: J. Walker Epps 256 Honeysuckle Rd, Ste 4 • Dothan, AL 36305
334.792.4259 • Fax: 334.671.4114

Email: umcdothan@graceba.net

Administrative Assistant: Mary Lynn Enfinger

Marianna/Panama City:

Gary Daniel P.O. Box 306, Marianna, FL 32477

850.482.4905 • Fax: 850.482.3071

Email: office@mariannapcdistrict.org

Administrative Assistant: Debi Hightower

Mobile: Tonya Elmore 6333 Piccadilly Square Dr, Mobile, AL 36609-5103
251.345.3313 • Fax 251.345.3315

Email: admin@mobileumc.com

Administrative Assistant: Kim Doss

Montgomery-Opelika:

Ron Ball 1749 Platt Place, Montgomery, AL 36117

334.239.7329 • Fax 334.239.7364

Email: mtpds@knology.net

Administrative Assistant: Linda Murphy

Montgomery-Prattville:

Philip McVay 1749 Platt Place, Montgomery, AL 36117

334.239.7329 • Fax 334.239.7364

Email: mtptds@knology.net

Administrative Assistant: Linda Murphy

Pensacola: Jeremy Pridgeon P.O. Box 2727, Pensacola, FL 32513-2727
850.434.0118 • Fax 850.434.0119

Email: office@umcpensacoladistrict.org

Administrative Assistant: Mary Hernandez

CONFERENCE CONTACT INFORMATION

Episcopal Office

100 Interstate Park Drive, Suite 120-A, Montgomery, AL 36109
334.277.1787/FAX: 334.277.0109

Paul L. Leeland
Email: bishop@awfumc.org

Resident Bishop

Megyn von Gal
Email: megyn@awfumc.org

Administrative Assistant

OFFICE OF MINISTERIAL SERVICES

100 Interstate Park Drive, Suite 100, Montgomery, AL 36109
334.356.8014/FAX 334.356.8029

Rev. June Jernigan
Email: june@awfumc.org

Director

Angie Doersam
Email: ministry@awfumc.org

Administrative Assistant

OFFICE OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

100 Interstate Park Drive, Suite 120, Montgomery, AL 36109
334.356.8014/FAX 334.356.8029

Rev. R. Neil McDavid
Email: neil@awfumc.org

Director

Traci Herndon
Email: traci@awfumc.org

Administrative Assistant

Rev. K. Leigh Meekins
Email: leigh@awfumc.org

Director

Discipleship Ministries

Susan Hunt
Email: susan@awfumc.org

Director

Missions, Advocacy, and Ethnic Ministries

Martha Rovira
Email: martharr@awfumc.org

Coordinator

Hispanic/Latino Ministries

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

100 Interstate Park Drive, Suite 120, Montgomery, AL 36109
334.356.8014/FAX 334.356.8029

Mary Catherine Phillips Director
Email: marycatherine@awfumc.org

Luke Lucas Communications Specialist
Email: luke@awfumc.org

FISCAL, PENSION, BENEFITS OFFICE

100 Interstate Park Drive, Suite 106, Montgomery, AL 36109
334.274.1051/1.888.873.3127/FAX 334.274.1052

Frank Dunnewind Treasurer
Email: frank@awfumc.org

Terri Pickering Administrative Assistant
Email: fiscaloffice@awfumc.org

Kenneth Laneaux Accounting Technician
Email: ken@awfumc.org

Kenyona Brown Controller
Email: kenyona@awfumc.org

BeLinda Carnegie Benefits Coordinator
Email: belinda@awfumc.org

CONGRESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

2600 W. Strong Street, Pensacola, FL 32505
850.430.4300/FAX 850.433.9961

Sandy Gutting Administrative Assistant
Email: sgutting@mchsi.com

DISASTER rE SpONSE AND rECO vEr Y MINISTr Y

PO Box 374, Gulf Shores, AL 36547

251.968.2549/CELL 251.978.8384

Amelia Fletcher

Conference Coordinator

Email: amelia@gulfshoresumc.org

METHODIST Ar CHIV ES CENTER

1500 East Fairview Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36106

334.833.4413/FAX 334.263.4465

Sharon Tucker

Archivist

Email: stucker@huntingdon.edu

Mary Ann Pickard

Research Assistant

Email: mpickard@huntingdon.edu



Corrections To The 2010 Annual Conference JOur NAL

Errors are inevitable in any publication. And, if they are not corrected, it is probable that they will be reprinted in subsequent editions of the JOURNAL.

If you found an error in the 2010 Conference JOURNAL, please make a note of it using the form below. The correction will appear in the 2011 Conference JOURNAL.

The error is on page(s) _____

IT READS:

IT SHOULD READ:

After noting the correction(s), please drop this page off in the registration area during Annual Conference or mail to:

Alabama-West Florida Conference

ATTN: JOURNAL EDITOR

100 Interstate Park Drive

Suite 120

Montgomery, AL 36109



Notes

Notes

Notes

2011 Annual Conference Tellers

TEAM A

	<u>Clergy</u>	<u>Lay</u>
Baypines	James Batchelor	Barbara Davis
Demopolis	John Evangelista	Virgil Hinson
Dothan	David Willis	Janice Helms
Marianna/Panama City	Jack Hankins	
Mobile	Kathy Knight	John Sellers
Montgomery-Opelika	Michael Lawler	Ken Himes
Montgomery-Prattville	Chris Perry	David Bowen
Pensacola	David Hoppenjan	Candace McKim

TEAM B

	<u>Clergy</u>	<u>Lay</u>
Baypines	Michael White	Stan Joy
Demopolis	Dunford Cole	Joe Little
Dothan	Gary Stringfellow	Kay Wingate
Marianna/Panama City	Charles Satterwhite	Donna Corbin
Mobile	Daniel Randall	Martha Teasley
Montgomery-Opelika	T. Grant Parker	Tom Hollingshead
Montgomery-Prattville	Joel Wasson	Skip Dotherow
Pensacola	Andy Gartman	Louise O'Bannon

ALTERNATE

	<u>Clergy</u>	<u>Lay</u>
Baypines	Jeffrey Spicer	Perry Outlaw
Demopolis	Esmer Davis	Gordon Wilcutt
Dothan	Paul Ferrell	Ian Butler
Marianna/Panama City	Bob Calvert	Howard Rinker
Mobile	Jean Smith	Don Harman
Montgomery-Opelika	Clayton Smith	Rebecca Crews
Montgomery-Prattville	Steven Kopp	Ricky Messick
Pensacola	Laura Weant	Steve Posell

Notes

Notes

From the Office of Communications

All 2011 Annual Conference information can be found on the Alabama-West Florida Conference website at www.awfumc.org/ac2011

From the JOURNAL Editor

The conference provides each clergy and lay member of the AWF Conference with a copy of the *Brochure of Reports*. If for some reason the lay member cannot attend annual conference, please give the *Brochure of Reports* to the alternate lay member **prior** to annual conference. **Extras are limited so PLEASE BRING YOUR BROCHURE OF REPORTS TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE.**

From the Conference Secretary

Members of annual conference are encouraged to become familiar with all conference standing rules included in this *Brochure of Reports*. Standing Rule 15 requires that all names, addresses, reports, resolutions, and/or other materials to be included in *The Journal of the Alabama-West Florida Conference* shall be in the hands of the conference secretary no later than ten working days after the close of annual conference. Other standing rules of particular interest to members are the rules in the section entitled *Administrative Procedures of the Annual Conference*, especially standing rules 10, 11, 12, and 16.

If you are a lay member of annual conference being replaced by an alternate lay member, you must contact your district office immediately to have the alternate's new status documented. Otherwise, the alternate lay member who has replaced you will not be able to vote on matters coming before the annual conference. If you have questions, please contact the conference secretary at 334-774-5516.

Clergy Directory

The Clergy Directory will be compiled from the information in the conference database. **CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EACH CLERGY MEMBER IS TAKEN FROM THIS SOURCE.** **Please make sure that your district office has your correct contact information no later than the end of June.**

Ordination and Commissioning Services

The Service of Ordination will be held Monday, June 6, 7:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Montgomery. The service of Commissioning will be held Tuesday, June 7, 1:30 p.m. at Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church.

Childcare

Childcare will be available during the opening, memorial, commissioning and closing worship services at Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church and during the ordination service at First United Methodist Church, Montgomery. Childcare can be reserved online. Childcare for the business sessions can be reserved by contacting Rev. Leigh Meekins 334.356.8014.

OFFICE OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES

100 Interstate Park Dr., Suite 120

Montgomery, AL 36109

334.356.8014 888.873.3127

www.awfumc.org



The
Alabama-West Florida
 *Conference*
United Methodist Church