

ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
2020



*Pre-Conference Journal*



# *A Prayer for Annual Conference*

**God of Grace,**

*Grant us your peace through  
this day of conferencing*

*May our hearts be centered on your **Holy Spirit**  
who calls the body gathered here to be*

**Christ's hands and heart**  
*for a world in need of*

**God's Love**

Amen.



Gary E. Mueller  
RESIDENT BISHOP

The United Methodist Church  
Arkansas Area  
800 Daisy Bates Drive  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72202-3770  
(501) 324-8019

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

*May 4, 2020*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

COVID-19 has turned life upside down for everyone everywhere, including the Arkansas Annual Conference. We are not sure what the future will be like, but our theme "Peace I Give You" (John 14:27) is so very appropriate for us in this uncertain season of life.

We will hold the 2020 Annual Conference via Zoom on Saturday, June 13, from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. You soon will receive information about how to participate, training information if you are not familiar with the Zoom platform, and the location of a church where you can safely attend if you do not have adequate broadband at home.

We will deal only with those business items deemed essential at the June 13 meeting, as well as join together in worship and the reading of appointments. As you have heard, your District Conference will be held during the middle of May, the Clergy Session May 27, and the Service of Ordination and Commissioning on Sunday, August 30, at 4:00 p.m. at St. James United Methodist Church in Little Rock.

I will miss meeting in person with you this year. But I know our hearts will be joined through the presence of the Holy Spirit in a fresh and exciting way.

See you at Conference!

Grace and peace,

Gary E. Mueller  
Bishop

HOW TO CREATE A CULTURE OF CALLING IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

**OCTOBER 24, 2020**



**THE**

**CALLING**

**ENCOUNTER      EXPERIENCE      EMPOWER**

**ST. JAMES UMC**  
**LITTLE ROCK**





## New to Zoom?

Before joining a Zoom meeting on a computer or mobile device, please take the time to download the Zoom app from Zoom's website at [zoom.us/download](https://zoom.us/download).

Please familiarize yourself with using Zoom and test your connection to it BEFORE each conference by going to [zoom.us/test](https://zoom.us/test) and following all of the prompts.

Each Zoom call has a unique 9, 10, or 11-digit number called a meeting ID that will be required to join a Zoom meeting. This will be provided in the invite sent to you, along with a link to directly connect to the Zoom meeting.

Be aware that if you do not plan to join by the digital link provided, each meeting can be entered by directly calling in with a landline or cellphone. If you are joining via telephone, you will need the teleconferencing number, meeting ID, and any passwords provided in the invite.

If you have any questions, please email [jacob.turner@arumc.org](mailto:jacob.turner@arumc.org) OR [palmer.lee@arumc.org](mailto:palmer.lee@arumc.org).

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# Voting Rights

## Who Can Vote When

All lay and clergy members of the Annual Conference have the right to speak on all matters before the Conference. Your color indicates your voting rights.

Voting privileges are as follows:

	Recommendations & Conference Business	Elections for Clergy Delegates to the General, Jurisdictional and Central Conferences	Elections for Lay Delegates to the General, Jurisdictional and Central Conferences	Constitutional Amendments	Matters of Ordination, Character and Conference Relations of Clergy
<b>Clergy Members</b> in full connection (§1602.1 a)	●	●		●	●
<b>Provisional Clergy Members</b> who have completed all educational requirements (§1602.1 b)	●	●			
<b>Associate Clergy Members</b> (§1602.1 c errata)	●	●			*
<b>Affiliate Clergy Members</b> (§1602.1 c errata)	●				
<b>Full- and Part-time Local Pastors</b> under appointment to a pastoral charge who have not completed Course of Study or an M.Div. degree (§1602.1 d)*	●				*
<b>Local Pastors</b> who have completed Course of Study or an M.Div. degree and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment before the election (§1602.1 d errata)	●	●			*
<b>Elders or Ordained Clergy</b> from other denominations serving under appointment within the Annual Conference (§1346.2)	●				
<b>Lay Members:</b> Elected Members representing congregations, Members by Virtue of Office, At-large Members as designated by districts (§132), Youth Members (§1602.4)	●		●	●	▽
<b>Alternate Lay Members</b> , when seated in place of lay member (§1602.7)**	●		●	●	
<b>Missionaries</b> regularly assigned by the GBGM in nations other than the US & Certified Lay Missionaries from nations other than the US serving within the bounds of the Annual Conference (§1602.9)	○				
<b>Conference Chancellor</b> if not otherwise a voting member (§1602.10)	○				
<b>Ordained Clergy or Provisional Members</b> from other Annual Conference and Other Methodist Denominations (§1346.1)	○				
<b>Retired Local Pastors</b> (§1320.5)	○				
<b>Visitors</b> , with majority approval of Annual Conference Members	○				

- Voting Privilege
- Voice without Vote

\* If also a member of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, they may vote at Clergy Session

▽ If also a lay member of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and/or Committee on Investigation (§602.6)

\* No Local pastor shall be eligible as a lay member or alternate (§251.2)

\*\* Please remember that only alternate members elected by their charge conference may be seated at annual conference (§251.2)



Revised March 2020

# 2020 Arkansas Annual Conference Session Rules

## Business of the 2020 Annual Conference Session

The following will be adopted at the opening business session of the 2020 Annual Conference by majority vote:

1. Arkansas Annual Conference Session Rules;
2. The Bar of the Conference;
3. The Annual Conference Session Agenda.

## Meeting of the 2020 Annual Conference

1. Due to safety concerns associated with the Covid-19 global pandemic, the 2020 Arkansas Annual Conference will be held by remote communication via an online Zoom platform consistent with Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson's Executive Order #20-15 of 4-13-2020.
2. For all purposes, this electronically conducted meeting is deemed to be the equivalent of an in-person meeting.
3. Members of the Annual Conference, with the right to vote, will include:
  - a. clergy members in full connection;
  - b. provisional, associate and affiliate clergy members;
  - c. full and part-time local pastors under appointment;
  - d. elders or ordained clergy from other denominations serving under appointment within the Arkansas Conference;
  - e. laity who are members of Annual Conference by charge conference vote, by virtue of Discipline or Conference Standing Rules, youth members and those selected to serve as lay-clergy equalization at-large members;
  - f. alternate lay members when seated in place of the lay member.
4. The bar of the annual conference shall contain all conference members who are provided the login information for the Zoom conference by the conference office.
5. Members of the Annual Conference are responsible for ensuring that all necessary technology on the member's side of the meeting is in proper working order prior to the meeting. Those present will be counted by electronic log-in, are deemed to be present for the meeting and will constitute a quorum.
6. All votes taken shall be conducted in accordance with The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church and 2020 Arkansas Conference Session Rules.
7. The meeting will be conducted in a manner such that all participants are afforded a reasonable opportunity to simultaneously hear discussion. Only items in the published agenda will be considered. All participants will have the right to speak and address those in attendance, as well as to vote on all matters submitted during the meeting.
8. To maintain an open meeting, the Annual Conference meeting will be livestreamed and recorded for playback.

## Consideration of Conference Matters

1. Rules of Order for the Business Session
  - a. Roberts Rules of Order shall be the procedural authority for the business session of the Annual Conference when not in conflict with Arkansas Conference Session Rules, The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church or Executive Order #20-15.
2. Rules of Order for Motions, Legislation and Reports
  - a. Debate shall be limited to four (4) two-minute speeches for the motion, legislation or report and four (4) two-minute speeches against. This excludes persons inquiring about points of order or asking questions of clarification.



- b. The presenter of the motion, legislation or report may offer a one-minute concluding remark at the end of debate, before the matter is put to a vote.
  - c. The presentation of the motion, legislation or report by a Conference Agency shall not be considered a speech in favor.
  - d. All motions made during the annual conference business session shall be recorded and read by the Conference Secretary or Presiding Officer before any action or vote can be taken by the members of the conference.
3. Rules of Order for Petitions and Resolutions
- a. Debate on each resolution or petition shall be limited to four (4) two-minute speeches for the motion or resolution and four (4) two-minute speeches against. This excludes persons inquiring about points of order or asking questions of clarification.
  - b. The presentation of the petition or resolution may last four (4) minutes and shall be considered a speech in favor.
  - c. The presenter of the petition or resolution may offer a one-minute concluding remark at the end of debate, before the matter is put to a vote.
  - d. A timer shall be used to measure debate at the discretion of the Chair.
  - e. Amendments and substitutions to petitions and resolutions will not be considered by the Annual Conference.
  - f. During debate of petitions and resolutions, other incidental and subsidiary motions will not be considered, with the exceptions of motions to suspend the rules, inquiries about points of order, and questions for clarification.
4. Points of Order may be raised by any member of the annual conference, who must first cite the Standing or Session Rule, The Book of Discipline, or Robert's Rules of Order involved and then state the point as briefly and concisely as possible.

### **Annual Conference Facilitators**

1. Chat room monitors, vote counters and other facilitators needed for the conference will be selected by the conference secretary and the names will be made available to the members of the Annual Conference.

# Annual Conference Agenda

June 13, 2020

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

8:30 a.m.....	<i>Registration Opens</i>
9 a.m.....	<i>Worship</i>
9:20 a.m.....	<i>Business Session</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Call to Order</i></li><li>• <i>General Instructions</i></li><li>• <i>Adoption of Session Rules</i></li><li>• <i>Adoption of Agenda</i></li><li>• <i>Monitoring Report</i></li><li>• <i>Council on Finance &amp; Administration Report and 2020-2021 Budget</i></li></ul>
10 a.m.....	<i>Worship: Celebration of Life</i>
10:15 a.m.....	<i>Break</i>
10:30 a.m.....	<i>Business Session:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Board of Trustees</i></li><li>• <i>Board of Pensions</i></li><li>• <i>Commission on Equitable Compensation</i></li><li>• <i>Committee on Nominations</i></li><li>• <i>200,000 More Reasons Report</i></li></ul>
11:15 a.m.....	<i>Celebration of Retirees</i>
11:30 a.m.....	<i>Break</i>
11:45 a.m.....	<i>Board of Ministry</i>
12 p.m.....	<i>Business Session:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Laity Address</i></li><li>• <i>Committee on the Episcopacy</i></li><li>• <i>Adoption of Consent Calendar</i></li><li>• <i>Acknowledgements</i></li></ul>
12:15 p.m.....	<i>Worship: Reading of Appointments and Sending Forth</i>



# Action Reports and Budgets

## Council on Finance and Administration

### Tithe Revenues

The Arkansas Annual Conference prepares its spending plan based on projected revenues of a 10% tithe of the aggregate income of our local congregations as reported on lines 62 and 64 of Table III. This enables local churches to use 90% of their collections for their local church ministries. **Effective July 1, 2020, in addition to the Arkansas Annual Conference 10% tithe, there will be a 0.5% tithe for a one-year transitional period (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021) to fund the onboarding of the five district offices.**

62. Total Income for annual spending plan (as of 1/31/2020)	\$98,488,898
64. Total Income from connectional/institutional sources outside the local church	\$355,991
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$98,844,889</b>
10.0% Spending Plan Maximum	\$9,884,489
0.5% District transitional amount	\$494,224
<b>Total Spending Plan Maximum</b>	<b>\$10,378,713</b>

### Spending Plan Overview

The budget, or spending plan, cap for the year 2020-2021 is **\$10,378,713** based on 2019 revenue figures. The Arkansas Annual Conference's total spending plan for the 2020-2021 year is **\$7,621,203** which is **73.4%** of the maximum spending plan.

The following priorities have guided the Cabinet and CFA in making strategic stewardship decisions in order to shape the 2020-2021 Arkansas Conference Spending Plan:

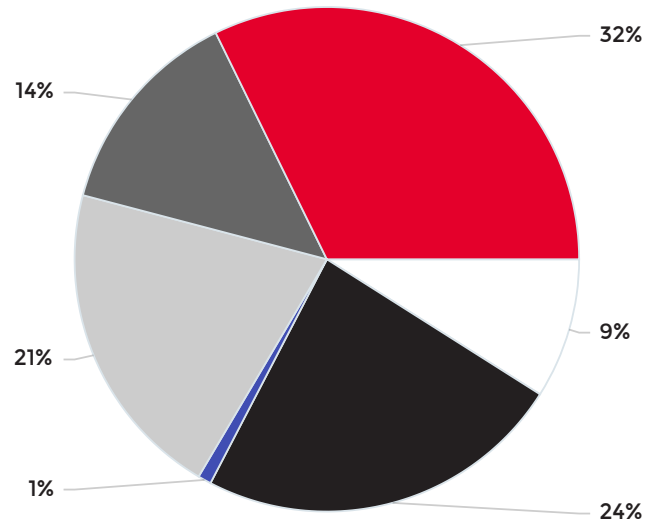
1. We will continue to ensure the financial stability of the Arkansas Conference by strictly adhering to the principles and promises of the Arkansas Tithe Initiative.
2. We will craft a conference spending plan that can be adapted to a rapidly changing landscape.
3. We will support districts, district superintendents, district administrators and district strategy teams as the primary means for connection and missional strategy development and implementation.
4. We will empower local congregations through resources, training and programs that enable new and existing congregations to become more vital in making disciples of Jesus Christ, who make disciples equipped and sent to transform lives, communities and the world (eg. Transition Seminar; cohorts; consultation; resources on CoURse; workshops; etc.).
5. We will offer ministries that connect together congregations to transform lives, communities and the world (eg. 200,000 Reasons; disaster response; campus ministry; children and youth, etc.).
6. We will provide services and carry out tasks for which the annual conference is uniquely responsible (eg. district superintendents and district offices; communication; Culture of Call; Board of Ordained Ministry, Board of Trustees; Board of Pensions; administrative services; Annual Conference Session, etc.).
7. We will make building healthy relationships a priority.

The spending plan includes apportionments to the general and jurisdictional conferences which total **\$1,867,262** or **24%** of the spending plan. The District Superintendents and district office spending plans total **\$1,570,332** or **21%** of the spending plan. The clergy and retiree benefits spending plan totals **\$684,750** or **9%** of the spending plan. The remaining **\$3,498,859** or **46%** is allocated to conference administration, and resourcing local congregations.

# Spending Plan Summary

## Legend

□	Fund #1 - Clergy and Retiree Benefits	\$684,750
■	Fund #2 - General Apportionments	\$1,802,230
■	Fund #3 - Jurisdictional Apportionments	\$65,032
■	Fund #4 - Districts	\$1,570,332
■	Fund #5 - Conference Administration	\$1,040,092
■	Fund #6 - Resourcing Local Congregations	\$2,458,767



## 1. Spending Plan

	2019 Six Month Actual	2019 Six Month Budget	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Budget	Pass Thru
<b>Fund #1 Clergy and Retiree Benefits (Pension and Health Benefits Committee)</b>					
Pension & Benefits					
Administration	9,500.00	47,500.00	110,000.00	82,500.00	N
Conference Staff Pension (clergy only)	26,725.00	30,000.00	60,000.00	21,000.00	N
Disability Health Care	25,321.00	12,500.00	25,000.00	18,750.00	N
Methodist Health EAP	7,236.00	7,500.00	15,000.00	-	N
Retiree Health Care	369,107.00	400,000.00	750,000.00	562,500.00	N
Virgin Pulse	35,758.00	40,000.00	80,000.00	-	N
<b>Subtotal Clergy and Retiree Benefits</b>	<b>473,647.00</b>	<b>537,500.00</b>	<b>1,040,000.00</b>	<b>684,750.00</b>	
<b>Fund #2 General Apportionments (Determined by General Conference)</b>					
Africa University Fund	12,964.00	20,683.50	41,938.00	38,499.00	Y
Black College	57,930.00	92,420.00	187,396.00	171,242.00	Y
Episcopal Fund	127,335.00	203,147.00	411,911.00	475,060.00	Y
General Administration	51,056.00	81,454.50	165,162.00	145,698.00	Y
Interdenominational Cooperation	11,358.00	18,120.00	36,741.00	5,122.00	Y
Ministerial Education	108,921.00	173,043.00	352,344.00	277,913.00	Y
Ministerial Scholarships	34,519.00	58,650.00	117,448.00	92,637.00	Y
World Service	429,983.00	685,982.00	1,390,931.00	1,183,103.00	Y
<b>Subtotal General Apportionments</b>	<b>834,066.00</b>	<b>1,333,500.00</b>	<b>2,703,871.00</b>	<b>2,389,274.00</b>	
<b>Fund #3 Jurisdictional Apportionments (Determined by Jurisdictional Conference)</b>					
Jurisdictional Administration	8,824.00	14,079.00	28,157.00	28,157.00	Y
Lydia Patterson Institute	16,814.00	26,825.00	53,650.00	53,650.00	Y
Reserves	1,536.00	2,451.00	4,902.00	4,902.00	Y
<b>Subtotal Jurisdictional Apportionments</b>	<b>27,174.00</b>	<b>43,355.00</b>	<b>86,709.00</b>	<b>86,709.00</b>	
<b>Fund #4 Districts</b>					
District Superintendents	308,350.00	310,850.00	621,700.00	621,700.00	N
DS Travel	46,186.00	45,000.00	90,000.00	90,000.00	N
DS Pension	43,512.00	45,000.00	90,000.00	90,000.00	N
Central District Office**	-	107,511.00	217,336.00	198,379.00	N
Northeast District Office**	-	105,379.00	210,482.00	132,553.00	N
Northwest District Office**	-	118,500.00	210,600.00	195,592.00	N
Southeast District Office**	-	85,724.00	181,162.00	112,358.00	N
Southwest District Office**	-	71,335.00	144,781.00	129,750.00	N
<b>Subtotal Districts</b>	<b>398,048.00</b>	<b>889,299.00</b>	<b>1,766,061.00</b>	<b>1,570,332.00</b>	
<b>Fund #5 Conference Administration (CFA)</b>					
Administrative Committees and Boards*	122,959.00	91,250.00	159,500.00	159,500.00	N

1	Board of Ordained Ministry Administration	63,046.00	67,490.00	134,980.00	134,980.00	N
2	Center for Administrative Services*	313,363.00	320,573.00	621,412.00	618,112.00	N
3	Episcopal Discretionary	3,987.00	6,500.00	13,000.00	11,500.00	N
4	Episcopal Housing	10,241.00	10,500.00	21,000.00	21,000.00	N
5	Episcopal Office	1,937.00	12,500.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	N
6	Pastors Moving Expense	18,796.00	39,000.00	75,000.00	70,000.00	N
7	Stabilization	62,849.00	139,416.00	275,000.00	100,000.00	N
8	<b>Subtotal Conference Administration</b>	<b>597,178.00</b>	<b>687,229.00</b>	<b>1,324,892.00</b>	<b>1,140,092.00</b>	
9	<b>Fund #6 Resourcing Local Congregations (Cabinet)</b>					
10	Center for Communications*	240,597.00	206,437.00	446,973.00	426,080.00	N
11	Center for Multiplying Disciples*	307,906.00	430,525.00	607,239.00	135,000.00	N
12	Conference Ministries Office*	246,689.00	245,378.00	511,360.00	538,256.00	N
13	Connectional Ministries*	679,772.00	733,929.00	1,482,483.00	1,272,931.00	N
14	Equitable Compensation	24,435.00	42,500.00	85,000.00	76,500.00	N
15	General & Jurisdictional Conference Delegate Exp	13,445.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	N
16	Stabilization	-	244,387.00	483,101.00	100,000.00	N
17	<b>Subtotal Resourcing Local Congregations</b>	<b>1,512,844.00</b>	<b>1,908,156.00</b>	<b>3,626,156.00</b>	<b>2,558,767.00</b>	
18	<b>Fund #7 Institutional Ministries (Cabinet)</b>					
19	Camp Aldersgate	23,505.00	37,500.00	-	-	Y
20	Hendrix College Student Scholarships	43,662.00	69,659.00	-	-	Y
21	Philander Smith College	57,212.00	74,659.00	-	-	Y
22	<b>Subtotal Institutional Ministries</b>	<b>124,379.00</b>	<b>181,818.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	
23	<b>Total Conference Budget</b>	<b>3,967,336.00</b>	<b>5,580,857.00</b>	<b>10,547,689.00</b>	<b>8,429,924.00</b>	

\* See detailed budget on following pages.

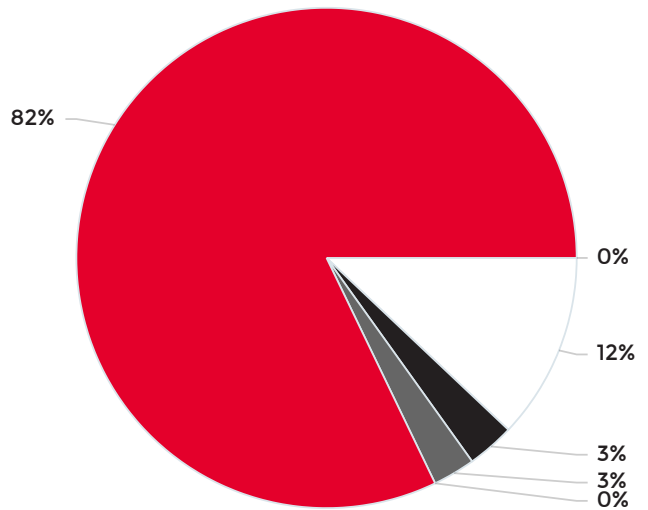
\*\* Districts budgeted for the period Jan-Dec 2019 and Jan-Jun 2020. Budgets above are estimated based on those budgets and for informational purposes only.

## 2020-2021 Spending Plan Fund Breakdown

### Fund #1 Clergy and Retiree Benefits (Pension and Health Benefits Committee)

#### Legend

Administration	\$82,500
Conference Staff Pension (Clergy Only)	\$21,000
Disability Health Care	\$18,750
Retiree Health Care	\$562,500



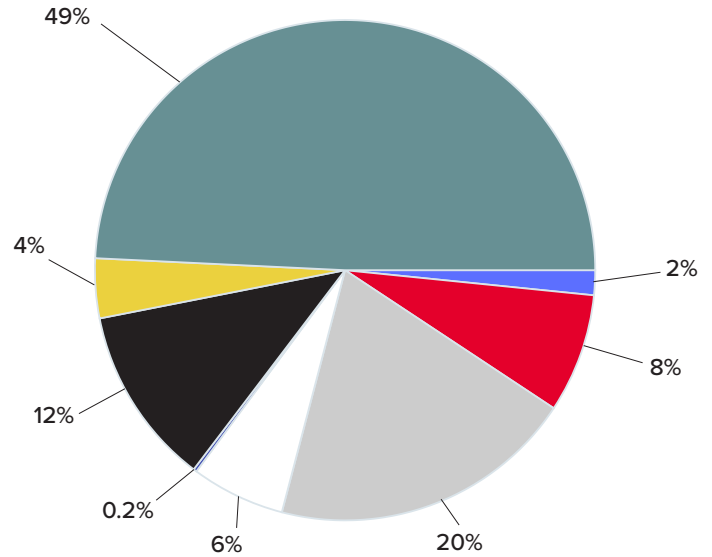
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**Legend**

- General Administration
- Ministerial Education
- Africa University Fund
- Episcopal Fund
- World Service
- Black College Fund
- Interdenominational Cooperation
- Ministerial Scholarships

\$109,274
\$208,435
\$28,874
\$356,295
\$887,327
\$138,706
\$3,841
\$69,478

**Fund #2**  
**General Apportionments**  
(Determined by General Conference)

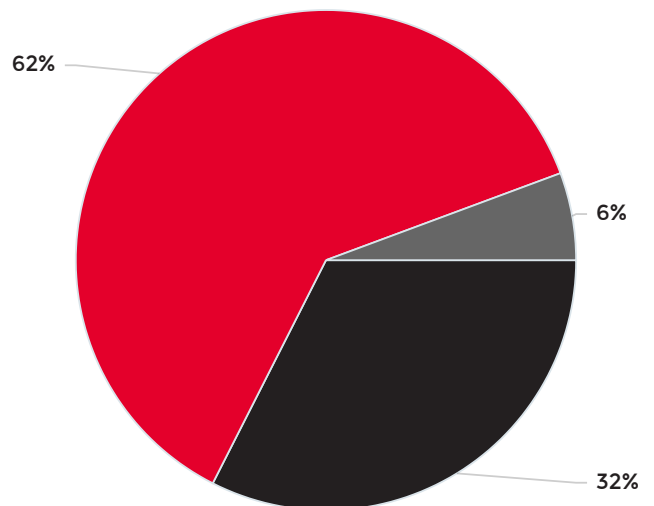


**Legend**

- Jurisdictional Administration
- Reserves
- Lydia Patterson Institute

\$21,118
\$3,677
\$40,237

**Fund #3**  
**Jurisdictional Apportionments**  
(Determined by Jurisdictional Conference)

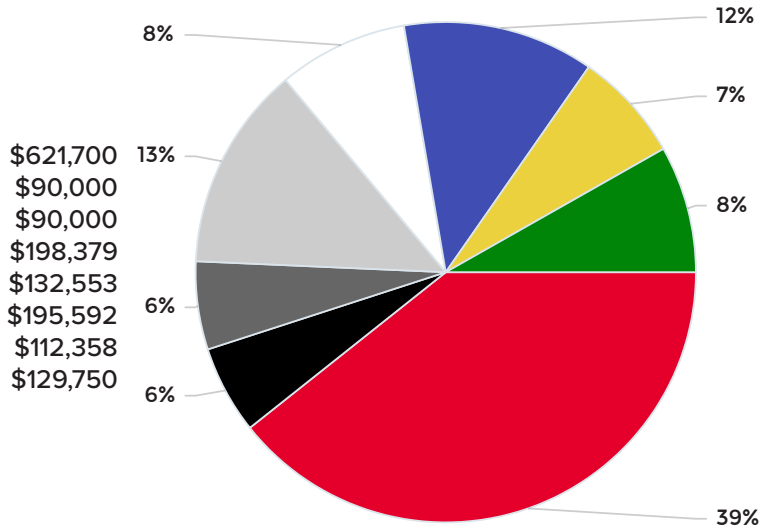




## Fund #4 Districts (District Leadership Teams and CFA)

### Legend

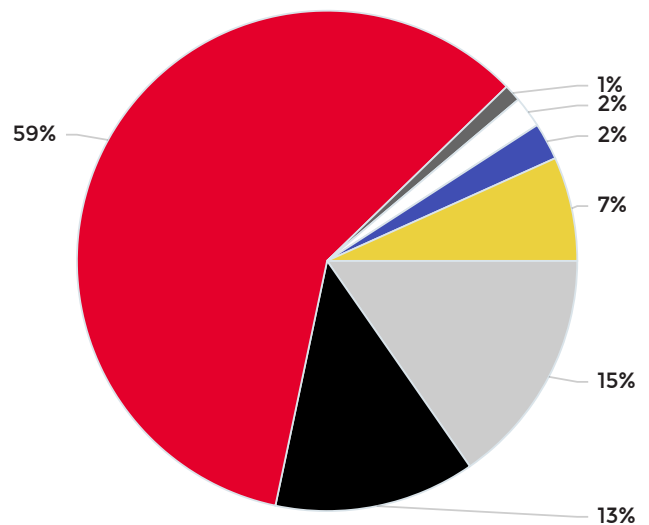
- District Superintendents
- DS Travel
- DS Pension
- Central District Office
- Northeast District Office
- Northwest District Office
- Southeast District Office
- Southwest District Office



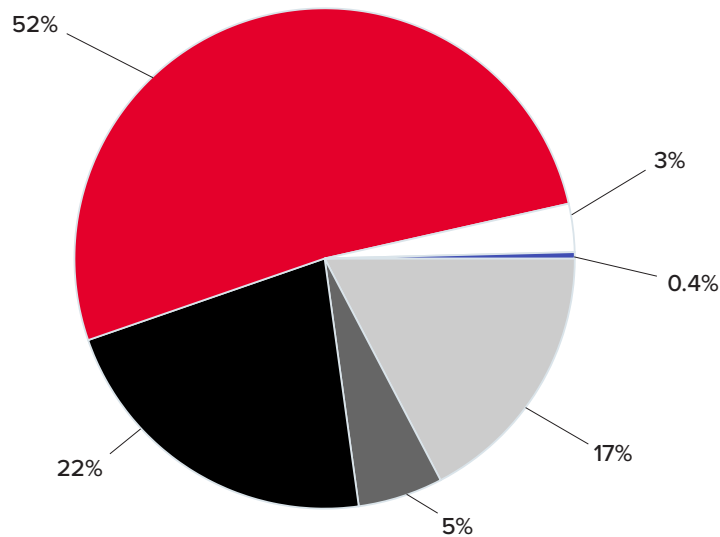
## Fund #5 Conference Administration (CFA)

### Legend

- Center for Administrative Services \$618,112
- Board of Ordained Ministry Administration \$134,980
- Episcopal Discretionary \$11,500
- Administrative Committees and Boards \$159,500
- Episcopal Housing \$21,000
- Episcopal Office \$25,000
- Pastors Moving Expense \$70,000



**Fund #6**  
**Resourcing Local Congregations (Cabinet)**



**Legend**

<span style="color: red;">■</span> Connectional Ministries	\$1,272,931	<span style="color: white;">■</span> Equitable Compensation	\$76,500
<span style="color: black;">■</span> Conference Ministries Office	\$538,256	<span style="color: blue;">■</span> General & Jurisdictional Conference Delegate Expense	\$10,000
<span style="color: gray;">■</span> Center for Multiplying Disciples	\$135,000		
<span style="color: lightgray;">■</span> Center for Communications	\$426,080		

**A. In Accordance with ¶615.4 of the 2016 Book of Discipline**

General Apportionment Fund	Apportioned Amount	Percentage of Total
Africa University Fund	\$38,499.00	1.61%
Black College	\$171,242.00	7.17%
Episcopal Fund	\$475,060.00	19.88%
General Administration	\$145,698.00	6.10%
Interdenominational Cooperation	\$5,122.00	0.21%
Ministerial Education	\$277,913.00	11.63%
Ministerial Scholarships	\$92,637.00	3.88%
World Service	\$1,183,103.00	49.52%
<b>Total General Apportionments</b>	<b>\$2,389,274.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

General apportionments are paid as a percentage of the tithes received by the Arkansas Annual Conference. The total general apportionments in the chart directly above of \$2,389,274 assume a 100% collection rate of tithes; whereas the spending plan summary assumes a 75% collection rate of tithes (or a \$1,802,230 payment). Funds received in excess of the anticipated collection rate will be distributed to GCFA on the existing pro rata basis.

**B. Approved Solicitations –**

1. Board of Trustees of Mount Eagle Christian Center
2. Board of Trustees of Camp Tanako, Inc.

- 1 3. Camp Aldersgate, Inc.
- 2 4. United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas
- 3 5. The Wesley Foundations to raise additional funds through the “Friends of Wesley” program (un-
- 4 der the guidelines already approved by the Conference Board of Higher Education)
- 5 6. Methodist Family Health – Additionally, the second and third Sundays in December be designat-
- 6 ed for the receiving the Methodist Family Health Annual Christmas Offering
- 7 7. Hendrix College
- 8 8. Philander Smith College
- 9 9. U.M. Historical Society
- 10 10. Volunteers in Mission
- 11 11. That Shoal Creek and Bear Creek camps be allowed to raise funds in any district in which the
- 12 district has given its permission
- 13 12. Methodist Village Nursing Home of Arkansas
- 14 13. Lydia Patterson Institute
- 15 14. 200,000 Reasons

16 C. Advance Specials - We recommend General and Conference Advance Specials to local churches  
 17 for firsthand relationships with mission projects and involvement in mission.

18 D. Special Days (with offerings)

- 19 1. Peace with Justice – Second Sunday after Pentecost
- 20 2. Native American Ministries Sunday – Second Sunday after Easter
- 21 3. Human Relations Day – During Epiphany on the Sunday before the observance of Martin Luther
- 22 King’s birthday
- 23 4. UMCOR Sunday – Fourth Sunday in Lent
- 24 5. World Communion Sunday – First Sunday in October

25 II. Conference and District Tithe

26 **Effective July 1, 2020, the tithe calculation will be 10.0% plus an additional 0.5% transitional amount**  
 27 **as district offices are transitioned to the Conference spending plan.**

28 All churches shall report the following information to the Center for Administrative Services by the  
 29 10th of the month for the prior month either online or by mail.

- 30 A. Total gross income for previous month including designated giving \$\_\_\_\_\_
- 31 B. Less income for capital campaigns
- 32 C. Less income for memorials and endowments
- 33 D. Less income from sale of church-owned real estate
- 34 E. Less income from tuition-based services
- 35 F. Less direct costs of fund-raising
- 36 G. Less income designated for pass-through/outreach ministries
- 37 H. Adjusted gross income = Line A minus B,C,D,E,F,G
- 38 I. Conference Monthly ministry tithe = Line H X 10% = \$\_\_\_\_\_
- 39 District Office Monthly ministry tithe = Line H x 0.5% = \$\_\_\_\_\_

40  
 41 III. Tithe Instructions

42 **Line A**—Total gross income for previous month (including designated giving and all other funds)  
 43 Enter the total amount of ALL revenue for the previous month. Total income includes ALL income  
 44 received by the church (offerings, pledged giving, unpledged giving, donations, building use fees,  
 45 income from fundraisers, designated giving, interest from investments, capital campaign income, pre-  
 46 school income, bequests, memorials, etc.)

47 **Line B**—Exclude income for capital campaigns (this does not include income for lines of credit (LOC) or  
 48 mortgage payments)

49 Capital campaign income is money received from campaigns that are defined as significant, short-term  
 50 fundraising efforts for a stated project, such as a building, debt retirement, or special project. The cam-

- 1 campaign usually lasts for a short time, generally less than a year; however, the donations to the campaign  
2 may span several years. Stated capital campaigns should not be confused with trustee account dona-  
3 tions, building maintenance donations or other donations or capital needs. Income for regular monthly  
4 LOC or mortgage payment is not capital campaign income.
- 5 **Line C**—Exclude income for memorials and endowments  
6 Gifts received to fund memorials and endowments should be excluded here. Income from endowment  
7 earnings should not be excluded.
- 8 **Line D**—Exclude income from sale of church-owned real estate (not used for operating expenses)  
9 Income from the sale of church owned property (such as a parsonage) to be used for future capital ex-  
10 penses should be excluded here.
- 11 **Line E**—Exclude income from tuition-based services (preschool, daycare, etc.)  
12 Tuition-based services income is any payment made to the church for services provided at the church  
13 such as preschool, childcare, elder care, or other similar services. Normally such services are budgeted  
14 separately, often by a non-profit organization affiliated with the church.
- 15 **Line F**—Exclude direct costs of fund-raising  
16 Direct costs of fund-raising are those costs paid to raise funds for the church, but not the income  
17 raised. Typical examples include: 1) the discounted purchase price of gift cards for future resale, 2) the  
18 cost of food and supplies for a fund-raising dinner and 3) a consulting fee to direct a fund-raising activi-  
19 ty.
- 20 **Line G**—Exclude income for pass-through/outreach ministries  
21 Pass-through funds are monies received for projects or events outside the local church. From time  
22 to time churches will act as a collection agent for special events, such as disaster relief, community  
23 homeless shelters, food pantries, soup kitchens or mission trips. Monies are sometimes given for field  
24 missionary support or mission focused activities including materials and supplies for mission trips and  
25 mission outposts. Any donations given for outreach ministries or causes should be excluded.
- 26
- 27 IV. District Superintendents
- 28 A. Salary will be no more than \$124,340 (annually).
- 29 B. This figure shall include salary, utilities and appurtenances, and other professional reimbursable  
30 expenses.
- 31 1. We recommend that business travel by the District Superintendents (DS) shall be reimbursed  
32 at the maximum IRS allowable rate. This will be funded by the DS vouchered travel expense  
33 fund of \$90,000 for room, board and travel expense.
- 34
- 35 V. Pastor's Moving Expense - Pastor's Moving Expense (intended to pay for housing relocation) - condi-  
36 tions of eligibility are as follows:
- 37 A. The following persons shall be eligible
- 38 1. Full Time Pastors
- 39 2. Student local pastors after first appointment
- 40 3. District Superintendents
- 41 4. Persons in Conference connectional positions
- 42 5. Retiring pastors
- 43 6. Persons on disability leave
- 44 7. Seminarian from place of residence to parsonage at first appointment
- 45 8. Any other person recommended by the Board of Ordained Ministry or Appointive Cabinet
- 46 9. Only one moving expense paid per pastor per year
- 47 B. The following amounts shall be paid:
- 48 1. \$1,000 per pastor
- 49 2. \$1.00 per mile, measured from parsonage to parsonage
- 50 3. Persons moving into or out of the Conference shall measure the mileage from the Conference



- 1 boundary to the parsonage, except any seminarian returning for first appointment.
- 2 4. Monies shall be paid by the Conference Treasurer upon presentation of a voucher of mileage  
3 signed by the sending DS.
- 4 5. The sending DS shall not submit a voucher for moving expenses unless the parsonage is left  
5 clean and meets the approval of the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee Chairperson. Should  
6 the DS and the chairperson of the S/PRC determine that the parsonage will require cleaning  
7 and/or repair due to abuse and/or negligence on the part of the departing pastoral family the  
8 DS may direct that the pastor's moving reimbursement be reduced by the amount required for  
9 such cleaning/repair and that this amount be paid to the church. In no case shall the amount  
10 paid to the church be greater than the total to which the pastor would otherwise be entitled  
11 for moving expense reimbursement.
- 12 6. \$1,000 additional moving expenses for seminarians receiving their first appointment in the  
13 Arkansas Annual Conference.
- 14 7. On recommendation from the Cabinet, the CFA may disburse funds for pastors transitioning  
15 out of the ministry.
- 16

#### 17 VI. Other Recommendations

- 18 A. No honorariums for the Annual Conference will be paid to persons living within the bounds of  
19 the Arkansas Annual Conference.
- 20 B. Travel expenses will be reimbursed based on the Arkansas Annual Conference reimbursement  
21 policy.
- 22 C. When any Conference staff personnel travels at the request of a Conference agency for other  
23 than normal representative or liaisons purposes, the expenses of such travel shall be borne by  
24 the requesting agency.
- 25 D. Reimbursement for Conference Travel shall be:
- 26 1. 100% of the IRS Standard Mileage Rate for all volunteers  
27 2. 100% of the IRS Standard Mileage Rate for all Conference employees
- 28 E. Retired and disabled ministers may be paid \$80 per diem for days they attend Annual Confer-  
29 ence with a maximum of \$240.00 per household.
- 30 F. The Conference may direct the Conference Treasurer to withhold dispersal of funds to any  
31 agency, institution, or organization until the CFA has received the most recent audit of a Public  
32 Accountant or Certified Public Accountant from the agency or institution or organization and that  
33 audit has been found satisfactory by the Audit Committee of the CFA.
- 34 G. The undesignated net assets is not a budgeted item. This is used to maintain operating cash  
35 flow for the conference.
- 36 H. If the undesignated net assets exceeds 10% of the Arkansas Annual Conference Spending Plan  
37 excluding Pension & Benefits, then the CFA's Executive Committee shall have the authority to  
38 disburse those funds with first priority given to paying the Conference's General and Jurisdic-  
39 tional Apportionments.
- 40 I. All interest earnings on Conference monies shall be credited to the undesignated net assets.
- 41 J. The Conference acknowledges the need for maintaining monies to be used as needed for the  
42 stabilization of the accounts of New Church Development Fund, General & Jurisdictional Confer-  
43 ence Delegate Expense Fund, DS Funds, and the Equitable Compensation Support Fund.
- 44 K. The balances remaining in the Conference Benevolence Fund and the Conference Administra-  
45 tion Fund at year-end shall be transferred to the undesignated net assets.
- 46 L. The Conference provides fidelity bonding insurance in compliance with ¶ 618 of the 2016 Book  
47 of Discipline.
- 48 M. The following is to be adopted as the guide for the care and investment of all Conference Funds:  
49 (¶613.5 the 2016 Book of Discipline).
- 50 1. The Conference Treasurer is charged with the responsibility for managing all Conference

- 1 Funds. It is the purpose of this investment policy to establish parameters within which the  
2 monies of the Conference will be managed.
- 3 2. The objective of the investment of Conference monies is to provide:  
4 a. Preservation of capital.  
5 b. Liquidity – to meet anticipated and unanticipated future needs.  
6 c. Maximization of income – while simultaneously insuring preservation of capital and  
7 liquidity.  
8 d. Compliance with the Social Principles and the Discipline of the UMC.
- 9 3. To accomplish this objective:  
10 a. Funds should be deposited in AR institutions in good standing.  
11 b. Securities:  
12 i. Direct obligation of United States Government Treasury Bills and Notes  
13 ii. FDIC insured Certificate of Deposits, Time Deposits, interest-bearing accounts
- 14 4. Funds should be deposited on a short-term basis, up to one-year when all objectives can be  
15 satisfied.
- 16 5. This policy is intended to be flexible in its application in order to meet changing economic  
17 conditions. Investments made for longer than 90 days may be made after the approval of  
18 the Executive Committee of the CFA. While income desirable, the primary emphasis is to be  
19 on the maintenance of adequate funds and the avoidance of speculative investments
- 20 6. This policy may be amended to meet changing conditions and to fulfill the needs of the  
21 Arkansas Annual Conference
- 22 N. The Conference gives the CFA the authority to fund extraordinary needs relating to the life and  
23 ministry of the Arkansas Conference. These needs shall be funded from available unrestricted  
24 funds. This authority shall not be used to replace or circumvent normal funding procedures of  
25 the Arkansas Conference.
- 26 O. When the Arkansas Annual Conference adopts a program or ministry that is not within the ex-  
27 isting Conference structure, the Conference shall specify lines of amenability and accountability  
28 so as to provide for budgeting, evaluation and audit.
- 29
- 30 VII. Administrative Concerns:
- 31 A. All funding requests shall be presented to the appropriate board or agency of the Conference  
32 for recommendation before presentation to the CFA. All persons authorized to vouch for funds  
33 shall be identified by agencies and approved by the Cabinet prior to the dispensing of funds.
- 34 B. The final time for receiving Conference tithe shall be close of business on June 30th.
- 35 C. Each charge shall declare all ministerial support. The report shall include remuneration for  
36 compensation travel, utility expense, insurance, Social Security, and all additional compensation  
37 paid to the pastor or on behalf of the pastor.
- 38 D. When any agency's total budgeted funds have been expended; no further expenditures will be  
39 authorized without C.F. & A. approval.
- 40 E. All benevolent, connectional, and pension funds shall be sent to the Center for Administrative  
41 Services, P.O. Box 55588, Little Rock, AR 72215, except for the following, which shall be sent as  
42 designated:
- 43 1. UM Children's Home Christmas offering and special gifts to the UM Children's Home, P.O.  
44 Box 56050, Little Rock, AR 72215.
- 45

46 **Rev. Brittany Richardson Watson – President**  
47 **Betty Gene Mann and Charles Donaldson – Co-Vice-Presidents**  
48 **Rev. Ann Farris– Secretary**  
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1 **Supplemental Reports**

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	2019 Six Month Actual	2019 Six Month Budget	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Budget
<b>Administrative Committees and Boards</b>				
AC Voting Equipment	-	12,500.00	-	-
Annual Conference	95,779.00	40,000.00	80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
Conference Legal Resource Fund	-	1,000.00	4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Conference Secretary	-	2,500.00	5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Conference Trustees	1,295.00	2,500.00	5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Council Finance & Administration	2,737.00	2,500.00	5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Financial Audit	22,800.00	9,750.00	19,500.00	\$ 19,500.00
Property and Liability Insurance	348.00	19,000.00	38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
Unfunded Boards, Agencies, Commissions	-	1,500.00	3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
<b>Total Administrative Committees and Boards</b>	<b>122,959.00</b>	<b>91,250.00</b>	<b>159,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 159,500.00</b>

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	2019 Six Month Actual	2019 Six Month Budget	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Budget
<b>Center for Administrative Services</b>				
<b>Conference Benefits Income</b>	<b>100,000.00</b>	<b>100,000.00</b>	<b>200,000.00</b>	<b>200,000.00</b>
Salaries, payroll taxes and benefits	306,941.00	313,392.00	631,240.00	631,240.00
Travel	12,347.00	2,500.00	13,300.00	10,000.00
Office administrative expense	25,477.00	21,425.00	31,500.00	31,500.00
Computer software and hardware	29,646.00	33,250.00	48,300.00	48,300.00
Continuing education	702.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Mission Connect	-	9,350.00	16,500.00	16,500.00
Other	-	906.00	2,072.00	2,072.00
Rent	38,250.00	38,250.00	76,500.00	76,500.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>413,363.00</b>	<b>420,573.00</b>	<b>821,412.00</b>	<b>818,112.00</b>
<b>Total Center for Administrative Services</b>	<b>313,363.00</b>	<b>320,573.00</b>	<b>621,412.00</b>	<b>618,112.00</b>

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	2019 Six Month Actual	2019 Six Month Budget	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Budget
<b>Center for Communications</b>				
<b>Advertising and Subscriptions Income</b>	<b>6,750.00</b>	<b>12,500.00</b>	<b>20,000.00</b>	<b>13,500.00</b>
<b>Administrative</b>				
Salaries and benefits	183,105.00	176,452.00	400,473.00	353,080.00
Travel	28,818.00	10,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Office administrative expense	20,257.00	2,500.00	10,000.00	15,000.00
Training & Education	3,151.00	1,500.00	21,500.00	21,500.00
<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>235,331.00</b>	<b>190,452.00</b>	<b>451,973.00</b>	<b>409,580.00</b>
<b>Programming</b>				
Conference website	-	7,500.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Local church resources	-	5,000.00	-	10,000.00
Printing (newspaper and photos), distribution	10,776.00	8,500.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Postage and supplies	1,240.00	7,485.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
CouRSe, net of funds from Foundation	1,993.33	-	-	5,000.00
<b>Total Programming</b>	<b>12,016.00</b>	<b>28,485.00</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>30,000.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>247,347.00</b>	<b>218,937.00</b>	<b>466,973.00</b>	<b>439,580.00</b>
<b>Total Center for Communications</b>	<b>240,597.00</b>	<b>206,437.00</b>	<b>446,973.00</b>	<b>426,080.00</b>

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	2019 Six Month Actual	2019 Six Month Budget	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Budget
<b>Center for Multiplying Disciples</b>				
<b>CIC Endowment Interest Income</b>	29,112.14	23,500.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
<b>Administration</b>				
Salaries and benefits	225,032.86	233,649.00	344,635.00	-
Office administrative expense	15,883.96	1,750.00	12,000.00	-
Travel	22,218.13	15,000.00	20,000.00	-
One time expenses *	10,432.06	-	-	-
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>273,567.01</b>	<b>250,399.00</b>	<b>376,635.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>New Places for New People</b>	<b>48,645.40</b>	<b>139,126.00</b>	<b>131,604.00</b>	<b>135,000.00</b>
<b>Revitalization</b>	<b>11,683.69</b>	<b>35,000.00</b>	<b>106,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Discipleship Training and Resources</b>	<b>3,122.47</b>	<b>29,500.00</b>	<b>33,000.00</b>	<b>40,000.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>337,018.57</b>	<b>454,025.00</b>	<b>647,239.00</b>	<b>175,000.00</b>
<b>Total Center for Multiplying Disciples</b>	<b>307,906.43</b>	<b>430,525.00</b>	<b>607,239.00</b>	<b>135,000.00</b>

\* Moving expense for new director.

	2019 Six Month Actual	2019 Six Month Budget	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Budget
<b>Conference Ministries Office</b>				
Salaries, payroll taxes and benefits	224,047.00	229,078.00	467,360.00	510,256.00
Travel	9,276.00	7,750.00	18,000.00	12,000.00
Office administrative expense	12,678.00	3,550.00	20,000.00	12,000.00
Conflict resolution training	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Continuing education	688.00	4,000.00	5,000.00	4,000.00
<b>Total Conference Ministries Office</b>	<b>246,689.00</b>	<b>245,378.00</b>	<b>511,360.00</b>	<b>538,256.00</b>

	2019 Six Month Actual	2019 Six Month Budget	2019-2020 Budget	2020-2021 Budget
<b>Connectional Ministries</b>				
<b>Administrative</b>				
Travel	893.00	1,250.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Administrative expenses	853.00	1,250.00	2,500.00	500.00
<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>1,746.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>
<b>Programming</b>				
<b>Committees</b>	<b>859.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,500.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>
<b>Disaster Preparedness &amp; Response</b>	<b>815.00</b>	<b>1,800.00</b>	<b>3,600.00</b>	<b>3,600.00</b>
<b>Volunteers in Mission</b>	<b>2,844.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>1,500.00</b>	<b>1,500.00</b>
<b>Leadership Development</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>6,250.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Ingathering</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,000.00</b>	<b>13,000.00</b>
<b>Culture of Call</b>	<b>3,268.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,000.00</b>	<b>22,000.00</b>

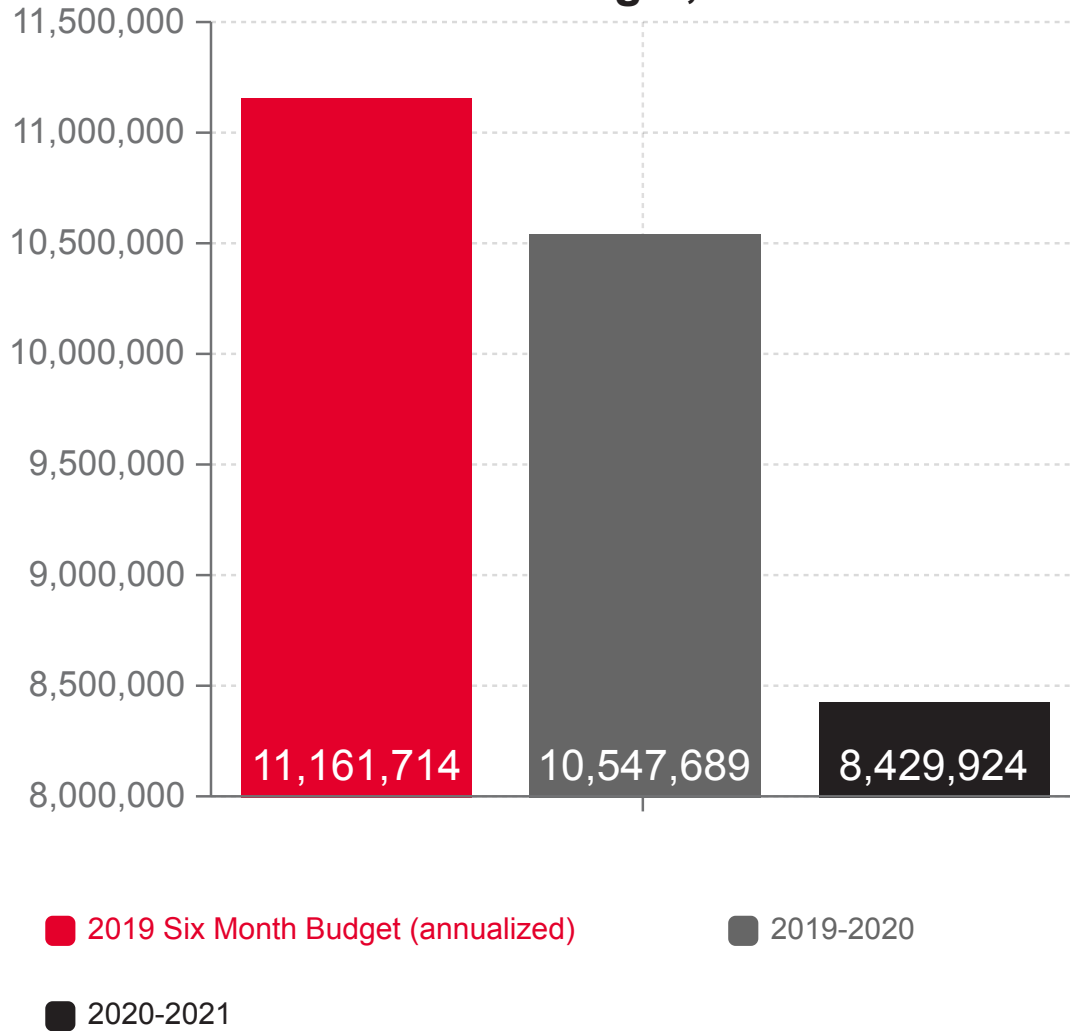


1	<b>Commission on Archives and History</b>				
2	Archives	14,739.00	16,495.00	\$ 32,235.00	\$ 27,041.00
3	Historical Society	395.00	1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
4	Commission on Archives and History	810.00	873.00	\$ 1,745.00	\$ 1,000.00
5	United Methodist Museum	7,383.00	7,407.00	\$ 15,765.00	\$ 11,550.00
6	<b>Total Commission on Archives and History</b>	<b>23,327.00</b>	<b>25,775.00</b>	<b>51,745.00</b>	<b>40,591.00</b>
7	<b>Age Level Ministries</b>				
8	Council on children's ministries	6,406.00	8,250.00	19,540.00	19,540.00
9	Council on youth ministries	5,835.00	22,250.00	44,500.00	44,500.00
10	Council on young adult ministries	697.00	3,500.00	4,000.00	-
11	Youth worker network	6,877.00	8,600.00	17,200.00	15,000.00
12	<b>Total Age Level Ministries</b>	<b>19,815.00</b>	<b>42,600.00</b>	<b>85,240.00</b>	<b>79,040.00</b>
13	<b>Ethnic Ministries</b>	<b>19,423.00</b>	<b>18,750.00</b>	<b>37,500.00</b>	<b>37,500.00</b>
14					
15	<b>Developer of Ethnic Ministries</b>	-	-	-	<b>7,700.00</b>
16					
17	<b>Global Ministries</b>				
18	Arkansas interfaith conference	10,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	-
19	Church & community workers	5,000.00	10,180.00	13,500.00	-
20	SE Coordinator - 200,000 Reasons	-	-	-	15,000.00
21	Canvas Community ministry	-	-	-	15,000.00
22	Committee on volunteers in mission	-	1,550.00	3,100.00	-
23	Mission U	7,890.00	7,800.00	15,600.00	12,600.00
24	Mission Personnel Initiative	-	-	3,000.00	1,000.00
25	General	1,491.00	2,026.00	4,052.00	2,000.00
26	<b>Total Global Ministries</b>	<b>24,381.00</b>	<b>26,556.00</b>	<b>49,252.00</b>	<b>45,600.00</b>
27	<b>Higher Education &amp; Campus Ministries</b>				
28	Other campus ministries	1,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	-
29	Board training and development	5,100.00	12,500.00	25,000.00	-
30	Campus ministry - Philander Smith College	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
31	Campus ministry - Hendrix College	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
32	Wesley foundation - ASU	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
33	Wesley foundation - ATU	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
34	Wesley foundation - HSU/OBU	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
35	Wesley foundation - SAU	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
36	Wesley foundation - U of A	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
37	Wesley foundation - UALR	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
38	Wesley foundation - UAM	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
39	Wesley foundation - UAPB	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
40	Wesley foundation - UCA	38,336.00	38,336.00	76,673.00	75,000.00
41	Wesley foundation directors pension	26,494.00	30,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00
42	Board of higher ed operations	2,665.00	1,000.00	4,000.00	2,000.00
43	Maintenance grant Wesley foundations	21,073.00	22,500.00	45,000.00	-
44	Campus ministry grant funding	37,264.00	26,477.00	52,943.00	-
45	<b>Total Global Ministries</b>	<b>515,292.00</b>	<b>519,173.00</b>	<b>1,040,346.00</b>	<b>887,000.00</b>
46	<b>Board of Laity</b>				
47	Association of annual conference lay leaders	1,675.00	2,050.00	4,050.00	3,100.00
48	Board of Laity	1,524.00	150.00	2,250.00	1,900.00
49	Lay servant ministries	-	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,400.00
50	<b>Total Board of Laity</b>	<b>3,199.00</b>	<b>4,200.00</b>	<b>8,300.00</b>	<b>7,400.00</b>

1	<b>Outdoor Ministries</b>				
2	Mount Eagle	28,500.00	28,500.00	57,000.00	50,000.00
3	Camp Tanako	31,111.00	30,750.00	61,500.00	50,000.00
4	Programming grants	5,000.00	17,250.00	25,000.00	15,000.00
5	Confirmation camp	-	-	-	4,000.00
6	Programming and marketing for camping and retreat	92.00	9,075.00	8,000.00	-
7	<b>Total Outdoor Ministries</b>	<b>64,703.00</b>	<b>85,575.00</b>	<b>151,500.00</b>	<b>119,000.00</b>
8					
9	<b>Committee on Status and Role of Women</b>	-	250.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
10					
11	<b>Total Connectional Ministries</b>	<b>679,772.00</b>	<b>733,929.00</b>	<b>1,482,483.00</b>	<b>1,272,931.00</b>

		Districts				
		CE	NE	NW	SE	SW
14	<b>Investment Income</b>	<b>11,000.00</b>	-	-	-	-
15						
16	<b>Administrative Expenses</b>					
17	Office expense/equipment	12,000.00	11,500.00	8,900.00	6,734.00	6,900.00
18	Rent	20,000.00	-	-	1,800.00	7,200.00
19	Utilities & phone	12,000.00	7,000.00	10,200.00	3,700.00	8,300.00
20	Travel	-	-	2,700.00	3,000.00	14,900.00
21	Insurance	2,000.00	7,000.00	4,000.00	-	750.00
22	<b>Total Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>46,000.00</b>	<b>25,500.00</b>	<b>25,800.00</b>	<b>15,234.00</b>	<b>38,050.00</b>
23						
24	<b>Total Staff Expenses</b>	<b>104,879.00</b>	<b>67,253.00</b>	<b>128,792.00</b>	<b>76,074.00</b>	<b>63,700.00</b>
25						
26	<b>Housing/Parsonage Expenses</b>	<b>21,500.00</b>	-	<b>21,500.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>12,600.00</b>
27						
28	<b>Program Expenses</b>					
29	Strategic gatherings, Youth, Children, Lay Servant, etc	17,000.00	18,500.00	6,500.00	3,500.00	5,400.00
30	At large annual conference members	7,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	5,500.00	6,000.00
31	Pastoral care chaplain expenses	5,000.00	3,500.00	-	-	-
32	Continuing education	3,000.00	6,500.00	2,000.00	4,050.00	3,000.00
33	Closed church upkeep	-	-	-	2,500.00	-
34	Contingency, discretionary	5,000.00	300.00	-	2,500.00	1,000.00
35	<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>37,000.00</b>	<b>39,800.00</b>	<b>19,500.00</b>	<b>18,050.00</b>	<b>15,400.00</b>
36	<b>Total Expenses Budgeted</b>	<b>209,379.00</b>	<b>132,553.00</b>	<b>195,592.00</b>	<b>112,358.00</b>	<b>129,750.00</b>
37	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>198,379.00</b>	<b>132,553.00</b>	<b>195,592.00</b>	<b>112,358.00</b>	<b>129,750.00</b>

## Total Conference Budget, 2019-2021



**21%**

Reduction in Conference budget from  
2019-2020 to 2020-2021

**BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY**  
**2020 ARKANSAS CONFERENCE POLICY STATEMENT**  
**3/15/2020**

**SECTION I: BOARD OPERATION**

- A. The Arkansas Conference Board of Ordained Ministry hereafter referred to as the Board or the BOM, is governed by the current Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church ¶635.
- B. All communication to the BOM should be sent to BOM Office, 800 Daisy Bates Drive, Little Rock, AR 72202 or bom@arumc.org
- C. Board officers are Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Registrar, and Assistant Executive Registrar. The Executive Committee consists of the Board Officers and Chair of the Order of Elders, Chair of the Order of Deacons, Chair of the Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors, Chair of the Conference Relations Committee, Chair of Ministerial Assessment, Chair of Vocation and Discernment, and a Cabinet representative. The Chairperson shall appoint other officers and sub-committees as needed.
- D. The Board shall meet at least once in the fall and twice in the spring, and as convened by the Chairperson.
- E. The district committees on ordained ministry (dCOM) are amenable to the annual conference through the BOM and follow ¶666. District administrative staff may serve as administrators of the dCOM and may attend meetings of the dCOM in an administrative capacity. The files of the dCOM shall be stored in the district office, separate from the supervisory files. District administrative staff, as custodians of records, shall not serve as members of dCOM or BOM.
- F. The Board has the right to ask for a new Ministerial Assessment package at any time and shall ask for a new assessment if more than six years has past and the candidate continues.
- G. The Board shall review its policy statement annually, revising it as needed and presenting it to the Annual Conference for approval. ¶ 303--Purpose of ordination and ¶304--Qualifications for ordination

**SECTION II: CANDIDACY, ¶ 310**

- A. The Inquiring Candidate first contacts the pastor of the local church or other authorized ministry setting, to share the ministry call.
- B. Candidates shall utilize the **Arkansas Conference Ministry Checklist** which outlines the complete candidacy process found at <http://arumc.org/forms/> <https://arumc.org/our-resources/forms-and-documents/>
- C. Candidates must attend Orientation to Ministry ¶ 312
- D. Candidates are encouraged to pursue undergraduate education and to pursue seminary education in one of the United Methodist seminaries.

**SECTION III. THE DECLARED CANDIDATE, ¶ 310.2**

- A. When approved by the Charge conference, the candidate shall send \$50 for the Ministerial assessment packet to District Superintendent's Office.
- B. If the dCOM approves by three-fourths majority written ballot, the dCOM registrar sends **submits** Form AR020 to the **Office of Board of Ordained Ministry Office** and a copy to the candidate. The certified candidate shall complete the District Committee on Ordained Ministry Approval Report on UMCARES.
- C. Persons appointed as local pastors are clergy members of the Annual Conference (¶ 315). They are no longer listed as certified candidates (¶ 602.1), except the first year they are certified. See further the Local Pastor ¶ 315-320 and below.

**SECTION IV: THE LOCAL PASTOR ¶ 315-320**



- 1 A. Upon completion of the candidacy process, and receiving dCOM approval as a certified candidate,  
2 the District Superintendent shall recommend the candidate for Local Pastor License School.  
3 Candidate shall register, attend, and successfully complete Local Pastor Licensing School in order  
4 to be eligible for an appointment. Once appointed, the Bishop shall issue a license. The candidate  
5 shall register the license at the county courthouse where appointed
- 6 B. Local Pastors shall enroll in the Basic Five-Year Course of Study (COS) and successfully complete  
7 per ¶ 318.
- 8 C. Appointed Retired Local Pastors shall follow all the guidelines of a non-retired appointed Local  
9 Pastor, such as continue COS, meet annually with the dCOM, complete UM History, Polity and  
10 Doctrine, and be assigned a mentor as per ¶ 348.
- 11 D. Course of Study registrations shall be approved and signed by the Conference Local Pastor  
12 Registrar and must be postmarked no less than 14 days prior to the registration deadline printed  
13 on the registration form.
- 14 E. The local pastor may enroll as a student in a seminary program to meet educational requirements.  
15 Local Pastors who wish to attend and graduate from seminary in lieu of the Course of Study must  
16 have the approval of the BOM prior to enrolling in seminary. When enrolled in seminary, the local  
17 pastor is eligible to apply for financial aid from MEF funds. See Financial Aid Section.
- 18 F. Local pastors shall be assigned a clergy mentor by the district superintendent until all educational  
19 requirements have been completed. ¶ 348 - it is the responsibility of the pastor to contact the  
20 assigned mentor. The mentor shall submit annually a Mentor's Discernment Report (AR080), filed  
21 with the dCOM Registrar prior to the local pastor's annual dCOM interview.
- 22 G. Local pastors shall meet annually with the dCOM to evaluate educational progress and ministerial  
23 performance, and action is taken on renewal of the License for Pastoral Ministry. The local pastor  
24 shall submit annually a school transcript (from college, seminary, or COS), filed with the dCOM  
25 Registrar prior to the local pastor's annual dCOM interview.
- 26 H. Upon completing the Five-Year Basic Course of Study, and beginning in 2011, completing  
27 courses in UM History, Polity and Doctrine, the local pastor may be eligible to apply for Associate  
28 Membership. See ¶ 322.
- 29 I. The local pastor who chooses to continue in the local pastor relationship following completion  
30 of COS, and beginning in 2011, shall complete courses in UM History, Polity and Doctrine within  
31 two years. Local pastors not continuing to Advanced COS or seminary shall submit a plan for  
32 continuing education to the District Superintendent and dCOM annually.
- 33 J. Local Pastor Transfers from Another Conference to Arkansas Conference: Local Pastors in  
34 good standing do not transfer from Conference to Conference but surrender their license in one  
35 Conference and reapply to the Arkansas Conference. Prior to interview with the dCOM for license,  
36 the minister shall complete the Arkansas Cabinet Vetting Process and requirements for dCOM  
37 interview. The minister shall continue Course of Study per ¶318 and complete UM History, Polity  
38 and Doctrine within two years of COS completion.

39  
40 **SECTION V: ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP, ¶ 321-322**

- 41 A. Applicants shall meet the requirements outlined in ¶ 322.
- 42 B. The applicant for associate membership shall consult the District Superintendent, complete Form  
43 AR105, Application for Clergy Relationship to the Annual Conference, and submit the completed  
44 form to the District Superintendent and the BOM Office by October 1.
- 45 C. The dCOM shall interview the applicant as a candidate for associate membership, considering  
46 educational and documentary requirements, pastoral experience and effectiveness, and form a  
47 recommendation to the Conference Board. The dCOM shall send to the BOM Office by November  
48 1, the applicant's Form AR105, the District Superintendent's letter of recommendation, and the  
49 Action Report. These documents are also filed with the District Registrar.
- 50 D. The Conference Registrar shall inform the applicant by December 1 about the written assignments

- 1 to be prepared in advance of the BOM interview, the deadline for those assignments, and the date  
2 and time for appearing before the BOM (normally a BOM Meeting in late February or early March).  
3 E. The BOM shall interview the applicant. If favorably approved, the recommendation is presented to  
4 the Clergy Session of the annual conference.  
5 F. Associate members desiring to change relationship to an ordination track as a provisional elder  
6 or deacon must first obtain approval from the BOM before taking other steps in the application  
7 process.

## 9 SECTION VI: PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP ¶ 324

- 10 A. Applicants must complete all educational requirements prior to election to provisional  
11 membership. In addition the following 4 courses must be completed.  
12 • a course in basic pastoral care  
13 • a course in Wesleyan theology beyond UM, History, Polity and Doctrine  
14 • a course in preaching for those anticipating ordination as an elder or a course in worship beyond  
15 the required course for those anticipating ordination as a deacon  
16 • a course in church administration/leadership  
17 B. Seminarians seeking ordination who have matriculated after the fall of 2010 must complete these  
18 four courses. All seminary courses required by the Discipline and conference rules require a “C” or  
19 better grade.  
20 C. Beginning January 2011, no one entering a seminary degree program seeking ordination shall  
21 enroll in Distance Learning courses except for those offered by the 13 United Methodist seminaries  
22 and Asbury Theological Seminary. Beginning in January 2011, no more than 2/3 of the degree  
23 requirements may be completed through distance learning for all UM seminaries and Asbury.  
24 Persons enrolled in other seminaries prior to January 2011 may complete no more than 1/3 of the  
25 degree through Distance Learning courses.  
26 D. Associate members and local pastors may apply for provisional membership outlined in ¶ 324.6.  
27 They must complete the additional four courses.  
28 E. Applications for provisional membership require the completion of Form 105, Application for  
29 Clergy Relationship, and the preliminary answers to Questions ¶ 324.9.a-p by the candidate sent  
30 to both the District Superintendent and BOM Office by July 15.  
31 F. Following a meeting with the dCOM, their recommendation, reported on Form AR020, District  
32 Committee Action Report Form, is sent to the BOM Office. The original Action Report and  
33 the District Superintendent’s letter of recommendation are placed in the candidate’s file. The  
34 completed dCOM file is delivered by the District office to the BOM Office by November 1.  
35 G. The Conference Registrar corresponds with the candidate by December 1, regarding required  
36 written work, **reference letters** and assignments to be prepared and submitted by January 31 to  
37 the BOM Office.  
38 H. The BOM interviews the candidate. Out-of-state seminary students may receive up to 50% of  
39 actual cost of transportation when attending Board interviews. If approved, the recommendation  
40 for provisional membership is presented to the Clergy Session of the Annual Conference.  
41 I. Provisional members shall demonstrate effective ministry for a minimum of two consecutive  
42 conference years in the same appointment. All provisional residents shall participate in the  
43 conference Residency in Ministry (RIM) program. Their service will be evaluated by the BOM  
44 and the DS. Arrangements for supervision and residency will be made for provisional members  
45 serving outside the Arkansas conference. During the second year of the RIM program, the  
46 provisional member may apply for ordination and membership in full connection.  
47 J. To make application for Full Connection, the Provisional member shall complete Form AR105,  
48 Application for Clergy Relationship, and **sends submit** the form to the BOM Office by October 1.  
49 The Cabinet shall provide a recommendation letter concerning a provisional member’s application  
50 for Full Connection to the BOM Office by November 1.

1  
2 **SECTION VII: TRANSFERS ¶ 346-347**

- 3 A. All ministers requesting Conference to Conference transfer (¶ 347.1) shall complete the Arkansas  
4 Conference Cabinet Vetting Process.
- 5 B. All ministers requesting to serve while retaining other faith credentials (¶ 346.2 and 347.3) or  
6 requesting to serve a UM church and start the process of transferring as a UM pastor (¶ 347.3.b  
7 and (¶ 347.2) shall complete the Arkansas Conference Cabinet Vetting Process and the dCOM  
8 interview requirements.
- 9 C. All ministers approved with other faith credentials shall complete the Arkansas License School  
10 before being appointed. Exceptions may be granted for other Methodist denominations with a  
11 written request to the Executive BOM from the DS.
- 12 D. Those appointed while retaining other faith credentials are required to complete/continue Course  
13 of Study unless they have completed a MDiv from an Accredited Theological Seminary with  
14 coursework equivalent to COS.
- 15 E. Those appointed while retaining other faith credentials are required to take UM History, Polity  
16 and Doctrine within 2 years of the conference year of appointment unless those classes were  
17 completed through their MDiv from an Accredited Theological Seminary.
- 18 F. Those appointed while retaining other faith credentials are required to meet annually with the  
19 dCOM to evaluate educational progress and ministerial performance.
- 20 G. Ministers seeking transfer into United Methodist ministry from another denomination shall not join  
21 a local United Methodist church.
- 22 H. Ministers whose credentials have been approved shall serve under appointment for a minimum of  
23 two years before applying for transfer into provisional membership if eligible
- 24 I. Ministers seeking transfer into provisional memberships shall apply to the dCOM using SECTION  
25 VI: PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP ¶ 324 and shall participate in the Residency in Ministry program  
26 before becoming eligible to apply for full connection.  
27

28 **SECTION VIII: FINANCIAL AID**

- 29 A. Local Pastor Licensing School: The cost to Arkansas students attending the Arkansas Local Pastor  
30 License School (LPLS) is currently \$350. Some funds may be available for students attending other  
31 schools outside of our conference boundaries. Approval for these funds must come from the Dean  
32 of the Arkansas Conference Local Pastor License School prior to class participation.
- 33 B. Course of Study: Financial Assistance, based on need and the availability of funds, will be 50% of  
34 tuition, normal fees, room and board for full- or part-time students in the basic Course of Study;  
35 100% reimbursement of tuition for courses taken in the Arkansas Extension Course of Study  
36 School available for part-time local pastors and 50% reimbursement of tuition for those who  
37 successfully complete correspondence courses (not to exceed 4 courses). The Board does not  
38 pay for repeated courses.
- 39 C. Seminary Financial Aid: Through the Ministerial Education Fund (MEF) apportionment, the  
40 BOM may provide loans to certified candidates who are attending University Senate approved  
41 seminaries. The Arkansas Annual Conference retains one fourth of the monies paid for the MEF  
42 apportionment for this fund. This is the only source of funds for service loans, and disbursements  
43 cannot exceed income in any fiscal year. Funds will be budgeted equally for the **summer**, fall  
44 and spring semesters. The loan amount is determined after the application deadline. Loans will  
45 not exceed ~~40%~~ **50%** of tuition per semester unless there is a surplus in the ~~fall semester~~ **budget**  
46 **year**. The seminarian registrar shall have the discretion to disburse any surplus funds at an equal  
47 percentage for all semester applicants **not to exceed loan limits**. Students attending United  
48 Methodist seminaries can receive a maximum of \$10,000 per **budget** year in loans. Students at  
49 other University Senate approved seminaries can receive a maximum of \$7,000 per **budget** year  
50 in loans.

- 1 D. Students will not receive funds to repeat a failed, dropped, or incomplete course.
- 2 E. Applicants will sign a promissory note. Loans will be forgiven for service at the rate of one year  
3 of full time service for two semesters of aid. In other words, a student who borrows from the fund  
4 for six semesters would complete the service obligation by three years of full time service under  
5 Episcopal appointment. **Loans to candidates discontinued by dCom initiated action shall be**  
6 **forgiven.**
- 7 F. **For the 2019-2020 Beginning with 2020-2021** academic year, the following policy will be followed  
8 for disbursing funds.
- 9 G. Eligibility:
- 10 • Certified Candidate for ordination
  - 11 • Approved by the BOM
  - 12 • Attending a University Senate approved seminary
  - 13 • Is not a recipient of a full scholarship grant from the ~~Arkansas United Methodist Foundation.~~  
14 **Methodist Foundation of Arkansas**
- 15 H. Applications can be downloaded from ~~www.arumc.org~~ **[https://arumc.org/our-resources/forms-](https://arumc.org/our-resources/forms-and-documents/)**  
16 **[and-documents/](https://arumc.org/our-resources/forms-and-documents/)** or obtained from a District Superintendent. Applications and all supporting  
17 documentation must be received by September 15 for the fall semester, January 15 for the spring/  
18 winter (including January term) semester and July 15 for the summer semester. Applications are  
19 not complete without an official transcript from the student's seminary. Incomplete applications will  
20 not be processed. The Secretary of the BOM will process all applications.
- 21 I. Reimbursement for UM History, Polity, and Doctrine courses will be paid at ~~40%~~ **50%** of the tuition  
22 cost in the year the course was taken.
- 23 J. Persons who have completed the basic course of study may wish to become provisional members  
24 by the alternate route (see ¶ 324.6). They must complete the 32 hours of graduate theological  
25 studies. Up to ~~40%~~ **50%** of tuition will be provided per seminary financial aid.
- 26 K. Deacon candidates on the professional certification route toward ordination (see ¶ 324.5) will also  
27 receive up to ~~40%~~ **50%** of tuition per seminary financial aid.
- 28 L. ~~Arkansas United Methodist Foundation Seminary Scholarship — Certified candidates for Elders-~~  
29 ~~orders are eligible to apply online for this scholarship provided through The Arkansas United~~  
30 ~~Methodist Foundation. Scholarship applicants must have been accepted by a United Methodist~~  
31 ~~Seminary as a full-time student. Applications are due March 1. An interview-selection team of the~~  
32 ~~BOM shall make the determination of the awarding of this scholarship. Two years of service in the~~  
33 ~~conference per year of scholarship received is expected.~~

## 34

### 35 SECTION IX: CONTINUING EDUCATION ¶ 350

- 36 A. All clergy under full-time appointment must complete at least one (1) continuing education unit  
37 (ten hours of instruction) per year. These CEU's may be fulfilled by CEUs, CMEs, CCEs, or other  
38 approved programs. Persons in resident provisional status or those enrolled in Course of Study  
39 are exempt from this requirement.
- 40 B. Clergy shall report CEUs to their District Superintendent at charge conference and to the BOM  
41 through the BOM Office.
- 42 C. All clergy under full-time appointment with charge conference compensation, as reported in Box  
43 13 of ~~the Pastor's~~ Compensation form, of less than \$58,920 may receive reimbursement from  
44 the BOM of up to \$200 annually as funds are available. This amount shall include only projected  
45 expenses for tuition, books, fees, room, and board. Travel cannot be included as a projected  
46 expense.
- 47 D. Financial aid is not available for Minister's Week at any seminary.
- 48 E. The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry Guidelines for granting Continuing Education  
49 Units (CEUs) from The Society for the Advancement of Continuing Education for Ministry (SACEM)  
50 shall be used by groups seeking to have events certified by the Conference Continuing Education



- 1 Chairperson. (See GBHEM's website, <http://www.gbhem.org/continued.html>)
- 2 F. Professional Certification Studies: Applications may be made for up to \$200/year as funds are  
3 available to help pay for specialized certification courses. This amount shall include only projected  
4 expenses for tuition, books, fees, room, and board. Travel cannot be included as a projected  
5 expense.
- 6 G. Applications for granting continuing education credit for an event or reimbursement for continuing  
7 education shall be sent to the Chair of Continuing Education, BOM Office.
- 8 H. Sabbatical Leave: All Issues concerning Sabbatical leave will follow the guidelines of ¶ 351, with  
9 the addition of those requesting Sabbatical will include their plan with start and end dates.

10

11 **SECTION X: CHANGES OF CONFERENCE RELATIONSHIP ¶ 353-362**

- 12 A. The Conference Relations Committee (CRC) shall consist of at least 3 persons to hear requests as  
13 listed in 635.1 (d)
- 14 B. ~~All requests for a change in Conference relationship shall on the form Request for Change.~~  
15 ~~be made in writing to the BOM and will be reviewed by the CRC which shall report its~~  
16 ~~recommendations to the BOM.~~
- 17 C. Request for change of relationship to Voluntary Leave of Absence – Personal/Family (¶ 353)  
18 must be made at least ninety (90) days prior to Annual Conference **by completing Form AR030**  
19 **and documenting** specific reasons for the request. ~~The BOM Secretary shall record in the BOM~~  
20 ~~minutes the specific reasons for the request.~~ A copy of **the Form** the written request shall be  
21 placed in the person's file.
- 22 D. **Maternity/Paternity leave requests follow ¶ 355**
- 23 E. All clergy on Leave of Absence for a total of five or more years are required to meet with the CRC  
24 annually to review the circumstances that requires remaining on Leave of Absence.
- 25 F. While on Voluntary Leave of Absence - Personal/Family, the person shall report annually her/his  
26 progress toward resolution/alleviation of the stated reasons for requesting Leave of Absence-  
27 Personal/Family. When an end to Leave of Absence- Personal/Family is requested, it shall be  
28 by written request at least six (6) months prior to Annual Conference. The CRC shall review the  
29 circumstances surrounding the granting of Leave of Absence – Personal/Family for the purpose of  
30 determining whether those circumstances have been alleviated or resolved.
- 31 G. Deacons may be granted Voluntary Leave of Absence – Transitional Leave for up to 12 months  
32 with the approval of the Bishop and the Board's Executive Committee. The deacon shall provide,  
33 in writing, quarterly substantiation of the effort to obtain such an appointable position to the  
34 Bishop and the Board's Executive Committee. (¶ 353)
- 35 H. ~~Request for change of relationship to Honorable Location (¶ 353 and ¶ 358) shall be made at least~~  
36 ~~ninety (90) days prior to Annual Conference stating that the person intends to discontinue service~~  
37 ~~in the itinerant ministry. The CRC shall meet with the person requesting Honorable Location to~~  
38 ~~offer guidance and counsel as appropriate during this transition. The BOM Secretary shall record~~  
39 ~~in the BOM minutes the specific reasons for the request. A copy of the written request shall be~~  
40 ~~placed in the person's file. While on Honorable Location, the person shall report annually to the~~  
41 ~~CRC including a report of any ministerial functions performed.~~
- 42 I. Request for change of relationship to Medical Leave (¶ 356)
- 43 a. The Conference Benefits Officer will provide the person requesting a change in Conference  
44 relationship to Medical Leave with the appropriate application packet.
- 45 b. The Conference Benefits Officer will notify the Joint Committee on Clergy Medical Leave  
46 for a reasonable and appropriate investigation and recommendation to the Cabinet, the  
47 Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits and the BOM.
- 48 J. Withdrawal (¶ 360.2)
- 49 1) All ordained persons withdrawing from annual conference relationship shall meet with the  
50 CRC. The CRC shall report to the BOM for a recommendation to the Clergy Executive Session at



1 its next meeting.

2 2) The BOM Secretary shall record in the BOM minutes the report of the CRC and the  
3 recommendation of the BOM. A copy of the written report, recommendation and documentation  
4 of the person's reasons for withdrawal shall be placed in the person's file. Additional statements  
5 shall be recorded from the Cabinet and the person who has withdrawn/exited.

6 K. Readmission to Conference Relationship (§ 364, 365, 366, 367 and 368)

7 1) All requests for readmission to Conference Membership with the Arkansas Annual  
8 Conference shall be made in writing and presented to the BOM at least one hundred twenty  
9 (120) days prior to the beginning of the session of the Annual Conference unless stated  
10 otherwise by the Book of Discipline.

11 2) The BOM shall review all files and statements kept by the BOM Office and Registrars.

12 3) All persons requesting readmission to Conference Membership are required to complete the  
13 "Assessment Packet" in Section III A. The cost of the evaluation shall be borne by the person  
14 seeking readmission.

15 4) All persons requesting readmission to Conference Membership are required to meet the  
16 requirements as outlined in the Book of Discipline appropriate to the reason for the person's  
17 original withdrawal, location, leaving or discontinuance.

18 5) Associate Members or clergy members in full connection requesting readmission to  
19 Conference Membership (§ 366-368) shall serve under appointment as a Local Pastor –  
20 demonstrating effective ministry for a minimum of two consecutive Conference years in the  
21 same appointment.

22 6) Former Deacons requesting readmission to Conference Membership shall serve under  
23 appointment in an appropriate ministry setting - demonstrating effective ministry for a minimum  
24 of two consecutive Conference years in the same appointment.

25 7) During the second year of demonstrating effective ministry in the same appointment, if the  
26 applicant has met all Disciplinary and Conference requirements, the former Conference member  
27 may apply for Conference Membership and/or credentials previously held.

28  
29 **SECTION XI: CLERGY COVENANT FUND**

30 A. The Clergy Covenant Fund provides financial assistance to clergy persons and their families.  
31 A gift of \$1,500 will be given to the surviving spouse of a clergy person who dies while serving  
32 under appointment. Financial assistance of up to \$750 is available to clergy and/or their family for  
33 financial needs which arise from personal or family crisis. The District Superintendent shall make a  
34 request for these funds to the Chair of the BOM; the BOM Executive Committee shall consider all  
35 requests for approval.

36 B. Funds will be provided by means of an offering received during the Clergy Session of the  
37 Annual Conference. Clergy will also be given an opportunity each November to make a special  
38 Thanksgiving contribution to the Fund. Memorials and special gifts may be made to the Fund  
39 at any time. Gifts may be sent any time to: United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas, Clergy  
40 Covenant Fund, 5300 Evergreen, and Little Rock, AR 72205.

41  
42 **Respectfully Submitted,**

43  
44 **Pamela Jean Estes, Chair**  
45 **Nancy Meredith, Secretary**  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50

# The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits

## The Board:

¶639.1-7 The board is charged with the interest and work of providing for and contributing to the support, relief, assistance, and pensioning of clergy, and their families, other church workers, and lay employees of the Conference Center, institutions, organizations, and agencies within the Annual Conference except otherwise provided by the general board now known as Wespath. The conference board also provides financial assistance to retired clergy, their spouses and surviving spouses who are now responsible for their own healthcare. The board works closely with Wespath Benefits and Investments administrator of the largest denominational pension fund in the world. Wespath reflects the Wesleyan heritage, and the notion of being on the right path in all three areas of operation for participants, institutional investors and for the UMC. The board is made up of no less than 12 members and in accordance with ¶605.3 elected to a term of 8 years. The board elects its chairperson.

## Conference Sponsored Well care Benefits:

The board approved using **\$80,000** in healthcare reserves to fund the Virgin Pulse Fitness Program in **2020/2021**. Participation will be reviewed annually. Conference FT staff, active clergy appointed to a FT church appointment **and their spouses** are eligible to participate. You can still join the Virgin Pulse program where getting active & fit means getting great stuff! And ours isn't your typical stuff, you know. Ours is motivation, feedback, gadgets, tracking, challenges, prizes, more energy, feeling better, looking great... and rewards.

### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

The Buzz tracker is free to newly enrolled participants. If a participant already has a preferred fitness tracking device, the program will sync with many available brands and models, including Fitbit and Apple Watch.

In addition to the benefits of healthier living, participants can earn up to \$275 per calendar quarter, with increasing dollar amounts given as each of four levels of point accrual is completed.

Points toward reward levels can be earned through activity, and also by reporting healthy habits on the mobile app or website.

We'll keep you motivated all year long with challenges, contests, team competitions with your fellow conference members & more!

So what do you say, ready to join?

Download the phone app or use this URL - [join.virginpulse.com/wespath](https://join.virginpulse.com/wespath)

Participants will have to select a plan sponsor. In this case, select Arkansas, for the phone App select Wespath.

Questions should be directed to the Conference Center Benefits Office.

\*You must be 18 years of age.

## Employee Assistance Program:

The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits partnered with The Board of Ordained Ministry to bring clergy families the Methodist Healthcare Employee Assistance Program. Since January 1, 2012, this program has provided free, confidential short-term counseling to all active, retired clergy and clergy households. The Board of Pension and Health Benefits recommends continuing the program for **2020/2021**. The benefit is not guaranteed and will be reviewed annually. We are pleased to offer this service to our clergy and their households. EAP can help with many of life's challenges such as family issues, marital concerns, alcohol and drug abuse, anxiety, depression, major life events, grief, work concerns and managing the stress of everyday life. The program offers 6 counseling sessions to you and members of your household, free of charge. In most cases, short-term counseling is all the help you'll need. However, if a referral outside the EAP is necessary, the EAP counselor will seek the best resources for your situation. Counseling outside the EAP will require use of insurance or self-pay. Use of

1 the EAP and issues discussed in all sessions are held in strict confidence. Rest assured that your pri-  
2 vate health information remains confidential and can only be released outside the EAP with your written  
3 consent or when required by law such as in life threatening situations or child/elder abuse. All Arkansas  
4 Conference staff members and clergy families; whether full time, part time, retired or disabled as well as  
5 members of your household are eligible to participate. Surviving spouses are also eligible for this ben-  
6 efit. For more information about the Methodist Healthcare EAP, please visit their website at [www.meth-](http://www.meth-)  
7 [odisteapcanhelp.org](http://odisteapcanhelp.org) and review the brochure enclosed in this announcement. To access the program,  
8 simply call their toll free number 1-800-880-5658 to schedule an appointment.

9

### 10 **Clergy Retirement Plans:**

11 The Pre-1982 Pension Plan was replaced by the Ministerial Pension Plan effective January 1, 1982.

12 Vested participants and their spouses receive lifetime benefits from the pre-82 plan. **The 2020 monthly**  
13 **Past Service Rate (pre-1982) known as the PSR is \$577.00.**

14 The 2004 General Conference voted to end the MPP as of December 31, 2006. The replacement pen-  
15 sion plan was the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) which began January 1, 2007. Less than  
16 full-time are ineligible effective 1/1/2013. The plan is made up of 2 components;

- 17 1. A Defined Benefit which provides monthly income at retirement based upon years of credited ser-  
18 vice to the Church and a surviving spouse benefit payment of 75% for her/his lifetime. Clergy may  
19 also designate a disabled child as a
- 20 2. Secondary contingent annuitant. After the death of you and your spouse, your disabled child will  
21 receive a reduced benefit. As with spousal coverage, your initial benefits will be reduced to pay for  
22 this extra benefit.
- 23 3. And a Defined Contribution that provides a retirement account balance which was established and  
24 funded by the annual conference.

25 All eligible full-time clergy who are under Episcopal appointment in the conference shall enroll in the  
26 Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP). Full-time clergy may make written request to waive out of  
27 the pension program CRSP. Effective January 1, 2014 clergy serving less than full-time are not eligible to  
28 participate in CRSP. We encourage the churches they serve to provide a retirement benefit by making  
29 contributions to the United Methodist Personal Pension Plan (UMPIP) on their behalf. Pension Plan en-  
30 rollment is the responsibility of the participant and must be done no later than 30 days from the eligibil-  
31 ity date. Information for enrollment must be provided to Conference Benefits Officer, Mona Williams, at  
32 the Conference Office of Finance and Administration.

33 Clergy pension is calculated on "Plan" compensation. Plan compensation as defined by Wespath in-  
34 cludes a parsonage equivalent (25% of compensation) or housing allowance. **The benefit multiplier for**  
35 **2020/2021 is 14%** and is broken down in the following manner;

36 The monthly CRSP- DB benefit is 8% of eligible Plan compensation.

37 The CRSP-DC benefit is 2% non-matching contribution and 1% matching of eligible Plan compensation.

38 The premium for the Comprehensive Protection Death and Disability Plan is 3% of eligible Plan com-  
39 pensation up to 200% of the DAC for clergy appointed full-time.

40 Participants must contribute a minimum of 1% of eligible Plan compensation to their Personal Invest-  
41 ment Plan (UMPIP) in order to receive the full employer CRSP-DC contribution.

### 42 **Retired Clergy:**

43 Retired Clergy, their spouses and surviving spouses were removed from the Conference Healthcare  
44 Plan on Dec. 31st, 2014.

45 The Plan was replaced with a Healthcare Reimbursement Arrangement. The Retiree & Medicare eligible  
46 disabled clergy HRA is owned and funded by the Arkansas Conference and is managed by the Board  
47 of Pension and Health Benefits. Any un-used funds remain with the Conference. Surviving spouses who  
48 are not yet eligible for Medicare may be eligible for a taxable Healthcare premium stipend. See guide-  
49 lines below.

50

1 **2020-2021 Retiree Healthcare Premium Stipend Allocation:**

2 The Arkansas Conference provides a monthly healthcare reimbursement benefit to retired clergy and  
3 disabled clergy who are Medicare eligible. The benefit is not guaranteed and is reviewed annually. The  
4 benefit is non-taxable when used for eligible out-of-pocket medical expenses. In order to be eligible for  
5 a conference healthcare premium reimbursement Provisional Elders, Associate Members, Elders in Full  
6 Connection and Full-time Local Pastors retiring from the Arkansas Conference must have served full-  
7 time in the denomination for a minimum of 10 years. Only conference responsible\* full-time appointment  
8 years are eligible and must have been served in an Arkansas Conference. If you are retired and not  
9 currently receiving a conference healthcare premium stipend you are not eligible to receive the stipend.  
10 If the Plan is terminated, all of the following is null & void.

11 The stipend is a fixed dollar amount based on eligible active years of service and the maximum health-  
12 care premium stipend. Additional years of service above 40 have no effect on the healthcare premium  
13 stipend. The maximum healthcare stipend for **2020/2021** is \$204 for clergy and \$153 for a spouse.  
14 Clergy who work or serve an appointment after retirement will not receive additional years of service or  
15 an additional benefit of any kind. Here is the base HRA benefit calculation guide -

- 16 • The first ten years of service will accrue at 2% of the maximum premium gift: Clergy: 2% of \$200 =  
17 \$4.00 Spouse: 2% of \$150 = \$3.00
- 18 • The next 20 years of service will accrue at: Clergy: 3.5% of = \$7.00 Spouse: 3.5% of = \$5.25
- 19 • The remaining ten years of service will accrue at: Clergy: 1% of = \$2.00 Spouse: 1% of = \$1.50

20 \*Conference responsible appointment years are defined as service in which the Arkansas conference or  
21 local church is responsible for contributions to clergy pension plans; Pre-1982, MPP or CRSP.

22 Effective January 1, 2016 the minimum healthcare stipend benefit is \$50 per month. Clergy who are  
23 married at the time of retirement will receive a supplemental spousal gift. The spouse at retirement who  
24 outlives the clergy person will receive a stipend as a surviving spouse. If a retired clergy couple divorc-  
25 es, the clergy will receive the clergy benefit and that spouse will receive the spouse portion. Should the  
26 clergy remarry, the new spouse is not eligible for a stipend. As of July 1, 2016 a surviving spouse who  
27 remarries will continue to receive a healthcare stipend benefit.

28 Effective January 1, 2016 when a clergy dies while under an Active conference responsible appoint-  
29 ment leaving behind a spouse (who is not eligible for Medicare) the conference will provide a health-  
30 care premium stipend equal to \$1000 per month for the first 5 years. This benefit is considered taxable  
31 income. After the earlier of year 5, or Medicare eligibility, the healthcare premium stipend will be based  
32 on clergy years of eligible service.

33 Pension earned during active service is vested for clergy members of the AC who surrender credentials  
34 after retirement. The HRA benefit is based on years of active conference responsible service and is  
35 vested.

36  
37 **Clergy on Medical Leave receiving CPP Disability Benefits:**

38 Approved Medical Leave is an active Conference responsible appointment. Clergy appointed to Medical  
39 Leave who are not yet eligible for Medicare will receive a taxable Healthcare Premium Stipend in the  
40 amount of \$1000 per month. Those who are eligible for Medicare must enroll in Medicare B, purchase a  
41 Medicare Supplement and a Drug Plan. Having met these guidelines you would be eligible to receive a  
42 Healthcare Premium Stipend using the years of service guidelines above through the non-taxable HRA.

43  
44 **Other Important Information:**

- 45 1. Surviving spouses eligible for spousal pension benefits will receive benefits at 75% of the formula  
46 benefit rate for pre-1982 service.
- 47 2. Allowance grants and local expenses of the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits are  
48 paid by Wespath or the Conference Treasurer must meet 2016 Book of Discipline guidelines and are  
49 subject to the approval by the Arkansas Conference. The board has approved a living grant for Rev.  
50 Lloyd Smith effective 7/1/2009 in the amount of \$359.00 per month.

- 1 3. The institution, board or organization paying the salary of a minister on special appointment without  
2 annuity claim on the conference shall make provision for the pension of such person.
- 3 4. Attention is called to ¶1506.5 in the 2016 Book of Discipline, regarding eligibility to participate in  
4 CRSP and Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP). In order to provide adequately for the active pen-  
5 sion program (current and past funding), death & disability benefits, retiree healthcare support and  
6 well care in 2020 the conference has budgeted **\$1,035,000**. That Total is broken down as:
- 7 • Healthcare premium stipends for disabled clergy on approved medical leave shall be **\$25,000**.
  - 8 • Healthcare premium stipends for retirees & spouses shall be **\$750,000**.
  - 9 • To provide for clergy under special conference responsible appointments shall be **\$150,000**.
  - 10 • Administration **\$110,000**.
- 11 5. We remind all pastors and local churches of ¶639.4 in the 2016 Book of Discipline, which sets forth  
12 the requirement that payments on the pension and benefit program of the conference be in exact  
13 proportion to payments made on the salary or salaries, including housing of the ordained minister  
14 or clergy serving it. ¶638.4d requires the local church treasurer and/or pastor to adjust the cash  
15 salary and payment to be in the same proportion as the amount paid to the pension and benefit  
16 program of the conference. ¶639.4d adds that it shall not be permissible for a pastor to receive a  
17 bonus or other supplementary compensation tending to defeat proportional payment.
- 18 6. ¶639.4 of the 2016 Book of Discipline requires the Conference Board to keep a permanent re-  
19 cord of defaults by churches of the conference in paying clergy pension and benefits. The board  
20 is further required to render annually to each church that is in default a statement of the amounts  
21 in default for that and preceding years. The **2019 default total was \$72,477.17**. According to our  
22 Conference Treasurer, for **2019** the following churches were in default by greater than \$250 on the  
23 direct billed Clergy Retirement Security Program & the CPP premiums by the following amounts:

25 <b>Name of Church/Charge</b>	2019 Debt as of 3/04/2020
26 <b>Central District-</b>	
27 Bryant First	\$1,257.62
28 Cabot	\$18,640.82
29 Canvas Community	\$6,400.28
30 Grace-East End	\$7,780.19
31 Quapaw Qtr	\$3,393.56
32 Saint Paul-LR	\$875.00
33 <b>Northeast District-</b>	
34 Bethesda Campground	\$630.30
35 Sharp	\$678.12
36 <b>Northwest District-</b>	
37 Oakley Chapel	\$3,826.68
38 <b>Southeast District-</b>	
39 Brinkley	\$3,879.80
40 Deluce	\$748.27
41 Ellis Chapel-Wynne	\$10,672.05
42 Helena First	\$4,200.00
43 <b>Southwest District-</b>	
44 Pleasant Hill-Tex	\$2,373.68
45 Rondo	\$7,120.80
46 Total	\$72,477.17

- 47
- 48 7. Notice of claims request for pension credit shall be made in writing to the Conference Benefits Offi-  
49 cer, POB 3611 Little Rock, AR 72203-3611.
- 50 8. In determining years of service, the Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall carefully examine



1 and consider those years listed in the conference Journal prior to accepting them as valid years; and  
2 any years in question shall be subject to validation by the applicant and by approval of the Board of  
3 Pensions. We recommend that approval of pension credit outlined in ¶1506.2-5 of the 2016 Book of  
4 Discipline, be enforced.

5 9. Copies of individual service records are held at Wespeth, 1901 Chestnut Ave, Glenview, IL 60025-  
6 1604. Requests for service

7 record copies may be obtained from the Conference Benefits Office.

8 10. A Retired Minister's Day is recommended to be the Third Sunday of May each year. The pur-  
9 pose of this day is to recognize the service of the retired servants and their families, and to involve the  
10 local churches in the recognition of the needs, both present and future.

11 If a retired minister does not reside within the bounds of a charge, but a member of a retired  
12 minister's family does, they shall be invited to participate in the service (or observance); otherwise,  
13 recognition of these servants, and their service, should be observed appropriately. "Appropriately"  
14 should be determined by the Pastor/Parish Relations Committee of each local church. This committee  
15 shall have the responsibility of locating these people and relate the service of these persons to the lo-  
16 cal church and our Annual Conference. The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits will be  
17 responsible for providing promotional ideas and some materials (i.e., total years of service, percentage  
18 of retired ministers serving churches while in their retired status, etc.) when requested.

19 11. Please notify the Conference Center Benefits Office when:

- 20 a. You are eligible to enroll in pensions programs;
- 21 b. Information relative to pension matters is needed;
- 22 c. You have questions about participating in Social Security;
- 23 d. You have questions about healthcare;
- 24 e. A change in marital status, mailing address or income occurs;
- 25 f. You have a question about past service or annuity credit or to request a change in service records;
- 26 g. There are health issues that may lead to disability;
- 27 h. Death in the immediate family occurs;
- 28 i. A change of beneficiary is desired;
- 29 j. Request for retirement is made to the bishop, cabinet, and board of ordained ministry;

### 31 **2020 Housing Allowances for the Arkansas Conference**

32 The Arkansas Conference (the "Conference") adopts the following resolutions relating to rental/hous-  
33 ing allowances for active, retired, terminated, or disabled clergypersons of the Conference:

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

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

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

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

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

47 THAT an amount equal to 100% of the pension, severance, or disability payments received from plans  
48 authorized under The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (the "Discipline"), which in-  
49 cludes all such payments from Wespeth during the period 1/1/2020-12/31/2020, by each active, retired,  
50 terminated, or clergyperson receiving disability benefits who is or was a member of the Conference, or

1 its predecessors, be and hereby is designated as a rental/housing allowance for each such Clergyper-  
2 son; and  
3  
4 THAT the pension, severance, or disability payments to which this rental/housing allowance designation  
5 applies will be any pension, severance, or disability payments from plans, annuities, or funds authorized  
6 under the Discipline, including such payments from Wespath and from a commercial annuity company  
7 that provides an annuity arising from benefits accrued under a Wespath plan, annuity, or fund authorized  
8 under the Discipline, that result from any service a Clergy person rendered to this Conference or that  
9 an active, a retired, a terminated, or a disabled Clergy person of this Conference rendered to any local  
10 church, annual conference of the Church, general agency of the Church, other institution of the Church,  
11 former denomination that is now a part of the Church, or any other employer that employed the Cler-  
12 gyperson to perform services related to the ministry of the Church, or its predecessors, and that elected  
13 to make contributions to, or accrue a benefit under, such a plan, annuity, or fund for such an active, a  
14 retired, a terminated, or a disabled Clergy person's pension, severance, or disability plan benefit as part  
15 of his or her gross compensation.

16  
17 NOTE: The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a Clergy person's gross income in  
18 any year for federal (and, in most cases, state) income tax purposes is limited under Internal Revenue  
19 Code section 107(2), and regulations thereunder, to the least of: (a) the amount of the rental/housing  
20 allowance designated by the Clergy person's employer or other appropriate body of the Church (such  
21 as this Conference in the foregoing resolutions) for such year; (b) the amount actually expended by the  
22 Clergy person to rent or provide a home in such year; or (c) the fair rental value of the home, including  
23 furnishings and appurtenances (such as a garage), plus the cost of utilities in such year. Each clergyper-  
24 son or former clergy person is urged to consult with his or her tax advisor to determine what deferred  
25 compensation is eligible to be claimed as housing allowance exclusion. A housing exclusion calculation  
26 worksheet may be requested from the Conference Benefits Office.

27  
28 **The 2021 Funding Plan is in process. When approved by Wespath it will be available on the ARUMC**  
29 **website.**

30  
31 Submitted by: Mona Williams, Conference Benefits Officer  
32 Stark Ligon, Board of Pension & Health Benefits Chairperson  
33 Todd Burris, Treasure & Director of Administrative Services  
34 Date: 3/23/2020  
35

## 36 Equitable Compensation Commission

37  
38 For 73 years, the Conference has provided financial support to churches allowing them to provide pas-  
39 toral salaries suitable for their mission fields.

40 The Commission on Equitable Compensation (CEC) of the Arkansas Annual Conference does this in  
41 four areas: recommending Minimum Compensation for all clergy under full-time appointment and pro-  
42 viding Key Charge, Minimum Base Compensation, and emergency Salary Arrearage funding to church-  
43 es identified by the Cabinet.

44 In the spring of 2018, the Conference supported seven charges through the Key Charge program and  
45 another two charges through Minimum Base Compensation Support.

46 The mission of the CEC is to enable charges/churches to make disciples of Jesus Christ by providing  
47 appropriate compensation for effective pastoral leadership.

### 48 I. Minimum Full-Time Compensation

49 The CEC recommends that the 2021 Minimum Compensation Payment Schedule for full-time pastors  
50 under appointment remain as printed below. The payment schedule and guidelines remain the same as

1 they were for 2020.  
2 Full Connection, \$48,330  
3 Provisional, Associate Member, \$47,280  
4 Local Pastor, \$46,230  
5 Appointed pastors serving a charge that provides a group health insurance plan shall be subject to the  
6 following minimum compensation support:  
7 Full Connection, \$36,330  
8 Provisional, Associate Member, \$35,280  
9 Local Pastor, \$34,230  
10 A parsonage or housing allowance in lieu of a parsonage shall be provided in addition to the figures  
11 listed above.

## 12 **II. Key Charge/Church Program for Base Compensation Support**

13 The Key Charge/Church program provides Base Compensation Support to pastors who are appointed  
14 to charges/churches targeted for significant growth by the Conference or are in transition and require  
15 short-term support for effective pastoral leadership for various other reasons. Key Charges/Churches  
16 are related to the CEC by a covenant agreement. The covenant is negotiated by the chair of the Com-  
17 mission, the district superintendent, and representatives of the charge/church. The persons or their  
18 successors, shall be the trustees of the covenant, having verified it with their signatures.

19 The covenant shall include:

- 20 1. The initial amount of the Base Compensation Support needed,
- 21 2. The duration of the covenant (normally five (5) years or less), and
- 22 3. The signatures of the persons negotiating the covenant.

23 The nature of the covenant is such that the amount of compensation support given shall decrease  
24 proportionately each year, while the compensation paid by the charge/church increases by at least the  
25 same amount, thus keeping the compensation at least stable over the covenant period. After the cove-  
26 nant has expired, no further compensation support will be granted to the charge/church.

27 Under the Key Charge/Church arrangement, there shall be no required minimum or maximum levels  
28 of support by the charge/church. The only limitation will be the amount of funding budgeted for this  
29 program.

30 Each church receiving compensation shall report to the Commission each year at the consultation date  
31 with their district superintendent. The report form is available from the district superintendent and the  
32 Arkansas Annual Conference website at arumc.org.

## 33 **III. Minimum Base Compensation Support**

34 The Minimum Base Compensation program is intended to assist in providing compensation for capa-  
35 ble, effective pastoral leadership to charges/churches which function in areas of extreme economic  
36 limitation and which are unable to provide a viable level of pastoral support. Where charges/churches  
37 are in need of additional compensation in order to meet the Minimum Compensation Base Support,  
38 this support is available to Elders in Full Connection, Provisional/Associate Members (not to be con-  
39 fused with associate pastors), and Full-Time Local Pastors who are not retired. The Minimum Base  
40 Compensation is set annually by the Bishop Cabinet, and Annual Conference for Elders, Provisional/  
41 Associate Members, and Full-Time Local Pastors. (Minimum Full-Time Compensation has appeared  
42 previously in this report.)

43 Charges/churches receiving Minimum Compensation Support are related to the CEC by a covenant  
44 agreement negotiated by the chair of the Commission, the district superintendent, and representatives  
45 of the charge/church. The signors or their successors shall be the trustees of the covenant, having ver-  
46 ified it with their signatures.

47 It is understood that:

48 A parsonage or housing allowance in lieu of the parsonage shall be provided in addition to the set  
49 compensation.

50 Associate pastors (not to be confused with Associate Members of the Annual Conference) are not eligi-

1 ble for Minimum Compensation aid.

2 Retired pastors are not eligible for Minimum Compensation aid. See Paragraph 357.6 of the 2016  
3 Book of Discipline.

4 Each charge/church receiving Minimum Compensation Support shall provide to the Commission the  
5 amount(s) received from the Arkansas Conference for the past five (5) years. We further require that  
6 each local church describe how they will reduce this support through the local church's ministry plan.  
7 Each church receiving compensation shall report to the Commission each year at the consultation  
8 date with their district superintendent. The report form is available from the district superintendent  
9 and the Arkansas Annual Conference website at arumc.org.

#### 10 **IV. Emergency Salary Arrearage Support**

11 Every clergy under appointment shall receive the full compensation set at Charge Conference. (See  
12 Paragraph 624 of the 2016 Discipline.) If a church is financially unable to provide the full compensa-  
13 tion in a timely manner, the Annual Conference through the CEC may provide emergency funding to  
14 ensure the clergy is provided the compensation the church promised at the Charge Conference. The  
15 Arkansas Annual Conference Salary Arrearage Policy is found in Paragraph 103 of the Policy & Guide-  
16 lines section of this Journal.

#### 17 **V. Equitable Compensation Covenant**

18 When Equitable Compensation support has been granted to a charge/church, an acknowledgement  
19 of the conditions and amount of that funding shall be executed by the district superintendent, pastor,  
20 and leaders of the charge/church before any payment of funds shall be made. This acknowledgement  
21 shall be made on a form provided by the commission. No funds shall be disbursed until the agreement  
22 is signed and returned to the district superintendent. These forms are available from the district super-  
23 intendent and the conference website at arumc.org.

24 The charge/church receiving financial support shall submit an annual report. The report form is avail-  
25 able from the district superintendent and the conference website at arumc.org. Included in this report  
26 is the explanation of how these funds have aided the local charge/church. This report shall be re-  
27 turned at the scheduled annual assessment interview with the district superintendent.

#### 28 **VI. Additional Priorities**

- 29 1. The Commission on Equitable Compensation shall maintain adequate reserves to fund needs  
30 which may emerge.
- 31 2. Each charge/church receiving equitable compensation in any of the above categories is ex-  
32 pected to pay its conference tithe in full. If the charge/church is unable to accomplish this, they  
33 shall submit a written plan of action approved by their district superintendent, detailing the  
34 steps to be taken in order to achieve this goal. Notification of the plan will then be forwarded to  
35 the CEC.
- 36 3. All CEC funding is for pastoral support only. Using funds for any other purpose, such as pro-  
37 gram costs or other compensation violates the agreement.
- 38 4. Equitable Compensation funds are paid directly to the church/charge by the fifteenth (15th) of  
39 each month. The compensation shall be paid to the pastor as a supplement to funds budgeted  
40 by the charge/church. The calendar year of support is from July 1 through June 30.

41  
42 **Respectfully Submitted Rev. Paul L. Strang, Chair**

### 43 44 **Board of Trustees Report**

45  
46 The following churches and church properties have been closed and/or abandoned as United Meth-  
47 odist congregations and are on the Conference Board of Trustees' list for disposal or repurposing:

#### 48 49 **Central District**

- 50 • Aaron Cemetery, Pulaski County

- 1 • Ebenezer, (vacant lot) 1266 Hamilton Street, Conway, AR 72032, Faulkner County (sold February  
2 2020)  
3 • Galloway, 7 Griffin Road, Little Rock, AR, Pulaski County. (under contract)  
4 • ~~Graham Chapel, 464 Highway 64 E, Conway, AR 72032-9417, Faulkner County (sold November 25,  
5 2019)~~  
6 • Mallettown 274 Town Cir., Springfield, AR 72157 (sold March 4, 2020)  
7 • Mount Carmel, 349 Hwy 107, Vilonia, Ar 72173  
8 • St. James Lonoke, 401 Roberts St., Lonoke, AR 72086  
9 • Vacant Lot, parcel 001-10639-000, Saline County

10

11 **Northeast District**

- 12 • Vacant Lot, parcel 030-00093-000, Randolph County  
13 • Beech Grove, 9201 Hwy 141 N, Beech Grove, AR 72412, Greene County  
14 • Pleasant Hill, Greene CR 324 @325, Bono, AR 72416 (sold to cemetery association)  
15 • Tupelo, 415 Pine St., Tupelo, AR 72161, Jackson County  
16 • Wiseman, CR 5, Wiseman AR 72587

17

18 **Northwest District**

- 19 • ~~Tuck's Chapel, 12445 W. Tucks Chapel Road, Rogers, AR 72756, parcel 18-04693-000, Benton  
20 County (Sold March 4, 2020)~~  
21 • ~~Square Rock, 1229 Square Rock Rd, Waldron AR 72958 (sold to cemetery association)~~  
22 • ~~Barling, 308 Church St, Barling AR (sold July 29, 2019)~~  
23 • Cherry Hill, 4014 Polk CR 70, Mean, Ar 71953  
24 • Milltown, 6621 Arkansas Hwy 252, Greenwood AR 72936  
25 • Mount Pleasant, Hwy 248, Waldron AR 72958  
26 • Omaha, 205 Church St., Omaha AR 72662  
27 • Lavaca, 302 W. Columbus, Lavaca AR 72941  
28 • Waltreak, Hwy 80 Box 25133, Waltreak, AR 72833

29

30 **Southeast District**

- 31 • Widener, 102 Madison, Widener, AR 72394, St. Francis County  
32 • Turrell, 208 School, Turrell, AR 72384  
33 • Lydesdale, 2820 Columbia 61, Magnolia AR 71753

34

35 **Southwest District**

- 36 • Antoine, Hwy 26 & Owens Ave., Antoine, AR 71922  
37 • De Ann, 125 Hwy 195, Hope, AR  
38 • Gum Springs, 208 Gum Springs Rd., Mountain Pine, AR  
39 • Hollywood, 3142 Hwy 26 West. Arkadelphia, AR 71923  
40 • Spring Hill, 601 Hwy 355 W, Hope, AR 71801  
41 • Wakefield, 489 Wakefield Road, Nashville, AR 71852, parcel 001-03444-001E, Howard County  
42 • Carthage, 714 W. Pine Bluff St., Carthage, AR 71725, parcel 741-00247-000, Dallas County

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Respectively submitted,  
Rev. Dr. Tony Griffin, President





## 200,000 More Reasons to Fight Childhood Hunger

At the end of 2019, 86% of Arkansas United Methodist Churches have reported being involved throughout or at some point in the last 6 years in ministry or supportive of a ministry that serves insecure children and their families. This is up from 78% at the end of 2018. This initiative is at the end of its 6th year as approved by the Annual Conference.

When this initiative began in 2014, an estimated 200,000 children under the age of 18 lived in food insecure households. In 2019, this number fell to 167,440 through the efforts of statewide partnerships including Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, regional food banks, food pantries, and other ministries that the ARUMC provides. Such ministries include Cooking Matters classes, school pantries, afterschool snacks, summer meals, community meals, mobile food pantries, blessing boxes, weekend backpacks of food, and community gardens.

Through financial gifts to the 200K Reasons initiative from the Paysinger Endowment and Palmer Endowment at the United Methodist Foundation, UMWs, clergy, lay and congregations, this initiative has awarded approximately \$200,000 of competitive grant awards. An additional \$25,000 from Wal-Mart in 2016 allows churches to offer Cooking Matters classes around the state.

Even with this progress and commitment from the ARUMC and local congregations, some realities stay the same: 1 in 4 children in Arkansas face food insecurity; poverty is the main cause; and, children who go to school hungry cannot thrive academically. As reported at the 2019 Annual Conference meeting, the number of Arkansan children in food insecurity is higher than the 2018 reports. Hunger continues to be a reality for those who are persistently impoverished in rural and urban areas. Focusing on food provides much needed yet temporary assistance for many families. However, until the economic conditions of these families change, the need for emergency food will always remain. The needle on food insecurity in Arkansas will not move until families move out of poverty.

Therefore, 200,000 Reasons is encouraging churches to go deeper with the children and their families that they are already serving through their feeding ministries—to do more to address the poverty these families experience. Adding poverty alleviation strategies to our feeding focus is necessary. Literacy—reading to children and helping to build their personal libraries—and promoting a healthy, stable family life through mental health support, including addiction crisis ministries, are two factors that increase hope for breaking the cycle of poverty.

To reflect that the Arkansas United Methodist Church is committed to doing more, 200,000 Reasons seeks to expand its name and focus. **200,000 More Reasons** will continue the fight against childhood hunger through nutrition, literacy and stability. Our goals are ambitious:

- 1 • Arkansas Methodist churches will engage children in feeding ministries and reading activities to  
2 assist in achieving appropriate grade-level literacy. We invite churches to create meaningful and  
3 effective partnerships with local elementary, middle and/or high schools, with 10% of members  
4 spending 10 hours per month in service to the school.
- 5 • Churches will establish ministries that promote a healthy and stable family life for food insecure  
6 children through such ministries as nutrition education, mental health support, including resourcing  
7 access to substance abuse assistance, and support groups for families in need.
- 8 • 200,000 More Reasons will increase awareness of needs and issues facing those in poverty to  
9 break down barriers and foster authentic relationships through training and CouRSe offerings;  
10 promotion of relevant resources for further study; and, encouragement of post-service experience  
11 conversations.

12  
13 The Methodist Foundation of Arkansas has awarded this initiative \$479,700 over 3 years to make a  
14 real impact in the Arkansas delta. Through this Delta Project, Arkansas Methodist churches can make  
15 an even greater impact in rural and deeply poverty-stricken areas through mobile food distributions,  
16 summer literacy and feeding ministries and programs that offer healing and support related to mental  
17 health and substance abuse. Churches in Monticello, Pine Bluff, Altheimer, McGehee, Dumas, Helena  
18 and more are already engaged as pilot ministry models. The grant also provides poverty training for  
19 clergy and lay with a word from Bishop Mueller and a keynote address from Dr. Jay Barth. In addition,  
20 regional training for youth pastors and parents will also be offered on August 29th. Hometown Health  
21 trainers will offer 3 hours of powerful education and awareness around substance abuse, vaping and  
22 suicide.

23  
24 We, united in a common mission to fight childhood hunger are making a difference. But, there is more  
25 work to be done. We must strike harder at the root causes of poverty and food insecurity. With the  
26 approval of this report, the Arkansas United Methodist Church lives out our faith calling to feed the  
27 hungry and care for the poor.

# Consent Calendar Reports

## Board of Global Ministries

“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.” Matthew 28:19

### Committee:

Conference Secretary of Global Ministries; Volunteers in Mission Coordinator; Ecumenical & Interreligious Coordinator; Volunteer in Mission Coordinator; Disaster Response Coordinator; Mission Personnel Coordinator; Parish and Community Development Coordinator.

United Methodist Women – Mission Education & Interpretation; District Secretaries: Central, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest.

The Arkansas Conference Board of Global Ministries is responsible for interpreting the work of The General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church. This committee is charged to assist local congregations and the annual conference in mission in our own communities and around the globe.

Mission engagement in Arkansas has changed significantly especially when viewed in terms of dollar expenditures. The change is often not obvious until we compare allocated dollars. The budget reflects the way in which we understand mission, how it is carried out and our level of commitment to that mission or ministry.

*Examples of changes	2008	2020
Global Ministries Budget	\$247,950	\$50,000?
Church & Community Workers	3	0
Lay Missioners	4	0
Church Revitalization	\$97,850	?

In 2008, the Global Ministries budgeted dollars budgeted totaled \$247,950. The Arkansas Conference had **three** Church & Community Workers (\$48,000); **four** Lay Missioners (\$20,000); and a Church Revitalization Initiative of \$97,850. In 2020, we have **zero** Church & Community Workers, **zero** Lay Missioners (a category that General Board of Global Ministries has changed the name and job description) and Church Revitalization Initiative of \$97,000 budgeted differently in our present conference budget display. **Global Ministries’ 2020 budget is now less than \$50,000.**

The budget commitment reflects: 1) priority changes within the Conference; and 2) demographic changes within the denomination. While changing times may, indeed, require dramatic changes, those “dramatic changes” should not include abandoning the mission – particularly when a need remains; rather, our focus should be on how to faithfully utilize existing resources in deliberate ways to explore, establish and strengthen relationships with community partners who share common goals and objectives (e.g. food insecurity).

1 The Board of Global Ministries continues to be mindful of and intentional about living out God's call to  
2 feed the hungry, heal the sick, respond and comfort those in distress and be instruments of preaching  
3 the "Good News." We do this through our shared vision of mission to the world in "word" and action  
4 as evidenced through direct support, advocacy, partnerships, dialogue, ecumenical relationships and  
5 programmatic ministries (as expressed in cooperative ministry with 200,000 Reasons). God's commis-  
6 sion to us has not changed. **Go!**

7  
8 **Brenda Norwood Henson**  
9 **Chairperson**

## 10 11 12 **Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry**

13  
14  
15 For the eighth time, I am writing this report as Chairperson of the Board of Higher Education and Cam-  
16 pus Ministry. At Annual Conference I will be completing two quadrennia serving as the chair of the  
17 Board, and will be "term-limited." As I reflect on the ministry on our campuses over the last eight years  
18 I am struck by the large number of students whose lives have been transformed through United Meth-  
19 odist campus ministry in Arkansas. On every campus are activities involving worship, service learning,  
20 fellowship and leadership. Each student engages different aspects of the ministries. Students are able  
21 to come to faith as adults, to grow in their discipleship, make lifelong friends, discover the diversity of  
22 our world, and make vocational commitments. One of the greatest joys I have had is to come to know  
23 students and to have the opportunity to see them continue their lives and faith journeys unfold after  
24 college.

25  
26 I am so profoundly grateful for the campus ministers in Arkansas. These are men and women who are  
27 gifted and called to serve in this ministry. Their leadership is a key to making these ministries what  
28 they are. I am grateful to those who are currently serving as our campus leaders: Sam Meadors, John  
29 Palmer, Jessica Durand, Corey Reed, Emily Burch, Jana Green, Kavan Dodson, Natasha Murray, Blake  
30 Langston, Ronnie Miller- Yow and J. J. Whitney. I am grateful for the student leaders, interns, local  
31 board members and friends of campus ministry. Your support is crucial.

32  
33 I am grateful for the financial support of the Arkansas Conference. In recent years a number of Con-  
34 ferences have raided the funding of campus ministries from the Conference when budgets have had  
35 to be tightened. Our Conference has been able to avoid this so far. This year campus ministries will be  
36 part of the budget reduction we are making across the board as a Conference. I am grateful we are  
37 recommending the level we are to continue supporting campus ministry. The Conference's support is  
38 absolutely critical as we place a campus minister as the lead missionary in the campus mission field. I  
39 am sad we will probably not be able to assist in matching dollars for interns on campuses and match-  
40 ing dollars for maintenance of our facilities. Our funding for new ministry endeavors and leadership  
41 development will also diminish. This means now more than ever the support of campus ministries by  
42 local churches in the area will be necessary. Speak to a campus minister near you and offer your assis-  
43 tance and support. There are many ways, large and small, for you to be involved. Of course, one of the  
44 most important ways for you to help is to share the names of prospective and current students with our  
45 campus ministers. On the Conference website [www.arumc.org](http://www.arumc.org) there is a Campus Ministry page. On  
46 that page, you can share contact information for students. If you will send the information, we will get it  
47 to our campus ministers, and they will contact the students.

48  
49 When John Wesley sent Thomas Coke and Francis Asbury to America, his parting words were, "Offer  
50 them Christ!" The ministries on our campuses are doing just that. Through worship, study, serving oth-

1 ers, times of fellowship and conversations that matter, we offer them Christ!

2 **Respectfully submitted,**  
3 **Roy P. Smith**  
4 **Chairperson**

## 7 **Board of Laity Report**

8  
9 The Arkansas Conference Board of Laity is made up of the Conference Lay Leader, the district Lay  
10 Leaders and the Conference Director of Lay Speaking Ministries. The board's most important work  
11 includes fostering an awareness of the role of the laity within the local congregations, promoting and  
12 developing programs to cultivate an adequate understanding of the theological and biblical basis for  
13 lay life and work, and providing support and direction for the ministry of the laity on the local, district  
14 and annual conference level.

15  
16 The Board of Laity's primary focus this year is in our work with the districts, being liaisons and commu-  
17 nicators about the exciting opportunities in the Arkansas Conference. Your District Lay Leaders work  
18 hard to promote resources for local congregations, as those congregations work to fulfill the Bishop's  
19 Mission Plan and the mission and vision of the Arkansas Conference. We believe a key factor in this  
20 resourcing is in equipping and strengthening lay leadership in the Arkansas Conference. We want laity  
21 in the Arkansas Conference to share in meaningful discussion around congregations growing by one in  
22 worship, small groups, missional outreach, and professions of faith.

23  
24 Another part of the Board of Laity - the Lay Servant Ministry program - is active across the conference  
25 and provides classes that equip laity to live out their call and become deeper disciples of Jesus Christ. If  
26 you have not enrolled in a Lay Servant Ministry class because you are concerned you might be asked to  
27 fill a pulpit, don't worry! A Certified Lay Servant is never obligated to preach, but is a person committed  
28 to using their spiritual gifts in their local church, their district, or the conference. There are a variety of  
29 classes offered that can help you fulfill your call to lay ministry.

30  
31 It is a privilege to serve as Arkansas Conference Lay Leader, and even more of a privilege to work with  
32 the wonderful laity in the Arkansas Annual Conference!

33  
34 **Karon Mann**  
35 **Arkansas Conference Lay Leader**

## 36 **Commission on Archives and History**

37  
38 The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church states that "in each annual conference there  
39 shall be a conference commission on archives and history.... It shall be the duty of the commission to  
40 collect, preserve, and make accessible the historically significant records of the annual conference  
41 and its agencies...; to encourage and assist the local churches in preserving their records, compiling  
42 their histories, and celebrating their heritage; to provide for the permanent safekeeping of the histor-  
43 ical records of all abandoned or discontinued churches in the bounds of the annual conference and  
44 its antecedents; to maintain a fire-safe historical and archival depository and to see that all items that  
45 obviously will have value for future history are properly preserved therein; to provide for the ownership  
46 of real property and to receive gifts and bequests; to nominate to the General Commission on Archives  
47 and History buildings, locations, or structures within the annual conference for designation as historic  
48 sites or heritage landmarks; to maintain contact with officially designated historic sites and heritage  
49 landmarks in their bounds; to assist the bishop or the appropriate conference committee in planning  
50 for...historical observances at annual conference sessions; to establish retention and disposition sched-



1 ules for annual conference and local church records under standards and guidelines developed by the  
2 General Commission...; to cooperate with and report, when requested, to the general and jurisdictional  
3 commissions on archives and history; and to engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or Evangelical  
4 United Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage...” (Par 641.1, 2016 edition). To  
5 accomplish these tasks, the Arkansas Conference Commission coordinates and oversees its three en-  
6 tities: (1) The Arkansas United Methodist Church Archives / Winfred D. Polk Methodist Archives; (2) The  
7 United Methodist Historical Society of Arkansas; and (3) The United Methodist Museum of the Arkan-  
8 sas Conference.

9  
10 As a ministry of the United Methodist Church, the Arkansas Conference Commission on Archives and  
11 History boldly embraces its mission of “creating vital congregations that make disciples of Jesus Christ,  
12 who make disciples equipped and sent to transform lives, communities and the world!” (title page,  
13 2019 Journal of the Arkansas Annual Conference of the UMC). Working under the General Commis-  
14 sion on Archives and History (GCAH), an institutional archive, our conference archives “collects the  
15 records of an institution and in so doing provides a memory for that institution. It allows the institution  
16 to know what it has done, when it did it, and why. Out of this flows history, transparency and account-  
17 ability. It gives the context for judgement and assessment in all three of the preceding categories: for  
18 historical judgement, for when we are accountable for what we do, and when others need to know and  
19 understand how our decisions are made and actions taken” (Dale Patterson, UMC Archivist, GCAH,  
20 in “Why the UMC Needs an Independent Archives—It’s Not Just about History”). As the Rev. Alfred T.  
21 Day, III, General Secretary of the GCAH states: “Our understanding of our past helps us envision the  
22 future.”

23  
24 Listed below are ways the Conference can measure the progress of its Commission on Archives and  
25 History, supported by apportioned funds:

26 **Provide well-organized, quality facilities with trained and enthusiastic personnel**

27 Open to the public on Thursday all day and by appointment, the Arkansas UMC Archives, located in  
28 the Bailey Library at Hendrix College in Conway, is available without charge to anyone wishing to do  
29 research on topics related to the United Methodist Church and its predecessor organizations. Ad-  
30 ditionally, the archivists work independently and together from their own home computers and cell  
31 phones to assist researchers throughout the week and when preparing exhibits for various conference  
32 events. Archivists Carole Teague and Ellen Bruce are well-versed in the terminology and organiza-  
33 tional connections of the United Methodist Church. Moreover, they avail themselves of training op-  
34 portunities through the General Commission, and they network with jurisdictional archivists and fellow  
35 conference archivists. In 2019, the archivists reorganized all shelves in the archives by category and  
36 by date and relabeled each with shelf clips. They completed a large project that entailed organizing  
37 well over a hundred years of handwritten books of Annual Conference minutes. These books were  
38 placed in new archival boxes for protection and filed by conference, district, and date, following Gen-  
39 eral Commission guidelines and best practices of seasoned archivists of Methodist church records. It  
40 is important to remember that preservation experts emphasize that paper remains the most secure  
41 means of preserving long term access to irreplaceable information. In other words, digital format for  
42 easy access, but print for preservation. Hence, many archival records must be maintained in both for-  
43 mats. To get the assistance of the archivists with your questions, contact them by e-mail at arkmetho-  
44 dist@hendrix.edu or call the archivists at their personal cell phone numbers listed in the current Journal  
45 of the Arkansas Annual Conference of the UMC. We sincerely appreciate the many years of leadership  
46 that Marcia Crossman gave the Commission, including 16 years as one of our archivists. The technical  
47 support from her husband, Bob Crossman, was valuable as well. We also thank Barbara Clark for the  
48 meticulous attention to detail that she gave as treasurer of the Historical Society for at least 15 years.  
49 Open for visits on Sunday morning and usually Wednesday morning, or by appointment, the UM Muse-  
50 um of the Arkansas Conference is located in First United Methodist Church, Little Rock. The museum

1 curator, Shakeelah Rahmaam, provides data entry of records into the museum catalog, and she works  
2 with museum committee members to plan special exhibits. From December 2018 through September  
3 2019, the curator and volunteers, with research provided by the archivists, presented a print and digital  
4 exhibit entitled John Wesley: A Father of Methodism. The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette featured a story  
5 on this exhibit. Now the same committees are working on an exhibit entitled Hymnals: Praise, Worship,  
6 and Grace through Song, to open February 2, 2020. The museum was closed from October 2019 until  
7 February 2020, for repairs to water damaged walls in the galleries and office area. We gratefully ac-  
8 knowledge the leadership of Norman DePaul Brown who faithfully served as chairman of the museum  
9 committee in 2018 and much of 2019.

### 11 **Serve the research needs of churches and individuals**

12 In 2019 the archivists assisted 62 individuals or churches with their requests for information to plan  
13 programs and prepare church anniversary celebrations; to provide photographs of pastors and church-  
14 es; to write obituaries, family histories, and articles; to assist church personnel in district and confer-  
15 ence offices; and to answer personal questions about churches, parsonages, pastors, and people  
16 of faith. The archivists responded to e-mails, phone calls, and personal visits to the archives, often  
17 working with a single researcher for several weeks. This year, as usual, requests came from across  
18 the country, as well as from Arkansas, and led to some interesting research. There was, for example,  
19 a student intern from the UM Foundation of Arkansas who looked at twenty years of conference jour-  
20 nals in order to prepare a list the Foundation needed. Also, a teacher working on a master's degree  
21 asked for information about what is now FUMC in Little Rock during the Civil War--1863, 1864, and  
22 1865—when Little Rock fell into the hands of Federal troops. At that time the leaders of the Methodist  
23 Episcopal Church availed themselves of the power given them by the celebrated Ames-Stanton Order  
24 to take action against the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Dr. Richard F. Colburn, the pastor of the  
25 ME Church, South, was compelled to vacate the church which was seized, occupied by Union troops,  
26 and used as a hospital. The property was not returned to its rightful owners until an order from Pres-  
27 ident Johnson after the war. Then Dr. Colburn and the congregation which he had preserved during  
28 this troubled time moved back to the church building to resume its work there. In 2019, the archivists  
29 also added additional records to the collection. Furthermore, Ms. Teague shared an exhibit on the  
30 history of United Methodist Women at the conference Mission u event in July and at the UMW annual  
31 conference in November. It included a timeline which celebrated the 150th anniversary of UMW and its  
32 predecessor organizations and highlighted Arkansas women. At the UM Museum this year 114 visitors  
33 signed the guest book. These guests, individuals and groups of visitors, enjoyed free, guided tours of  
34 the permanent collection and the Wesley exhibit. Some visitors also attended the opening day recep-  
35 tion held in December 2018. In addition, museum volunteers reached out with information about the  
36 museum to such groups as a Sunday school class and the Bishop's Luncheon attendees.

### 38 **Provide access 24/7 through a user-friendly website and Facebook presence**

39 An attractive and easy-to-use resource, the website, [www.arkansasumcarchives.com](http://www.arkansasumcarchives.com), reaches out 24/7  
40 to all readers with internet access. Maintained through the archives, it contains information from the  
41 Arkansas Conference Commission on Archives and History, the Archives, the Museum, and the Histor-  
42 ical Society. To date, our archivists have scanned and posted issues of the Arkansas Methodist news-  
43 paper from 1884-1954. The website also contains nine full-text books on the history of Arkansas Meth-  
44 odism and the Evangelical United Brethren Church, and it offers journals from six conferences related  
45 to the Arkansas Conference and its antecedents, dating as far back as the 1850's. The site offers links  
46 to print and video resources on the Wesley family, the United Methodist Church and its antecedents,  
47 the archives of other United Methodist Annual Conferences, the General Commission on Archives and  
48 History, instructions for developing local church archives, and the award-winning video entitled "Fran-  
49 cis Asbury: A Flame Spirit," released in 2017. In addition to the website, museum personnel provide an  
50 online presence using a Facebook page. It announces special exhibits and other information pertain-

1 ing to the museum. Sometimes the curator posts photos of items in the museum and writes a state-  
2 ment on each posting. This Facebook page allows patrons to interact and leave their own comments  
3 about topics related to the museum.  
4

### 5 **Utilize modern technology to facilitate delivery of information in a timely and professional manner**

6 In addition to a website and a Facebook page, this ministry utilizes computer and scanner equipment,  
7 CDs, TV monitor, improved lighting capabilities, and other modern methods to efficiently deliver pro-  
8 fessional-looking documents and displays. With funding from a successful grant proposal to the Unit-  
9 ed Methodist Foundation of AR, the museum purchased and installed professional-quality tract lighting  
10 in two of the galleries. These high-efficiency lights are adjustable and provide perfect white light to  
11 illuminate various displays. Phase II of the project added several new items including a 65" LED Sony  
12 TV for computer projection of multi-media exhibitions. Using the new iPad kiosk station, the curator or  
13 a committee member can present information before groups or use the iPad as a sign-in or survey tool.  
14 A new monitor tracks museum temperature and relative humidity, important information for preserva-  
15 tionists. Also using modern technology, the archivists photograph text and pictures with their iPhone  
16 or iPad, e-mail the requested information quickly and free to patrons, and incur no "shipping" costs to  
17 the archives. The archivists have compiled several CDs that patrons may purchase through the web-  
18 site at a nominal cost. These CDs are useful resources for those who cannot physically make a visit to  
19 the archives.  
20

### 21 **Engage in a major digitalization project**

22 A significant measure of progress is the project of digitizing the Arkansas Methodist newspapers from  
23 1884 to the present, an ongoing project which must be accomplished before the crumbling paper  
24 issues completely disintegrate. Using the state-of-the-art BookEye scanner which was generously  
25 purchased through the Wilfred D. Polk Charitable Trust several years ago, issues of the Arkansas Meth-  
26 odist newspaper are now available from 1884 through 1954, as well as current issues, to anyone any-  
27 where with internet access. Additionally, the archivists took time to write the newspaper date on each  
28 picture and photograph it with their iPhone. Then using the Minolta color copier, they made a superior  
29 copy of each photograph on acid-free paper and placed it in the vertical files. Now our archival files  
30 contain many more photographs of pastors who have served Arkansas through the years. Last year a  
31 Hendrix student transferred the entries of a cumbersome, old computer file to a Microsoft Excel file and  
32 linked it to the website for the archives. Presently, anyone with internet service can access the index  
33 of the Arkansas Methodist newspaper to locate articles on specific subjects in the digitized issues of  
34 the newspaper. In addition to the Arkansas Methodist newspapers, the journals of the Arkansas An-  
35 nual Conference and its antecedents are being digitized. Some of these journals go back as far as the  
36 1850's.  
37

### 38 **Educate and inform the public**

39 All three entities under the Commission work together to bring educational events and publications  
40 to the public. As the "friends" group for Archives and History, the Historical Society hosted its annu-  
41 al luncheon in spring 2019 and welcomes anyone interested in Methodist history to the luncheon in  
42 spring 2020. Membership in the Historical Society is \$10 per person annually and proceeds help sup-  
43 port the ministries of the archives and the museum. Another outreach of the UM Historical Society  
44 has been its publication, Occasional Papers, with articles on Methodist history sent out once or twice  
45 a year to members across the state. However, with the untimely death of its capable editor in Novem-  
46 ber 2017, publication has been suspended until someone else steps forward to edit it. To educate the  
47 public, museum personnel and volunteers give free, guided tours and, from time to time, offer special  
48 tours and receptions, centered on a particular topic or targeted to a particular group of people in the  
49 community. A special exhibit in 2019 was a print and digital presentation on John Wesley. Each year at  
50 Annual Conference the Commission on Archives and History sets up a booth with displays and hand-

1 outs, and an archivist is available to answer questions about this ministry. Additionally, CDs and books  
2 are available for purchase. One CD includes out-of-print books on Arkansas Methodist history. An-  
3 other CD, entitled “Called to Be Bold, Stepping Out in Faith,” is a collection of stories and photographs  
4 of over eighty Arkansas clergywomen and celebrates sixty years of ordaining women as elders in the  
5 UMC. These CDs are helpful resources for historians, seminary students, and clergy.

6  
7 **Create an experience, not merely provide information**

8 A visit to the museum is an ideal way to experience the past...observe the hard, wooden pews (no  
9 cushions); see vestments the pastors wore; touch the communion chalice used by faithful brothers and  
10 sisters of another era; and see photographs of church leaders your pastor or your parents talked about  
11 when you were a child. Also, to help people experience their history, the museum board has present-  
12 ed several special exhibits and is planning more temporary exhibits in the future. In a similar way,  
13 pages posted on the web from old Arkansas Methodist newspapers may help readers live a little in the  
14 lives of Arkansans of a hundred years ago and generate feelings that "plummet them into the love of  
15 God" (Fred Day). These newspapers were the CNN, the internet, and the Facebook of another era, as  
16 they gave people information on local, state, and national news, especially for rural Arkansans.

17  
18 **Generate goodwill and spread the joy that comes from sharing the Story**

19 Progress may also be measured in the mutual goodwill and the joy of sharing that collaboration on  
20 creative projects fosters among all participants. The following examples illustrate goodwill and sharing  
21 that has occurred at the archives and the museum this year. Several pastors and laity proudly gave  
22 the archives old conference journals, historical books, photographs, and other materials related to  
23 the Methodist church in Arkansas. Also, a man from Ohio gave materials belonging to his mother and  
24 grandmother who served as missionaries in China and Korea between 1940-1960. Others have kindly  
25 donated treasured items to the museum from closed churches or from their attics. This year the muse-  
26 um received items from the Bishop Kenneth W. Hicks collection, including gavels and liturgical robes.  
27 Just as the popular proverb states: “It takes a village to raise a child,” so it takes the collaboration of  
28 many people to record and to tell the Story, and therein lies the joy in sharing the Story.

29  
30 **Reaching beyond this conference**

31 The Arkansas Conference Commission on Archives and History works with Commission personnel in  
32 other conferences, in the South Central Jurisdiction, and with the General Commission on Archives  
33 and History of the United Methodist Church as we mutually seek ways to continue this unique min-  
34 istry of memory and to help bring about a spiritual revival in the United Methodist Church. The Ar-  
35 kansas Conference Commission chairman and the archivists have taken advantage of the resources  
36 and training opportunities offered by the staff of the General Commission, located at Drew University  
37 in Madison, New Jersey. They read Methodist History journals, current Methodist news articles, and  
38 documents sent from the General Secretary of the General Commission and his office. They attended  
39 conferences of the UMC, as well as training sessions and General Commission meetings led by the  
40 General Secretary and other members of the General Commission on Archives and History. Participa-  
41 tion in these activities helps the Arkansas Conference Commission on Archives and History become  
42 more knowledgeable and effective in its ministry. On October 11-12, 2019, Commission chairman Hel-  
43 en Guenter, archivist Carole Teague, archivist Ellen Bruce, and Historical Society past-president Joe  
44 Guenter attended the United Methodist South Central Jurisdiction Convocation of Archivists. The  
45 conference met on the Centenary College campus in Shreveport, Louisiana. Representatives from six  
46 states and eleven UM conferences shared information about their ministries. Among the speakers  
47 were Rev. Fred Day, General Secretary of GCAH (NJ); archivists from the Archives of the South Central  
48 Jurisdiction (TX); two knowledgeable information technology coordinators (LA & TX); and many confer-  
49 ence archivists. The meeting was a great place to discuss best archival practices and to get answers  
50 to our questions from practitioners working in Methodist church archives every day. For instance,



1 these preservation experts reminded us that at the present time paper format is the safest format for  
2 permanent safekeeping of irreplaceable information. Certainly, electronic format provides easy access  
3 to frequently used and fragile materials. However, maintaining access requires expensive upgrades  
4 every three to five years, and rapid changes in technology is making this time shorter and shorter. It is  
5 impossible, then, to keep electronic files permanently when all media storage is impermanent. There-  
6 fore, we must be prudent in choosing what information should be digitized, while often maintaining  
7 this same information in paper. In addition, attending this meeting made us more aware of a network  
8 of professionals whom we can reach out to with questions at any time, and these experts proved to be  
9 a valuable resource when the archivists were reorganizing the archives.

10  
11 As we move forward, the ministry of memory helps us learn from our past and anticipate our priorities  
12 for the future. Applying GCAH guidelines, our archivists, curator, and volunteers continue to collect  
13 and to preserve documents, memorabilia, and photographs, including materials about present-day  
14

## 15 **Commission on Religion and Race**

16  
17 The word ensure means that an organization or committee is developed to make certain that goals or  
18 objectives occur. The mission of the Conference Commission on Religion and Race is to ensure that  
19 this annual conference in the area of race and religion will ensure that there will be vital conversations  
20 in our conference that help move toward racial and institutional equity along with growing towards  
21 being more competent in our intercultural knowledge and competency. This has been and will be our  
22 mission until at which time the directives change. It has always been our goal to make disciples who  
23 make disciples for the transformation of our world.  
24

25 Paragraph 643 of the 2016 Book of Discipline has a detailed description for how we are to be re-  
26 sourced. At present, none of my committee members or myself have been asked to consult on issues  
27 of race and culture at any level from local church on up. We have stated in the conference journal and  
28 in face to face meetings that there are resources available by the General Commission on a myriad of  
29 issues. Also, we have made it known that we are available to the local church should they need or  
30 want our assistance. We are here to help the church be what God through the example of Jesus and  
31 empowered by the Holy Spirit to be as God's hands and feet in the world.  
32

33 **Rev. George E. Odell, Chairperson**

## 34 **Committee on Episcopacy Report**

35  
36  
37 The Arkansas Conference Committee on Episcopacy is grateful for Bishop Mueller's leadership in our  
38 Annual Conference. His passion for spiritual revival and emphasis on vital congregations, equipping  
39 disciples and partnering with laity is leading our conference trajectory in "keeping the main thing the  
40 main thing" (quoting Bishop Mueller). As I write this, at the beginning of the COVID 19 crisis, he has  
41 yet again provided the strong leadership the Arkansas Annual Conference needs, putting the person-  
42 al safety of clergy and laity first, and working with our Communications staff to stay in touch and offer  
43 resources to congregations. We are also thankful for the Bishop's communication with the Arkansas  
44 Conference through his encouraging daily devotionals, and the letters and videos he shares when we  
45 need them.  
46

47 Those who serve on the Committee on Episcopacy agree to:

- 48 • support Bishop Mueller in his work,
- 49 • be available to him for counsel,
- 50 • assist in determining the episcopal needs of the area, and keep the bishop advised of conditions



1 within the area as they affect relationships, and  
2 • engage in annual consultation with the bishop.

3  
4 We are honored to work with him, and express our deep appreciation for his work. Thank you, Bishop,  
5 for your service in the Arkansas Annual Conference.

6  
7  
8 **Respectfully Submitted,**

9  
10 **Karon Mann, Chair**  
11 **Arkansas Conference Committee on Episcopacy**

## 12 **Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries**

13  
14  
15 This has been a year of restructuring the Conference Camp and Retreat Ministry in line with decisions  
16 made last year. In this restructure we have focused on our purpose statement and organizational sys-  
17 tems.

### 18 19 **Camp and Retreat Center Governance**

- 20 • All camps or retreat centers will be governed strictly by their individual boards. Each camp board
- 21 will be responsible for its own operation and programming.
- 22 • Relationship Statements between the Arkansas Conference and partner camps and retreat centers
- 23 will be created to guide the relationship and will be reviewed every quadrennium or when either
- 24 party desires to review the agreement.
- 25 • As extension ministries of the Arkansas Conference, Camps and Retreat Centers with relationship
- 26 statements will be given representation with voice on the Conference Camp and Retreat Ministry
- 27 Committee and other conference structures as may be determined.

### 28 29 **1. Arkansas Conference Camp and Retreat Ministry Purpose Statement**

30 The purpose statement of Camp and Retreat Ministries in the Arkansas Conference shall be: The mis-  
31 sion of the ARUMC Camp and Retreat Ministry is to enhance the trajectory of the Arkansas Conference  
32 through resourcing local churches in their disciple-making ministry by providing unique opportunities  
33 for the children, youth, and adults of local churches to seek God in places set apart from normal rou-  
34 tines and the demands of the world. By bringing people together in new communities with opportu-  
35 nities for mission, service, intentional ethnic diversity, the practice of genuine discipleship through  
36 experiential faith formation, prayer, worship and spiritual renewal, Camp and Retreat Ministries help  
37 participants return to their congregations and communities with a renewed commitment to be a part of  
38 Jesus' inclusive work in the world.

### 39 40 **2. Camp Relationships**

41 To minimize liability issues, the Arkansas Conference will only form relationship statements with camps  
42 and retreat centers that are ACA accredited. A motion was made and passed to extend the accredita-  
43 tion deadline to December 31, 2019. See Minutes section of 2019 Journal.

### 44 45 **3. Conference Structure**

- 46 • The Conference Director of Program and Marketing for Camp and Retreat Ministries staff position
- 47 was eliminated effective July 1, 2018. Programming and marketing is the responsibility of individual
- 48 camps or the entities that use the camps.
- 49 • The Conference Camp and Retreat Ministry Committee was restructured effective July 1, 2018 to
- 50 provide proper communication and alignment between Arkansas Conference entities and camps/

1 retreat centers with relationship statements with the conference. It will initially consist of the follow-  
2 ing positions, with authority to add persons if required. i. Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries  
3 Coordinator ii. Director of Connectional Ministries iii. Conference Director of Children's Ministries or  
4 representative iv. Conference Director of Youth Ministries or representative v. Conference Council  
5 on Youth Ministries President or designee vi. Conference Young Adult Ministries Chair vii. Confer-  
6 ence Coordinator of Adult, Singles, Family and Older Adult Ministries, viii. Board of Higher Educa-  
7 tion Representative ix. Camp Tanako Director x. Mount Eagle Retreat Center Director xi. Bear Creek  
8 Camp Representative xii. Shoal Creek Camp Representative

- 9 • The Conference Camp and Retreat Ministry Committee is responsible for budget requests and  
10 funding allocations.
- 11 • Partner camps and retreats are encouraged to create ex-officio (voice w/o vote).

12  
13 4. Camp Tanako, Mount Eagle, Bear Creek and Shoal Creek are all ACA accredited at this time and are  
14 in full compliance with the Arkansas Conference.

15  
16 **Submitted by Ben Crismon, Chair**



## 26 **Conference Council on Children's Ministries**

27  
28 The Conference Council on Children's ministries (CCCM) continues to maintain its focus to connect/  
29 network people involved with children's ministry throughout the state of Arkansas and to equip those  
30 people for ministry in their local congregations.

31  
32 We exist to provide quality training, nurture, support and resources for children's ministers, both paid  
33 and unpaid. We continue to sponsor social media pages and offer downloadable support on the Con-  
34 ference Children's website. We see broad geographical access to our sites, as leaders have learned to  
35 count on us for valuable and accurate information regarding their ministry needs.

36  
37 Our Conference Children's Council has now found a rhythm and approach to getting plans carried  
38 out successfully. We have created sub-committees based on members' abilities/interests and then  
39 gave each committee choices to pick from to plan for CCCM events. It is now our best meeting model  
40 for getting things done. Each council member represents a district in the state. They meet at least six  
41 times a year with other Children's Ministers in their district to support them as they minister to their  
42 churches. Each district representative works hard to create a personal supportive connection with the  
43 Children's Ministers in their district as well as district superintendents. In the last year, Melinda Shunk  
44 the Children's Coordinator has been able to travel around the state and meet with different churches.  
45 It has been extremely beneficial to helping know the needs and how we can help equip leaders in min-  
46 istry. Most visits consisted of listening and then staff showing what wonderful unique ministries they  
47 are pursuing.

48  
49 Because the Conference Children's Council has taken a very connectional approach in our districts, we  
50 are able to support the Conference Trajectory with increased attendance data from our yearly spon-

1 sored events. Children’s Ministry has grown in attendance at our two main events that focus on mak-  
2 ing disciples. Quest 2018: 153 in attendance with this year’s Quest 2019 had 225 in attendance and  
3 was graciously hosted for the second time by St. James UMC in Little Rock.  
4

5 Beyond 2018: 30 in attendance followed by Beyond 2019 with 70 in attendance. Beyond 2020 had  
6 75 attendees with five different states represented. We had attendees from Ohio, Missouri, and Ten-  
7 nessee, Oklahoma and Louisiana. We feel blessed to serve those outside the state lines with our AR  
8 ministries. Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley was our esteemed guest speaker.  
9

10 Pam Lentz and Melinda Shunk have had the opportunity to meet via Zoom Conference with eight very  
11 talented yet new to ministry Children’s ministers across the state. Together we have been reading  
12 and discussing the book Sustainable Children’s Ministry by Mark DeVries and Annette Safstrom. Our  
13 group is set up to support those in their first five years of ministry. Pam and Melinda listen, share ideas  
14 and sometimes coach these new Children’s Ministers through the unforeseen challenges of the job. It  
15 is our hope to support and equip these eight new ministers so they can minister to their churches with  
16 strong ministry systems in place.  
17

18 We will work to build attendance with district-sponsored Bible Boot Camp, Confirmation retreats, and  
19 encouraging church-sponsored attendance weeks at Camp Tanako in the summer. We look forward to  
20 opportunities to partner with 200,000 Reason in the coming months as we develop ideas for teaching  
21 children how little hands can serve God’s big church.  
22

23 This year your 2020 District coordinators are as follows:

- 24 -Central District: Tammy Felder, Little Rock; Kayla Tullos, Maumelle; Jessica Butler, Bryant
- 25 -Southeast District: Christie Park Whitehall; Carissa Tarkington, West Memphis
- 26 -Southwest District: Michelle Wilkins, Hot Springs; Peaches Smith, Hot Springs
- 27 -Northeast District: Katie McLean, Batesville; Tiffany Jones, Beebe
- 28 -Northwest District: Sadie Stratton, Bentonville

29  
30 Specialty Representatives:

- 31 Karen Swales-Safe Sanctuary and Curriculum Development
- 32 Sadie Stratton-Wonderfully Made Trainer

33  
34  
35 **Respectfully Submitted,**  
36 **Melinda Shunk,**  
37 **Conference Coordinator of Children's Ministries**



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40  
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45  
46  
47 **Conference Council on Youth Ministries**

48  
49 The Arkansas Conference Council on Youth Ministries (ACCYM) has had a very successful year encour-  
50 aging the youth of Arkansas to create meaningful relationships with each other and Christ. We believe

1 that the connection of youth in the Arkansas conference is important and is always at the forefront of  
2 our purpose. In July, the CCYM met for our planning retreat, where we made goals to focus on rep-  
3 resenting the diversity of the Arkansas youth and to be more intentional with everything we do, from  
4 planning events to our personal actions.

5  
6 This year, the media task force has continued to advertise our events throughout the year. They have  
7 also posted updates on several social media platforms with upcoming events as well as posting high-  
8 lights from past events. In addition to this, they helped as we switched communication platforms to  
9 Slack from Basecamp.

10  
11 The Youth Service Fund, YSF, continued to raise money to help local churches and organizations. We  
12 decided to award one grant to Mountain Home UMC youth to help improve their youth room and wor-  
13 ship space.

14  
15 Refuge which is attended by youth 6th-9th grades and adults was once again held at the Shepherd  
16 of the Ozarks Retreat Center and both weekends were nearly full with over 650 in attendance. Devon  
17 Arredondo our speaker for the weekend helped convey the theme Chosen while the band Fox and the  
18 Foal led worship. Refuge continues to be a success for our Junior high aged youth as we continue to  
19 grow our numbers each year.

20  
21 Our Veritas worship conference which is for youth across the conference in 7th-12th grades was held  
22 at the John Q. Hammons Convention Center where over 1200 youth and adults came to worship. Our  
23 worship sessions were led mostly by the band Army of Light and speaker Shanterra McBride with  
24 Bishop Gary Mueller joining us for our last session anchored by a shared communion. Former Arkansas  
25 Razorback basketball player Sidney Moncrief led a breakout session for youth focused around diversi-  
26 ty. This year's theme, United, encouraged youth to be one in Christ, one with one another, and united  
27 in Spirit while also relying on our strengths and passions to spread God's love.

28  
29 Choir Tour and Assembly are two of our biggest events each year for youth across Arkansas. Due to  
30 the COVID-19 pandemic both of these events unfortunately had to be cancelled this summer. We are  
31 hopeful to be able to resume both of these events in 2021.

32  
33 Overall, this has been an amazing year for CCYM as we have continued to build relationships with  
34 each other and Christ. I have been blessed to serve as President this year and am filled with awe as I  
35 witness the youth and adults of the Arkansas Conference Council on Youth Ministry answer their call  
36 and pick up their cross to serve Christ.

37  
38 **John David Halstead**  
39 **FUMC El Dorado**  
40 **CCYM President 2019-2020**  
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## Conference Secretary of Global Ministries

The Conference Secretary of Global Ministries shall work with the chairperson of the Conference Board of Global Ministries to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Global Ministries. A major responsibility of Global Ministries is to connect the various parts of the church as United Methodists engage in global mission. As a biblically rooted and historically informed organization, Global Ministries facilitates engagement in God's mission.

The South Central Jurisdiction Conference Secretary Global Ministries meeting was held September 30 through October 3, 2019 in Conroe, Texas. Hosts were Scott Moore and Christine Riggle at the Texas Annual Conference Mission Center. Topics of discussion were Itineration and Missionary Support, Global Mission Fellows, Mission Engagement, Global Health, SCJ UMVIM and Disaster Response and Transitioning Support for Missionaries. We toured The Wesley House in Houston.

The Arkansas Conference was pleased to welcome several missionaries to Arkansas. John Nday and Florence Kaying arrived October 28, 2019. John serves as the Agricultural Coordinator at Cambine Mission in South Mozambique Annual Conference and his wife Florence serves as a nurse practitioner in maternity and child health at Cambine Hospital/Clinic in South Mozambique Annual Conference. They were welcomed with open arms at a gathering at McCabe Chapel United Methodist Church. There were five churches represented. Our SCJ Global Missionary Advocates David and Elizabeth McCormick were also present. They were also welcomed in Corning, AR where Fred and Doni Martin met us with their bible study group along with their pastor at a local restaurant. There were many questions of interest at the close of their presentation. Their last full day was spent with Jim Polk, Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Connectional Ministries at the conference office.

Eric Soard, Leadership Development Coordinator with the United Methodist Church in Tanzania itinerated in January 2020. He made his own schedule which included visiting eight churches in our conference, meeting with Jim Polk and David and Elizabeth McCormick. It's always exciting visiting and listening to our global ministry missionaries and their call to serve others abroad.

All Conference Secretary Global Ministries continue to meet on conference calls throughout the year chaired by Sandy Wilder of Rio Texas Conference. Our 2020 gathering will be held October 19-22, 2020 in New Orleans.

I will be ending my service as Arkansas Conference Secretary Global Ministries this conference year. It has truly been a continuous learning and rewarding time for me. Each missionary's story I've heard over the past 7 years has truly touched my heart and soul. It indeed has been a pleasure to have served in this capacity.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Marleene Calvin**



## Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries

The Young Adult Council began meeting again in the Fall of 2019 to discuss the ways in which we can best support Young Adults in the Arkansas Annual Conference. We created a set of goals to help us reach out to and engage young adults in fellowship, discipleship, and service. We plan to work closely with the ARUMC Center for Communications to create a database of young adults in the Arkansas Annual Conference, so that we can reach out to young adults more easily about pertinent information related to that age group and to notify them of when we have special young adult focused events. We also hope to have a day of service for young adults in the ARUMC in the Spring of 2021. The vision for these endeavors is to help create a sense of community for young adults in the Arkansas Annual Conference and to help young adults, post-college, to get connected in the local church, in their district, and with the Annual Conference.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Rev. Lauren DeLano**

**Coordinator for the Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries**

## Developer of Clergy Recruitment

The world of Culture of Call and Development of Clergy Recruitment has been busy and productive this year!

- ARUMC representatives made 6 visits to seminaries – Asbury, Garrett, Wesley, Gammon, Perkins and Duke - since September 2019.
- We are also increasing the communication and connection between the cabinet and students from the ARUMC currently enrolled in seminary through birthday cards, encouragement during finals, and an inaugural brunch hosted by Bishop Mueller.
- Longer term goals include continued work to create a Culture of Calling in the conference by starting with building a culture of calling in every local church. We are working to both educate clergy and lay members about the importance of creating a culture in which calling is talked about regularly with members of all ages. In addition, we are continuing to create and offer resources that will help provide studies, liturgies and small group curriculum for discussing calling with children, youth and adults.

I continue to be encouraged and excited about the possibilities for the ARUMC members as we renew a commitment to help our congregation members find how God's calling them and to walk to the journey with those who answer a call to full time ordained or lay ministry.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Michelle Moore**

**Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, ARUMC**

## Ethnic and Language Concerns Committee

The Committee on Ethnic and Language Concerns shall collaborate with the existing structures of the annual Conference in order to implement, evaluate, and update the Annual Conference of its comprehensive plan as it relates to ethnic issues.

The Committee will consult with and assist other conference entities in training and implementation of matters related to ethnic local churches. The committee shall maintain the connectional relations mandated by ¶632 and ¶ 654. Additionally, this committee shall be charged with implementing all General Conference emphases related to:

- National Hispanic Plan
- Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century
- National Korean Ministry Plan
- Native American Ministries (¶654)
- Other ethnic programs emanating from the General Conference.

We accomplish these things as we equip local churches to make disciples of Jesus Christ by covenanting to become Acts 2 disciple-making congregations which are Spirit-led, Spirit-filled and fruit-producing.

In addition, the Committee on Ethnic and Language Concerns approved several requests for funding in the areas of Internships, Leadership Development, and Mission Field Engagement.

As a part of the Conference Culture of Call, nine college interns were placed in ethnic churches to strength the ministries in varying contexts. These internships provided first hand ministry opportunities.

Leadership Development has always been a focal point for ELC. Six clergy and laity had the privilege to receive professional developments grants. Prior to COVID-19 pandemic, we had allocated funding for the following:

- (1) Six persons were approved to attend the United 2020 in Atlanta, GA on March 25-28.
- (2) Five persons were approved to be sent as observers to General Conference.
- (3) Five persons were approved to be sent as observers to the South Central Jurisdictional Conference.
- (4) Five persons were approved to be sent to the United Methodist Women's Quadrennial Gathering.

The Committee on Ethnic and Language Concerns will continue to be reflective, committed and passionate in its effort to address/meet the concerns of the Ethnic Local Church, the strategic initiatives of The United Methodist Church in Arkansas and responsive to the direction of the Arkansas Annual Conference in spreading the good news of the gospel, making disciples of Jesus Christ thought out the world.

In closing, I am very thankful for this committee for their sacrifice and commitment. It is the Spirit of God within them that keeps us focus in this work.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Ronnie Miller Yow, Chair  
Committee on Ethnic and Language Concerns

## Lay Servant Ministries Report

Lay Servant Ministries is a strong and viable lay leadership development program available within the United Methodist connection. Through this equipping and empowering system, lay servants have the opportunity to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ who then go and make other disciples. In 2019, Arkansas' Lay Servant Ministries held 73 classes over 25 days serving 447 Lay Servants. These laity are in your church, in viable ministry, on committees, dedicated and always serving. Lay Servant Ministries can be a tool for filtering your call to ministry. Some join to become a Lay Speaker, only to find they have a deeper calling to full time ministry. Others come to classes, and through discussions and questions and answers, find a passion for particular ministries. Others are encouraged in the work they currently do and will do for the Kingdom. In all instances, our Lay Servants/Lay Speakers find connection, fellowship, love and grace among the learning, communicating, and leading of our trainings.

In 2019, Arkansas' Lay Servant Ministries partnered with United Methodist Men to bring "Lead Like Jesus". These were very successful sessions with great tools to use in daily life. In 2020, Arkansas' Lay Servant Ministries has approved using "Impact! Reclaiming the Call of Lay Ministry". We are excited to continually provide our laity with tools to answer their call and live into being the Christian leader God has called them to be.

We have successfully held our first 2 online "Basic LSM" courses through the CourSe system. As we move through the year, the Center for Communication will be working with us to provide some of our advanced courses through CourSe as well. They will still be 10-hour classes, therefore, you have to decide which forum serves you best (online or face-to-face).

We have been approved to move forward with our 3rd and final category of Lay Servant Ministries, the Certified Lay Minister. The Certified Lay Servant serves in many ways, may preach, but serves always. The Certified Lay Speaker is specifically equipped to preach/lead worship when a Pastor is out, temporarily. We have 19 Certified Lay Speakers with 3 of them serving appointments. The Certified Lay Minister will be more equipped to lead a church. The CLM will have all the courses the Lay Speakers have, but will also have pastoral care, administration, etc. Our training for the CLMs will begin directly after Annual Conference.

The District Directors are working diligently to schedule trainings around the state, throughout the districts. To find out about trainings, email [carole.blanks@arumc.org](mailto:carole.blanks@arumc.org) with your name and district to be added to our newsletter/training notifications. Or go to <https://arumc.org/our-ministries/lay-servant-ministries/> The district directors are listed at the top of the page, with the upcoming trainings below. Links to registration forms/sites will also be there. We are also using the events section of our Facebook page AR Lay Servant Ministries or @ARUMCLSM will find us.

**Carole Blanks, Director**



## United Methodist Men

In March 2020 I attended the National Association of Conference Presidents (NACP) annual meeting in Nashville, Tennessee. I talked with men from across the connection who are involved with men's ministries and who offered suggestions as to things that have worked for them. They offered prayers and guidance.

Much of my effort over the past year has been contacting men all over the state to introduce myself and offer my help with the local men's ministries. I have talked to many men about the work they are doing. Some are building handicap ramps and some are hosting fund-raising dinners to benefit local charities.

We held a "Lead Like Jesus" training in August 2019 in connection with the Lay Servant training. I hope to be able to offer spiritual growth opportunities on a regular basis.

I am still working on building a conference UMM Leadership team to assist in setting goals and strategies for men's ministry throughout the Arkansas conference.

My goals for Arkansas United Methodist Men are as follows:

1. To expand the number of chartered UMM units in the Arkansas conference.
2. To design and offer leadership development opportunities and spiritual growth opportunities for men's ministries in the local churches.
3. To promote and strengthen the specific ministries supported by the General Commission on UMM (GCUMM), including support of Scouting and advocacy against gender-based violence.

I encourage all men's groups in the local churches to engage in regular contact with me so I know what you are doing and how I can help.

I continue to request your help and your prayers.

**Clay McCastlain**  
Arkansas Conference President  
United Methodist Men  
[clay.mccastlain@arumc.org](mailto:clay.mccastlain@arumc.org)



United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

## United Methodist Women

During 2019 the Arkansas Conference of United Methodist Women was celebrating, with our Sisterhood of Grace around the world, the 150th Anniversary of women organizing themselves for mission with women, children and youth. In 2020 we remember the legacy left to us, we are looking to the future and working diligently to be Legacy Builders in the years to come. The Legacy Fund is an opportunity to put faith, hope and love into action. The Legacy Fund is an endowment to ensure the work of United Methodist Women continues for the next 150 years!

This year the Leadership Development Days (LDD) sponsored by the National Organization was held in St. Louis, MO. Two female General Conference or Jurisdiction delegates from each Conference were invited to experience LDD worship, workshops, self-care activities and networking. Our Lay Leader, Karon Mann, and Rev. Katie Pierce were able to attend along with myself, Jenny Steidle – Treasurer, and Rosetta DuBose – Chair of Committee on Nominations. We were able to spend time with Louisiana Conference officers and delegates and talk about what was happening in our Conferences. Also, how women can continue to be connected to United Methodist Women no matter what happens to the United Methodist Church. Participants were also reminded we are in the last year of our four Social Action Campaigns in which United Methodist Women are involved: 1) Just Energy for All 2) Interrupt the School-to-Prison Pipeline 3) A Living Wage for All and 4) End Maternal Mortality.

The Arkansas Conference Mission u will be held July 29-Aug. 1 back at Hendrix College in Conway. The studies this year will be: Finding Peace in an Anxious World; Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools; and the last year for Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission.

The United Methodist Women 17th Annual Meeting will be held November 7 at First UMC, in Conway. Local United Methodist Women units continue to be involved in many local community mission projects as well as supporting national and international mission needs.

The Arkansas Conference United Methodist Women continue to foster spiritual growth, develop leaders and advocate for justice on behalf of women, children and youth. They also work to support programs and activities that promote our purpose: United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

**Cathy Blackwood, President**





## Youth Network Report

The goal of the ARUMC Youth Worker Network is to provide a network of resources, support, and education in order to create stronger youth ministries within the local church. Currently, the ARUMC Youth Ministry Resource Team is working on a few programs and events to help further this goal.

First, we are working on EQUIP 2020 which will be held on September 11-12. This year EQUIP will feature an emphasis on observing Sabbath. We will discuss spiritual formation practices led by Rev. Mary Jane Cole.

Second, the ARUMC youth worker network is in partnership with 3 other conferences in the South Central Jurisdiction to host Perkins School of Youth Ministry Foundations on the Go in Texarkana, TX on May 15 and 16. This training is a condensed version of the week long Foundations program that is part of Perkins School of Youth Ministry each January that is targeted to those in their first 2 years of youth ministry. Our partnership will cover all registration fees for ARUMC youth workers who would like to attend the Foundations on the Go training.

Third, The Mentor Network continues to be available as a free resource to any youth worker in the ARUMC. This system pairs youth workers with one another to provide short term mentorships for youth workers who are new to youth ministry, looking to work through a particular issue, or just needs a sounding board for new ideas.

Fourth, we have a facebook group for youth workers to join. It's a place to ask questions, get ideas, share resources, get announcements, etc. Youth workers can join by searching for ARUMCYWN, then answering the questions for approval.

Finally, the ARUMC Youth Ministries area works to continually provide support for local churches whether they are looking for a youth worker, need to train volunteers, need resources, etc.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Michelle Moore  
Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, ARUMC**

# Institution Reports



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13  
14 In 2019, Africa University’s story was one of resourcefulness, steadfast investment and ministry growth.  
15 Through their prayerful support and generosity, the members of the Arkansas Conference are a vital  
16 part of the Africa University story. Thank you, Arkansas United Methodists, for affirming our connection  
17 and shared mission with an investment of 69.82 percent of the asking to the Africa University Fund  
18 apportionment in 2019.  
19

20 Africa University is grateful to Bishop Gary Mueller, the Cabinet and the committed lay and clergy lead-  
21 ers who nurture vitality within the local congregations of the Arkansas Conference. Thank you for the  
22 ongoing commitment, prayers and gifts through which we are effective in ministry together in our home  
23 communities, in sub-Saharan Africa, and around the world.  
24

25 The support of the Arkansas Conference helps Africa University to nurture and equip leaders who think  
26 for themselves, are contextually relevant and have a passion to serve. Since opening in 1992, Africa  
27 University has trained more than 9,000 graduates who lead and serve across sub-Saharan Africa and  
28 beyond. These young people are well-prepared, energetic and creative in serving the needs of their  
29 communities.  
30

## 31 **Institutional Update:**

- 32 • Africa University has an annual enrollment of more than 2,800 students, with 25-30 African nations  
33 represented in the student body each year.
- 34 • The university’s three colleges operate as centers for teaching, research, innovation, community  
35 engagement and enterprise development. Your gifts have enabled Africa University to lead as the  
36 only university in Zimbabwe accredited to offer online degree programs.
- 37 • Students, faculty and alumni contribute ground-breaking solutions to Africa’s current challenges  
38 with interventions that include graduate programs in migrant and refugee protection, articulated by  
39 refugee students, as well as doctoral-level training for military chaplains in Africa.
- 40 • Africa University is increasing its use of solar energy with the support of the General Board of Glob-  
41 al Ministries of The United Methodist Church. A residence hall for women and a new wing of the  
42 student union building—gifted to the university by the Dallas, Texas-based Highland Park United  
43 Methodist Church—will be the first solar-powered facilities on the campus.

44 Africa University affirms its commitment to The United Methodist Church, its Cross and Flame, and the  
45 denomination’s global mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.  
46

47 Through its faithfulness, the Arkansas Conference invites new partners to join in the mission and  
48 change the world. Thanks to your stewardship of God’s blessings, Africa University exists as a powerful  
49 manifestation of God’s amazing grace. “The things which are impossible with men are possible with  
50 God.” Luke 18:27 NKJV



## Boston University School of Theology

### Dear Colleagues in Ministry:

I am grateful to have one last opportunity to thank you for your moral, prayerful, and material support of the Boston University School of Theology (BUSTH), and also to highlight the promising future of the School as a new Dean joins our stellar faculty, staff, and students in summer 2020 to carry on the mission of the School in partnership with all of you.

### BREAKING NEWS:

- **Students:** We continue to increase and celebrate diversity in our student body, creating opportunities for in-depth exchanges and a rich community life.
- **Faculty:** We welcomed two faculty this year: **Filipe Maia** as Assistant Professor of Theology, and **Luis Menéndez-Antuña** as Assistant Professor of New Testament. Both are extraordinary teachers who delight in working with students.
- **Scholarships:** We continue to offer free tuition to UMC registered candidates for ordained ministry, and to build student scholarships and housing as key priorities. BUSTH also offers leadership fellowships to support students in ethnic, gender, and sexuality studies: Raíces Latinas, Sacred Worth, Howard Thurman, Indigenous Studies, Korean Studies, Women in Leadership, and African Studies.
- **Two new Programs: Faith and Ecological Justice (FEJ) and Raíces Latinas Program in Theology, Leadership, and Research (RL).** FEJ leads programs to build ecological awareness, theological research, church collaborations, and community activism in ecological justice. RL sponsors programs to expand Latin American and Latinx theological study and research, and to enhance the leadership of students, young people, and leaders in Latino/Latina communities.
- **Online Lifelong Learning:** We have launched an exciting new program, offering online mini-courses, workshops, and reading groups for professional and spiritual enrichment.
- **Theology and the Arts Initiatives:** Exhibits highlight sacred spaces in Boston; wilderness photography; a 1619 visual lament of 400+ years of slavery; voices and faces of Colombia; and paintings of a gay man struggling with the church.
- **Campaign:** Our BUSTH development campaign concluded with the raising of \$29.4 million to support students, faculty, and vital programs.
- **Website and Viewbook:** Check out our new BUSTH website ([www.bu.edu/sth](http://www.bu.edu/sth)) and Viewbook.

### PARTNERING FOR MINISTRY AND TRANSFORMATION:

- **Creative Callings:** In partnership with local churches, we seek to create “a culture of call.”
- **Engagement with the UMC:** Many of our students are delegates, volunteers, and singers in General Conference 2020.
- **Continuing Scholar Program:** BUSTH courses are open to alums and local clergy for small lifelong learning fees.
- **Doctor of Ministry:** The DMin in Transformational Leadership flourishes with lively student cohorts that are broadly ecumenical, culturally diverse, and global. The model includes intensives, online courses, and faculty mentoring.
- **Religion and Conflict Transformation Clinic:** The Clinic provides internships in local churches and organizations that foster just peacebuilding.

- 1 • **Travel seminars:** Immersion journeys open worlds to students in the borderlands of Arizona and  
2 Mexico, Cuba, Peru, Israel-Palestine, Civil Rights landmarks, and centers for ecological-spiritual  
3 renewal.
- 4 • **Ecumenical partnerships:** We now have four denominational Communities of Learning: Wesleyan/  
5 Methodist, Episcopal/Anglican, United Church of Christ, and Unitarian Universalist.
- 6 • **Partnership with Hebrew College:** Together we are able to enrich interreligious learning through  
7 joint courses and public events, and also co-sponsor The Journal of Interreligious Studies and the  
8 State of Formation for emerging leaders.

#### 11 **TAKING ACTION GLOBALLY AND LOCALLY:**

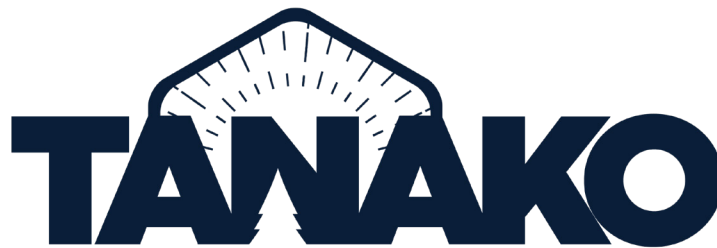
- 12 • **Campus action:** Work to improve accessibility and sustainability. BUSTH is the first certified Green  
13 School in BU and is active in the Green Seminary Initiative. We have also been named as one of  
14 the “Seminaries that Change the World.”
- 15 • **Internships in global service and peacemaking:** Students participate in apprenticeship ministries  
16 across the world.

#### 18 **COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE:**

- 19 • Faculty and students have been active in UMCOR efforts to support victims of hurricanes and fires,  
20 and in collaborative services to support people suffering the consequences of immigration practic-  
21 es, disability inequities, or racial violence.
- 22 • In Town Hall meetings, the community has deep conversations on issues that divide, seeking to  
23 develop capacities for relating across difference and to create a community based on the dignity of  
24 all.

25  
26 BUSTH looks to the future. We celebrate transformational leaders of the United Methodist Church,  
27 who love with their whole hearts and follow Jesus Christ with their whole lives. Your legacy and wit-  
28 ness give us hope and courage for the future.

30  
31 **Blessings and gratitude,**  
32 **Mary Elizabeth Moore, Dean**



#### 41 **Camp Tanako**

43 Camp Tanako, located in Hot Springs, is a camp and retreat ministry of the Arkansas Annual Confer-  
44 ence of the United Methodist Church. Tanako provides a sacred place, set apart from the world. Per-  
45 sons of all ages are welcome to come rest, play, and experience God in new and often profound ways.  
46 While campers are at Tanako, they get to practice the concepts that they have learned in their families  
47 and local congregations.... things like love, forgiveness, prayer, worship, grace, and thanksgiving.

48  
49 During our 10 weeks of summer programming, campers are guided by young adult leaders who serve  
50 as mentors and foster community among their peers. Tanako is a place where life-long relationships

1 are made. In this diverse community, campers recognize themselves and others as uniquely created  
2 in the image of God through affirmations of gifts and experiences that help them grow into the plac-  
3 es God is leading them. Our goal is for campers to go home wanting to make a difference by serving  
4 others and working to recreate the community they experienced at camp. We want them to go home  
5 empowered to be the love of Jesus Christ to their neighbors.

6  
7 In 2019, Camp Tanako received over 1300 registrations for our overnight and day camp programs.  
8 Campers in both programs came together to practice living in Christian community while learning  
9 about God's love and creation. Campers came from many local churches across the ARUMC, non-UMC  
10 congregations, and some listed no church affiliation. Camp Tanako also hosted retreat experiences for  
11 children, youth and adults in the fall of 2019 and spring 2020. Retreat guest groups included, Noahs  
12 of Ark-Walk to Emmaus, United Methodist Family Health, Western District AME Sunday School Conven-  
13 tion, Confirmation Camp, Southwest District Bible Boot Camp, and several youth retreats.

14  
15 Tanako is blessed to host the NOMADS- Nomads On a Mission Active in Divine Service. They provide  
16 volunteer labor for United Methodist organizations and have helped to offsets the cost of maintenance  
17 to the grounds.

18  
19 Camp Tanako's board of trustees and leadership want to thank the many churches and individuals that  
20 support this extension ministry of the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church with their  
21 prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. To learn more information on our programs, visit Tanako.  
22 org and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

23  
24 SUMMER 2020 update: The Camp Tanako Board of Trustees has decided to cancel Overnight summer  
25 camp for the 2020 season. At this time, we are also canceling Day Camp in June. The Board will an-  
26 nounce June 1 if Day Camp will open in July.

27  
28 The decision to cancel came after prayerful consideration and in an effort to follow recommendations  
29 from the Governor and state health officials. Ultimately the safety of our campers and staff are what is  
30 most important. We will work with parents to refund deposits made for summer camp.

31  
32 We hope to offer some type of programming in late summer. We are looking at hosting retreats for  
33 churches, children's ministries, and youth groups as we feel community will be needed when we can  
34 gather again.

35  
36 In May, we will begin Tanako Tales, a program that will bring all who love Tanako together once a week  
37 to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and to reminisce on fond memories of camp.

38  
39 Due to the camps being canceled, Tanako needs your support more than ever. We ask that all who are  
40 able, consider donating a one time gift or becoming a sustaining donor. You may do so by visiting tana-  
41 ko.org/donate.

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**Until we meet again,  
Kayla Hardage  
Executive Director**





## Duke Divinity School

Dean L. Gregory Jones, Dean of the Divinity School and Ruth W. and A. Morris Williams Jr. Distinguished Professor of Theology and Christian Ministry, had his term as dean extended for a full five years through 2023.

The Duke Endowment awarded Duke Divinity School a \$12 million grant in support of DDS's three core priorities and traditions: Thriving communities enlivened by healthy congregations and gifted pastors, embodied wisdom through rigorous intellectual vitality, and creative institutions that inspire imaginative and transformative leadership including the Thriving Communities Fellowship program, which will provide 52 new full-tuition scholarships over the next four years.

Duke Divinity School launched the Duke Divinity: Black Pastoral Leadership Collaboration which will draw on original research in Black church traditions and historical examples of effective Black church leadership to train and build networks of effective leaders for the Black church of today and the future. The collaboration will be led by the Rev. David Emmanuel Goatley, research professor of theology and Black church studies and director of the Office of Black Church Studies at Duke Divinity School.

In 2019, Duke Divinity School welcomed 215 new students from 33 different states and seven other countries, including Canada, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Zimbabwe. The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) and Master of Arts in Christian Practice (M.A.C.P.) degree programs received record enrollments of 35 students and 22 students respectively. The Master of Theology (Th.M., 14 students), Doctor of Ministry (D.Min., 20 students), and Doctor of Theology (Th.D., 4 students) all had strong enrollment. The D.Min. program was named the top online program by The-BestSchools.org. Duke Divinity's new Certificate in Theology and Health Care will enroll 8 students, all of whom are fellows with the Theology, Medicine, and Culture (T.M.C.) Initiative at the school. The M.T.S. program also includes 8 students who are T.M.C. fellows, for a record year of 16 total fellows. The M.Div. degree program gained 110 new students, with minority students comprising more than 32 percent of the incoming M.Div. class, and Black students comprising 18 percent of the incoming M.Div. class. Female students made up 44 percent of incoming M.Div. students, while males were 56 percent. There were 24 denominations represented in the M.Div. entering class, with 42 percent affiliated with The United Methodist Church.

Two new faculty members, Brent Strawn and Brett McCarty, joined the DDS faculty in July 2019. Strawn, Professor of Old Testament, is an ordained elder in the North Georgia Conference. Strawn has a secondary appointment as a Professor of Law at Duke University School of Law. Prior to joining the Duke faculty, Strawn taught at Candler School of Theology at Emory University for eighteen years.

McCarty, Assistant Research Professor of Theological Ethics, is a theological ethicist whose work centers on questions of faithful action within health care. He is associate director of the Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative at Duke Divinity School, and he holds a joint appointment in the School of Medicine's Department of Population Health Sciences.

1 Randy Maddox, William Kellon Quick Professor of Wesleyan and Methodist Studies, general editor  
2 of the Wesley Works Editorial Project, and elder in the Dakotas Conference, retires at the end of the  
3 2019-2020 academic year.

4  
5 United Methodist faculty member Brittany Wilson received tenure and promotion to the rank of Asso-  
6 ciate Professor.

7  
8 Tito Madrazo joined the administrative leadership of the Divinity School as Senior Strategist for the  
9 Hispanic House of Studies. He will also serve as a consulting faculty member.

10  
11 The Hispanic-Latino/a Preaching Initiative is currently in its fifth year of providing high quality theologi-  
12 cal education to current and aspiring Hispanic-Latino/a ministers. 21 students from multiple denomina-  
13 tions are taking courses with us this year.

14  
15 The Duke Endowment has also awarded Duke Divinity School a grant of \$5.5 million over five years  
16 to cultivate meaning and purpose across diverse professional schools at Duke. The Lilly Endowment  
17 has also awarded grants to Duke Divinity School to coordinate initiatives on “Thriving in Ministry” and  
18 “Thriving Congregations” across the United States.

19  
20 Duke Divinity School has a partnership with Huntingdon College and Virginia Wesleyan University to  
21 create streamlined admissions process and private campus events in order to better equip students  
22 from those institutions with a calling to serve the church. In an effort to expand access for quality  
23 theological formation to students, pastors, and lay leaders in the Nashville Episcopal Area, DDS is also  
24 partnering with the Turner Center at Martin Methodist College to offer theological training for innova-  
25 tive and entrepreneurial ministries.



EMORY

CANDLER  
SCHOOL OF  
THEOLOGY

### Candler School of Theology

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35 Since our founding in 1914, Candler School of Theology at Emory University has educated more than  
36 10,000 students, shaping thoughtful, principled, and courageous leaders who are dedicated to trans-  
37 forming the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

38  
39 This is especially important to note amid the current shifts in our denomination. It is an honor and a  
40 privilege for Candler to be one of 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church. Yet true to  
41 the Methodist tradition of ecumenical openness, Candler has enthusiastically welcomed the entire  
42 Wesleyan family to our community for generations. Faculty, staff, and students from the AME Church,  
43 the AMEZ Church, the CME Church, Free Methodists, Nazarenes, and others have worked, worshiped,  
44 learned, and prayed alongside United Methodists, and have been a vital part of shaping Candler and  
45 our mission. This diversity has been a wonderful gift and a rich blessing. As we move forward, we will  
46 continue to invite and welcome those from all expressions of the Wesleyan tradition. Indeed, we will  
47 continue to welcome all those who follow Jesus Christ.

48  
49 This year, Candler has continued to strengthen our deep commitment to alleviating student debt and  
50 promoting financial literacy. In 2018-2019, we awarded \$6.3 million in financial aid, with 100 percent

1 of master of divinity (MDiv) students receiving support and financial coaching. In fall 2019, we an-  
2 nounced a major expansion of our financial aid program to include full-tuition scholarships for all MDiv  
3 students who are certified candidates for ordained ministry in The United Methodist Church, and new  
4 merit scholarships covering 75% of tuition for qualifying MDiv students who identify as pan-Wesleyan,  
5 and those pursuing chaplaincy through Candler’s new chaplaincy concentration. In addition, all incom-  
6 ing students in the master of divinity, master of theological studies, and master of religious leadership  
7 programs will receive awards covering at least 50% of tuition.  
8

9 This year also saw the launch of two pilot “formation communities,” off-campus student housing that  
10 focuses on intentional living and spiritual formation. Students from multiple degree programs applied  
11 to take part in these pilot groups. At the start of the year, the housemates created a “rule of life” to  
12 guide their days together, emphasizing prayer, fellowship, and celebration. A house chaplain—a Can-  
13 dler faculty member or church leader—supports them and shares in the journey. The ten students who  
14 took part this year describe feeling a richer sense of community and deeper connections to God and  
15 one another in the midst of their busy lives. It is clear that this fulfills a need for our seminarians, and  
16 we eagerly anticipate the program’s growth in the coming years.  
17

18 Candler’s student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful, with an  
19 enrollment of 470 from 12 countries and 38 states, with 40 percent people of color (U.S.) and a medi-  
20 an age of 27 among MDivs. Students represent 42 denominations, with 45% of all students and 50%  
21 of MDivs coming from the Methodist family.  
22

23 We offer six single degrees and ten dual degrees pairing theology with bioethics, business, interna-  
24 tional development, law, public health, and social work. Our Doctor of Ministry degree is 90 percent  
25 online, so students can remain in their places of ministry while completing their degrees.  
26

27 Candler draws strength and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church.  
28 Our ability to fulfill our mission of educating faithful and creative leaders for the church’s ministries  
29 throughout the world depends upon your prayers, partnership, and support. Thank you for the count-  
30 less ways you advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. We invite you to visit us in  
31 person or online at [candler.emory.edu](http://candler.emory.edu).  
32

33 -Jan Love

34 **Mary Lee Hardin Willard, Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics**  
35 **Candler School of Theology**  
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## Gammon Theological Seminary

Gammon Theological Seminary, located in Atlanta, GA, is the United Methodist constituent member of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), a consortium of historically African-American theological schools. Gammon/ITC is a co-educational, professional graduate school of theology. Its faculty personifies vigorous scholarship, rigorous academic discipline, and significant research in the service of the church and other communities in the world. Gammon/ITC is the world's premier resource for black church scholarship and faith-based solutions to the spiritual and socio-economic challenges confronting the African American community and beyond.

Founded in 1883 by the Methodist Episcopal Church and with assistance from the Freedman's Aid Society, today Gammon Theological Seminary is one of the 13 theological schools of the United Methodist Church. The faculty and administration of Gammon/ITC create an environment in which critical thinking, investigative reflection, decision making, and responsible action are fostered. Gammon/ITC is a member of the Atlanta University Center Complex, the world's largest enterprise of African American higher education. It is also a member of The University Center of Georgia and the Atlanta Theological Association. The school is fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Gammon/ITC offers the following degree programs: the Master of Divinity, the Master of Arts in Religion and Education, and the Doctor of Ministry. Admission is open to qualified men and women of the United Methodist Church.

The support of this Annual Conference helps Gammon/ITC students carry on a proud tradition. They are taught to think independently and communicate effectively. They are also challenged to become involved in finding solutions to problems that affect the human condition, and to become active in the community beyond this campus. Additionally, graduates of this institution are encouraged to maintain a lifelong desire for intellectual growth, spiritual development, and the acquisition of skills for the practice of ministry.

Gammon/ITC has had a very exciting and busy year living out its mission, which is to recruit, support and educate pastors and leaders for the United Methodist Church. Gammon Theological Seminary is extremely grateful to this Annual Conference for your support of theological education, and for your commitment to ensuring that God's church will be served by persons who are called and trained to lead us forward.

**Grace and Peace,  
Ken J. Walden, Ph.D.  
President-Dean**



# HENDRIX COLLEGE

## Hendrix College

"United the pair so long disjoined, knowledge and vital piety: learning and holiness combined"

-Charles Wesley

Hendrix College continues to be recognized nationally for innovation and excellence. and for producing well-rounded students who make a difference in the church and in the world. We are proud of our roots in Methodism and continue to strengthen that relationship by providing our students with opportunities to integrate both faith and knowledge, personal holiness and social holiness. Through a robust religious life program, resources for students discerning a call to ordained or professional ministry. and service learning opportunities, we continue to nurture students in faith as they engage the world.

I am proud that our board of trustees and our faculty adopted our "Statement on Church-Relatedness" in the spring of 2017 defining the strong relationship Hendrix has with the United Methodist Church: **"In religious and vocation programs combined with service learning, Hendrix continues to develop clergy and lay leaders for faithful service inside the church and beyond. The church relationship is supported by lay and clergy members on the Board of Trustees, the alumni community, and the larger church who encourage the value of higher education in helping students find meaningful vocations connected to who they are and how they want to serve in the world."**

Allow me to highlight the programs we offer to our United Methodist students and to the larger Hendrix community:

### Ministry Exploration

In 2018. the **Center for Calling and Christian Leadership** became a new program through the Office of the Chaplain & Miller Center made possible through a grant awarded from the United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas. Through identifying gifts for pastoral and lay leadership from the time of age 12 through early career, the Center will be a place that provides programming to identify. enlist, and recruit youth and young adults that deepens a sense of God's purpose in their lives. From the theological understanding that all Christians are called to ministry at their baptisms, the Center will commit to helping young leaders identify which role of ministry best fits a sense of personal identity, passions for making disciples and creating social change, and meets both natural proclivities and growing edges. Through shadowing, worship leadership, orientation to ministry, spiritual formation, peer support, internships. and service learning. the staff of the Center will mentor young persons from the beginnings of that call until brought to completion in leadership in the church.

### Center Programming highlights:

**-38 different college students (from 8 different colleges or Wesley Foundations) and young adults** attended events hosted by the Center: Seminary Visits. Service-Learning Trips. Exploring Ministry Together (EMT) gatherings and events, UMC Exploration, and as summer interns. **Twenty-two** of them are seriously considering. applying to, or attending seminary and/or started the ordination process.



1 -55 high school students identified themselves as 'exploring ministry' through the Hendrix Youth  
2 Institute, Assembly, and at a 2019 Veritas workshop. At least 30 of these students have expressed an  
3 interest in seminary and ordained ministry.  
4

#### 5 **2019-2020 Ministry Exploration Programming at Hendrix:**

- 6 • Since 2004. 60 Hendrix graduates have enrolled in seminary with 70% of these students  
7 attending UM seminaries.
- 8 • Six recent Hendrix alumni are currently in seminary.
- 9 • Ten students who are discerning ministry meet each week in the Exploring Ministry Together  
10 (EMT). a program through the Center for Calling and Christina Leadership  
11

#### 12 **Religious Life**

- 13 • The UMYF Leadership Scholarship Program is completing its 25th year. Currently 35 students par-  
14 ticipate who will eventually join over 165 alumni from the program.
- 15 • More than 425 UM churches in all five districts have had Hendrix students assist with worship ser-  
16 vices in the past 25 years.
- 17 • More than 100 students participate in weekly programming enhanced by funding from the  
18 Miller Center including weekly worship and communion. small groups for discipleship. and  
19 Thursday dinners
- 20 • This year, 40 Students applied for two planned Miller Center Service Trips to New Orleans and  
21 Puerto Rico  
22

#### 23 **Church Relations**

- 24 • United Methodist groups that the College hosts for no rental fee include the Arkansas  
25 Conference Course of Studies, Arkansas United Methodist Conference Historical Society,  
26 Board of Ordained Ministry. Board of Higher Education & Ministry. and local UM church staff meet-  
27 ings.
- 28 • The College also dedicates a display case in the Student Life and Technology Building to  
29 Methodist artifacts to remind the students, faculty and staff of the historic connection.
- 30 • In 2020. Hendrix will host the Jr. & Sr. High Assemblies for the Conference Youth  
31

#### 32 **Continuing Education**

- 33 • This year on campus, the College hosted Dr. Gregory Ellison. Associate Professor of Pastoral Care  
34 and Counseling and founder of the Fearless Dialogues Project for the annual John and MarjeIn Gill  
35 Preaching Worship. He taught a course on Pastor as Prophet: Next year's  
36 Preaching Workshop leader will be Rev. Matt Miofsky. senior pastor of The Gathering in St. Louis.  
37 MO.  
38

#### 39 **Funding Received from Outside sources for religious life and ministry support**

- 40 • An endowed gift from the John Workman family for a summer internship in churches. nonprofits, or  
41 journalism.
- 42 • An endowed gift from the Wilder family to establish an internship in churches and non-profit agen-  
43 cies.
- 44 • Grants from the Lilly Endowment (listed above) for United Methodist youth who are  
45 discerning a call to ministry and clergy who are 5-10 years out of seminary.
- 46 • A gift from the United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas to create the Center for Calling and Chris-  
47 tian Leadership (2018-2021)  
48

#### 49 **Financial Aid/Enrollment**

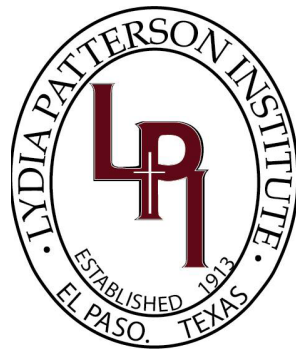
- 50 • For the 2019 calendar year. the College received \$177,075.73 from the Arkansas Conference of

- 1 the United Methodist Church, with 100% of the church apportionment going toward the Office of the  
2 Chaplain and the Miller Center for Vocation, Ethics, and Calling.
- 3 • Annually, the College provides more than \$4.7 million in financial assistance to United  
4 Methodist students.
  - 5 • Of the \$4.7 million dollars, the College annually provides more than \$250,000 directly to the three  
6 specific groups of Methodist students: 1) UMYF Leadership Scholars. 2) UM clergy dependents at a  
7 one-half tuition discount. 3) UM students who are candidates for ordained ministry.
  - 8 • For the past few years, Hendrix has enrolled an average of 690 Arkansas students each year. The  
9 number of students from Arkansas has increased over the past few years.
  - 10 • In the fall of 2014, the College launched the Arkansas Advantage Scholarship, which  
11 guarantees to meet all of the demonstrated financial need of qualified Arkansas Students.

12  
13 Hendrix College remains committed to ensuring that all qualified students have access to a Hendrix  
14 education, regardless of their family's financial circumstances. The amount of money needed to fund  
15 scholarships and financial aid for our students continues to increase each year. This year, Hendrix is  
16 providing more than \$39.5 million in student scholarships and financial aid. Our budget for student fi-  
17 nancial assistance has doubled in the past four years in response to the growing need of students and  
18 their families for assistance with financing a college education.

19  
20 The relationship between Methodists and higher education is rooted in the historical teachings of John  
21 and Charles Wesley. Hendrix College values its relationship with the Arkansas Conference of The  
22 United Methodist Church and the opportunity to fulfill Wesley's vision to bring together intellectual cu-  
23 riosity, spiritual formation, knowledge, and vital piety. My experience as a Hendrix student was shaped  
24 by the many relationships formed within the Arkansas Annual Conference, and I am deeply grateful for  
25 the ways in which the United Methodist Churches of Arkansas continue to support Hendrix. Your gifts  
26 go directly to provide programming for our UMYF Leadership Scholars, service learning opportunities,  
27 ministry internships, and a wide range of religious life and discipleship opportunities. Thank you for  
28 your generosity to Hendrix College.

29  
30  
31 **W. Ellis Arnold, III '79**  
32 **President**



43 **Lydia Patterson Institute**

44  
45 Lydia Patterson Institute, better known as "La Lydia", is an institution that has encountered and sur-  
46 vived numerous challenges throughout its 107 years of its existence. In 1913, the school was estab-  
47 lished in part by Methodist ministers and missionaries fleeing from a Mexican revolution and answer-  
48 ing their call to ministry on the US-Mexico border. Since its origin, the school has suffered the effects  
49 of two world wars, the great depression, numerous peso devaluations, and presently, the violence and  
50 drug wars on the border. La Lydia has survived and flourished in the midst of all.

1  
2 On August 3, 2019, our faith was challenged when an outsider traveled more than 600 miles to El Paso  
3 to eradicate Mexicans in the worst massacre in modern history. El Paso is a city with a population of  
4 more than 80% Hispanics. That is not to mention the number of Mexicans that cross daily from our sis-  
5 ter city of Juarez, Mexico. In the shooting, we lost the father of three of our former students.  
6

7 For generations, Lydia Patterson has been committed to teach English to non-English speaking stu-  
8 dents predominately of Hispanic background. Obviously, the incident caused panic and stress in El  
9 Paso and Lydia Patterson was no exception. We were to start school the Monday following, and par-  
10 ents were apprehensive and scared. For the first time in the history of La Lydia, we were forced to hire  
11 security to patrol our campus. It was heartbreaking, but students and parents were assured that the evil  
12 actions of a demented racist would not define us. We reminded them that the power of prayer and the  
13 hand of God would not forsake us.  
14

15 In a positive note, Lydia Patterson moves forward with its commitment to provide a quality education to  
16 its students and provide opportunities otherwise nonexistent. My appreciation goes out to the colleges  
17 and universities of the United Methodist Church for continuing our ministry by providing scholarships  
18 so that 100% of our students attend college.  
19

20 As the church struggles with certain identities, Lydia Patterson remains faithful to all in its principles  
21 and journey to change lives regardless of color, national origin, economic positions, and any other God  
22 given preferences. We aim to be the bridge that unites all Methodists in ministry as mandated by our  
23 God and make disciples of every one of its students for the transformation of the world.  
24

25 We appeal to every church in your conference and this jurisdiction to remain faithful to the ministry of  
26 Lydia Patterson, and continue to partner with us in doing the work of God at its best. Every day, the  
27 lives of young men and women are being changed. Perhaps in one of our classrooms is sitting that one  
28 person who will make the difference in our world.  
29

30  
31 **In Christ,**  
32 **Socorro de Anda, President**



### 38 **Memphis Theological Seminary**

39

40 For nearly four decades, Memphis Theological Seminary has been a leading institution in the Mid-  
41 South for producing graduates who are commissioned as elders or deacons in The United Method-  
42 ist Church. United Methodist students continue to be the largest denomination represented at our  
43 school and approximately half of our full-time faculty are from a Pan-Methodist tradition. Enrollment  
44 remains steady at the seminary, and we continue to develop innovative strategies and solutions to  
45 keep theological education within reach for all women and men seeking to live out their call to min-  
46 istry. This includes offering a night track as well as hybrid-online courses in which students complete  
47 49% of the coursework online and 51% on campus.  
48

#### 49 **Important Happenings at the Seminary**

50 The Board of Trustees selected Rev. Jody Hill as the new president of Memphis Theological Seminary;

1 he assumed responsibilities in January of 2020. Rev. Hill, a long-time pastor in the Cumberland Pres-  
2 byterian and Presbyterian USA churches, previously served as Vice President for Community Relations  
3 at Blue Mountain College. At Blue Mountain, he developed a successful strategy to foster community  
4 engagement and to increase fundraising. At Memphis Theological Seminary, Rev. Hill envisions his  
5 role as that of a “servant-in-chief,” and he is focused on exploring innovative yet fiscally responsible  
6 ways for the seminary to continue its mission in a rapidly shifting theological and educational land-  
7 scape.

8  
9 In Fall 2021, the Seminary community will begin worshipping in the newly renovated Hamilton Chapel.  
10 This space will serve not only as an improved worship space, but as a much-needed on-campus venue  
11 for events and speakers as well.

12  
13 **Wesleyan Studies at the Seminary**

14 Memphis Theological Seminary is pleased to report that theological education for United Methodist  
15 students continues to remain vibrant and forward-looking. The Seminary completed the endowment  
16 of the Hamilton and Varnell Chair in Wesleyan Studies in November of last year. This endowment was  
17 made possible by generous lead gifts from Mrs. Barbara Hamilton and the late Dr. Ralph Hamilton, as  
18 well as Mrs. Jeanne Varnell and the late Mr. Henry Varnell. The endowment ensures the future of Wes-  
19 leyian Theological formation at MTS. The Hamilton and Varnell Chair in Wesleyan Studies is held by  
20 Dr. Michael Turner, Associate Professor of the History of Christianity and the Director of the Methodist  
21 House of Studies.

22  
23 The endowment also continues to support the Methodist House of Studies at MTS. The MHOS serves  
24 as a community within a community for students from Methodist backgrounds. Recent student gath-  
25 erings have focused on topics that include the upcoming General Conference, women in ministry,  
26 bivocational ministry, and hospital chaplaincy. For some of these gatherings the MHOS has partnered  
27 with the Cumberland Presbyterian House of Studies, bringing together a wide range of students with  
28 common interests. We also host Board of Ordained Ministry preparatory events (usually in conjunction  
29 with United Methodist Studies courses) for our students.

30  
31 The MHOS also provides continuing education events for clergy and lay people. We recently part-  
32 nered with the Turner Center for Church Leadership at St. Luke’s UMC to offer a one-day workshop  
33 titled “Christian Conversation in a Polarized Culture: Human Sexuality and the Future of The United  
34 Methodist Church.” The goal of this workshop was to prepare United Methodist pastors and lay peo-  
35 ple for difficult conversations around human sexuality in anticipation of the 2020 General Conference.  
36 We presented on United Methodist history and polity, provided updates, and modelled conversations  
37 that engage in difference without resorting to argument. Over 150 people from 23 local congregations  
38 attended.

39  
40 The MHOS also continue to offer continuing education opportunities for laity and clergy on a wide  
41 range of topics including Methodist history, theology, and worship. It also supports the work of the  
42 Alumni and Admissions offices in their work with our Methodist constituencies.

43  
44 In addition to these significant events, the curriculum at MTS continues to place a strong emphasis  
45 on Wesleyan history and doctrine. Dr. Michael Turner continues to teach the required classes in UMC  
46 history, doctrine, and polity each academic year. Dr. Turner, along with his colleagues Dr. Lee Ramsey  
47 (UMC), Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield (CME), and Rev. Billy Vaughan (UMC), also offer electives in the  
48 field of Wesleyan/Methodist Studies. Students that take a minimum of five courses in Wesleyan stud-  
49 ies electives have the opportunity to earn the Certificate in Wesleyan Studies. These classes include  
50 electives on Evangelism, John Wesley’s Practical Theology, AME Bishop Henry McNeal Turner, Cove-

1 nant Discipleship Groups, Pastoral Care in the Wesleyan Tradition, Leadership in Wesleyan Tradition,  
2 and Death & Dying. In addition to these wide array of offerings in Wesleyan Studies, United Methodist  
3 students are always assigned a faculty member from that tradition to serve as an advisor.  
4

5 We are grateful for the support of the Arkansas Annual Conference and for the many fine students  
6 who have attended MTS from Arkansas over the years. We appreciate the confidence that the Con-  
7 ference places in MTS for preparation of United Methodist women and men for Christian ministry, and  
8 we welcome your ongoing involvement and prayers for the Seminary. For ongoing information about  
9 the Methodist House of Studies and Memphis Theological Seminary, we invite you to visit us at [www.  
10 MethodistHouse.org](http://www.MethodistHouse.org) and check The Good News from MTS for regular updates.  
11

12 **Submitted by:**  
13 **Memphis Theological Seminary**  
14 **Michael K. Turner, Director of Methodist House of Studies**  
15 **[mturner@memphisseminary.edu](mailto:mturner@memphisseminary.edu)**  
16



## 22 **Methodist Family Health**

23  
24  
25 Last year, Methodist Family Health celebrated 120 years of providing the best possible care to those  
26 who may need our help. While we began as the Arkansas Methodist Orphanage in Little Rock, which  
27 was founded by the Methodist Episcopal Church South, Methodist Family Health has expanded our  
28 services to provide a complete continuum of care to Arkansas children and families who are aban-  
29 doned, abused, neglected and dealing with psychiatric, behavioral, emotional and spiritual issues.  
30

31 Today, we look to our next 120 years and the changing landscape of mental health for children, ado-  
32 lescents, families and adults.

33 Each year, Methodist Family Health serves thousands of children and families throughout Arkansas.  
34 We offer 24-hour, confidential, no-charge assessments for children and adolescents in crisis, accept-  
35 ing Medicaid and most private insurance. Methodist Family Health also is the only behavioral health  
36 care system in Arkansas to utilize the Teaching-Family Model, a highly-structured treatment approach  
37 proven to be effective with troubled children. The model uses positive, non-punitive interactions to  
38 encourage behavior change and achieve positive outcomes. Our complete continuum of services  
39 includes:  
40

- 41 • **Methodist Behavioral Hospital** - a 60-bed hospital in Maumelle, which offers inpatient acute  
42 (short-term) care to children ages 3 to 17 and sub-acute (longer-term) care for boys ages 6 to 11. If a  
43 child is a danger to himself, someone else or both, admission to the behavioral hospital can stabi-  
44 lize behavior so he can return home or to a less-restrictive environment.
- 45 • **Psychiatric Residential Treatment Centers** - for children ages 6-17, residential treatment centers  
46 offer 24-hour therapeutic, planned, group living in a learning environment. Treatment plans include  
47 individualized psychotherapeutic intervention for each child in a less restrictive environment allow-  
48 ing for normalization of a child's surroundings. Methodist Family Health has a psychiatric RTC for  
49 boys only in Bono in Craighead County and one in Little Rock which serves both boys and girls.
- 50 • **Qualified Residential Treatment Programs** – provide a family-like setting in the child's community



1 by teaching-parents who are both foster parents and trained treatment professionals. Children  
2 ages 12 to 18 in these homes receive necessary emotional and behavioral treatment so they can  
3 develop trusting relationships.

- 4 • **Day Treatment Programs** - according to the Arkansas Department of Education, school-based  
5 day treatment is the most intensive, nonresidential program that can be provided over an extend-  
6 ed period. It permits students and families access to community-based mental health services in  
7 conjunction with and integrated into a student's educational program. Methodist Family Health's  
8 Day Treatment Programs bring together at one site, and in a coordinated manner, a broad range  
9 of services designed to strengthen individual and family functioning and prevent students from  
10 requiring more restrictive services. Methodist Family Health has a day treatment program in Little  
11 Rock and one in Benton.
- 12 • **Outpatient, School- and Community-Based Counseling Clinics** – provides convenient, compre-  
13 hensive assessment and treatment services for behavioral, emotional, learning and adjustment  
14 issues. Includes holistic, trauma-informed, team approach to treatment, incorporates client and  
15 family participation, which is vital to the best outcome of treatment process, and resources include  
16 individual, family and group counseling; registered play therapists; grief and trauma specialists;  
17 psychologic testing including Autism Spectrum Disorders; medication consultation and manage-  
18 ment, board-certified psychiatrists and child psychiatrists; case management; behavior manage-  
19 ment planning and techniques; parent support and education; school-based counseling; and  
20 access to other outpatient, inpatient and residential treatment programs within Methodist Family  
21 Health.
- 22 • **Arkansas Centers for Addictions Research, Education and Services (Arkansas CARES)** – the  
23 only program Methodist Family Health offers to adults, Arkansas CARES is available to mothers of  
24 children up to 12 years old. Arkansas CARES is a prevention and treatment program for pregnant  
25 women and mothers who have a dual diagnosis of substance abuse and a mental health issue,  
26 and it provides an intensive, inpatient, three-month program to help mothers overcome addic-  
27 tions, become better parents and learn life skills. Those enrolled in the program can keep their  
28 children with them while they go through treatment.
- 29 • **Kaleidoscope Grief Center** - losing a loved one has a profound and lasting impact. The Kalei-  
30 doscope Grief Center serves grieving children, teens and their families and promotes healing  
31 through education, therapeutic and recreational services, support programs and counseling.

32 None of the services, resources and care we have provided throughout our 120 years of service were  
33 possible without the support of the United Methodists in Arkansas. Your prayers, service and finan-  
34 cial contributions made it possible then and make it possible now for us to help children and families  
35 know peace and stability. As Methodist Family Health receives no apportioned funds from the Arkan-  
36 sas Conference, the support of United Methodist congregations and individuals within our state is  
37 crucial to our mission. The Arkansas Conference has designated Methodist Family Health as a “sup-  
38 ported organization” of the conference and allows us to tell the story of Methodist Family Health and  
39 collect a special offering in churches each December, which helps us continue our mission through-  
40 out the year.

41  
42 Here are some ways churches, small groups and individuals can make a positive difference in the  
43 lives of children and families in our communities:

- 44
- 45 • **Pray** for the children, families, staff, volunteers and leaders of Methodist Family Health.
- 46 • Give funds via text at 501-881-2258, online at [MethodistFamily.org/Donate](http://MethodistFamily.org/Donate), over the phone at 501-  
47 906-4201 or through the mail at P.O. Box 56050, Little Rock, Arkansas 72215
- 48 • **Contribute** to Methodist Family Health through the annual Christmas Appeal and special offerings  
49 in December or by making an annual contribution.
- 50 • **Invite** Methodist Family Health to speak to your congregation, small group, Sunday School or

1 church gathering. To arrange for a guest to visit your church, contact Denise Luft, church relations  
2 coordinator, at [dluft@methodistfamily.org](mailto:dluft@methodistfamily.org).

- 3 • **Participate** in our fundraising events, such as Southern Silks in May and Bright Night in August.  
4 Jamie Griffith, [JGriffith@MethodistFamily.org](mailto:JGriffith@MethodistFamily.org) or 501-906-4209 has details on both.
- 5 • **Volunteer** to help Methodist Family Health meet the needs of our clients throughout the state.  
6 For specific ways to help, contact Jamie Griffith at [JGriffith@MethodistFamily.org](mailto:JGriffith@MethodistFamily.org) or call 501-906-  
7 4209.

8  
9 Methodist Family Health is proud of our heritage of caring for Arkansas’s children and families and  
10 carrying on the tradition of service the United Methodists of Arkansas began in 1899. Our hope is that  
11 United Methodists across the state consider Methodist Family Health a valuable resource, partner  
12 in our ministry and consider us an extension of your church’s outreach to children and families right  
13 here in Arkansas.

14  
15 **Andy Altom**  
16 **President & CEO**  
17 **Methodist Family Health**  
18  
19



# 22 The Methodist 23 Foundation 24 for Arkansas

## 32 **Methodist Foundation for Arkansas**

33  
34 The year 2019 was undoubtedly exceptional in many ways. The Foundation dispersed more than \$4  
35 million to local churches, which provided powerful and life-changing ministries for those churches and  
36 communities. Additionally, grants were made with a focus on scholarships, clergy and lay leadership  
37 development, and social justice issues.

38  
39 The Foundation is proud to be a partner with local churches, individuals, and the Annual Conference  
40 in offering Jesus Christ on behalf of Methodists in Arkansas. As the Foundation's Board of Directors  
41 continues to provide exceptional leadership and keep up with the denomination, the decision was  
42 made to change our name to **The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas**. Our name has changed, but  
43 our mission remains the same, “to create and administer permanent charitable endowment funds to  
44 strengthen and expand Methodist ministries for Arkansas.” As our denomination faces significant  
45 changes, the Foundation wants to continue serving all branches that emerge in the future.

46  
47 My hope and prayer for you are that 2020 will bring you many blessings.

48  
49 **Rev. J. Wayne Clark**  
50 **President and CEO**

## Assets Under Management



Due to several large new gifts and robust market growth, MFA assets under management increased significantly in 2019. The Foundation ended 2019 with total assets in excess of \$180 million, an 18% increase.

Thanks to the continued generosity of Arkansas Methodists, we remain among the largest Methodist Foundations in the country.

## Endowments

An endowment is an investment fund where the principal amount invested remains intact, and the earned income is used according to the instructions created by the local church or donor. The income can be designated for a specific purpose or undesignated. A few examples of how local churches use their endowment funds are:

**A Southwest District church** created an endowment fund at the Foundation after receiving a gift. The income from the endowment will generate funds in perpetuity to the church providing yearly support for music ministry, adult and children's ministry, and ministry for those less fortunate.

**A Northwest District church** will receive yearly income checks generated by the Foundation's managed endowment fund. The income will be used to support scholarships for college students from their local congregation.

**A Central District church** benefits from annual income because a donor left an estate gift to establish an endowment fund with the Foundation upon her death. The donor's instructions stated that the funds are to be used for hunger ministries.

**A Northeast District church** endowment was established to assist with maintenance and building expenses. The church is growing the interest and will soon benefit in numerous ways from the monies contributed and earned.

**A Southeast District church** is assisted from their endowment fund each year. The Trustees and members appreciate the extra income to their important ministry.

## Grants

The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas continued to make a dramatic impact on the Methodist Church in Arkansas during 2019. Grants were awarded in high priority areas including leadership development, human welfare, clergy financial education, and Arkansas Conference institutions.

7 Students currently attending United Methodist seminaries as Foundation Seminary Scholarship re-

1 cipients.

2  
3 **37** Total scholarships awarded by the Foundation to Arkansas students attending a United Methodist  
4 seminary.

5  
6 **60** The number of \$1,000 scholarships awarded in 2019 by the Foundation through the UMC's Dollars  
7 for Scholars program aiding United Methodist students attending United Methodist seminaries, col-  
8 leges, and universities.

9  
10 **\$137,500** The Arkansas Conference's Center for Calling and Christian received a grant for programs  
11 preparing young people discerning the call to Methodist ministry.

12  
13 **\$75,000** Grant awarded to Lucie's Place in downtown Little Rock for remodeling office space for ther-  
14 apy and resource areas for children and families.

15  
16 **\$227,000** Methodist Family Health received a grant in support of its new chapel and client services  
17 building.

18  
19 **Over \$1.1 million** Grants awarded at the discretion of the Foundation's Grants Committee in 2019.

### 20 21 **Events and Activities Hosted in 2019**

22  
23 **January 24:** Hosted an Open House event debuting our new building space and introducing Presi-  
24 dent & CEO, Rev. J. Wayne Clark

25  
26 **February 12-13:** Hosted the Pre-Retirement Seminar for Clergy with presentations on retirement bene-  
27 fits explicitly tailored for clergy and their spouses ages 62 and older

28  
29 **April 30:** Hosted the Endowment Seminar featured material specific to current and potential endow-  
30 ment clients

31  
32 **September 19:** Hosted the United Methodist Lawyers Conference, the annual presentation of legal  
33 education topics relevant to lawyers providing services to Methodist congregations; Pulaski Heights  
34 UMC, Little Rock

35  
36 **November 16:** UMFA Board Meeting and 34rd Annual Bishops' Club Luncheon; Pleasant Valley Coun-  
37 try Club, Little Rock.

### 38 39 **Rentals of Lusk Training Center &** 40 **The James B. Argue, Jr., Stewardship Center in 2019**

- 41 .
- 42 • Board of Ordained Ministry, Scholarship Committee
  - 43 • First UMC, Little Rock, Staff (three days)
  - 44 • Hendrix College, Board of Trustees
  - 45 • Pulaski Heights UMC, Little Rock, Foundation Board
  - 46 • MFA Grant Committee (monthly)
  - 47 • Hendrix College, Office of the President
  - 48 • Launch 1.0 program participants
  - 49 • Leadership Ministries Advisory Board (quarterly)
  - 50 • Highland Valley UMC, Little Rock, Staff (three days)

- 1 • Philander Smith College, Board of Trustees
- 2 • ARUMC Center for Vitality- Training (two days)
- 3 • Focus Group for Communications Audit- Church Account Holder
- 4 • Focus Group for Communications Audit- Donors
- 5 • Book Promotional Event- Trouble The Water by Rebecca Bruff
- 6 • ARUMC Office of the Bishop- Retirees Meeting
- 7 • ARUMC Office of the Bishop- Group of 12 Meeting
- 8 • ARUMC Office of the Bishop- Group #3 Meeting
- 9 • ARUMC Office of the Bishop- Retirees Meeting
- 10 • ARUMC Office of the Bishop- Young Clergy Meeting
- 11 • ARUMC Office of the Bishop- Local Pastors
- 12 • ARUMC Office of the Bishop- Women Clergy
- 13 • ARUMC Office of the Bishop- Ethnic Clergy
- 14 • Photo Exhibit & Open House, Rev. Stephen Coburn
- 15 • ARUMC Center for Vitality- Ethnic Pastor Meeting
- 16 • MFA Scholars Luncheon with Bishop Mueller
- 17 • ARUMC Central District Office- Brunch
- 18 • ARUMC Central District Office- Committee on Ordained Ministry



### Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare

At Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare (MLH), our mission is to collaborate with patients and their families to be the leader in providing high quality, cost-effective, patient and family-centered care. Services are provided in a manner which supports the health ministries and Social Principles of the United Methodist Church to benefit the communities we serve.

MLH continues to make a tremendous impact on the health of the Mid-South, both inside and outside of hospital walls. Leading MLH in that effort is our President and Chief Executive Officer, Michael Ugwueke, who is driving the organization to new heights, clinically, financially, and faithfully. In an open letter to the community published in early 2020, Dr. Ugwueke wrote, "Founded in 1918 and guided by faith-based roots, we have become a healthcare system of 13,000 dedicated Associates and 2,500 provider partners supporting six hospitals, surgery centers, physician practices, and outpatient facilities. We are privileged to serve our most economically and socially distressed communities." Highlights from 2019 include the opening of Shorb Tower at Methodist University Hospital, a state of the art, 450,000 square foot facility delivering advanced transplant, cardiology, and oncology care. MLH was named among Fortune Magazine's 100 Best Companies to Work For in America for the third year in a row, and MLH hospitals continue to be ranked number 1 in our area by US News & World Report. MLH erased millions of dollars of medical debt and changed policies so more than 50 percent of Memphians are now eligible for financial healthcare assistance. MLH also contributed more than 225 million dollars in community benefit in 2019.

The faith-based mission of MLH continues to be the foundation of all that we do. Leading us in that mission is Rev. Dr. Albert Mosley, Senior Vice President and Chief Mission Integration Officer for MLH. Dr. Mosley leads the Mission Integration Division, which includes all of our clinical chaplaincy services, volunteer services, the Employee Assistance Program and Dennis H. Jones Living Well



1 Network, the MLH Foundation, clinical pastoral education, the Center of Excellence in Faith and Health  
2 Equity, the Humanitarian Fund, United Methodist annual conference connections, the Office of Com-  
3 munity Outreach, and many other initiatives and projects. Mission Integration offers guidance and  
4 direction for the integration of MLH’s mission, vision, values, and guiding behaviors, especially from the  
5 perspective of the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church. Additionally, Mission Integration  
6 ensures that the relationship with the United Methodist Church and relevant social, ethical, and pasto-  
7 ral teachings are understood and integrated appropriately and consistently across the entire system.  
8

9 In 2019, Mission Integration saw the continued expansion of the My Sister’s Keeper program, which is  
10 designed to equip and empower African-American women for healing and wholeness. Mission Inte-  
11 gration is leading the BookNook program with a generous grant from the Urban Child Institute, using  
12 an innovative technology platform to improve literacy rates in children, and in its first full year in Mem-  
13 phis, BookNook reached nearly 800 children in our community, with further expansion of the program  
14 on the horizon. Our CHAMP (Changing High-risk Asthma in Memphis through Partnership) program  
15 through the Office of Community Outreach reduced pediatric asthma-related deaths and lowered  
16 Emergency Department visits and hospitalizations. We also implemented the Prevent T 2 program, a  
17 year-long Type 2 diabetes prevention program, and as a result, the department is now recognized as  
18 a National Diabetes Prevention Program Provider by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.  
19 The Dennis H. Jones Living Well Network provided free screening, referral, and navigation for mental  
20 health services, working with over 1,700 cases, over a 40% increase from 2018. Many other programs  
21 and services continue to thrive as well, all committed to our mission and to the health of our communi-  
22 ties.  
23

24 We are deeply appreciative of the support of the three annual conferences who founded our system  
25 and continue to be vital partners. The healing ministry of Christ continues to be at our center.  
26

27 **Michael Ugwueke,**  
28 **President and Chief Executive Officer**  
29



30  
31  
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36  
37 **METHODIST VILLAGE**  
38 **SENIOR LIVING**  
39 **Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare**  
40  
41

42 **I. Our Mission**

43 a. To provide wonderful life experiences that allow our residents and their families to lead full and  
44 enriching lives.

45 **II. Our Vision**

46 a. To exceed the expectations of our residents and families while inspiring hearts and  
47 minds.

48 **III. About Us**

49 a. Methodist Village Senior Living (MVSL) is proud to have served as Fort Smith’s only faith-  
50 based, non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to enhancing quality of life for our active adult and

1 elder population for nearly 60 years. The 30-acre campus is the only complete continuum of care  
2 “Life Plan Community” in the River Valley. Now offering comprehensive total patient care through  
3 assisted, independent, long term, memory care, respite, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation. In  
4 addition, MVSL has a Multi-Treatment Center providing on-site services by a General Practitioner, Den-  
5 tist, Optometrist, Podiatrist, and Audiologist. These combined offerings allow for a community that  
6 enables seniors to live on one campus throughout their life, depending on how their needs change.

7 IV. Board of Directors

8 a. Officers

- 9 i. President: Charles Wohlford
- 10 ii. Vice President: Ben Shipley
- 11 iii. Secretary: Dr. Tim Waack
- 12 iv. Treasurer: George Moschner

13 b. Board of Directors

- 14 i. Bryant, Phillip  
15 8416 Mile Tree Drive, Fort Smith, AR 72903-4322
- 16 ii. Callaway, Dr. Michael  
17 6215 Euper Lane, Fort Smith, AR. 72903
- 18 iii. Coburn, Rev. Stephen (Ex-Officio)  
19 3200 N Malinda Drive, Fayetteville, AR 72703-4051
- 20 iv. Cravens, Lori  
21 3507 S O St, Fort Smith, AR 72903-2922
- 22 v. Susan Devero  
23 7000 Chad Colley Blvd., Fort Smith, AR 72916
- 24 vi. Dooly, Bryant  
25 1825 Hillcrest, Salina, KS 67401
- 26 vii. Dunn, Anne  
27 1600 Rannoch Trace, Fort Smith AR 72908
- 28 viii. Gaines, Sue  
29 1709 Valley View, Van Buren, AR 72956
- 30 ix. Kareus, Dr. John  
31 7001 Ellsworth Road, Fort Smith, AR 72903
- 32 x. Moschner, George  
33 3201 Leighs Hollow Lane, Fort Smith, AR 72903
- 34 xi. Prewitt, Dr. Taylor President  
35 8311 Mile Tree, Fort Smith, AR 72903
- 36 xii. Price, Scott  
37 3220 Old Greenwood Road, Fort Smith, AR 72903
- 38 xiii. Shipley, Ben  
39 3216 Cliff Drive, Fort Smith, AR 72903-5915
- 40 xiv. Sudbrink, Rev. Janice  
41 3712 Pebble Court, Fort Smith, AR 72903
- 42 xv. Tinsley, Dovie  
43 3117 South 95th Street, Fort Smith, AR 72903
- 44 xvi. Waack, Dr. Timothy  
45 3015 Brighton Pt., Fort Smith, AR 72903
- 46 xvii. Wohlford, Charles  
47 64 Haven Drive, Fort Smith, AR 72901

48 V. Administrative staff

- 49 i. Chief Executive Officer, Melissa Curry

50

- 1           ii.     Care Center Administrator, Deanna Fears
- 2           iii.    Care Center, Chief Nursing Officer, Millie Meyers, RN
- 3           iv.     Assisted Living/Alzheimer’s Special Care Administrator, Tiffany Perryman
- 4           v.      Assisted Living/Alzheimer’s Special Care Director of Care, Misty Walters
- 5           vi.     Business Development Director, Carol Smith
- 6    VI.    Goals and Accomplishments, 2019-2020
- 7           i.      Methodist Village Senior Living (MVSL) opened its new 45-bed Assisted Living/Alzheimer’s Special Care building in April 2019. Currently the census is 100% and has a waiting list.
- 8           ii.     The skilled care center continues to be recognized for excellent care and has been
- 9           awarded locally, The Best of the Best in the Nursing Home category for three years in a row. The daily
- 10          census averages 130, which is approximately 95% capacity.
- 11          iii.    Utilization of the rehabilitation unit, which was remodeled in 2016 averages 25 to 30.
- 12          iv.    Out-patient rehabilitation began in August 2019 in our Assisted
- 13          Living/Alzheimer’s Special Care facility.
- 14          v.     A four man 24-hour security team was added to our campus in August 2019, making
- 15          MVSL the only LTC facility in Arkansas to have 24-hour security.
- 16          vi.    Rev. Max Goins, a retired Methodist minister, has served as the facility chaplain since
- 17          2015.
- 18          vii.   The care center continues to partner with two local Hospice providers as well as a thera-
- 19          py provider to offer expanded services to its clients.
- 20          viii.   MVSL continues to provide Medicare Part A and B therapy to residents.
- 21          ix.    MVSL continues to provide low rent housing for senior adults through our Independent
- 22          Living.
- 23          x.     MVSL serves as a clinical rotation site for Arkansas Tech University as well as clinical site
- 24          for Certified Nursing Assistant training classes.
- 25          xi.    MVSL started a Candy Striper program in November of 2018. To date, over 50 Candy
- 26          Stripers have come through the program to volunteer their time along with MVSL staff to serve our
- 27          seniors.
- 28          xii.   Bible Study opportunities for both residents and staff members are available on a week-
- 29          ly basis, in addition to Worship Services on Wednesdays and Sundays.



**Mount Eagle Retreat Center**

Greetings from Mount Eagle, a retreat center of the Arkansas Annual Conference located near Shirley, AR. It is here that approximately 1771 people came in 2019 to relax, renew and left refreshed for ministry as disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Our mission is to provide Christian hospitality and opportunities for holy listening for all. The year round programs here are focused on adults, youth, and families.

In 2019 we provided sacred space and time for reflection, quiet time with God, study, contemplation, fellowship, planning, hikes along the trails in the gorgeous Ozark Mountains, exploration of the beauty of the forest as it blooms in Spring, and fun activities as a group or family. A variety of groups; local

1 church leadership retreats, Sunday school classes, youth groups, men's and women's groups, con-  
2 firmation classes, Local Pastor Licensing School, conference events, quilting groups, scrapbooking,  
3 Emmaus Leadership Retreat, family reunions, personnel retreats, pastoral retreats, women's retreats,  
4 Kairos Ministry, and nature group studying the great Ozark outdoors that God has created here on  
5 the mountain and along the river. Those here worshipped together and alone with God, they walked  
6 the meditation trail, spent time at the Prayer Labyrinth, hiked to Bear Cave, Turkey Cave, visited Boat  
7 Chapel, walked to the Little Red River (then the 4 mile hike back up the mountain), shared meals and  
8 fellowshiped together. Some just took that time to be alone with God and allow his voice to resonate  
9 in their whole being. Mission teams from Arkansas, Texas, and Oklahoma volunteered their time and  
10 talents to provide service to Mount Eagle in 2019. We can never leave out the awesome job our NO-  
11 MADS (Nomads On a Mission Active in Divine Service) provide for us each year.

12  
13 Thanks go out to all those that have provided service, whether financial or missional to Mount Eagle in  
14 2019. You have been a vital part of the ministry of Mount Eagle. If you are looking for projects for your  
15 church or youth group, check out our website or call us and we would love to talk with you about the  
16 possibilities of partnering for 2020-2021. Every one of our volunteers are providing invaluable service  
17 and skills we might not ever have if not for their generosity of sharing their time and talents.  
18 This year (2020) we will celebrate 50 years of ministry in the Arkansas Conference. Preparation is be-  
19 ing made and a date for the celebration will be announced for the date and time of that celebration.

20  
21 The Hermitage Cabin usage is beginning to pick up as more and more people see it. This small se-  
22 cluded cabin that sits in a very serene location overlooking a small pond where deer, turkey, wood  
23 ducks, and other animals come to water has been an amazing addition for individual or couple seek-  
24 ing some time alone to commune with God. Designed for 1-2 people; it allows a time to disconnect  
25 from the stresses of life and reconnect with God. It has a kitchen, small dining table, recliner chairs, full  
26 bathroom, bedroom with queen bed, and a 160 square foot screened in back deck with rocking chairs.  
27 Take advantage of this and get your time away scheduled for the new cabin.

28  
29 We have made improvements to Cabe and Hodges Cottages for the 2020 year. With our family and  
30 marriage groups in mind, we can now take two twin beds and put them together to convert to a king  
31 bed. We currently have two rooms in Cabe and two rooms in Hodges set up for this conversion. Just  
32 let us know and we can convert it for you for your stay.

33  
34 To start the 2020 year off we are currently working on Rosewood Pavilion. We are putting windows,  
35 restrooms, and HVAC where this facility Mount Eagle will have a large facility separate from the lodges  
36 for large meetings and meals.

37  
38 Mount Eagle exist as a place set apart for silent time for reflection upon God. Here are some reflection  
39 from some of our guest in 2019 during their stay at Mount Eagle.

40  
41 "Thinking about last weekend, glad I went outside my comfort zone to grow closer to God & fellow-  
42 ship with my NLC/ReGen sisters!" "Grateful for my life & journey"

43  
44 "What a breathtaking and peaceful example of God's handiwork! Can't wait to go back! I'll never forget  
45 what a special time we had there."

46  
47 "Beautiful location, structures and grounds which affirm the presence and sovereignty of a powerful  
48 and loving God. There have been many visitors and volunteers who have made valuable contributions  
49 to this special place. The way to thank them and appreciate God's gift to us is to visit and appreciate  
50 all that God has done for us. It is not heaven, but you can see it from there. Peace."

1  
2 We look forward to partnering in 2020-2021 with our greatest partner, the Arkansas Conference of the  
3 United Methodist Church. "SEE YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN"

4  
5 **Respectfully Submitted**  
6 **Mike "Sarge" Leonard**  
7 **Executive Director**



## 18 **Ozark Mission Project**

19  
20 The year **2020** marks the 34th anniversary of the founding of Ozark Mission Project (OMP) here in  
21 Arkansas. Created in 1986, with one camp and 35 participants, its purpose was, and still is,

- 22 • To enhance the daily lives of our neighbors and inspire hope
- 23 • To encourage our campers to put their faith into action in their local churches and communities
- 24 • To establish lasting friendships and memories
- 25 • To develop leadership skills
- 26 • To deepen their faith in God

27 This is accomplished through hands-on labor to provide house painting, minor home repairs, yard  
28 work, or wheelchair ramps to our Neighbors in need. During this time, relationships are established  
29 and nurtured through conversation, prayers, and the sharing of a noon meal. Back at camp that eve-  
30 ning the campers share their experiences with one another and attend worship together.

### 31 **Our 2019 Camp Season Report:**

32  
33  
34 Last summer our College Staff and volunteers led **senior high and middle school youth at camps in**  
35 **12 communities:** West Memphis, North Little Rock, Rogers, El Dorado, Marianna, Jonesboro, Texarka-  
36 na, Hot Springs, Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Fayetteville, and Malvern.

37  
38 **OMP 101 day camp** took place in Little Rock immediately following the conclusion of the 12 summer  
39 camps. This camp is for elementary students who have completed the 4th and 5th grades. There  
40 they experience hands-on mission education on how to be a good neighbor through a mission theme  
41 and concluding with worship each day.

42  
43 **The College Winter Break Mission Trip** was held in January of this year. UM Wesley Foundations  
44 and other colleges once again partnered with OMP to provide a mission experience for their students  
45 during winter break. They took their hearts and their skills to Pine Bluff, AR where they completed 31  
46 projects for 8 neighbors. Lakeside UMC graciously housed the group. The Pine Bluff Aquatic Center,  
47 Pine Bluff FUMC, and Lakeside UMC families provided daily showers for the tired and dusty students  
48 and volunteers. A mid-week free day resulted in a visit to the Arkansas Railroad Museum in Pine Bluff.  
49 Local volunteers came in specifically to give tours, which thrilled the railroad geeks in the group. To  
50 show our thanks for a remarkable week, a neighbor appreciation reception was held on the last day



1 at the Aquatic Center. Neighbors, along with city officials and agency representatives, were in atten-  
2 dance.

3  
4 **We are excited to present the following numbers from all of our ministries beginning with the 2019**  
5 **summer camps and going through the 2020 College Winter Break Mission Trip:**

- 6
- 7 945 Campers
- 8 288 Volunteers
- 9 261 Neighbors served
- 10 543 Projects Completed
- 11 31,158 Volunteer hours

12  
13 **2019** was a year of triumph and tragedy. Though we celebrate our numbers, our hearts were broken  
14 by the loss of one of our much loved college staffers, Alexis Faupel, in July. Alexis bravely served the  
15 Rogers, Little Rock, and Malvern camps – all while silently suffering from her short illness. The re-  
16 maining young adults on the College Staff grieved her loss while supporting each other through this  
17 difficult time. Their maturity and their love for each other was evident. The entire OMP family was  
18 brought closer through Alexis, both in her life and in her death. We will never forget her.

19  
20 \*\*\*\*\*

21  
22 Our plans for the **2020 summer camp season** were progressing well until the Covid-19 crisis hit our  
23 nation. On April 15, 2020, based on recommendations from local and national health officials and  
24 in consideration of the population we serve, we announced the difficult decision made by the OMP  
25 Board of Directors **to cancel our 2020 in-person summer camps**. We had planned to work in North  
26 Little Rock, Paragould, Pine Bluff, West Memphis, Cabot, Camden, Conway, Little Rock, Marianna, Fay-  
27 etteville, Hot Springs, and Rogers.

28  
29 This decision also affected the **OMP 101 day camps**, which would have taken place both in Little Rock  
30 and in Hot Springs immediately following the conclusion of the 13 summer camps.

31  
32 We did not want this virus to stand in our way of spiritual growth. In efforts to support our youth at this  
33 time, a task force was formed to reimagine how OMP could still be involved in transforming lives with  
34 our neighbors, campers, and volunteers this summer – just in a new way. Thus, **OMP Connect** was  
35 born.

36  
37 Stemming from a partnership between OMP and the conference office, **OMP Connect** is a mentoring  
38 program in which campers who have completed 4th-12th grades by June 1, 2020 have an opportuni-  
39 ty to experience OMP in a new and exciting way. Using today's technology it incorporates neighbor  
40 care, worship, construction, and more - all from the safety of their own homes. Our vision is to keep  
41 campers connected with each other and their communities to learn the ways that God's love is con-  
42 stant, even in the midst of the current pandemic.

43  
44 OMP is leading by faith and not by fear. This faith is what has led us to offer OMP Connect this sum-  
45 mer, because we believe so strongly in the need for connection. We are offering the program free of  
46 charge. Over \$185,000 in fees was refunded to parents and churches. We have been seeking grants  
47 and will use our existing reserves to pay for the camps. If an individual or church would like to help off-  
48 set this loss, and ensure the future of OMP, donations can be made through the website [www.ozark-](http://www.ozark-missionproject.org)  
49 [missionproject.org](http://www.ozark-missionproject.org) and would be much appreciated.

1 Some of the applications already received this year will be considered for our OMP PopUp ministry.  
2 Weekend mission camps are being planned for this fall, providing that it is safe to do so at that time.  
3  
4 We look forward to reporting the successes of OMP Connect and OMP PopUp in next year's Annual  
5 Conference Report.  
6

7 **Bailey Faulkner**  
8 **Ozark Mission Project Executive Director**  
9



10  
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16  
17 **SMU** | **PERKINS SCHOOL**  
18 **OF THEOLOGY**  
19

### 20 21 22 **Perkins School of Theology**

23 Perkins celebrates our vital connections with the Arkansas Annual Conference of The United Method-  
24 ist Church:  
25

- 26  
27  
28 • Five (5) students affiliated with the Arkansas Annual Conference are enrolled at Perkins, including:  
29 3 Master of Divinity (M.Div.) students, one Master of Arts in Ministry (M.A.M.) student, and one Mas-  
30 ter of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) student.  
31
- 32 • One (1) student from the Arkansas Annual Conference is among the 30 Perkins Scholars currently  
33 enrolled at Perkins School of Theology. The program, launched in 2017, provides increased schol-  
34 arship aid to outstanding Master of Divinity students, who have leadership potential. Ten new  
35 scholars are selected each year, thanks to the generous support of members of the Perkins Execu-  
36 tive Board and other donors.  
37
- 38 • The Third Annual ARKLATEX Lectures, co-sponsored by the Perkins Center for Preaching Excel-  
39 lence at SMU and Williams Memorial United Methodist Church in Texarkana, were held Oct. 7,  
40 2019. The keynote speaker was noted author, preacher and professor Rev. Dr. Paul Scott Wilson,  
41 who spoke on "Finding God in Divided Times: Renewing our Common Faith Amid an Uncivil Cul-  
42 ture." The presentation and workshops are offered annually to those in the Texas, Arkansas and  
43 Louisiana Annual Conferences.  
44

### 45 **Continued Enrollment Increase**

46  
47 Overall enrollment for 2019-20 at Perkins School of Theology reflects a 6.6% increase from 2018-19.  
48 The Office of Enrollment Management also reported three consecutive years of significant growth in  
49 new student totals—with 2019 reflecting a more than doubled increase over 2016—contrasting with  
50 the trend of decline in schools of theology nationally.

1 Enrollment at Perkins for the 2019-20 academic year totaled 343 students, including 27 enrolled in the  
2 Ph.D. program. Fall 2019 statistics reflect the following: 63.3% of the entire student population are Unit-  
3 ed Methodist and 37% are ethnic minority students. Master's degree programs comprise approximately  
4 46% male and 54% female students. The Doctor of Pastoral Music (D.P.M.) program includes students  
5 from southern Asia taking classes in Dallas.

6  
7 The hybrid Houston-Galveston Extension Program, in its third year of providing a combination of online  
8 and residential classes leading to the M.Div. and M.A.M. degrees, totaled 94 students during the 2019-  
9 20 academic year.

## 10 11 **2019-20 Highlights**

- 12  
13 • “Reboot: The Congregation as Youth Worker,” an initiative of Perkins School of Theology designed  
14 to equip entire congregations to serve in ministry with youth, held its first retreat in September  
15 2019 with representatives of the 18 diverse congregations selected to form its initial (starter) cohort.  
16 They include two African Methodist Episcopal churches, three Baptist churches, two Presbyterian  
17 (PC USA) churches, an Episcopal church, and 10 United Methodist churches of varying ethnic back-  
18 grounds—including First United Methodist Church of Mont Belview, Texas (Texas Annual Confer-  
19 ence)— all without a full-time, paid youth worker and within a 300-mile radius of Dallas. The initia-  
20 tive co-directed by the Rev. Bart Patton, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Education and  
21 Dr. Priscilla Pope-Levison, Associate Dean, Office of External Programs, is funded by a five-year, \$1  
22 million grant awarded to Perkins School of Theology in late 2018 by the Lilly Endowment Inc.
- 23  
24 • The Certification in Spiritual Direction Program at Perkins, launched in 2010, welcomed its largest  
25 cohort to-date in August 2019. The 26th cohort, with 17 members, includes clergy and laity from  
26 across the U.S. During the three-year, noncredit continuing education course, participants are  
27 trained in the art of accompanying and guiding others in their spiritual journeys.
- 28  
29 • In 2019, Perkins opened its new Baptist House of Studies (BHS) which fosters community for minis-  
30 terial students, faculty and staff who identify with the Baptist and Free Church traditions. The BHS is  
31 a spiritual, rather than a physical, house that especially supports and encourages students as they  
32 pursue their academic and ecclesial training in an ecumenical and university-based seminary. In  
33 October of 2019, BHS hosted Amanda Tyler, Executive Director of the Baptist Joint Committee for  
34 Religious Liberty, for two events on the Perkins campus. And in March 2020, BHS—with the Baptist  
35 Joint Committee for Religious Liberty—co-sponsored the Walter B. and Kay W. Shurden Lectures on  
36 Religious Liberty and Separation of Church and State with keynote speaker and national interfaith  
37 leader Eboo Patel.
- 38  
39 • More than 200 theologians, artists, musicians, scholars and community members gathered for a  
40 two-day conference Sept. 20-21, 2019, entitled “The Art of Resilience – Latinx Public Witness in  
41 Troubled Times.” The sold-out event, sponsored by The Center for the Study of Latino/a Christian-  
42 ity and Religions at Perkins, Ignite/Arts Dallas: A Center for People, Purpose, Place at SMU Mead-  
43 ows School of the Arts and the SMU Meadows Division of Theatre, gave participants the opportu-  
44 nity to interact with outstanding Latinx scholars, local artists, and religious and community leaders  
45 to reflect deeply on race, gender and immigration as matters of moral and faith concerns. As part  
46 of the program, the Meadows School of the Arts hosted an art exhibit and a performance by New  
47 York Latina playwright Jessica Carmona of her original work, “Elvira: The Immigration Play.” Special  
48 music performed during the weekend was composed by Ars Iubilorum, a Latin-American collective  
49 of composers—including Marcell Silva Steuernagel, director of Perkins’ Master of Sacred Music Pro-  
50 gram—who research the intersection of Christian liturgical traditions and new music.

- 1 • “Hong Kong Protests: A Messianic Movement?,” a panel discussion focused on the 2019 Hong  
2 Kong student protests, drew participants from across SMU and the Dallas area on Oct. 22, 2019.  
3 Sponsored by SMU Perkins School of Theology, the Tower Center's Sun & Star Program on Japan  
4 and East Asia and SMU's Center for Faith and Learning and the Embrey Human Rights Program,  
5 the event—one of the first of its kind in the U.S. to examine the protests—featured Dr. Lap Yan  
6 Kung, professor of Theology, The Divinity School, The Chinese University of Hong Kong as the  
7 keynote speaker. A panel discussion—which examined the religious and secular issues underlying  
8 the protests and the implications for religious communities in Hong Kong and around the world—  
9 followed. The panel moderator was Dr. Sze-kar Wan, Professor of New Testament at Perkins, who  
10 organized the event.  
11
- 12 • The globe came to Perkins during the 2019 Fall Convocation, held Nov. 12. “Mission Quest: Finding  
13 Your Place in God’s World,” featured travel guide and activist Rick Steves, who headlined an open-  
14 ing event with 1,200 participants at SMU’s McFarlin Auditorium. Sharing the stage with Steves  
15 during the two-day event, also held at Highland Park United Methodist Church, were the Rev. Dr.  
16 Samira Izadi Page, a native of Iran who leads a ministry to refugees in Dallas, and the Reverend  
17 Dr. Célestin Musekura, a Rwandan and founder of African Leadership and Reconciliation Ministries  
18 (ALARM). In addition to hearing speakers from three continents, attendees heard praise music in 17  
19 different languages and human stories of hope and struggle from around the world.  
20
- 21 • The 2019 Advent Worship Service, held Dec. 5, marked three milestones: the 60th anniversary of  
22 Perkins’ Master of Sacred Music (MSM) program, the 80th anniversary of the Seminary Singers,  
23 and the 60th anniversary of the Advent service itself. Advent was first celebrated in Perkins Chapel  
24 in 1959, a tradition continued every year since. Three guest choirs from Dallas-area churches, led  
25 by alumni of the M.S.M. program, performed an anthem, and all three choirs performed Jane Mar-  
26 shall’s “Song of Simeon.” Worship followed the classic “Lessons and Carols” format, plus a reading  
27 by Dr. Ted Campbell, Professor of Church History, of one of Martin Luther’s sermons.  
28
- 29 • Thanks to a partnership initiated with Cliff College in the U.K. and the Methodist Church of Great  
30 Britain, a Perkins intern was placed in England for the 2019-20 academic year. Third-year stu-  
31 dent Cori Clevenger—whose home church is First UMC in Liberty, Texas—interned in a three-point  
32 charge of Methodist churches in the Midlands area. Her internship is part of a pilot program that  
33 organizers hope will become ongoing. Internships give M.Div. students at Perkins an opportunity  
34 to integrate coursework of Bible, theology and ethics with ministry practice in the real world. Now,  
35 Perkins students have the chance to do this in another culture, broadening their understanding of  
36 Christian expressions from those found in the U.S.  
37
- 38 • Two new Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) were signed during 2019-20, including the first  
39 with an international school of theology, as part of the ongoing initiative to deepen relationships  
40 between Perkins and undergraduate colleges, universities and international seminaries. A formal  
41 agreement was reached with Project Transformation National, which sponsors a summer intensive  
42 for undergraduate college students who lead summer day camp programs for children and youth  
43 at urban United Methodist churches across the U.S. and who also explore vocations in ministry and  
44 service. In addition, the agreement with Bishop Han Theological School (BHTS) in Mindanao, Phil-  
45 ippines, will promote collaboration and intercultural activities among theology faculty and students  
46 from the two institutions. Previous MOUs have been formalized with historically United Method-  
47 ist institutions including Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana; Southwestern University in  
48 Georgetown, Texas; McMurry University in Abilene, Texas; Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas;  
49 Huston-Tillotson University in Austin, Texas; Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas; Texas  
50 Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, Texas; Wylie College in Marshall, Texas; and Presbyterian-relat-

1 ed Austin College in Sherman, Texas.

- 2
- 3 • The Bolin Family 2020 Perkins Scholarship Luncheon was held Wednesday, February 5, 2020, with  
4 New York Times columnist and best-selling author, David Brooks as guest speaker. The luncheon,  
5 inaugurated in 2010, serves as a major fundraiser for student scholarships. This year's luncheon,  
6 which highlighted the 2019-20 Perkins Scholars, netted approximately \$75,000 for new scholar-  
7 ships.
- 8
- 9 • A two-day conference, "In the Face of Barbarism:" Dietrich Bonhoeffer on Culture, Humanity and  
10 the Importance of Ordinary Life," was held Feb. 13-14, 2020, and included noted lecturers Victoria  
11 Barnett, Michael DeJonge, and Natalie Carnes. Supported by the Robinson Fund at Perkins, which  
12 encourages work at the intersection of theology and the arts, the event focused on the importance  
13 of everyday life in Bonhoeffer's theology and ethics. The conference concluded with a one-person  
14 play on the legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer as adapted and performed by Al Staggs.
- 15
- 16 • Dr. Theodore Walker, Associate Professor of Ethics and Society at Perkins,  
17 • discovered a lost manuscript—written 77 years ago—by Ernest E. Just, with an important message  
18 for modern readers. The unpublished book presents a cell biology-rooted theory of the origin and  
19 evolution of ethical behaviors. Dr. Walker and his team are now in the process of editing the manu-  
20 script to submit for publication.
- 21
- 22 • Dr. Evelyn Parker, Susanna Wesley Centennial Professor of Practical Theology, was in South Africa  
23 as a 2019-2020 U.S. Fulbright Scholar. Based at the Desmond Tutu Centre for Religion and Social  
24 Justice and the Department of Theology and Religion at the University of Western Cape in Cape  
25 Town, she worked on a project titled "Role of Religious Leaders in Preventing and Intervening in  
26 Teen Dating Violence in South Africa."
- 27
- 28 • The Rev. Dr. Rebekah Miles, Professor of Ethics and Practical Theology at Perkins, was named one  
29 of three Odyssey Medal Recipients by Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas. The medals are pre-  
30 sented annually by the Hendrix College Board of Trustees to individuals whose life achievements  
31 exemplify the Hendrix Odyssey Program. Miles, a 1982 Hendrix graduate, was honored for her  
32 research. A reception and medal presentation with Hendrix President William M. Tsutsui took place  
33 on November 14 in the Great Hall of the Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock.
- 34
- 35 • Dr. Ángel J. Gallardo joined the Perkins faculty and staff as Associate Director of the Intern Program  
36 in summer 2019. Dr. Gallardo, who earned the Doctor of Philosophy degree from the Graduate Pro-  
37 gram in Religious Studies at SMU in 2018, previously served as a teaching assistant at Perkins and  
38 taught in the Regional Course of Study School. He holds leadership positions in various profession-  
39 al and Latino/a organizations, and has worked with faith-leaders, activists, and scholars both locally  
40 and internationally, including during an internship in Brazil.
- 41
- 42 • The Rev. Katherine Glaze Lyle of Dallas was named recipient of the 2019 Perkins Distinguished  
43 Alumnus/a Award by the Perkins School of Theology Alumni/ae Council. She was honored during a  
44 special banquet held Nov. 12 at Perkins for her effectiveness and integrity in service to the church,  
45 continuing support for the goals of Perkins and Southern Methodist University, outstanding service  
46 to the community and exemplary character.
- 47
- 48 • The Houston-Galveston Extension Program will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2020. The original  
49 program, which launched in fall 1995, enabled students to take initial portions of their work toward  
50 Perkins degrees in Houston-Galveston and to complete their work on the Dallas campus. Key lead-



1 ership (in their roles at that time) included Perkins Dean Robin Lovin, Dr. James Moore, pastor of  
2 St. Luke’s United Methodist Church in Houston and Dr. Charles Millikan, pastor of Moody Memorial  
3 United Methodist Church in Galveston, in addition to other leaders within the Texas Annual Con-  
4 ference. Over the years, many outstanding students, including Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey, have  
5 attended Perkins through the Houston-Galveston Extension Program—also known as “Perkins  
6 South.”  
7  
8

9 The highlights listed above are reflective of the vibrant engagement of Perkins faculty, staff and stu-  
10 dents during the 2019-20 academic year.  
11

12 Perkins School of Theology is committed to those called to serve so that they might be empowered  
13 to lead. We thank our many colleagues, friends and alumni/ae in the Arkansas Annual Conference of  
14 The United Methodist Church for your generous support, including referrals of prospective students,  
15 as we continue our vital mission of preparing women and men for faithful leadership in Christian minis-  
16 try.  
17

18 **Grace and peace,**

19  
20 **Craig C. Hill**

21 **Dean and Professor of New Testament**



22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
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29  
30 **Philander Smith College**

31 **Introduction**

32 Galatians 6:9 directs us to not become weary in our well doing and reminds us that our harvest shall  
33 be reaped if we stay the course. For over five years now, we have charted the course to return Dear  
34 Philander Smith College (PSC) to her rightful place as an internationally-acclaimed institution of excel-  
35 lence. Our progress and related milestones have brought life to our **Philander Forward Movement**  
36 and propelled us to a renewed focus on our students and the College’s historic mission. When we  
37 launched the **Philander Forward Movement** in 2015, we embraced PSC’s rich legacy and all of the  
38 current challenges our historic mission holds for this great institution. Five years later, we are still  
39 deeply committed to our task, and we have developed creative methods for keeping our entire com-  
40 munity focused on our amazing student scholars and the great impact resulting from the work pro-  
41 duced through our mission. The Community of Scholars at Philander Smith College continues to show  
42 steady growth, faithful leadership, and a progressive outlook in moving the institution forward. The  
43 hard work of our students, the continued support from the United Methodist Church, and the careful  
44 oversight of the College’s Board of Trustees are strong indications of the consequential nature of the  
45 **Philander Forward Movement**. Our service to Dear PSC is more than a job, a special appointment, or  
46 a task; it is truly a ministry.  
47

48 Despite the sometimes negative rhetoric that swirls and makes waves, Philander Smith College is  
49 moving forward. A quick review of our track record over the past five years reveals several accom-  
50 plishments, including but not limited to the following:

- 1 • we have achieved the College’s highest enrollment count in more than a decade, realizing an over-
- 2 all 76% increase in enrollment since the 2014 Fall Semester;
- 3 • we have recruited stronger incoming classes and increased the College’s incoming student aca-
- 4 demic profile;
- 5 • we have successfully created new and relevant academic programs to meet the needs and inter-
- 6 ests of the student body (e.g. Criminal Justice; Mechanical Engineering; Visual and Performing Arts;
- 7 Liberal Studies);
- 8 • we have diversified the College’s fundraising portfolio to include the President’s Scholarship Gala,
- 9 the Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, and the Give Green and Gold Initiative – to name a few;
- 10 • we have expanded the College’s physical footprint with the erection of Panther Village at South
- 11 Campus and have initiated plans to construct a new, 250-bed residential facility on the Main Cam-
- 12 pus;
- 13 • we have successfully launched the College’s first-ever online degree program and have greatly ex-
- 14 panded access to online and hybrid-style courses for current students; and
- 15 • we have continued our work in addressing one of the most pressing concerns regarding faculty and
- 16 staff compensation by implementing phase II of the College’s Compensation Adjustment Program.
- 17

18 These seven examples are but a few that bear witness to our **Forward Movement**. Our big dreams and  
 19 bold aspirations outlined in the College’s 10-Year Long-Range Strategic Plan continue to serve as our  
 20 guide, informing each decision we make. The ambitious agenda before us requires us to take risks and  
 21 to pursue endeavors that challenge the status quo. The future success of our students, the sustainabil-  
 22 ity of this great institution, and the very legacy of Philander Smith College depend on our being trans-  
 23 parent, accountable, proximate, collaborative, strategic, data-driven, and action-oriented. As we look  
 24 ahead and plan for the future, our institution must focus on the critical work of providing the very best  
 25 education in an environment committed to academic and spiritual development.

### 27 **Priorities for United Methodist Conference Funding**

28 The Office of Religious Life and Campus Culture (ORLCC) continues to engage the Philander Smith  
 29 Community of Scholars in both faith and intellect through passionate worship, pastoral care, spiritual  
 30 reflection, religious dialogue, and mission and service. Through the financial support from the United  
 31 Methodist Church, the ORLCC offers a wide variety of programs and services to engage the entire PSC  
 32 Community of Scholars, including students, faculty and staff. In addition to activities focused on spiri-  
 33 tual development, the ORLCC seeks to transform the culture of Philander Smith College by addressing  
 34 the attitudes, decisions, policies, behaviors, and standards of alumni, faculty, staff, administrators and  
 35 students that, taken together, constitute the learning, living, and working environment of Philander  
 36 Smith College. The Campus Culture Transformation Initiative also supports professional development,  
 37 scholarships, and special programs focused on faith and justice.

38  
 39 Continuing its long-standing tradition, the Office of Religious Life and Campus Culture hosted the An-  
 40 nual Religious Emphasis Week (REW) as the College’s week-long spiritual revival. **“The Right to Write”**,  
 41 inspired by Habakkuk 2:2, guided this year’s activities. Festivities during the 2020 REW included a  
 42 gospel concert, the William H. Robinson Social Justice Luncheon (presented by the Christian Ministerial  
 43 Alliance), the Annual Clergy Empowerment Luncheon, and a variety of special workshops to stimulate  
 44 thinking on faith and justice. The week-long celebration concluded with its signature event, the **13th**  
 45 **Annual Living Legends Banquet**. The 2020 Living Legends Banquet, which welcomed a sold-out  
 46 audience, honored seven (7) outstanding individuals for their work and service in impacting the Greater  
 47 Little Rock and Philander Smith College Communities.

### 49 **1. Philander Smith College Campus Culture Transformative Initiative (CCTI)**

50 Launched in 2016, the Philander Smith College Campus Culture Initiative focuses on the following:

- 1 • Modeling Christ-Like Values and Principles
- 2 • The Evolution of the Philander Man and the Philander Woman
- 3 • Creating a Servant Leadership and Discipleship Model
- 4 • The Urbanization of Spirituality in a 21st Century Liberal Arts Environment
- 5 • Developing a PSC Ambassadors Program

6

7 In 2019, the College continued its commitment to advancing the CCTI through intentional programs  
 8 designed to address the College’s most urgent needs as it relates to the day-to-day community cul-  
 9 ture. Through training activities and community conversations, faculty, staff, and students alike have  
 10 continued the critical work of identifying challenges and taking important steps to improve the culture  
 11 at the College. Using the Seven Timeless Human Values (Respect for Self; Respect for Others; Re-  
 12 spect for PSC; Leadership; Scholarship; Spirituality; and Service) and the Social Principles of the Unit-  
 13 ed Methodist Church as our guides, the College aspires to create a customer service culture that is  
 14 professional, inviting, and reflective of the experience we desire for all who engage with members of  
 15 the PSC Community of Scholars.

16

## 17 **2. Scholarships for Students**

18 Through this funding, PSC strives to create a diverse pool of scholarship opportunities that will not  
 19 only be awarded to students based on academic merit and need, but also on “potential” for civic and  
 20 community leadership and engagement, as well as the potential of one’s interest in entering the Chris-  
 21 tian Ministry. The Christian Scholars Track in the College’s S.T.A.R.T. Summer Bridge Program, which  
 22 specifically focuses on faith development and church-related duties, continues to be one of the most  
 23 popular tracks in the Program. Students who select the Christian Scholars Track have demonstrated  
 24 a commitment to faith development, developing their spiritual gifts, and expanding individual under-  
 25 standing of one’s vocation as ministry.

26

## 27 **3. Ongoing Support of Religious Life Activities**

- 28 • The Office of Religious Life
  - 29 i. Salaries & Benefits
  - 30 ii. Weekly Chapel Services
  - 31 iii. Student Participation in United Methodist Church Conferences
  - 32 iv. Religious Emphasis Week Activities
  - 33 v. Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week
- 34 • Health Services / Community Outreach
  - 35 i. Community Health Fairs
  - 36 ii. Domestic Violence Seminars
- 37 • Other
  - 38 i. Dollars-for-Scholars Program
  - 39 ii. In-Kind Facility Usage
  - 40 iii. Bless the Mic Lecture Series
  - 41 iv. Baccalaureate Service

42

## 43 **Philander Forward Highlights 2019**

44 The following highlights provide a reflective view of major milestones at the College over the past  
 45 year:

- 46 • Focusing on our goal of returning Philander Smith College to **national prominence and interna-**  
 47 **tional acclaim**, we are pleased to report that PSC Scholars Peter Joseph and Michael Smith were  
 48 selected for international study abroad in Peru and India, respectively. Also, PSC Scholar Klau-  
 49 dette Spencer was selected for a coveted internship in the United States Senate Congressional  
 50 Internship Program. Working in U.S. Senator Kamala Harris’ Washington, D.C. Office, Klau-

1 engaged in the experience of a lifetime while garnering new attention and support for Philander  
2 Smith College.

- 3
- 4 • As the College continues its **commitment to spiritual development and meeting the spiritual**  
5 **needs of our students**, we are pleased to report new funding from the United Methodist Church to  
6 support an intern in the Office of Religious Life. This intern has engaged in wide-ranging projects,  
7 including targeted programming and support for student ministry activities and campus-wide pro-  
8 grams to increase opportunities for both formal and informal worship experiences.
- 9
- 10 • The Office of Institutional Advancement (OIA) formally launched the College's **Annual Fund Cam-**  
11 **paign**. The Annual Fund, which is a critical source for unrestricted support to the College's Operat-  
12 ing Budget, is one of the many strategies outlined the recently-approved Comprehensive Develop-  
13 ment Plan (CDP).
- 14
- 15 • Philander Smith College is pleased to share news of a formal **Memorandum of Understanding**  
16 between the College and the William H. Bowen School of Law to admit PSC graduates who meet  
17 the School's LSAT and grade-point-average requirements. Students admitted to the program will  
18 also be eligible for scholarship funds through a new program established to support under-served  
19 populations.
- 20
- 21 • Through a dedicated grant under the Project Success Initiative launched by Great Lakes, PSC  
22 established an **Emergency Aid Program** to respond to the financial needs for students related to  
23 eligible emergency situations. In the first year of the Program, PSC awarded more than \$80,000,  
24 which covered emergencies related to risks for homelessness, food insecurity, vehicle repairs, utili-  
25 ty payments, clothing, and transportation needs.
- 26
- 27 • The Social Justice Institute launched the redesigned Social Justice Fellowship Program, which will  
28 now engage students in a multi-year learning experience to increase their knowledge, skill and will  
29 in advancing justice-centered advocacy and change.
- 30 •
- 31 • Philander Smith College has been selected to participate in the 2019-2020 National Postsecondary  
32 Student Aid Study (NPSAS). This Study researches and investigates the characteristics of students  
33 in postsecondary education, with a special focus on how students and their families finance educa-  
34 tion.
- 35
- 36 • The Office of Academic Affairs, in conjunction with the McKinley Newton Honors Academy, official-  
37 ly opened the Panther Pantry and Fresh Market to serve as a food bank on campus for students,  
38 faculty, and staff at Philander Smith College. The Pantry, which is partially supported through  
39 generous funding provided by the Sturgis Foundation, aims to address nutritional and personal  
40 hygiene needs for PSC Community Members who may be experiencing short-term challenges.
- 41
- 42 • The College was recently awarded a **\$25,000 grant from the AT&T Foundation** through its AT&T  
43 Aspire Initiative. Funds from this grant will be utilized to bolster external financial support for the  
44 College's S.T.A.R.T. Summer Bridge Program.
- 45
- 46 • The Social Justice Institute has successfully planned the **2nd Annual JusticeCon Social Justice**  
47 **Conference**. Launched in the Summer of 2018, JusticeCon was established to serve as a region-  
48 al hub for social justice engagement and education. Featured speakers at this year's convening  
49 include renowned political activist and educator Angela Davis and Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, New York  
50 Times best-selling author and American historian. This year's Conference is being hosted at the

1 Robinson Center in Little Rock, Arkansas on October 7-8, 2019.

- 2
- 3 • The Division of Education has launched a new **non-licensure academic concentration in Educational Studies**. Students targeted for this academic concentration include those that desire to teach in
- 4 charter schools settings and other non-instructional educational positions within the K-12 landscape.
- 5 This academic concentration was recently approved by the Higher Learning Commission.
- 6
- 7
- 8 • Philander Smith College has been **awarded funding from the Arkansas Department of Health** to
- 9 support efforts in combatting the growing opioid crisis in the region. Funding from this grant will be
- 10 utilized to provide training and education in prevention strategies for faculty, staff, and students in
- 11 the College Community.
- 12

### 13 **Conclusion**

14 In reflecting on the College’s journey over the past five years, I consider us blessed beyond measure.

15 Our work has been guided by a true spirit of collaboration, a sense of patient and deliberate planning,

16 and a deep belief in the future of Philander Smith College. While there is still much ahead for us to

17 tackle, a review of our progress reveals the fruits of our collective labor. In January 2015, we vowed to

18 **Move Philander Forward**. Five years later, we confidently embrace each success and every challenge

19 we have experienced – knowing that each has shaped our present day reality.

20

21 The continued support of the United Methodist Church is an important linkage tied to the College’s

22 justice-focused mission. Our shared faith and our commitment to the belief in a **Student-Centered** and

23 **Mission-Focused** institution has sustained Philander Smith College for more than 142 years. From its

24 humble beginnings in the basement of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church in 1877 to its recogni-

25 tion as the fastest growing United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Member Institution in 2019, Philander

26 Smith College continues to be a historic institution where God’s grace is ever-present. We remained

27 committed to returning Philander Smith College to its rightful place as a local community leader, a re-

28 gional hub for social justice education, and an internationally acclaimed center of excellence for higher

29 education. Without exception, I believe that our accomplishments over the past five years have worked

30 to redirect PSC’s trajectory. With the support of many partners, including the United Methodist Church,

31 our efforts have yielded myriad successes and milestones that will certainly be celebrated for years to

32 come. I am deeply appreciative for the Board of Trustees’ continual support of my administration and

33 my leadership at Philander Smith College. With continued prayers and our collective faith guiding our

34 transformation, we have beaten the odds and proved naysayers wrong. I believe that there is more for

35 us to achieve, and I remain encouraged and inspired to live out my personal ministry through an un-

36 wavering commitment to and focus on doing what we said we would do in October 2014: We will **Move**

37 **Philander Forward!**

38

39

40 **Submitted by**

41 **Roderick L. Smothers, Sr., Ph.D.**

42 **President and CEO**

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## Saint Paul School of Theology

Saint Paul School of Theology, a seminary of the United Methodist Church, is committed to the formation of people for innovative, creative ministry. We are one institution with campuses in Kansas and Oklahoma. During the 2019-2020 academic year, the seminary enrollment in master and doctoral degree programs increased by 11%.

Saint Paul School of Theology began the 2019-2020 academic year with the addition of Dr. Casey Sigmon in her new role as Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship, and Director of Contextual Education. Dr. Sigmon has also made innovative changes to the weekly worship service as Chapel Coordinator. Saint Paul also welcomed Dr. Anne Walker as the new Executive Director of the Oklahoma Campus.

With the addition of Dr. Walker to Saint Paul came a new webinar offering titled, "Explore Calling: A Guide to Helping Others Answer the Call." Offered complimentary, the webinar provides a resource for anyone looking to nurture a culture of call in their congregation; including meeting one-on-one with congregations looking to reach out to their community. Dr. Walker also launched the Vision OK Advisory Committee to serve the purpose of gaining support for and assisting in the development of the Oklahoma Campus. Similarly new this year, Dr. Melissa Pearce along with Dr. Walker hosted Listening Sessions to learn more about the challenges pastoral leaders face and dream together about how theological education might meet the changing demands of their ministry.

This March, Saint Paul marked its 60th anniversary with a celebration featuring keynote speaker Past President Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr. honoring 60+ years of theological education. Students, alumni, faculty, and the entire Saint Paul community came together for dinner, reminiscing and looking towards the future. During the celebration, Rev. Dr. Lois V. Glory-Neal was recognized as the 2020 Distinguished Graduate Award winner. In 1989, Rev. Dr. Glory-Neal of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference became the first Native American woman to be ordained elder. She became the first Native American district superintendent in 1992. Saint Paul also presented Ms. Sally Firestone with the Board Lifetime Achievement award for her years of service.

Saint Paul's staff and faculty continue to contribute to the academy, church, and society. Dr. Anne Walker worked along with co-writer Dori Grinenko Baker on *Tru Colors*, a guide for assisting young adults in exploring ministry as a career. *Tru Colors*, from Discipleship Ministry, was published in March 2020. Dr. Casey Sigmon wrote the sermon "The Fruit of Self-Control" in the published book, *Preaching to Teach: Inspire People to Think and Act*. Additionally, as part of the 2019 Lectionary Commentaries on the website [workingpreacher.org](http://workingpreacher.org), Dr. Sigmon and Dr. Israel Kamudzandu contributed commentaries. In addition, Dr. Sigmon recently published "Homiletical Possibilities and Challenges in Colossians" in *The Review & Expositor* journal from November 2019.

In September 2019, Saint Paul Board of Trustees added four new members to their ranks: alumna Rev. Jennifer Ahrens-Sims of St. Stephen's UMC, Mrs. Dana Aldridge of SS&C Technologies, Mrs. Linda Shipman with Dairy Farmers of America Inc., and alumnus Rev. David Wiggs with Boston Avenue UMC. In addition, earlier in the year faculty emeritus Rev. Dr. Tex Sample became Board Chair. Saint Paul is

1 financially sound and is operating with a balanced budget. The changes made throughout the past few  
2 years have established a solid financial foundation for years of sustainability. With the Board's assis-  
3 tance, the seminary continues to focus on its mission and works to continuously enhance and evaluate  
4 the strategic plans in place to guide us into the future.  
5

6 Saint Paul held several events and forums this year beginning with hosting an Overland Park Chamber  
7 of Commerce Wednesday Wake-up where Overland Park business members and community leaders  
8 started their day on the Kansas Campus with coffee, networking, and learning more about the semi-  
9 nary's mission. In November, Saint Paul was the host location for the Metro Organization for Racial and  
10 Economic Equity (MORE2) Faith and Democracy Prayer Breakfast. MORE2 and Church of the Resurrec-  
11 tion are partnering with Saint Paul in the recently launched Doctor of Ministry focus, "Spiritual Leader-  
12 ship in Unsettled Times." Throughout the year, students on both campuses participated in educational  
13 forums with discussions on a myriad of topics such as, "Sustaining Pastoral Leadership Through Per-  
14 sonal Wellness", "Transgender Day of Remembrance", and "The Enneagram and Your Spiritual Growth."  
15 Saint Paul was blessed to have many alumni return to lead worship in the weekly chapel services. Rev.  
16 Shannon Hancock, alumna and Director of Admissions, brought the message on the Kansas Campus  
17 during the MLK Jr Worship Celebration while alumnus Rev. Bryan Lampkins preached on the Oklaho-  
18 ma Campus. This past January, Saint Paul was proud to host the United Methodist Theological Field  
19 Educators Meeting on the Kansas Campus. This year's theme was "Vicissitude: Navigating Call and  
20 Mission as Contextual Educators in 2020. In April, the Evangelical Society hosted a lecture featuring  
21 Dr. Kimberly Alexander, author of Pentecostal Healing: Models of Theology and Practice and co-author  
22 of Women in Leadership: A Pentecostal Perspective and What Women Want: Pentecostal Women Min-  
23 isters Speak for Themselves.  
24

25 Honoring Saint Paul's longstanding commitment to praxis learning and ministry, part of the 2019-2020  
26 curriculum included practicums which are workshop-style seminars that teach ministry skills. For  
27 Spring 2020 FOCUS Week, Alumnus Rev. Dr. Emanuel Cleaver III, Senior Pastor of St. James UMC,  
28 taught the course Urban Church in the 21st century which explores the Urban Church and its context in  
29 relation to ministerial practices and theological understandings.  
30

31 For the 2019-2020 fiscal year, Saint Paul Course of Study (COS) School educated 265 individual stu-  
32 dents with a total registration of 650 classes; offering a total of 53 courses located in Leawood, KS;  
33 Hays, KS; Oklahoma City, OK; Columbia, MO; and Springfield, MO. Saint Paul is in the second year of  
34 offering a hybrid (online and on- campus) schedule for six courses during the Winter term. Plans to  
35 increase the number of hybrid course offerings are in development. Saint Paul launched a part-time,  
36 accelerated pilot COS satellite program (PML) in Columbia, MO in 2018 and added a second track in  
37 2019. Comprised of nine courses in practical theology, this COS option is designed specifically for part-  
38 time local pastors or certified lay ministers entering ministry following completion of the Missouri Con-  
39 ference Licensing School. The PML satellite program is a collaborative program of Saint Paul Course  
40 of Study Regional School with the Missouri Conference. Since September 2018, COS has offered six  
41 courses and enrolled 30 individual students in the PML satellite program.  
42

43 Saint Paul School of Theology is blessed to be in ministry in the name of Jesus Christ and to help oth-  
44 ers respond to God's call. We are a seminary that offers classes and experiences to folks from many  
45 denominations and faith walks. Our work as faculty and staff is to provide excellence in theological and  
46 practical education for ALL persons called and capable to attend. Remember: "Where two or more are  
47 gathered" Christ is there with us.  
48

49 President Neil Blair, Saint Paul trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, and students thank you for your interest,  
50 prayers, and support.



# SMU<sup>®</sup>

## Southern Methodist University

Since its founding in 1911 by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Southern Methodist University has served as a nonsectarian institution of higher learning. Our mission is to expand knowledge through research and teaching and serve as a powerful catalyst for the growth and development of Dallas and the broader North Texas region. With continued representation from The United Methodist Church, and welcoming students of all faiths, the University is reaching a higher level of accomplishment and global recognition in our second century of shaping world changers – for today and tomorrow.

### SMU Update

#### Students, Faculty and Staff

Fall 2019 enrollment totaled 11,824, including 6,710 undergraduates and 5,114 graduates. Ethnic minority students made up 29 percent of total enrollment. An international enrollment of 1,417 (approximately 12 percent of total enrollment) represented 84 countries. Our impressive class of 2023 was chosen from a pool of more than 15,000 applicants. This cohort's average ACT score is 30.8, and the average SAT score is 1377 – both an increase from last year – making it the most academically qualified and diverse in SMU history.

#### Rankings

The University's reputation is strong and growing. SMU is ranked No. 64 among national universities by U.S. News & World Report. We are pleased that presidents, provosts and chief admissions officers at the nation's universities are beginning to recognize our strengths, as evidenced by two consecutive years of rising expert opinion scores within the U.S. News rankings.

- The Cox School of Business full-time M.B.A. ranks No. 43, according to U.S. News & World Report's 2020 Best Business Schools, up from 48th in the previous year's rankings; the SMU Cox Executive M.B.A. ranks No. 23 in the nation.
- Dedman School of Law was ranked No. 52 nationally by U.S. News & World Report.
- The Center for World University Rankings 2019 placed SMU at No. 315 out of 20,000 universities worldwide, No. 133 nationally and No. 27 for alumni employment, placing the institution in the top 1.6% worldwide. Universities are ranked for their quality of education, alumni employment, quality of faculty and research performance.
- SMU ranked No. 16 in a Forbes list of top Southern colleges and universities.
- College Factual rankings (published by USA Today), highly focused on outcomes, including graduation rates, high salaries for graduates and low student loan default rates, ranked SMU at No. 3 among Best Texas Colleges; No. 92 among Best Nationwide Colleges; and No. 1 in its list of "Highest Paid Music Graduates" in 2019.
- The Princeton Review ranks SMU Guildhall No. 2 for the best graduate game-design program.

#### Funding

In FY 2019, SMU received \$31.8 million in external funding for research conducted in the United States and worldwide, representing a \$5.2 million increase over the previous year. Current funding agencies

1 include National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Defense and  
2 Toyota Foundation. Regarding private fundraising, SMU finished FY 2019 strong, thanks to the gener-  
3 osity of our entire donor family who made more than \$118 million in gifts, making it a record year for  
4 giving. That generosity includes exceeding our second-year Pony Power goal by \$2 million with \$52  
5 million in gifts received to fund our most pressing current needs.

## 6 7 **2019 Highlights**

### 8 9 **Significant Gifts and Grants**

#### 10 11 **\$100 Million Gift Establishes New Graduate School**

12 In 2019 SMU celebrated the largest gift in its history – an unprecedented investment of \$100 million  
13 from the Moody Foundation to create the eighth named school at SMU: the Moody School of Graduate  
14 and Advanced Studies. This new school supports the University’s graduate programs in education,  
15 engineering, the arts, humanities, sciences and social studies, as well as faculty research and interdis-  
16 ciplinary programs across the University. It will enable SMU to graduate higher numbers of doctoral  
17 students and strengthen collaborations with other universities, major corporations and other entities in  
18 producing high-impact research projects.

#### 19 20 **Visionary Impact With Miller Family \$50 Million Gift**

21 Carolyn and David Miller '72, '73 made the largest single gift by an alumnus and his family in SMU’s  
22 108-year history. The Millers’ latest \$50 million commitment will support the Edwin L. Cox School of  
23 Business’ strategic plan to modernize its curriculum; offer more and broader scholarships to attract the  
24 world’s best business students; collaborate across the SMU campus on new interdisciplinary programs  
25 and enhance the school’s facilities. It also aspires for the school to extend community outreach to de-  
26 velop corporate partnerships and expand inclusivity.

#### 27 28 **Owen Arts Center Renovation Kickoff Inspires a New Challenge and Additional Gifts**

29 Last fall, as the Meadows School of the Arts celebrated the 50th anniversary of its naming, we kicked  
30 off the renovation of Owen Arts Center, a \$34 million initiative to improve academic spaces in the  
31 north wing for visual arts, art history and creative computation, while creating welcoming and accessi-  
32 ble entrances to the building. During the celebration, we announced a new \$1.8 million challenge gift  
33 from Indianapolis philanthropist and former Meadows School parent G. Marlyne Sexton. This latest  
34 gift brings her total commitment to OAC to \$5 million and creates an incentive for others to join in and  
35 help the Meadows School reach the remaining \$4 million needed to revitalize the arts hub.

36  
37 A \$5 million gift from Dallas art collectors and patrons Nancy C. and Richard R. Rogers extends their  
38 long-standing support of artists by establishing a vibrant hub for the visual arts at SMU. The new  
39 Nancy C. and Richard R. Rogers Center for Visual Arts in the Owen Arts Center will provide a physical  
40 space that expands academic and artistic opportunities for students and faculty to propel them to the  
41 forefront of their fields. It is part of a \$34 million initiative to modernize the 250,000-square-foot build-  
42 ing’s north wing. Gifts to the project are supported by a grant from The Meadows Foundation.

#### 43 44 **Game Changer Opens on the Boulevard**

45 Last year, we celebrated the dedication of the Indoor Performance Center, featuring Armstrong Field-  
46 house, which marked a new era in athletics preparation and training for SMU Mustangs. The techno-  
47 logically equipped, multiuse facility also offers a significant expansion of possibilities for campus and  
48 community participation. Many generous donors made the Indoor Performance Center possible. In  
49 addition to Liz Armstrong '82 and Bill Armstrong '82, donors of more than \$1 million are Gary T. Crum  
50 '69 and Sylvie P. Crum; Paul B. Loyd, Jr. '68 and Penny R. Loyd; David B. Miller '72, '73 and Carolyn L.



1 Miller and the David B. Miller Family Foundation; and Garry A. Weber '58. There were also 17 donors  
2 of \$100,000 and higher, with eight making gifts of \$1 million each and nine making six-figure commit-  
3 ments.

4

#### 5 **New Home For Digital Explorers**

6 SMU took a giant leap forward in the rapidly shifting digital frontier with the groundbreaking of the  
7 Gerald J. Ford Hall for Research and Innovation at the corner of McFarlin Boulevard and Airline Road.  
8 SMU Trustee Gerald J. Ford '66, '69, his wife, Kelli O. Ford, and the Gerald J. Ford Family Foundation  
9 provided a \$15 million lead gift to help fund construction of the building. The new 50,000-square-foot  
10 interdisciplinary research hub will serve as home to SMU's AT&T Center for Virtualization, the Dedman  
11 College Interdisciplinary Institute, high-performance computing and data science, the new Visualiza-  
12 tion Lab and the Guildhall, the Hart eCenter's top-ranked digital game-design program.

13

#### 14 **High Tech, High Impact from Bobby B. Lyle**

15 Dallas entrepreneur, industry leader and educator Bobby B. Lyle '67 built on the farsighted generosi-  
16 ty that named the Lyle School of Engineering 11 years ago by designating \$10 million to power a new  
17 strategic vision for the school. The future-focused model will combine innovation, agility and swift  
18 responses to shifts in technological capabilities with enduring institutional support. His investment will  
19 support the school's Future Fund by establishing endowments for Accelerating Emerging Research  
20 and Accelerating High Tech Business Innovations. The fund also will support two additional strategic  
21 portfolios: Transforming the Engineering Education Experience and Transformative Technology for  
22 Social Good.

23

#### 24 **Linda and Mitch Hart Institute for Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship**

25 Prominent Dallas business leaders Linda Wertheimer Hart '65 and Milledge (Mitch) A. Hart, III are  
26 among SMU's most generous donors, and they made another major investment. The Linda and Mitch  
27 Hart Institute for Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship merges the wisdom of the Cox School  
28 of Business with the knowledge of the Lyle School of Engineering to develop the tools entrepreneurs  
29 need to bring their concepts to life. In addition, Mrs. Hart honored her husband on his 85th birthday  
30 with the Milledge A. Hart, III Scholarship Fund for Veterans of the U.S. Marine Corps.

31

#### 32 **Program Highlights**

33

#### 34 **Elizabeth Loba named Provost**

35 Elizabeth Loba, appointed as SMU's provost and vice president for academic affairs in December,  
36 will join the University on July 6, 2020. As chief academic officer for SMU, she will be responsible for  
37 the overall quality of teaching, scholarship and research and all aspects of academic life, ranging from  
38 admissions and faculty development to supervision of SMU's eight schools, library system, and inter-  
39 national programs. Loba, a biomedical engineer, is currently vice chancellor for strategic partnerships  
40 and dean and Ketchum Professor of the College of Engineering at the University of Missouri. She  
41 brings to SMU a distinguished academic record and broad university leadership experience.

42

#### 43 **Academic Deans Reappointed**

44 The academic deans leading SMU's Lyle School of Engineering, Dedman School of Law and Dedman  
45 College of Humanities and Sciences have been reappointed to serve in their positions for an addition-  
46 al five years: Marc Christensen, dean of the Lyle School and Lyle Professor of Engineering Innovation,  
47 who has served as dean since 2013; Jennifer Collins, Judge James Noel Dean and professor of law  
48 at Dedman Law, who has served as dean since 2014; and Thomas DiPiero, dean of Dedman College  
49 and professor in the departments of English and World Languages and Literatures, who has served as  
50 dean since 2014.



1  
2 **Meadows School of the Arts celebrates 50th Anniversary**

3 Meadows School kicked off a yearlong celebration of the 50th anniversary of its naming, staging three  
4 premieres by internationally recognized choreographers at its 26th annual benefit concert, “Meadows  
5 at the Winspear.” The concert featured the critically acclaimed Meadows Symphony Orchestra, under  
6 the direction of conductor Paul Phillips, and the students of the Meadows Dance Ensemble. It also hon-  
7 ored community leader The Meadows Foundation, which has supported SMU and Dallas for more than  
8 five decades. It was in 1969 that SMU’s School of the Arts was renamed Meadows School of the Arts in  
9 honor of Algur H. Meadows.

10  
11 **Gift Expands Dedman Law’s Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation**

12 The Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation, launched in 2015 in Dedman Law, received an addi-  
13 tional \$2 million gift to expand its profile as a leader in multidisciplinary research and scholarly debate  
14 surrounding new technologies. The academic center brings together experts from the legal, scientific  
15 and business communities to explore the complex challenges presented by the evolving innovation  
16 ecosystem. Current research projects supported by the Tsai Center include studies of fingerprint tech-  
17 nology and tax implications of artificial intelligence, as well as a digital tool for keeping track of litiga-  
18 tion involving government watch lists. The Tsai Center also has funded new courses, including one in  
19 which law students create web-based legal apps for Texas legal-aid organizations.

20  
21 **\$1.5 Million NSF Grant Helps Fund Minecraft**

22 SMU’s Lyle School, Guildhall and the Simmons School of Education and Human Development will use  
23 a \$1,521,615 grant from the National Science Foundation to research teaching computer science and  
24 computational thinking through the popular video game Minecraft. Research will span the fields of  
25 game design, human-computer interaction, machine learning, curriculum design and education assess-  
26 ment by integrating STEM+C (computing) curriculum directly into Minecraft. The game and infrastruc-  
27 ture produced through the research will serve as a vital computing resource for middle and high school  
28 educators. The grant was awarded to Corey Clark, deputy director of research at SMU Guildhall and an  
29 assistant professor of Computer Science at Lyle School; Eric Larson, associate professor in Computer  
30 Science at Lyle School; and Leanne Ketterlin Geller, professor and Texas Instrument Endowed Chair in  
31 Education at Simmons School.

32  
33 **Professor Brings People Together for Conversations on Tough Topics**

34 Jill DeTemple, associate professor of religious studies in Dedman College, has developed a discussion  
35 tool – reflective structured dialogue – that she is using in her own classrooms and sharing with profes-  
36 sors at SMU and nationwide. The idea is to take topics that drive people apart – gun rights, abortion,  
37 the death penalty, the existence of God – and reframe the conversation around personal experiences.  
38 At its core is curiosity about another person’s life and values.

39  
40 **SMU Scientists Identify New Texas Dinosaur**

41 SMU postdoctoral fellow Kate Andrzejewski, along with University paleontologists Dale Winkler and  
42 Louis Jacobs, have identified *Convolosaurus marri* from fossils collected at Proctor Lake, southwest of  
43 Fort Worth. Remnants of several dinosaurs were first found at the Comanche County lake site in 1985,  
44 and most of the fossils had been stored for years in the Shuler Museum of Paleontology at SMU. But it  
45 wasn’t until Andrzejewski, Winkler and Jacobs examined the fossils more recently that the new dino-  
46 saur was identified. *Convolosaurus marri* is on view at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science in the  
47 T. Boone Pickens Life Then and Now Hall as “Proctor Lake Ornithopod.” The newly identified dinosaur  
48 was named in honor of Ray H. Marr ’51, an SMU alumnus who is president of Marr Oil & Gas LTD and a  
49 strong supporter of SMU students.

50

1 **SMU Study Finds Possible New Way to Treat Virus “Cousin” of HIV**

2 A study led by SMU suggests that oleandrin – a drug derived from the Nerium oleander plant – could  
3 prevent the HTLV-1 virus from spreading by targeting a stage of the reproduction process that is not  
4 currently targeted by existing drugs. That is significant because there is currently no cure or treatment  
5 for the virus – a lesser-known “cousin” of HIV that affects an estimated 10 to 15 million people world-  
6 wide. “Our research findings suggest that oleandrin could possibly limit the transmission and spread of  
7 HTLV-1 by targeting a unique stage in the retroviral life cycle,” said Robert Harrod, associate professor  
8 and director of graduate studies in SMU’s Department of Biological Sciences. Harrod is a co-author of  
9 the study, published in the Journal of Antivirals & Antiretrovirals.

10  
11 **DART Station Renamed SMU/Mockingbird Station**

12 Dallas Area Rapid Transit’s (DART) Mockingbird Station was renamed SMU/Mockingbird Station after  
13 the DART Board approved a naming-rights agreement with SMU, making it easier for visitors to find the  
14 campus and cementing the rail station’s role as a gateway to the University. Opened in 1997, Mocking-  
15 bird Station quickly became an important transportation resource for SMU students, faculty, staff and  
16 visitors. The Mustang Express shuttle service connects the DART station to the University campus a  
17 short distance away.

18  
19 We are excited about the impact our University and its programs continue to have on the world around  
20 us, and we are grateful to continue our work through the Perkins School of Theology in the education  
21 and training of all branches of the Wesleyan Tradition. We request your continued prayers and support.

22  
23 Warm regards,

24  
25 **R. Gerald Turner**  
26 **President**

27 **Southern Methodist University**



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34 **United Theological Seminary**

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36  
37 For nearly 150 years, United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH, has been preparing faithful, fruitful  
38 leaders to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

39  
40 **Students**

41 In the Fall 2019 semester, United equipped 459 women and men for leadership in the Church, including  
42 272 masters’ students and 187 doctoral students. An ecumenical community of many denominations,  
43 races and nationalities, United welcomed students from 11 countries, 42 states, and 37 denominations,  
44 with the student body comprised of 49% African American, 42% Caucasian, and 10% ethnic/racial mi-  
45 norities.<sup>1</sup> The Seminary prepared 165 Course of Study students and served 36 students through the  
46 Hispanic Christian Academy, a 3-year Spanish online course of ministry program for Hispanic/Latino lay  
47 pastors and leaders.<sup>2</sup> Altogether, approximately 660 students followed God’s call through United Theo-  
48 logical Seminary.

49  
50 **Alumni/ae**

- 1 United graduates are making an impact in their communities as they spread the Good News.
- 2 • **88%** of alumni/ae are currently employed in or retired from ministry<sup>3</sup>
  - 3 • **70%** serve in local parishes<sup>4</sup>
  - 4 • **Rev. Dr. Brad Kalajainen (DMin '99)** received the 2019 Effective Ministry Award for his transforma-
  - 5 tive leadership of Cornerstone UMC in Grand Rapids, MI.
  - 6 • **Rev. Dr. James Bushfield (MDiv '79, DMin '92)** received the 2019 Distinguished Alumnus Award for
  - 7 his leadership and ministry in the Indiana Conference of The UMC.
  - 8 • **Rev. Dr. Sandra Coley (DMin '14)** received the Outstanding Doctor of Ministry Award for her advoca-
  - 9 cy of organ donation among African American communities.

10

## 11 **New at United**

12 United introduced a 36-hour Master of Arts (MA) degree, designed for those who wish to earn a degree  
13 while completing the requirements for Advanced Course of Study in pursuit of ordination in The United  
14 Methodist Church. The MA program is available fully online, on-campus or in a combination.

15

16 United continues to offer innovative learning through its Live Interactive Virtual Education (LIVE) en-  
17 vironment introduced in 2018. In the first year, 59 students participated in LIVE courses, connecting  
18 with classmates on campus in Dayton, OH, and across the country by attending classes in real-time via  
19 simultaneous webcast.

20

## 21 **Becoming Debt-Free**

22 United remains committed to becoming debt-free by the seminary's 150th anniversary on October 11,  
23 2021. Thanks to the support of generous donors, United has received more than \$2.5 million toward its  
24 goal of raising \$4 million to "burn the mortgage." Becoming debt-free as an institution will enable Unit-  
25 ed to focus on generating income for scholarships that lighten the load of student debt for seminarians.

26

27 In Romans 10:14, St. Paul writes: "How shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how  
28 shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? AND HOW SHALL THEY HEAR WITHOUT A  
29 PREACHER?" For 150 years, United has been preparing faithful and fruitful Christian preachers and  
30 leaders who proclaim the Good News of God's unconditional love which has come to us in Jesus Christ.  
31 Thanks be to God!

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**Dr. Kent Millard,  
President**

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<sup>1</sup> Data represents Fall 2019 headcount enrollment, unless otherwise specified.

<sup>2</sup> Data represents unduplicated headcount enrollment in the 2018-19 academic year.

<sup>3</sup> United Theological Seminary 2019 Alumni/ae Survey, sent in April 2019 to alumni/ae who graduated with a degree or certificate from United in years ranging from the 1940s to 2018, for whom the seminary had email contact information. Data collected represents a 25% response rate (520 respondents) of the 2,043 alumni/ae contacted.

<sup>4</sup> Or if retired, were serving in this capacity at time of retirement. United Theological Seminary 2019 Alumni/ae Survey.



## Wesley Theological Seminary

In his book, *A New Church and a New Seminary*, President David McAllister-Wilson writes, “Leadership requires a seminary to foster both wisdom and courage.” For 138 years, that stance has been a hallmark of Wesley Theological Seminary. Now, during this challenging and divisive time in the church and society, Wesley remains committed to fostering wisdom and courage, preparing graduates to lead innovative ministries while remaining grounded in our biblical and theological traditions for the sake of God’s inbreaking kingdom. We are grateful for so many partners in this mission, and we look forward to what God will do in and through us as we seek to faithfully minister to the world in the future.

### **Working toward God’s vision for the church**

Wesley is pleased to announce new opportunities for UMC congregations to explore, clarify, and pursue thriving in their communities. Through the Thriving Congregations Initiative, Wesley will work with three cohorts of regional congregations in a two-year process of prayer, community engagement, congregational visioning, and coaching, with the goal of following Jesus in mission and ministry. Interested congregations can contact [innovation@wesleyseminary.edu](mailto:innovation@wesleyseminary.edu) for more information. This work, funded by a \$1 million Lilly Endowment, Inc, grant, raises Wesley’s role as a leading research and development seminary for the whole church and complements Wesley’s other Lilly Endowment-funded projects focused on congregational vitality.

The Religious Workforce Project is an expansive study of the current and future nature of religious work, particularly in local congregations, so as to understand what opportunities and constraints may exist in the future and to adapt resources and training accordingly. Through the Wesley Innovation Hub, Wesley has worked with 18 congregations in the greater Washington area to experiment with ministries with young adults outside the church. Together, these projects forge insight into future ministry and local church development, influencing the way students are trained in master’s, doctoral, and course of study education, but also informing workshops, podcasts, articles, and training for church leaders working in their communities across the country.

### **Is God calling you – or someone you know?**

Research shows that the primary way people learn about and begin to consider seminary options is through their pastor or an alumnus. Whether you feel called or you know someone who does, Wesley is ready to work with you as we make theological education more accessible and relevant to the realities of ministry today—for laity and clergy, for those seeking a degree or certification or continuing education, and for ministry from within or beyond the church.

Wesley offers an 81-hour Master of Divinity, a 36-hour Master of Arts, and a 60-hour Master of Theological Studies, any of which can be focused around specializations in public theology, urban ministry, arts and theology, missional church, or African American church leadership.

For full time students, we offer modern and affordable on-campus housing and food service in the nation’s capital. Our Community Engagement Fellows program prepares students to engage in en-

1 entrepreneurial, community-based ministry. Generous stipends are available for each Fellow while they  
2 complete their MDiv degree. Our 3+3 Fast Track BA/MDiv program with Shenandoah University allows  
3 students to complete both degrees in six years, entering ministry more quickly and with less debt.  
4 For people with work, ministry, and family commitments, Wesley's Master of Divinity degree can now  
5 be completed via online, weekend, short-term intensive, and weeknight courses in 5 years. Check out  
6 upcoming flexible course offerings for Summer and Fall 2020 at [www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/try-a-class-3](http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/try-a-class-3).

9 Wesley works with each student to make seminary affordable. Thanks to the consistent support of grad-  
10 uates, congregations, and friends, Wesley provides more than \$2 million annually in scholarships. In ad-  
11 dition to our regular merit awards, ranging from 50% to 100% tuition with stipends, Wesley has released  
12 special additional scholarships. Inspired by the Young People's Address at both the 2019 and 2020  
13 General Conferences, Rising Generation awards are full-tuition scholarships for people recommended  
14 by Wesley alumni, campus ministers, or Christian camping or service ministries who feel called to lead-  
15 ership in the church as it is becoming. Recognizing that many people experience God's call mid-career,  
16 Wesley is excited to offer its new Next Call in Ministry scholarship for students who have worked in a  
17 non-ministry setting for at least 10 years. In addition, the Generación Latinx Scholarships are full-tuition  
18 awards for emerging Latinx/Hispanic leaders for ministries both within and beyond the church.

### 20 **Take your ministry to the next level**

21 In addition to full master's degrees, Wesley offers graduate certificates for those preparing for special-  
22 ized ministry! The new Certificate for Children and Youth Ministry and Advocacy (CYMA) is designed for  
23 people who work with and advocate for children and young people, whether in churches, schools, or  
24 non-profit organizations. The non-residential certificate can be completed in 12 to 15 months through  
25 online coursework and up to two residential sessions. For more information, visit [www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/cyma-3](http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/cyma-3). The Certificate in Faith and Public Life explores the foundations of public the-  
26 ology, religious freedom, and civil discourse through graduate courses. For more information, visit [www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/public-life/](http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/public-life/)

30 Wesley is a leader in Doctor of Ministry programs in specialized tracks that can include internation-  
31 al study. Wesley is pleased to offer two new Doctor of Ministry tracks for 2021: "Curating Communi-  
32 ty Through the Arts," aimed to empower leaders with both conceptual and practical skills needed to  
33 utilize the arts in ministry that also generate and sustain communities; and our latest Cambridge, En-  
34 gland-based DMin track, "For the Sake of the World: Church Transformation in Wesleyan Perspective,"  
35 for leaders concerned with exploring renewed ministry possibilities grounded in the life and ministry  
36 of John Wesley. The 2021 options are rounded out with new cohorts in our popular D. Min. programs,  
37 "Soul Care" and "Church Leadership Excellence." Find out more or apply at [www.wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry/](http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry/).

### 40 **Enrich your congregational outreach and explore new dimensions of ministry**

41 The Lewis Center for Church Leadership continues to be on the leading edge of research for the local  
42 church. The Lewis Center's Leading Ideas e-newsletter is the go-to source for over 20,000 people in  
43 ministry each week. Stay on top of their latest developments by subscribing to their podcast or newslet-  
44 ter at [www.churchleadership.com](http://www.churchleadership.com). Also look for new practical online courses at [www.lewisonlinelearning.org](http://www.lewisonlinelearning.org).

47 The Community Engagement Institute at Wesley is celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2020. It embraces  
48 a vibrant vision to be the premier center for churches and faith-based organization engaging their com-  
49 munities. The innovative online Health Minister Certificate Program prepares congregations for public  
50 health work in their parishes. Contact Dr. Tom Pruski at [tpruski@wesleyseminary.edu](mailto:tpruski@wesleyseminary.edu) for more informa-



1 tion or to register for future certificate classes.

2

3 The Center for Public Theology, situated on Capitol Hill and under the leadership of Distinguished  
4 Professor of Public Theology Mike McCurry, equips pastors, seminarians, people of faith, and the media  
5 to create spaces for civil dialogue at the intersection of religion and politics. For more information, visit  
6 <http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/>.

7

8 The Luce Center for Arts and Religion (LCAR) is the only seminary-based program uniting arts and the-  
9 ology. This past year, LCAR was privileged to receive the Ralph and Birgitta Peterson Collection of Mod-  
10 ern Religious Art, including works by Marc Chagall, Henri Matisse, Andy Warhol and others, brought to  
11 the center by new LCAR Director, Dr. Aaron Rosen. Visiting Professor Dr. Devon Abts brings a new com-  
12 ponent to Wesley's commitment to the arts and theology with her expertise in poetry and theology. For  
13 information on upcoming workshops and show at the Dadian Gallery, visit [www.luceartsandreligion.org](http://www.luceartsandreligion.org).

14

### 15 **Faculty leading the way**

16 Our internationally regarded faculty are the heartbeat of transformative education at Wesley. Our fac-  
17 ulty continue to advance theological scholarship with new research, publications, and courses. During  
18 this past year, we celebrated the ministries of four retiring faculty members: Drs. Deborah Sokolov,  
19 Eileen Guenther, Sam Marullo, and Lucy Hogan. We also welcomed exciting new scholars to the Wesley  
20 community: Aaron Rosen, PhD, as our Professor of Religion and Visual Culture and new Director of the  
21 Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion (LCAR); Visiting Instructor of Practical Theology Timothy  
22 K. Snyder, as Senior Researcher at the Lewis Center for Church Leadership; and Devon Abts, PhD, who  
23 serves as Assistant Director and Visiting Assistant Professor at LCAR. This summer, we look forward to  
24 welcoming New Testament professor Dr. Laura C. Sweat Holmes.

25

### 26 **Stay connected**

27 Contact us at (202) 885-8659 or [admissions@wesleyseminary.edu](mailto:admissions@wesleyseminary.edu) about how Wesley's degree pro-  
28 grams can equip you for your next step in ministry.

29

30 Ready to join in our mission? Find out more about how you can be part of the future of Wesley at [www.wesleyseminary.edu/support/](http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/support/). Join the Wesley Community online via Wesley's social media, [www.face-](http://www.facebook.com/wesleyseminary)  
31 [book.com/wesleyseminary](http://www.facebook.com/wesleyseminary), on Instagram [@wesleyseminary](https://www.instagram.com/wesleyseminary), and on Twitter [@WesTheoSem](https://twitter.com/WesTheoSem), or sign up  
32 for our electronic newsletter, eCalling, at [www.wesleyseminary.edu/ecalling](http://www.wesleyseminary.edu/ecalling).

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# 2019 Standing Rules

## Chapter One

### GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### Section I. The Arkansas Conference Mission

**Par. 101. Mission** Making disciples of Jesus Christ equipped to transform the world with excellence and passion.

**Par. 102. Vision** Congregations and surrounding communities transformed by the Holy Spirit to demonstrate love of God and neighbor, holy living, and justice.

**Par. 103. Core Measures**

1. We will be enriched by our Wesleyan heritage of scriptural holiness so that we are connected by our mission of making disciples instead of being connected by our apportionments, appointments and benefits.
2. We will establish the mission field as the primary focus of our attention and resources instead of directing the majority of our attention and resources to mere maintenance of congregations and clergy.
3. We will equip laity and clergy to transform individuals, communities and the world instead of trying to satisfy personal preferences of current members and ensure congregational preservation.
4. We will address the unique context of each mission field instead of depending on standardized programs and structures.

**Par. 104. Arkansas Conference Trajectory** Creating vital congregations that make disciples of Jesus Christ, who make disciples equipped and sent to transform lives, communities and the world.

#### Section II. Standing Rules

**Par. 105. Establishment** The Arkansas Annual Conference establishes the Standing Rules under the authority of The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church ¶ 610, which permits the Annual Conference to structure its own administrative procedures and ministries in order to accomplish its purpose of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

**Par. 106. Purpose** The Standing Rules prescribe the administrative procedures the Annual Conference will utilize to carry out its mission, vision, core measures and trajectory.

**Par. 107. Changes to Standing Rules** A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Annual Conference members present and voting shall be required to change the Standing Rules.

**Par. 108. Suspension of Standing Rules** A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Annual Conference members present and voting shall be required to suspend the Standing Rules.

**Par. 109. Procedural Authority** Roberts Rules of Order shall be the procedural authority for the Annual Conference when not in conflict with the current Book of Discipline or Arkansas Annual Conference Session Rules.

1 **Par. 110. Definitions**

- 2 1. The Discipline: unless otherwise noted, refers to the current Book of Discipline of the United  
3 Methodist Church.  
4 2. Annual Conference or Conference: unless otherwise noted, refers to the Arkansas Annual  
5 Conference of the United Methodist Church.  
6 3. Conference Agency: any council, board, commission, committee, task force, or other structural  
7 grouping established by the Standing Rules of the Conference or mandated by The Discipline.  
8 4. Ex-officio member: unless otherwise noted, all ex-officio members shall have vote.  
9 5. Resolution: A non-legislative proposal for the Annual Conference to address or take action  
10 regarding a particular issue.  
11 6. Petition: Proposed changes to The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church or The  
12 Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church that are forwarded to the General Confer-  
13 ence for action.  
14 7. Annual Conference Session: Any regular or special session of the Annual Conference com-  
15 prised of clergy and lay members as mandated by The Book of Discipline, Standing Rules or  
16 Structure.  
17

18 **Section III. Mandated Disciplinary Changes to the Conference Standing Rules and Structure**

19 **Par. 111. Mandated Changes** The Committee on Review and Research shall work with the Conference  
20 Secretary, Journal Editor and Assistant to the Bishop to ensure that changes mandated by General  
21 Conference will be reflected in the Conference Standing Rules, Structure and Journal.  
22

23 **Chapter Two**

24 **ORGANIZATION OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

25 **Section I. Conference Structure (§ 610, The Book of Discipline)**

26 **Par. 201. Flexibility** The structure of the Annual Conference shall be flexible, responsive and inclusive  
27 of age, gender and diverse ethnicity.  
28

29 **Par. 202. Changes to Structure** A 60% supermajority of the Annual Conference members present and  
30 voting shall be required to change the Conference Structure.  
31

32 **Section II. Officers**

33 **Par. 203. Bishop §§ 414-416**

- 34 1. Purpose. The Bishop shall carry out those duties assigned by The Book of Discipline.  
35 2. Structure. The South Central Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy will assign the Bishop at  
36 its quadrennial meeting.  
37 3. Process. The Bishop carries out General and Residential duties as a member of the Council of  
38 Bishops and the South Central Jurisdiction College of Bishops by working with the South Cen-  
39 tral Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy, the Annual Conference Committee on Episcopacy,  
40 the Cabinet, Centers, and other Conference agencies.  
41

42 **Par. 204. Conference Secretary § 603.7**

- 43 1. Purpose. The Conference Secretary shall carry out those duties described in various para-  
44 graphs of The Book of Discipline and those assigned by the Annual Conference and shall be  
45 responsible for annual review of the Arkansas Conference Rules of Order and for recommend-  
46 ing- ing them for adoption at the beginning of each Annual Conference.  
47 2. Structure. The Annual Conference shall elect a Conference Secretary every quadrennium.  
48  
49  
50

3. Process. The Conference Secretary is responsible to the Annual Conference through the Conference Planning Committee.

**Par. 205. Conference Treasurer ¶ 619**

1. Purpose. The Conference Treasurer shall carry out those duties described in various paragraphs of The Book of Discipline and those assigned by the Annual Conference.
2. Structure. The Conference Treasurer shall be nominated by the Conference Council on Finance and Administration and elected by the Annual Conference according to The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church.
3. Process. The Conference Treasurer is responsible to the Annual Conference through the Council on Finance and Administration.

**Par. 206. Conference Statistician ¶ 603.7**

1. Purpose. The Conference Statistician shall carry out those duties described in The Book of Discipline and those assigned by the Annual Conference. The Statistician shall make all statistical data and information available to the Annual Conference.
2. Structure. The Conference Statistician shall be nominated by the Conference Nominating Committee and elected by the Annual Conference every quadrennium according to The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church.
3. Process. The Conference Statistician is responsible to the Annual Conference through the Council on Finance and Administration.

**Par. 207. Conference Chancellor ¶ 603.8**

1. Purpose. The Conference Chancellor and Associate Chancellor(s) shall serve as the legal advisor(s) to the Bishop and the Annual Conference.
2. Structure. The Conference Chancellor shall be nominated by the Bishop and elected by the Annual Conference. Upon the recommendation of the Bishop, Associate Chancellor(s) may be nominated by the Bishop and elected by the Annual Conference according to The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church.

**Par. 208. Conference Lay Leader ¶ 607**

1. Purpose. The Conference Lay Leader and Associate Lay Leader(s) are the elected leaders of conference laity and shall be members of the Annual Conference. The Lay Leader will have responsibility for fostering awareness of the role of the laity in achieving the mission of the Church and for enabling and supporting lay participation in the planning and decision-making processes of the Annual Conference, district, and local church.
2. Structure. The Conference Lay Leader shall be a member of the Annual Conference, the Conference Nominating Committee, the Conference Committee on Episcopacy, and the Annual Conference Planning Committee; and may be designated by the Bishop to any Conference agency.
3. Process. The Conference Lay Leader shall be the chairperson of the Conference Board of Laity and shall relate to the organized lay groups in the Conference, support their work and help them coordinate their activities. The Conference Lay Leader shall be nominated by the Conference Nominating Committee and elected by the Annual Conference and may serve no more than two consecutive quadrennia.

**Section III. Lay Members ¶¶602.4 – 602.10**

**Par. 209. Lay Members of the Annual Conference** The lay membership of the Annual Conference shall consist of a lay member elected by each charge, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, the Conference president of United Methodist Women, the Conference president of United Methodist Men, the Conference Lay Leader and Associate Lay Leader, District Lay Leaders, the Conference Director of

1 Lay Speaking Ministries, the president or equivalent officer of the Conference young adult organiza-  
2 tion, the president of the Conference youth organization, the chair of the Annual Conference college  
3 student organization, one student from each Wesley Foundation, one student from Hendrix College  
4 Campus Ministry, one student from Philander Smith College Campus Ministry, two young persons  
5 between the ages of twelve and seventeen (one of whom shall be currently serving on the District or  
6 Conference Council on Youth Ministry) and two young persons between the ages of eighteen and thir-  
7 ty from each district to be selected by the District Leadership team or District Nominating Committee  
8 in consultation with the District Superintendent. Each charge served by more than one clergy member  
9 under appointment (including deacons in full connection for whom this is their primary appointment)  
10 shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are clergy members under appointment.

11  
12 Lay members of the Annual Conference shall participate in all deliberations and vote upon all mea-  
13 sures except on the granting or validation of license, ordination, reception into full Conference mem-  
14 bership, or any question concerning the character and official conduct of ordained ministers, except  
15 those who are lay members of the board of ordained ministry. Lay members shall serve on all commit-  
16 tees except those on ministerial relations and for the trial of clergy.

17  
18 When at any time a lay member is excused by the Annual Conference from further attendance during  
19 the session, the alternate lay member, if present, shall be seated. The lay member or the alternate  
20 shall be the lay member of the Annual Conference, and it shall be the duty of the lay member to report  
21 to the local church on actions of the Annual Conference.

22

### 23 **Section IV. Clergy Members ¶¶ 602.1 – 602.3**

24 **Par. 210. Clergy Members of the Annual Conference** The clergy membership of the Annual Confer-  
25 ence shall consist of deacons and elders in full connection (¶333), provisional members (¶327), as-  
26 sociate members, affiliate members (¶344.4, 586.4), and local pastors under full-time and part-time  
27 appointment to a pastoral charge (¶317).

- 28 1. Clergy members in full connection shall have the right to vote on all matters in the annual con-  
29 ference except in the election of lay delegates to the General and jurisdictional conferences  
30 and shall have sole responsibility for all matters of ordination, character, and conference rela-  
31 tions of clergy.
- 32 2. Provisional clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters  
33 except constitutional amendments, election of clergy delegates to the General and jurisdic-  
34 tional conferences and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.  
35 Provisional clergy members who have completed all of their educational requirements may  
36 vote to elect clergy delegates to General and jurisdictional conferences.
- 37 3. Associate clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters  
38 except constitutional amendments, and matters of ordination, character, and conference rela-  
39 tions of clergy. When associate members are members of the conference Board of Ordained  
40 Ministry, they have the right to vote at clergy session on matters of ordination, character, and  
41 conference relations of clergy (¶ 635.1).
- 42 4. Affiliate clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters  
43 except the constitutional amendments, election of clergy delegates to the General and jurisdic-  
44 tional conferences, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.
- 45 5. Full-time and part-time local pastors shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on  
46 all matters except constitutional amendments, election of delegates to the General and jurisdic-  
47 tional conferences and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.  
48 When local pastors are members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, they have the  
49 right to vote at clergy session on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of  
50 clergy (¶ 635.1). Local pastors who have completed course of study or an M. Div. degree and



1 have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment before the election may  
2 vote to elect clergy delegates to General and jurisdictional conferences.

### 3 **Section V. Lay-Clergy Equalization**

4 **Par. 211. Equalizing Lay and Clergy Membership** If the lay membership should number fewer than the  
5 clergy members of the Annual Conference, the Annual Conference shall provide for the election of  
6 additional lay members to equalize lay and clergy membership of the Annual Conference according to  
7 the following priorities:

- 8 1. The Annual Conference clergy membership shall include campus ministers, chaplains and  
9 Wesley Foundation directors. In districts where United Methodist laypersons serve as campus  
10 ministers/ directors of Wesley Foundations, they shall be added as at-large lay members to  
11 the Annual Conference. In districts where United Methodist clergy serve as chaplains, cam-  
12 pus ministers, and directors of Wesley Foundations, the laypersons elected as their balancing  
13 counterparts shall be elected from either the campus ministry board of directors or a student  
14 from that ministry/foundation. In making sure that such inclusion is adhered to, special consid-  
15 eration shall be given to the inclusion of United Methodist young adults who are active partici-  
16 pants in campus ministry.
- 17 2. Lay Delegates and Alternate Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference
- 18 3. Lay chairpersons of Conference Boards, Committees, and Commissions as elected by the An-  
19 nual Conference. When the following positions are held by laity: Conference treasurer, Confer-  
20 ence statistician, Conference secretary, and Conference ministry staff.
- 21 4. When additional lay members are required to equalize representation an equal number of “at-  
22 large” delegates from each district shall be elected. The Conference Secretary will notify each  
23 District Superintendent of the number of at-large members they are to select giving consider-  
24 ation to the following persons:
  - 25 a. Congregations underrepresented by virtue of size or circumstance
  - 26 b. Elected chairpersons of Conference boards and agencies not included above
  - 27 c. Officers of the Conference Board of Laity
  - 28 d. Conference officers of UM Women, UM Men, and Conference Council on Youth Ministries  
29 residing within the bounds of a district
  - 30 e. Elected laypersons to General and Jurisdictional Conference boards and agencies
  - 31 f. District presidents of UM Women, UM Men, and District Councils on Youth Ministry
  - 32 g. Lay members of Conference boards and agencies
  - 33 h. Additional youth from each districtUpon their selection, the District Superintendent shall notify these persons in writing of  
34 their delegate status at least 30 days prior to the Conference
- 35 5. The names and addresses of lay members of the Annual Conference elected by the Charge  
36 Conferences, as well as any district lay members selected by the district, shall be compiled by  
37 the District Superintendents and sent to the Conference Secretary at least 60 days prior to the  
38 opening day of the Annual Conference session.  
39  
40

### 41 **Section VI. Business of the Annual Conference: Conference Procedure**

42 The following Conference procedures shall be observed to expedite the business of the Annual Con-  
43 ference:  
44

45 **Par. 212. Pre-Conference Journal** There shall be a Pre-Conference Journal, which shall contain re-  
46 ports of all program agencies of the Conference, proposed legislation, resolutions and petitions, and  
47 information about the Annual Conference session. This Pre-Conference Journal shall be provided to  
48 each member of the Arkansas Conference at least 30 days before the annual session. The Conference  
49 Secretary shall be the editor of this publication. Pre-conference reports submitted for inclusion in the  
50 Pre-Conference Journal shall be submitted to the Conference Secretary by a deadline to be deter-

1 mined and widely publicized by the Conference Secretary. Any agency making a report not includ-  
2 ed in the Pre-Conference Journal that proposes changes in policy or has financial implications shall  
3 provide the Conference Treasurer and chair of CF&A with the report no later than 10 days prior to the  
4 opening Business Session of Annual Conference.

5  
6 **Par. 213. Resolutions and Petitions**

- 7 1. Resolutions or petitions not offered by a Conference agency must be signed by at least ten  
8 lay and/or clergy members of the upcoming Arkansas Annual Conference Session. These  
9 signatures must be obtained before the proposed resolution or petition may be submitted to  
10 the Conference Secretary. Petitions and resolutions must be included in the Pre-Conference  
11 Journal to be considered by the Annual Conference Session. Any petitions and resolutions  
12 must lay on the table for a minimum of 24 hours prior to consideration.
- 13 2. Footnotes. Resolutions and petitions shall contain footnotes that clarify the source of any  
14 facts, quotes, or generalizations made within the proposed resolution or petition. These foot-  
15 notes must be included with the proposed resolution or petition before it may be submitted  
16 to the Conference Secretary. These footnotes shall include enough information to allow the  
17 Conference some level of confidence that the content of the proposed resolution or petition  
18 is accurate and reliable. These footnotes shall also include enough information to allow the  
19 content of the proposed resolution or petition to be checked for accuracy.

20  
21 **Par. 214. Items for Distribution.** All items for general distribution shall be prepared by the sponsoring  
22 person or agency at their own expense and must be in the hands of the Conference Secretary no lat-  
23 er than 3:00 p.m. prior to the next day's Business Session.

24  
25 **Par. 215. Journal of the Annual Conference**

- 26 1. There shall be a Journal, which contains a record of the Annual Conference proceedings.  
27 2. All content for the Journal shall be provided to the Conference Secretary no later than the  
28 close of the Annual Conference session. All material to be published in the Journal that does  
29 not meet this deadline may be excluded unless specific permission for delay is granted by the  
30 Conference Secretary. The Conference Secretary, Dean of the Cabinet, and Conference Trea-  
31 surer shall be authorized to edit all reports for printing in the Journal.
- 32 3. Addresses delivered to the Conference, except for the Episcopal Address, Laity Address and  
33 Youth Address, shall not be printed in the Conference Journal.
- 34 4. All reports not printed in the Pre-Conference Journal shall be in the hands of the Conference  
35 Secretary and Presiding Officer no later than 3:00 p.m. the day before the opening Business  
36 Session. The agency, at their own expense, also will provide enough copies for the members  
37 of the Annual Conference Session to the Conference Secretary no later than 3:00 p.m. on the  
38 day before the opening Business Session.
- 39 5. The Conference Structure shall be reprinted each year in the Journal, incorporating any  
40 changes made during the preceding Annual Conference.
- 41 6. The Conference Secretary shall distribute an electronic copy of the Journal to active and  
42 retired clergy, seminarians, all probationary members, lay members of the Annual Conference,  
43 and chairpersons of Conference board, committees, and agencies. Printed copies may be  
44 obtained upon request.

45  
46 **Par. 216. Election of Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences** At the Annual Conference  
47 session preceding the year of delegate election, the Conference may adopt rules governing the elec-  
48 tion of delegates.

49  
50 **Par. 217. Conference Expense Fund Registration** fees and non-designated offerings taken at the An-

1 nual Conference shall be administered by the Conference Treasurer to defray expenses of the ses-  
2 sion.

3 **Par. 218. Payment of Annual Conference Expenses** Expenses of the Annual Conference session shall  
4 be paid by funds received from:

- 5 1. Registration fees, which shall be set by the Conference Session Planning Committee;
- 6 2. Offerings, other than special designated offerings; and
- 7 3. If necessary, the Conference Administration Fund.

8  
9 **Par. 219. Retired Clergy, Spouses, and Surviving Spouses** No registration fee shall be required for  
10 retired clergy, their spouses or surviving spouses. The expense of retired clergy, spouses, and surviv-  
11 ing spouses shall be paid in keeping with the guidelines of the Council on Finance and Administration  
12 when proper vouchers are presented.

13  
14 **Par. 220 Student Local Pastors and Seminary Students** No registration fee shall be required for stu-  
15 dent local pastors or seminary students.

16  
17 **Par. 221 Location of the Annual Conference Session** Location of Annual Conference sessions will be  
18 selected by the Annual Conference Planning Committee and reported to the Annual Conference on a  
19 schedule sufficient to secure adequate facilities for meetings and lodging.

20  
21 **Par. 222. Annual Conference Session Rules** The Annual Conference Session will adopt the Arkansas  
22 Conference Session Rules during each opening Business Session of Annual Conference. Session  
23 rules will be proposed by the Annual Conference Session Planning Committee and adopted at the  
24 opening Business Session of each Annual Conference by a majority vote. Session rules shall remain  
25 in effect during all session of the Arkansas Conference until superseded by action of the Annual Con-  
26 ference.

## 27 28 **Structure of the Arkansas Annual Conference**

### 29 30 **Chapter One**

#### 31 32 **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

##### 33 34 **Section I. The Arkansas Conference Mission**

35 **Par. 301. Mission** The Mission of the Arkansas Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ  
36 equipped to transform the world with excellence and passion.

37  
38 **Par. 302. Vision** Congregations and surrounding communities transformed by the Holy Spirit to  
39 demonstrate love of God and neighbor, holy living, and justice.

40  
41 **Par. 303. Core Measures**

- 42 1. We will be enriched by our Wesleyan heritage of scriptural holiness so that we are connected  
43 by our mission of making disciples instead of being connected by our apportionments, ap-  
44 pointments and benefits.
- 45 2. We will establish the mission field as the primary focus of our attention and resources instead  
46 of directing the majority of our attention and resources to mere maintenance of congregations  
47 and clergy.
- 48 3. We will equip laity and clergy to transform individuals, communities and the world instead of  
49 trying to satisfy personal preferences of current members and ensure congregational preser-  
50 vation.

1 4. We will address the unique context of each mission field instead of depending on standardized  
2 programs and structures.

3 **Par. 304. Arkansas Conference Trajectory** Creating vital congregations that make disciples of Jesus  
4 Christ, who make disciples equipped and sent to transform lives, communities and the world.

## 5 6 **Section II. Structure**

7 **Par. 305. Establishment** The Arkansas Annual Conference establishes the following Structure under  
8 the authority of The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, which permits the Annual  
9 Conference to structure its own ministries and administrative procedures in order to accomplish its  
10 purpose of making disciples of Jesus Christ. ¶610

11  
12 **Par. 306. Purpose** The Structure prescribes the ministries, organization and procedures the Annual  
13 Conference will use in carrying out its mission, vision, core measures and trajectory.

14  
15 **Par. 307. Task Force** Boards, committees, commissions, and other agencies are encouraged to devel-  
16 op task forces to address emerging missional opportunities. Each board, committee, commission and  
17 other agencies will invite to these task forces persons who will bring passion, experience, and exper-  
18 tise to the work

## 19 20 **Chapter Two**

### 21 22 **NOMINATION AND ELECTION TO CONFERENCE AGENCIES AND OFFICES**

#### 23 24 **Section I. Nomination to Conference Agencies**

##### 25 **Par. 401. Conference Nominating Committee**

- 26 1. Purpose. Except as otherwise indicated by The Book of Discipline or the Standing Rules of the  
27 Arkansas Conference, the Conference Nominating Committee shall identify and nominate all  
28 members and chairpersons of the Annual Conference boards, teams, commissions and com-  
29 mittees, the Conference Lay Leader, Associate Lay Leader, the Conference Secretary, and the  
30 Conference Statistician.
- 31 2. Structure.
- 32 a. Composition Membership shall include one clergy and one lay member from each district  
33 and two cabinet representatives. The following shall serve as ex-officio members with vote:  
34 The Bishop (or representative), Conference Lay Leader, Associate Lay Leader, President  
35 of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries and the Chairperson (or representative) of  
36 the Committee on Ethnic and Language Concerns. The Director of Connectional Ministries  
37 shall serve as ex-officio without vote. The Committee shall reflect racial, ethnic, and gender  
38 diversity. They shall be elected by the Conference for terms of four years.
- 39 b. Nominations for Committee Membership. Nominations shall be received from each District  
40 Nominating Committee. Nominations for membership on the Conference Nominating Com-  
41 mittee shall be received from the District Nominating Committee and elected by the Annual  
42 Conference. Additional nominations may come from the floor. Elected members may serve  
43 a maximum of four consecutive years as long as they continue to live within the bounds  
44 of the district. If an elected district member moves out of the district mid-year, they will  
45 continue serving on this committee until their successor is elected at the next Conference  
46 session. Persons completing their elected term are ineligible to serve on the Nominating  
47 Committee until the passage of at least four years.
- 48 c. Filling Vacancies on the Committee. Any vacancy occurring between sessions of the Annu-  
49 al Conference shall be filled for the remainder of the term at the succeeding session of the  
50 Annual Conference in the same manner as described above. If a member representing a

1 district is unable or unwilling to attend meetings, the District Superintendent may name a  
2 substitute to ensure that the district is represented.

3 d. Officers. The committee shall organize, by electing from within its membership, a chairper-  
4 son, a vice chairperson, a secretary, and such other officers as it may deem necessary.

- 5 3. Process. All nominees shall be consulted regarding their nomination. The right to nominate  
6 from the floor of the Annual Conference session shall not be abridged. "In the nomination  
7 and election of the membership of councils, boards, and agencies of the Annual Conference,  
8 special attention shall be given to the inclusion of clergywomen, youth, (§1256.3), young adults,  
9 older adults, persons from churches with small memberships, persons with disabilities, and ra-  
10 cial and ethnic persons, in keeping with policies for general church agencies. It is further rec-  
11 ommended that the membership of such agencies, except for the Board of Ordained Ministry,  
12 include one-third clergy, one-third laywomen, and one-third laymen, who are professing mem-  
13 bers of local churches." (§1610.5) Attention shall also be given to geographical representation.  
14

#### 15 **Par. 402. Board, Agency and Committee Service**

- 16 1. Elective membership on any specific board, agency, or committee of the Annual Confer-  
17 ence may not exceed two consecutive quadrennia, excepting ex-officio membership, unless  
18 otherwise prescribed by The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church. After eight  
19 consecutive years on any specific board, agency, or committee of the Annual Conference,  
20 no person may return to the same body until the passage of four years, excepting ex-officio  
21 membership. Membership begins upon election, with the date noted in the Conference Jour-  
22 nal.
- 23 2. No person shall be elected by the Annual Conference to serve on more than one Council,  
24 Board, Committee, Commission, Agency, etc. at any one time. This does not affect ex-officio  
25 positions. The following are exempt from this rule: Conference Nominating Committee, Epis-  
26 copacy Committee, Annual Conference Planning Committee, Committee on Review and Re-  
27 search, Joint Committee on Incapacity, Board of Ordained Ministry and Administrative Review  
28 Committee.
- 29 3. In the nomination and election of the membership of councils, boards, and agencies of the  
30 Annual Conference, special attention shall be given to the inclusion of clergywomen, youth  
31 (§1256.3), young adults, older adults, persons from churches with small memberships, persons  
32 with disabilities, and racial and ethnic persons, in keeping with policies for general church  
33 agencies. It is further recommended that the membership of such agencies, except for the  
34 Board of Ordained Ministry, include one-third clergy, one-third laywomen, and one-third lay-  
35 men, who are professing members of local churches." (§1610.5) Special attention shall also be  
36 given to geographical representation.
- 37 4. Members of general agencies shall serve as ex-officio members of the corresponding Annual  
38 Conference agency or its equivalent structure. If this results in a person being a member of  
39 more than one Annual Conference agency in violation of either Annual Conference policy or  
40 another provision of The Book of Discipline, the person shall choose the Annual Conference  
41 agency on which to serve.
- 42 5. "No member or employee of any Conference agency and no employee, trustee, or director of  
43 any agency or institution participating in the funds of any Conference budget shall be eligible  
44 for voting membership on the Council on Finance and Administration." (§1611.2)
- 45 6. Agencies of the Annual Conference are to keep records of member attendance and partic-  
46 ipation and report to the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee may recom-  
47 mend to the Annual Conference that new board/committee members be elected to replace  
48 those whose lack of participation inhibits the effectiveness of the board/committee.
- 49 7. Unless provided for elsewhere, a vacancy between sessions of the Annual Conference shall  
50 be filled by the Cabinet on nomination of the Nominating Committee.



1  
2 **Par. 403. Task Force Service**

- 3 1. Membership on Task Forces shall be inclusive of ethnic minorities and persons from small  
4 membership churches. A balance of laymen, laywomen, and clergy shall be the norm.  
5 2. The norm for Task Force membership shall be a broad base of participation from throughout  
6 the Conference.  
7 3. Persons are limited to membership on one Conference task force at a given time. It is recom-  
8 mended that persons will not immediately begin service on a new task force after completion  
9 of their service.

10  
11 **Par. 404. Removal from Agency Membership** Since lack of members' participation inhibits the effec-  
12 tiveness of Conference Agencies, Agencies will keep records of member attendance and participation  
13 and report to the Conference Committee on Nominations and Leadership. The Conference Committee  
14 on Nominations and Leadership may recommend to the Annual Conference that new board/commit-  
15 tee member(s) be elected to replace those whose lack of participation inhibits the effectiveness of the  
16 board/committee.

17  
18 **Par. 405. Procedure for Filling Vacancies** Unless provided for elsewhere, a vacancy between sessions  
19 of the Annual Conference shall be filled by the Cabinet on nomination of the Conference Committee  
20 on Nominations and Leadership.

21  
22 **Chapter Three**

23  
24 **CONFERENCE AGENCIES AND OFFICES**

25  
26 **Section I. Establishment of Conference Agencies**

27 Par. 501. Required by The Book of Discipline ¶¶607.9-654 (The following includes required agencies  
28 and officers, any rules that impact the agency or officer and the name given by The Arkansas Annual  
29 Conference to that agency if it differs from the name listed in The Book of Discipline.)

- 30 1. Board of Discipleship ¶¶ 630, 645  
31 2. Board of Laity ¶ 631  
32 3. Conference Associate Lay Leader ¶ 607.9  
33 a. Purpose. The Conference Associate Lay Leader shall assist the Conference Lay Leader in  
34 fostering awareness of the role of the laity in achieving the mission of the Church and for  
35 enabling and supporting lay participation in the planning and decision-making process- es  
36 of the Annual Conference, district, and local church.  
37 b. Structure. The Conference Associate Lay Leader shall be nominated by the Conference  
38 Nominating Committee and elected by the Annual Conference. The Conference Associate  
39 Lay Leader shall be a member of the Annual Conference, the Conference Nominating Com-  
40 mittee, the Conference Committee on Episcopacy, and the Annual Conference Planning  
41 Committee; and may be designated by the Bishop to any Conference agency.  
42 4. Board of Ordained Ministry ¶ 635  
43 5. Committee on Episcopacy ¶ 637  
44 6. Episcopal Residence Committee ¶ 638  
45 7. Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry ¶ 634  
46 a. Membership of the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry shall include a chair-  
47 person and two representatives from each district nominated by the Conference Nomi-  
48 nating Committee and elected by the Annual Conference. In addition, there shall be one  
49 representative from each Wesley Foundation, one representative from the campus ministry  
50 at Hendrix College named by the President of Hendrix College, and one representative of

1 the campus ministry at Philander Smith College named by the President of Philander Smith  
2 College. The campus minister from each campus and the Conference Director of Connec-  
3 tional Ministries shall be ex-officio members without vote. In addition, any member of the  
4 General Board of Higher Education and Ministry from the Annual Conference shall be a  
5 member of the Conference Board.

6 b. Wesley Foundation Boards: Membership will be appointed by each local board and pre-  
7 sented to each Annual Conference for approval. A majority of members of Wesley Founda-  
8 tion Boards shall be active members of a United Methodist Church in Arkansas.

9 8. Board of Global Ministries ¶¶ 633, 642

10 a. The membership of the Conference Board of Global Ministries shall include a Chairperson,  
11 the Conference Secretary of Global Ministries and the District Secretaries of Global Minis-  
12 tries who shall be nominated by the Conference Nominating Committee and elected by the  
13 Annual Conference, the Mission Coordinator of Education and Interpretation of the Confer-  
14 ence United Methodist Women.

15 b. The Board shall designate a coordinator (or coordinators) for Volunteer In Mission opportu-  
16 nities, a coordinator (or coordinators) of missionary personnel, a coordinator (or coordina-  
17 tors) for disaster response, a coordinator (or coordinators) for ecumenical and interreligious  
18 concerns, and a coordinator (or coordinators) of Parish and Community Development. In ad-  
19 dition, any member of the General Board of Global Ministries from the Annual Conference  
20 shall be an ex-officio member of the Conference Board.

21 9. Conference Secretary of Global Ministries ¶ 633.3

22 a. The Secretary of Global Ministries shall be nominated by the Conference Nominating Com-  
23 mittee and elected by the Annual Conference and will be a member of the Board of Global  
24 Ministries.

25 10. Conference Board of Church and Society ¶¶ 629, 653

26 a. The membership of the Conference Board of Church and Society shall consist of a chairper-  
27 son, one representative from each district, the United Methodist Women Mission Coordina-  
28 tor for Social Action, and one at-large member nominated by the Conference Nominating  
29 Committee and elected by the Annual Conference. The membership shall include persons  
30 with disabilities. The board will be half clergy and half laity. The Board shall elect a secretary  
31 from its members.

32 b. The members of the Board shall organize themselves into committees to work on the vari-  
33 ous issues of concern to the Board as outlined in the Social Principles, including local, state,  
34 national, and international issues. The Board shall include a coordinator (or coordinators) of  
35 Peace with Justice Ministries. In addition, the Board shall include a coordinator (or coordina-  
36 tors) of disability concerns.

37 11. Conference Commission on Religion and Race ¶ 643

38 a. Membership shall include a chairperson and one member from each district to be rep-  
39 resented by racial and ethnic minority persons. Selection of commission members shall  
40 ensure adequate representation of women, youth, young adults, older adults, and people  
41 with disabilities.

42 b. Members of the General Commission on Religion and Race residing in the Annual Confer-  
43 ence shall be ex-officio members of the Annual Conference Commission on Religion and  
44 Race with vote. The commission chairperson and members shall be nominated by the Con-  
45 ference Nominating Committee and elected by the Annual Conference.

46 12. Conference Committee on the Status and Role of Women ¶ 644

47 a. Membership will include one representative from each district, and a chairperson, who  
48 shall be a woman, to be nominated by the Conference Nominating Committee and elect-  
49 ed by the Annual Conference. In addition, there shall be a representative from the United  
50 Methodist Women and the Board of Laity.

1 13. Committee on Ethnic and Language Concerns ¶¶ 632, 654

2 a. The membership shall include:

- 3 I. Chairperson to be nominated by the Conference Nominating Committee and elected  
4 by the Annual Conference.
- 5 II. One representative from each district appointed by the District Superintendent. Race,  
6 gender, and age shall be taken into consideration, with special attention to ensure that  
7 the committee represents the racial makeup of ethnic groups within the Arkansas Con-  
8 ference (Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Pacific Islanders,  
9 and Native Americans). At no time shall ethnic persons make up less than 51% of the  
10 persons represented on the committee.
- 11 III. Representatives without vote:
- 12 i. A representative of the Conference Staff;
- 13 ii. One representative from the Conference Commission on Religion and Race  
14 (chairperson or designee) to act as liaison; and
- 15 iii. Liaison(s) to other bodies as needed to accomplish the Committee's work.

16 14. United Methodist Women ¶ 647

17 15. United Methodist Men ¶ 648

18 16. Conference Council on Youth Ministries ¶ 649

19 17. Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries ¶ 650

20 18. Conference Council on Adult, Singles, Family, and Older Adult Ministries ¶ 651

21 19. Council on Finance and Administration ¶ 612

- 22 a. The Council members will be nominated by the Conference Nominating Committee and  
23 elected by the Annual Conference. The Council shall be composed of twenty-one (21) mem-  
24 bers. The Conference Coordinator of Stewardship shall be an ex-officio member. There will  
25 be at least more layperson than clergy included on the Council. Members will be elected  
26 to four-year terms of office. Those whose terms have expired will be eligible to be elected  
27 to one additional term. Churches of fewer than 200 members shall be represented on the  
28 council. Ex-officio members of the Council (without vote) shall be (1) the Conference Treas-  
29 urer, (2) any member of the General Council on Finance and Administration who resides  
30 in Arkansas, (3) the presiding Bishop (4) a Cabinet representative and (5) the Director of  
31 Connectional Ministries. The Council will elect from its voting membership a president, vice  
32 president, and secretary.

33 20. Conference Treasurer ¶ 619

34 21. Conference Statistician ¶ 603.7

35 22. Conference Secretary ¶ 603.7

36 23. Conference Chancellor ¶ 603.8

37 24. Conference Board of Trustees ¶ 2512

38 25. Board of Pension and Health Benefits ¶ 639

39 26. Commission on Archives and History ¶ 641

40 27. Commission on Communications ¶ 646

41 28. Commission on Equitable Compensation ¶ 625

42 29. Joint Committee on Incapacity ¶ 652

43 30. Administrative Review Committee ¶ 636

44 31. Committee on Investigation ¶ 2703.2a

45 32. Committee on Investigation for Deacons ¶ 2703.2b

46 33. Cabinet ¶ 424

- 47 a. Purpose. The purpose of the Cabinet shall be to act as the central team that develops and  
48 implements ministry and mission strategies of the Arkansas Annual Conference. It also shall  
49 serve as the body to which all financial requests for ministry resources are submitted. The  
50 Director of Connectional Ministries will have primary responsibility to receive requests. It

- 1 will be the responsibility of the Cabinet to present a budget to the Council on Finance and  
2 Administration with a listing of ministry priorities and rationale for budget requests.  
3 b. Structure. The membership of the Cabinet shall be determined by the presiding bishop to  
4 address the missional needs of the Annual Conference.

5 34. Committee on Disability Concerns ¶ 653  
6

7 **Section II. Additional Conference Agencies and Offices**

8 Par. 502. Additional agencies, committees, and offices ¶ 610.2 (The following includes additional  
9 agencies and officers, any rules that impact the agency or officer and the name given by The Arkan-  
10 sas Annual Conference.)

11 1. Leadership Table

- 12 a. Purpose. The Leadership Table shall resource and facilitate ministry networks to strength-  
13 en local church ministries.  
14 b. Structure. The Leadership Table shall be composed of the chairs or designated represen-  
15 tatives of the Conference boards and agencies and the coordinators of ministries within  
16 those entities under the guidance of the Director of Connectional Ministries

17 2. Conference Council on Children's Ministries

18 3. Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries

- 19 a. Purpose. The Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries is responsible for providing expe-  
20 riences in outdoor settings that enable persons of all ages to become disciples of Jesus  
21 Christ and to grow in their faith. The Conference Camp and Retreat Ministry Committee  
22 will be responsible for budget requests and funding allocations.  
23 b. Structure. The Committee will provide proper communication and alignment between Ar-  
24 kansas Conference entities and camps/retreat centers with relationship statements with  
25 the conference. It will consist of the following positions, with authority to add persons if  
26 required.

- 27 I. Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries Coordinator  
28 II. Director of Connectional Ministries  
29 III. Conference Director of Children's Ministries or representative  
30 IV. Conference Director of Youth Ministries or representative  
31 V. Conference Council on Youth Ministries President or designee  
32 VI. Conference Young Adult Ministries Chair  
33 VII. Conference Coordinator of Adult, Singles, Family and Older Adult Ministries  
34 VIII. Center for Vitality Representative  
35 IX. Board of Higher Education Representative  
36 X. Camp Tanako Director  
37 XI. Mount Eagle Retreat Center Director  
38 XII. \*\*Bear Creek Camp Representative  
39 XIII. \*\*Shoal Creek Camp Representative

40 \*\* Unless accredited, positions will end December 31, 2019  
41

42 4. Conference Session Planning Committee

- 43 a. Purpose. The Conference Session Planning Committee shall:  
44 I. Develop and approve the Annual Conference agenda, in consultation with the Bishop;  
45 II. Set Annual Conference registration fees;  
46 III. Recommend a balanced budget for the upcoming Annual Conference session to the  
47 Council on Finance and Administration;  
48 IV. Advise the Bishop on setting dates for the Annual Conference session;  
49 V. Advise the Bishop on the selection of the Conference preacher;  
50 VI. Research and advise the Annual Conference on the selection of future meeting sites;

- 1 VII. Advise and approve plans of the worship committee for the Annual Conference ses-  
2 sion;  
3 VIII. Maintain a checklist of local host responsibilities;  
4 IX. Review and approve an evaluation process;  
5 X. Review evaluations of the previous session prior to planning the next session.  
6 b. Structure. Membership of the Conference Session Planning Committee shall be:  
7 I. Bishop, who shall serve as chairperson;  
8 II. Conference Lay Leader, who shall serve as vice-chairperson;  
9 III. Conference Secretary, who shall serve as secretary;  
10 IV. Worship Coordinator (Board of Discipleship);  
11 V. Director of Connectional Ministries;  
12 VI. Conference Treasurer;  
13 VII. Coordinator of Spiritual Growth, Conference United Methodist Women;  
14 VIII. Host District Superintendent;  
15 IX. Two representatives of the host committee for the forthcoming session, selected by the  
16 host District Superintendent.  
17 X. Four lay persons from the Board of Laity, selected by the conference Lay Leader in con-  
18 sultation with the Bishop;  
19 XI. Two ethnic minority persons; and  
20 XII. Any other persons named by the Bishop.  
21 5. Committee on Review and Research  
22 a. Purpose. The Committee on Review and Research shall: 1) Ensure changes in the Confer-  
23 ence Standing Rules and Structure that are mandated by the General Conference and are  
24 published in each subsequent edition of The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist  
25 Church; 2) Review all resolutions presented to the Annual Conference that call for changes  
26 in the Standing Rules or Structure and report to the Conference; and 3) Propose changes  
27 in Standing Rules and Structure that will enable the Annual Conference to more faithfully  
28 carry out its mission, vision, core measures and trajectory.  
29 b. Structure. The Committee on Review and Research shall include a chairperson, one repre-  
30 sentative from each district, and three at-large members. The chairperson and members  
31 shall be nominated by the Conference Nominating Committee and elected by the Annual  
32 Conference.  
33 c. Process. The Committee will work with the Conference Secretary, Journal Editor, and Assis-  
34 tant to the Bishop to ensure that changes mandated by the General Conference are reflect-  
35 ed in the Conference Standing Rules and Structure, and are published in each subsequent  
36 edition of the Journal. The Committee will review all resolutions, petitions, and legislation  
37 presented to the Annual Conference that calls for changes in the Standing Rules or Struc-  
38 ture and reports to the Conference.  
39

## 40 Chapter Four

### 41 DISTRICTS

#### 42 Par. 601 District Structure

- 43  
44 1. District Conference (§658-659)  
45 a. Purpose: The District Conference sets the district's annual budget, elects officers, and  
46 implements the Arkansas Conference trajectory within its geographic bounds through the  
47 members, clergy, congregations, ministries, and leaders of the district.  
48 b. Structure: In addition to the Administrative Structure, the District includes mission and min-  
49 istry committees, councils, and organizations, such as those for youth, Lay Servants, and  
50



1 UMW.

2 **Par. 602 District Administrative Structure**

- 3 1. District Leadership Team ¶660.7, ¶661, ¶669
- 4 a. Purpose: The DLT serves as the district conference’s administrative executive commit-
- 5 tee, with the duties and responsibilities of the District Superintendency Committee as
- 6 well as nominations and finances. The DLT will administer the district budget and per-
- 7 sonnel policies.
- 8 b. Structure:
- 9 I. 8 elected members with representation (¶669.1) by laywomen, laymen, and clergy
- 10 II. 2 members appointed by the CMS/DS
- 11 III. District Lay Leader ¶660
- 12 IV. Chief Mission Strategist
- 13 V. Advisory members may be added as needed (¶669.2), including district treasurer or
- 14 financial steward
- 15 2. District Committee on Ordained Ministry (¶666)
- 16 a. Purpose: The DCOM is amenable to the conference Board of Ordained Ministry. It is re-
- 17 sponsible for candidacy, the examination of candidates seeking ministerial office and the
- 18 ongoing credentialing for licensed local pastors.
- 19 b. Structure:
- 20 i. Members nominated annually by the CMS/DS in consultation with the BOM chair or
- 21 executive committee and approved by the annual conference ¶666.1
- 22 3. District Board of Church Location and Building (¶2518-2524)
- 23 a. Purpose: The DBCLB serves as the District Board of Trustees. The DBCLB is responsible
- 24 for reviewing building projects and purchases, and it partners with the DST to explore the
- 25 repurposing, closing and realignment of churches.
- 26 b. Structure:
- 27 i. 6-9 members are nominated and elected annually with one-third laywomen, one-third
- 28 laymen, and one-third clergy ¶2518.2, ¶2519
- 29 ii. Chief Mission Strategist
- 30 4. District Strategy Team (¶661)
- 31 a. Purpose: The DST will partner with the Chief Mission Strategist/ District Superintendent
- 32 (CMS/DS) to develop and implement an overall strategy with conference trajectory-aligned
- 33 priorities for the mission fields of the district to create vital disciple-making congregations.
- 34 b. Structure:
- 35 i. District Lay Leader ¶660
- 36 ii. Chair of DLT/District Superintendency ¶669
- 37 iii. Chair of DBCLB/Trustees ¶2518-2524
- 38 iv. 3 elected members
- 39 v. 6 members appointed by the CMS/DS
- 40 vi. Chief Mission Strategist
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# FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY

The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas has served the state and Methodism in ways that cannot be measured. Women and men; laity and clergy; young and old have experienced the positive life-changing ministries provided by people with a vision for the future.

Endowments, managed by the Foundation, are gifts to local churches and the Foundation from people who love the church and want to see the great works for ministry continue, even after their death. These funds provide a local church opportunities to share Jesus Christ to the community in ways that might not be possible without the seeds planted by church members.

People often believe that a permanent endowment gift has to be a significant amount of money. The truth is, any amount can start an account. The real requirement is a desire to see ministry continue in the local church or Methodism in the state. The corpus of the money is never used, so it grows to provide funds in perpetuity.

Many accounts are established as a result of estate gifts to a local church or the Foundation. Others are created by people who want to see their money grow and the positive changes it will make to their church during their lifetime. Gifts for a permanent endowment are intended to support an annual budget or even a capital project. These gifts are made with a look toward the future.

Please let The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas know how we can help you and your local church make your passions live on forever.



Rev. J. Wayne Clark  
President & CEO



The Methodist  
Foundation  
for Arkansas

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