

**IN THIS ISSUE**

## Nov. 17 Ingathering to help meet needs worldwide

BY AMY FORBUS  
Editor

If your world fell apart, what would you need so you could begin putting it back together? Sometimes the answer is a bucket filled with cleaning supplies. Other times the answer is as basic as a hand towel and a bar of soap. Many of us take such items for granted until disaster strikes.

For 35 years now, United Methodists in Arkansas have answered these types of needs through Ingathering, an event that does exactly what the name implies: gathering in supplies for distribution by the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Ingathering 2012 is set for Saturday, Nov. 17.

Cars and trucks loaded with health kits, cleaning buckets, bulk items and more will arrive from across the state at the Arkansas Rice Depot, 3801 W. 65th Street in Little Rock, for sorting and distribution to anyone in need. Some items will remain at the Rice Depot to help Arkansas families; others will go to UMCOR's Sager Brown Depot distribution center in Baldwin, La. From there, they make their way to people around the world affected by disaster or need.

This year's event, will include worship, music, refreshments and work organizing the donations for storage and transport.

### Statewide drop-offs

For those who cannot drive to Little Rock on Nov. 17, several churches in each of the state's five districts will serve as advance collection locations. Drop-off dates, locations and times will be shared by each district and in the Nov. 2 issue of the *Arkansas United Methodist*.

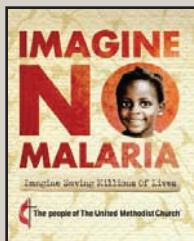
Ingathering relies upon volunteers to unload vehicles and sort items into their proper locations for packing and storage. To add yourself or your group to the list of helpers, visit [arumc.org/register](http://arumc.org/register).

Preparation begins now. Read on for lists of supplies to include in the various kits.

[See INGATHERING, page 6A]



Fayetteville woman's mission in Uganda  
**5A**



Online training for Imagine No Malaria  
**7A**



Small acts, big impact  
**11A**



Members of a Louisiana Conference Early Response Team distribute UMCOR cleaning buckets in St. Bernard Parish, an area that suffered significant damage from the late-August arrival of Hurricane Isaac. Cleaning buckets collected as part of Arkansas' Ingathering event make their way to locations like this one, where supplies can be hard to find or purchase in the aftermath of a disaster.

PHOTO BY BOB DEICH/COURTESY LOUISIANA CONFERENCE UMC



### Basin and towel

Bishop Gary E. Mueller washed the feet of Miller Wilbourn, Conference youth chaplain; Karon Mann, Conference lay leader; and the Rev. Ronnie Miller-Yow, chaplain of Philander Smith College, as a symbol of servant leadership during the Service of Installation for the new bishop, held on Saturday, Sept. 8, at St. James UMC Little Rock. For additional photos, as well as links to the worship service video and a full online photo album, see page 12A.

AUM PHOTO BY AMY FORBUS

# Keeping a civil tongue

WILLIAM O. (BUD) REEVES  
Special Contributor

I am not the first to notice a lack of civility in our common discourse. Turn on the TV, and you will be assaulted by disrespectful speech, masquerading as comedy or commentary.

In our political dialogue, especially in this election year, we are subject to a constant barrage of criticism and negativity. Our U.S. embassies have been under attack and people have lost their lives in violent reactions to an anti-Islamic film. As Americans, we believe in freedom of speech. But what good could possibly come from maligning another religious tradition?



**Bud Reeves**

Even in churches, the hostility and bitterness that often spews between brothers and sisters in Christ is sad and disheartening.

It's not a new phenomenon. Chapter 3 of James says, "The tongue is a small flame of fire, a world of evil at

work in us. It contaminates our entire lives. Because of it, the circle of life is set on fire.

The tongue itself is set on fire by the flames of hell.... a restless evil, full of deadly poison" (Common English Bible). Apparently, they were going at it back then, too!

Nevertheless, holiness calls us to a better way. We need a civil tongue. We need true community.

Gil Rendle has worked with hundreds of local churches and larger church organizations. In conflicted situations, he often begins with a behavioral covenant, a sort of "rules of engagement" based on the common values of our faith.

When the church is at its best, we are a covenant community. The covenant is based on **humility**, because we realize that others might have something valuable to offer, and we might be wrong.

Our covenant is based on **grace**, because we realize that others might make mistakes, too, and even those with whom we disagree are still *our people*.

Our covenant is based on **respect**, because our fundamental belief is that every human being is a person of sacred worth, created by God and endowed with divine dignity.

Most of all, our covenant community is based on **love**, because love is the character of God and the primary

commandment of Christ.

Being in community does not mean we see everything alike. In his book *Back to Zero*, Rendle writes, "Being in full agreement is not community, just as always being happy with one another is not family. However, being connected to a shared and vital center that gives identity and purpose does make us one—one in community, in purpose, and in Christ."

One of the last acts of Bishop Crutchfield before he retired was to name me as convener of a study group on human sexuality (nice parting gift!). The group's task, as defined by the Annual Conference, is to produce a curriculum to allow local churches to have holy conversations around the continuing issue of homosexuality and the church. It is actually a discussion I am looking forward to having on a deep level with people who hold diverse opinions.

However, equally important to what we talk about is *how* we talk about it. Can we have a discussion of a controversial topic, apply the Wesleyan standards of Scripture, tradition, reason and experience, and live into what Wesley called "holy conferencing"? This conversation has not generally gone well in our culture or

in our denomination; can we learn to talk "with" each other and not "at" or "past" each other?

Our first step as a group, after sharing Holy Communion, was to adopt a behavioral covenant. It includes personal disciplines of prayer, worship and Bible study. It establishes conversational practices based on the values of humility, grace, respect, and love. It incorporates the statement from the preamble of our Social Principles, "We pledge to continue to be in respectful conversation with those with whom we differ, to explore the sources of our differences, to honor the sacred

worth of all persons as we continue to seek the mind of Christ and to do the will of God in all things."

If we can learn to do that, we can have holy conferencing on anything that divides us, from social issues to budget shortfalls. If we can teach it to the world, we can transform it.

Pray for us. Pray for all the conflicted communities you see around you. Practice humility, grace, respect and love. Live in the Center, and claim the presence of the Christ who forms us and draws us into community.

*The Rev. Dr. Reeves is superintendent of the Northeast District. He may be reached at [breeves@arumc.org](mailto:breeves@arumc.org).*

**'Most of all, our covenant community is based on love, because love is the character of God and the primary commandment of Christ.'**

**Recycle  
Reuse  
Replenish**



Be sure to recycle your copy of the *Arkansas United Methodist* when you're finished reading it (or share it with a friend).



## EDITOR'S CORNER

BY AMY FORBUS

## On interdependence

I'm sometimes surprised by the experiences that have remained with me over the years. Recently, a friend mentioned a song I learned in children's choir at church, one that my college roommate and another friend taught to the next generation of kids when we were all undergrads. Immediately, the lyrics returned to mind, and I caught myself humming the tune for days afterward.

What factors determine the memories that stick with us? In this case, a catchy melody, combined with lyrics that adults found annoying, definitely played into it.

But those aren't the only factors. Shared experience and shared faith, as well as shared personal and emotional investment, have a great deal to do with shaping our lives, too.

I've become more aware in recent years of how interconnected we are, and the truly small world in which we live. I once took a course on spiritual gifts that emphasized their communal nature: We can't effectively use our God-given gifts apart from one another. The curriculum asked us to set aside the American ideal of rugged independence, suggesting rugged *interdependence* as a noble goal for people of faith.

### Issue extras

Those who read the print edition of the *Arkansas United Methodist* will find a couple of extra sections in this issue. Both of them relate to our interdependence.

The four-page insert is specific to our Conference: it's a Benevolence

Guide explaining how gifts given in our local churches connect us all. (Digital edition readers can view this section, as well.) With information provided by the Conference's Office of Administrative Services, it explains how each dollar in the offering plate is used, and even includes an explanation of how local church apportionments are calculated.

The other special supplement, produced by the staff of the *United Methodist Reporter* national edition, covers higher education and the United Methodist Church. Readers will find a heavy dose of Arkansas in that section.

In addition to a commentary on page 5 from the Rev. Eric Van Meter, who serves in campus ministry at Arkansas State University, on the cover you'll see one of Arkansas' native sons, the Rev. Dr. Rock Jones, president of Ohio Wesleyan University. Page 4 bears a familiar face, too—the immediate past president of Philander Smith College, who this summer took the helm at Dillard University. And page 9 includes a story on Hendrix College's support for students considering seminary and a path to ordination.

Both of these sections highlight our connectedness—connections for which I'm particularly grateful as I reflect upon my own education, and the relationships built, during my four years at a UMC-affiliated college.

God didn't create us to go it alone. And thanks be to God for that.

*To reach me, send an email to [aforbus@arumc.org](mailto:aforbus@arumc.org).*



Volume 159 • No. 23 October 5, 2012  
Amy Forbus • Editor  
Patrick W. Shownes • Communications Coordinator  
[www.arumc.org](http://www.arumc.org)

The *Arkansas United Methodist* is the newspaper of record for the Arkansas Conference of The United Methodist Church. It is printed as an edition of *The United Methodist Reporter* once monthly, on the first Friday of every month, and four special issues during the year for a total of 16 issues per year.

Send correspondence & subscription updates to: Arkansas United Methodist, 800 Daisy Bates Drive, Little Rock, AR 72202; or email to [Patrick.Shownes@arumc.org](mailto:Patrick.Shownes@arumc.org)

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The United Methodist Reporter, PO Box 660275, Dallas, TX 75266-0275.

The *United Methodist Reporter* (USPS 954-500) is published weekly by UMR Communications, 1221 Profit Drive, Dallas, TX 75247. Periodicals Postage Paid at Dallas.



Arkansas Conference Communications  
800 Daisy Bates Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72202-3770  
[www.arumc.org](http://www.arumc.org) 501-324-8000

**Subscriptions**  
- Annual and biannual subscriptions are available for the print edition of this newspaper.  
- The online edition is free.  
For more information on subscribing to either edition, visit [www.arumc.org/aum](http://www.arumc.org/aum) or call 501-324-8006.

**Advertising** is welcomed. For a rate sheet or more information, contact Amy Forbus at 501-324-8037 or [aforbus@arumc.org](mailto:aforbus@arumc.org). While all advertising is reviewed before acceptance, it should not be considered endorsed by this newspaper or the Church.

### Submission Deadlines

Issue Date	Submission Deadline
Nov. 2	Oct. 17
Dec. 7	Nov. 16
Jan. 4	Dec. 14



## GROWING TOGETHER IN CHRIST: A word from the Bishop

BY GARY E. MUELLER

# In Arkansas and Africa, sharing Jesus' love in real ways

If you have been able to figure out anything about me in the short time I've been here, I hope it's that I'm all about the local church. I believe Jesus has called congregations into being so they can be His Body in the world doing cutting edge Kingdom work. I am convinced churches are called to make disciples who make disciples who change the world. And I am going to do everything I can to help Arkansas United Methodist congregations become as fruitful as possible in carrying out this holy work.

Your church does this as you share Jesus' real love in real ways that really makes a difference in the mission field surrounding you. But that's just the beginning. You sometimes are called to a mission field on the other side of the world.

This is exactly what Imagine No Malaria is all about. It invites local churches just like yours to share Jesus' life-changing love with people you will never meet—many of whom are children. The United Methodist Church has embraced a

ginormous goal of raising \$75 million to end this disease that kills so many of God's children.

Your church has the privilege—and that's exactly what it is—of joining other United Methodist congregations throughout Arkansas to raise \$1 million. That's a lot of money, but it's something we can do together for three very important reasons. First, the Rev. David Freeman is chairing a great team leading the effort. Second, the Rev. Martha Taylor is serving as the field coordinator. Third, the United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas is pledging an incredibly generous matching grant of \$333,333.

When all is said and done, however, the main reason we will be able to successfully raise this money is that local congregations just like yours are going to make it happen.

As we reach out into this mission field together, I want to ask your church to do something. Imagine. Imagine what it's like

to be a parent of a child who contracts malaria. Imagine what it will be like when no parents have to experience their child dying from a disease that is preventable, treatable and curable.

Imagine how your local church can be so filled with Jesus' love that you pray every day for those affected. Imagine how your congregation can raise money that literally will save 10, 20 or 1,000 lives. Imagine how good it will feel when your church joins other United Methodist congregations throughout Arkansas and we save more lives than we ever thought possible.

Grace and peace,

Gary E. Mueller



BY ANDREW C. THOMPSON

## PRACTICAL DIVINITY

# Why should we imagine no malaria?

Our economy has had a rough time of it over the past few years. The unemployment rate is still high. Many churches are having a hard time making their budgets.

And yet, we're hearing more and more about a new campaign called Imagine No Malaria. The goal is to raise \$75 million with the aim of eliminating the disease of malaria by the year 2015.

We might ask some questions: In a time when resources seem thin (both in families and churches), do we really need to be taking on a project of this scope? There is no malaria in the U.S. Shouldn't we attend more to the mission that God has given us close to home?

I know these questions are being asked around the Conference. I spoke to a long-time faithful Methodist a few days ago who was wondering why our money and effort should go to work overseas when there is so much needing to be done right here.

Nevertheless, I think Imagine No Malaria is a crucial ministry of the church. I support it 100 percent. Let me tell you why.

### Malaria the killer

We don't think much about malaria in the U.S. because it was effectively eradicated here by the

1950s. But that is not the case elsewhere in the world, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. There, malaria is a devastating disease.

I've seen the statistics. And the statistics are shocking.

Malaria kills over 600,000 people per year. Most of the victims are in sub-Saharan Africa. Those most at risk are highly vulnerable people like pregnant women and children. The disease kills 200,000 infants alone in Africa every single year.

A child dies from malaria every 60 seconds.

Part of the tragedy of malaria is that it is preventable. And even if a person contracts it, it is highly treatable when the right resources are available.

Faithful people in the UMC began getting involved in the fight against malaria in Africa back in 2006. Since that time, the UMC has cooperated with the United Nations' "Nothing But Nets" campaign to combat malaria through widespread distribution of mosquito nets in affected areas.

The delivery and use of insecticide-treated nets is crucial, but we've also learned that nets are not enough to stop malaria on their own. The beginnings of a wider campaign against malaria came through the endorsement of the

"Four Areas of Focus" at the 2008 General Conference; one of those focus areas was on global health. Because of our prior involvement with malaria in Africa, it was decided that a more extensive church-led effort at combating malaria would be the way United Methodists could engage in a health-related ministry outreach.

In April 2010, the Imagine No Malaria movement was officially launched within the UMC. Our church will continue to support the distribution of mosquito nets for use in homes. But in addition to those efforts, there are now other important strategies being pursued through the work of Imagine No Malaria.

Some of these strategies include attention to environmental factors in local communities, such as the presence of stagnant water and trash that are breeding grounds for mosquito populations. Sanitation improvements are being tackled as well, specifically around the maintenance of latrines and water treatment. Basic community health standards must be in place to have a long-term impact against malaria.

In addition to the environmental issues, the Imagine No Malaria initiative seeks to address health care infrastructure as well, including the training of health care workers, the

improvement of hospitals and clinics that treat malaria and the delivery of medicines and educational resources.

### Fighting malaria: a means of grace

While the statistics on malaria are shocking, the opportunity that we have right now to combat the disease ought to give us great hope.

We also should not just think about this effort as charity work, something to do on behalf of others as a way to feel good ourselves.

In Wesleyan terms, the Imagine No Malaria campaign has the real chance of becoming a means of grace. One of John Wesley's most powerful statements on the means of grace is his 1786 sermon, "On Visiting the Sick." In that sermon, he argues that ministry with the sick and the poor is more than an obligation on Christians. It is rather a ministry that can be transformative for both the giver and the recipient.

By offering material and spiritual assistance, the giver provides a means for life and hope to those in need. But the giver is also changed in the process, learning to love the poor as Jesus Christ loves the poor. The work of grace does not all go in one direction; it is shared mutually, and both the giver and the recipient are transformed in the process.

As a people redeemed solely by God's grace, we should think long

and hard about this. Because when we're responding to the grace we've been given through acts of ministry and discipleship, we should realize that grace is not a finite commodity. In fact, the gift of grace hoarded will quickly die. The only way for grace to multiply is to give it away.

That's the way God's love works.

*The Rev. Thompson serves as Wesley scholar for the Arkansas Conference and teaches at Memphis Theological Seminary. He may be reached at athompson@memphissem.edu.*

## Wesley scholar on the road

First UMC Benton on Nov. 9 and 10 will host free workshops led by the Rev. Thompson.

Friday's workshop, "The Means of Grace and Pastoral Leadership," is for clergy. Attendees should prepare by reading Wesley's sermons "The Means of Grace" and "On Zeal."

Saturday's workshop for laity, "Making Disciples One Day at a Time," will focus on discipline, community, and transformation as vital for forming mature, committed followers of Jesus.

Both events begin with 9:30 a.m. registration, include lunch, and end at 2:30 p.m. To register, contact Karen Branton at kbranton@arumc.org or 501-324-8022.

## BOOK REVIEW

## A helpful guide for social media ministry

*Click 2 Save: The Digital Ministry Bible*

Elizabeth Drescher and  
Keith Anderson

Morehouse Publishing,  
2012

BY MARK NORMAN  
Special Contributor

I have been blessed to speak to diverse people about many different things. I have discovered there are many opinions about social media. I often hear, "I have a cell phone and I do email, but I don't do Facebook and I don't tweet!"

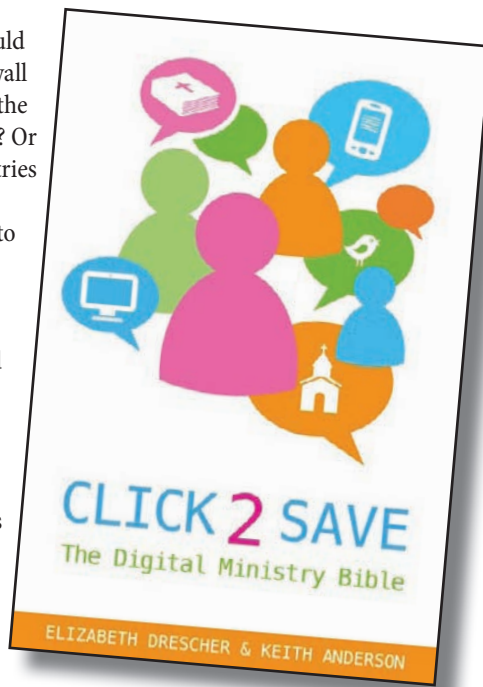
People of all ages feel this way about social media. It is a scary thing. You never know who is going friend you on Facebook or who will follow you on Twitter. The wrong comment or the wrong picture that you are "tagged" in can create problems for your personal and professional life.

What do we do? Should we as the church build a wall to protect ourselves from the fast world of social media? Or do we infiltrate our ministries into the world of social media, taking the Gospel to a digital age?

If you have wrestled with these questions, the first book you need to add to your library is *Click 2 Save: The Digital Ministry Bible*. This book gives you a simple breakdown of different digital ministries that can happen in a local congregation.

The book begins with how social media has grown and become a part of the life and ministry of the church. For example, a movement by a group of Catholic priests started discussions with the Vatican about the importance of social media; now, Pope Benedict XVI is on Twitter.

Elizabeth Drescher and Keith Anderson process the world of digital ministry and express parameters for



effectiveness.

Creating a Facebook page and Twitter account for your church is not what this book is about. The authors understand the need for a ministry that "communicates an authentic representation of self and ministry that humanizes the community of faith in a digital world." In its digital ministry, a church must offer "real presence" and relational communication to present and future members of a congregation.

*Click 2 Save* is an excellent manual for use in a digital ministry. At the end of every chapter, it offers tools for social media profiles, strategies and platforms to help tell the story of Christ in a digital age. The last two chapters help ministry teams process the evangelistic message of the church, tools for effective management of all social media, and explore how to make your social media pages vibrant.

If I have one critique of this book, is that it does not address the less tech-savvy people that I mentioned earlier. If you don't have a social media person anywhere in your congregation, this book would not be of much help.

You will not need to be a "techie" to benefit from *Click 2 Save*, but the book itself is written for people who have at least some knowledge of social media. It is an excellent tool to help create an effective social media ministry, and it's worth reading. (Even you have to ask a young person or a Conference techie to help you translate it!)

*The Rev. Norman serves as associate pastor of First UMC Benton.*

## PAUMCS annual meeting helps laity and clergy

BY AMY FORBUS  
Editor

St. James United Methodist Church Little Rock on Aug. 29 hosted the eighth annual meeting of the Arkansas chapter of the Professional Association of United Methodist Secretaries (PAUMCS).

Seventy-four administrative professionals and other church employees learned about topics that affect those who serve within the United Methodist Church.

The day's sessions included presentations from Mona Williams, Conference benefits officer, and Todd Burris, Conference treasurer, who reviewed pension billing for clergy as well as available pension programs for lay employees of churches; Mark Epperson, director of the Center for Technology, who presented on cloud storage and website options; the Rev. Kurt Boggan, director of the Center for Clergy and Laity Excellence in Leadership, on the new roles of Circuit Elder and Congregational Coach; Janice Mann, co-coordinator of Arkansas Conference Disaster Response, on ways local churches can prepare for disasters; and Karen Branton, Central District administrator, with an orientation to this year's charge conference forms.

"I was impressed with how well organized the meeting was, and glad to have an opportunity to learn more about changes that are impacting our churches," said first-time attendee Cathy Hughes, who serves as church relations liaison for the Arkansas Conference Office of Administrative Services. "It was great to have the chance to network with one another while getting the most up-to-date information available on these topics."

PAUMCS benefits other church staff, too. The Rev. Carol Moore, who serves as a local pastor at Warren's Chapel and Woods Chapel UMCs, appreciates the extra knowledge she gathers from PAUMCS, especially when the time of year for completing charge conference forms arrives.

"With this formal introduction, I have a better understanding before I start [charge conference forms]," she said. "If I hit a snag, I know what to ask about when I call or ask for help."

Her husband, the Rev. David Moore, serves as pastor of Shiloh UMCs in Paragould and Jonesboro. He decided to attend the annual meeting because these churches do not have a full-time administrative

assistant, and he knew that he would have a larger role this year in preparing charge conference forms.

"The session was very helpful," he said. "Not only did I receive valuable information concerning the charge conference forms, I was introduced to other Internet and computer information that will be helpful."

Carol Moore also appreciated receiving a variety of information.

"There was so much presented there that will benefit me as a pastor, as well as handling the day to day business of my two churches," she said, noting that the opportunity to hear about financial changes "allows me to listen for information that I might need to pass on to the treasurer of my churches."

Arkansas PAUMCS members elected officers for 2012-2013: Fonda Kirkman, Conway, president; Connie Thomas, Jonesboro, vice-president; LaDonna Busby, Batesville, secretary/treasurer; Cindy Parker, Hot Springs Village, communications; Karen Branton, Little Rock, nominations committee chairperson; and Julie Fowler-Berry, Hot Springs and Joyce Sweet, Forrest City, nominations committee members.

PAUMCS membership is open to all persons, paid or volunteer, who presently work or have previously worked as an administrative assistant in a local church or UMC extension ministry, or administrative professionals who hold membership in a UMC. Arkansas Chapter PAUMCS dues are \$15 per year.

Eight Arkansas members of PAUMCS have earned certification as Professional United Methodist Church Secretaries. The process involves completing a course offered through the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA), as well as receiving approval from the professional's local church. Certified members must meet continuing education requirements to retain certification.

The United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas (UMFA) has recognized the value of having a professional organization through which church professionals can share knowledge, support, prayer and spiritual growth opportunities. For the past three years, UMFA has provided a grant to help with expenses.

To learn more about PAUMCS, contact Fonda Kirkman at [fkirkman@arumc.org](mailto:fkirkman@arumc.org) or LaDonna Busby at [lbusby@arumc.org](mailto:lbusby@arumc.org).

## CLASSIFIEDS

**PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED** in the *Arkansas United Methodist* for 60 cents per word, no limit. Call 501-324-8037, email [aforus@arumc.org](mailto:aforus@arumc.org) or mail to: *Arkansas United Methodist*, 800 Daisy Bates Drive, Little Rock, AR 72202.

**Grace United Methodist Church Conway is seeking a loving, spiritual person to lead its growing children's ministry.** The program seeks to provide children ages 0-4th grade with a good Christian foundation to develop their spiritual walk through Sunday worship, a part-time Kids Day Out program, and various additional programs. In addition, the director will be expected to partner with parents to ensure they are engaged in the Christian education of their child/children. Responsibilities of the children's director include: direct Sunday school program by providing effective education curriculum and accompanying materials, coordinating volunteers to teach classes, staffing the needs of the nursery and monitoring to ensure children are provided a controlled environment for learning; lead two short children's sermons during Sunday morning worship; coordinate and staff part-time kid's day out program; supervise nursery and staff to ensure adequate child care is available for various Bible studies, choir practice, parents' night out, etc.; train and coordinate acolytes for weekly worship; prepare an annual plan of programs, classes and activities for the children's ministry, including an accompanying budget; establish regular communication with parents to inform them of what is going on within the ministry; administer various children's programs (VBS, Easter, etc.). We are seeking a qualified individual with experience working or leading a children's program. A high school diploma or GED required. The successful applicant will be subject to a background check and drug test. Salary will be commensurate with experience. To apply, send resume to David Hawkins, [drhawkins05@yahoo.com](mailto:drhawkins05@yahoo.com), before Oct. 31.

**Home Study:** Save \$\$\$ Christian Bible College, P.O. Box 8968 Rocky Mt., NC 27804 Phone (252) 451-1031; [www.christianbiblecollege.org](http://www.christianbiblecollege.org).

# Arkansas mission intern carries out work in Uganda

BY GRACE NAKAJJE  
East Africa Annual Conference

Traci McCuiston's wrapping up of her missionary work in East Africa Annual Conference left numerous Congolese refugee United Methodist Women in Uganda with tears of joy. She was the first American missionary to directly inhabit with them, pray with them, eat with them and teach messages of healing.

The women are members of Nabulagala UMC in Kampala District, Uganda. They say that they learned how to overcome obstacles through being focused and prayerful, despite their status of being refugees.

The humble, principled, soft-spoken McCuiston acted on the vision to go to Uganda and do mission work of evangelism after learning about the need for the East Africa Annual Conference to have either short- or long-term missionaries.

"I was inspired by the talk Bishop Daniel Wandabula had with the team during the summer trip in 2011 led by Jody Farrell from my church [Central UMC Fayetteville]," she said. "He mentioned the areas of need including that of women, children and youths. So when I returned to America, I felt a call to return to Uganda."

The 2011 team was in Uganda doing mobile medical clinics in the Gulu and Jinja districts.

McCuiston began her work in January 2012. She met every Thursday afternoon with 20 to 25 refugee women, ranging in all ages.

"They no longer called me a

visitor, I was their sister. I visited their homes and saw where they lived," she said. "This resulted from one of the discussions in our lessons on 'quiet time.'

"We were discussing their quiet places versus quiet places in America—unlike my situation of having willingness to leave my country, for them they were forced. I was excited to see their living environments. It was indeed rewarding, a blessing and filled with laughter and tears for me and the women," she said.

The United Methodist Women president, Antoinette Nyamuzungu, recalled the lesson "quiet time" as being timely.

"We have lived hopeless lives ever since we fled our country," Nyamuzungu said. "Those who have come and listened to our stories disappear with no solution. For example, most of us lost our husbands during the war and yet we have children to care for. Besides food, we need shelter, education for our children, clean and safe water including medicine. We also want to learn how to write and speak English since we come from a French-speaking country."

According to government policy, refugees are not entitled to

jobs, and yet the relief given to them is not enough to sustain them. Therefore, these women depend on hawking fabrics and jewelry as their main income-generating activity.

The church started for them a grocery shop; unfortunately, it dwindled due to the credit crunch in the country.

The Conference leadership is now taking a keen look at possibilities for shifting the load by attracting more missionaries and volunteers to teach the English language, entrepreneurship and microfinance.

These women came together seven years ago, after they escaped from fierce fighting in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Most of them lost their husbands, property and even children.

McCuiston also worked with other women's groups: Jinja United Methodist Women's Empowerment Center, Loving Example Church at Humble School, and Wanyange Women's Centre. She visited women in the Gulu and Arua districts.

She appreciated all the groups for the cooperation and love shown to her. Each of the places where she worked held a farewell party for her.

Her topics of teaching were in the areas of servant leadership—she washed the women's feet to teach by

example. She also taught on the works of the Holy Spirit, names of God, love and the power of prayer.

McCuiston is the missions lay leader at Central UMC Fayetteville. Her profession and skills are in project management and administration, accounting and counseling. She plans to return to Uganda in 2013 for a two-year mission program.

*Nakajje is the communicator for the East Africa Annual Conference.*

**Editor's note:** On Sept. 27, the UMC General Council on Finance and Administration recommended that general agencies, annual conferences and local churches withhold funding from the East Africa Annual Conference until further notice, citing concerns over accountability of funds for various ministries. McCuiston's funding is separate from the East Africa Conference, through the Malachi Network, and her next mission will not be affected.



RIGHT: Arkansas United Methodists Jody Farrell and Traci McCuiston, right, present bicycles to clergywomen serving in the Gulu district of Uganda.

BELOW: Traci McCuiston with the refugee women of Nabulagala UMC.

PHOTOS BY GRACE NAKAJJE/COURTESY EAST AFRICA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



**Mount Eagle Retreat Center**

invites you to the dedication of  
Rosewood Pavilion, an outdoor  
worship center and fellowship space.

**Sunday, October 14, 2012**  
Open House from 2-4 p.m.      Dedication at 3 p.m.

Enjoy the beauty of Mount Eagle, refreshments, and  
music by the Bull Creek Band of Floyd, Ark.

Located at 935 Beal Road near Clinton, Arkansas  
For directions, visit [www.mounteagle.org](http://www.mounteagle.org) or call 501-253-0852.

Congregation members with hearing problems can hear better than ever before.

## Get Your Church in the Loop.

Church members with hearing problems...

- No more bulky headsets.
- No more special seating areas.
- No more embarrassing head gear.

With Arkansas Loops, congregation members with hearing problems can hear better than ever before.

Experience church with a new level of hearing. Loop your sanctuary today.

Contact us for a FREE estimate.

**501.778.3868**

20 times as many people with hearing aids rate theirs at the top of the scale if they have T-calls and a loop system.



**ARKANSAS LOOPS**

A Division of Saline Audiology

[info@arkansasloops.com](mailto:info@arkansasloops.com)  
[www.ArkansasLoops.com](http://www.ArkansasLoops.com)

Commercial & Residential Loop Systems

5 Medical Park Dr., Ste. 101 • Benton

# Ingathering (continued from page 1A)

## Important information for preparing kits

- All items included in kits must be **NEW** items.
- All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into other countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items—nothing more.
- Do **NOT** include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.

### Packing the kits

- Keep the weight of the box in mind. Each packed box

## Bulk material needs

1. Terry cloth hand towels (15" x 25" or 16" x 27"—no kitchen towels)
2. Metal nail files or fingernail clippers (no emery boards, no toenail clippers)
3. Children's blunt scissors
4. Pencil sharpeners (plain, small, individual sharpeners with no emblems)
5. Baby sweaters (open in the front)
6. Cloth baby diapers (cloth only—no disposable diapers)
7. Ruled paper (pad, spiral, or loose leaf)
8. Baby gowns or sleepers
9. School Bags (finished size 14" x 16")

## Cleaning Bucket Kit items

Value: \$55 per bucket

- 5-gallon bucket with resealable lid
- Bleach (two 1-quart bottles or one 82-oz. bottle. Do not include bleach if you are shipping the bucket through the U.S. Postal Service, UPS or FedEx.)
- 5 scouring pads
- 7 sponges
- 1 scrub brush
- 18 cleaning towels (reusable wipes)
- Liquid laundry detergent (two 25-oz. or one 50-oz. bottle)
- 1 household cleaner, 12-16 oz. bottle
- Disinfectant dish soap, 16-28 oz. bottle
- 50 clothes pins
- Clothes line (two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.)
- 5 dust masks
- 2 pair latex gloves
- 1 pair work gloves
- 24-bag roll of heavy-duty trash bags, 33-45 gallon (remove roll from box before placing in bucket)
- 1 Insect repellent spray, 6-14 oz. can (If aerosol, cans must have protective caps. See Special Requirements.)
- 1 air freshener, 8 or 9 oz. can (If aerosol, cans must have protective caps. See Special Requirements.)

*Special Shipping Requirements:* All cleaning agents must be liquid and in plastic bottles. No powders. Pack them inside a bucket or strong outer box. If including aerosols or flammables, ship kits by UPS Ground, Fed Ex Ground, or by truck. Do **NOT** ship by U.S. Mail or DHL/Airborne freight.

*NOTE: if the requested item size is not available, go down to the next available size. If nothing is available in the requested or smaller size, put masking tape on the outside of the bucket saying, "This bucket contains no \_\_\_\_\_"*

cannot exceed 66 pounds.

### Shipping the kits

- Complete 2 packing lists—one for your records and one to put on the shipping box.
- Paste the shipping label/packing list on the outside of each box you send. The shipping list helps the depot to quickly process kits.
- Processing & Shipping Costs: Please enclose an envelope containing at least \$1 for each kit you send. This donation enables kits to be sent without delay to areas in need. For Cleaning Buckets, please send at least \$1.50 each.

## Birthing Kit items

Value: \$8 per kit

- 1 hotel-size bar of soap (1 oz. and up)
- 1 pair of clean latex gloves
- 1 square yard of clear 4 mil plastic sheeting
- 3 pieces of clean string each 12" long
- 1 clean single use razor blade (carefully wrap the blade in paper or plastic to protect it and keep it from causing injury)
- 2 flannelette receiving blankets, each 1 square yard

Place these items inside a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

## Health Kit items

Value: \$12 per kit

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27"—no kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

Place these items inside a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

*NOTE: UMCOR Sager Brown is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to health kits before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire before they are sent.*

## Sewing Kit items

Value: \$18 per kit

- 3 yards of cotton or cotton-blend, solid color or print fabric (must be 3 yards of uncut fabric)
- 1 pair sewing scissors
- 1 package of needles
- 1 spool of thread
- 5-8 matching buttons

Wrap sewing notions in the fabric and place in a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

## Layette Kit items

Value: \$35 per kit

- 6 cloth diapers
- 2 shirts or 2 one-piece body suits
- 2 baby washcloths
- 2 gowns or sleepers
- 2 diaper pins
- 1 sweater open in the front
- 2 receiving blankets

Bundle the items inside one of the receiving blankets and secure with the diaper pins.

## School Kit items

Value: \$11 per kit

- 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip)
- 3 pads (or loose leaf) of 8 1/2" x 11" ruled paper
- 1 30-centimeter ruler
- 1 hand held pencil sharpener
- 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- 1 eraser, 2 1/2"
- 1 box of 24 crayons (only 24)

Prepare a 14" x 16" (finished size) cloth bag with handles and an optional closure (Velcro®, snap or button) and place items in the bag. Patterns are available from UMCOR Sager Brown or [umcor.org](http://umcor.org).

## Bedding Kit items

Value: \$50 per kit

- 2 flat double-bed sheets
- 2 pillowcases
- 2 pillows

## Items specific to Arkansas

In addition to the kits we will send to the UMCOR Sager Brown Depot in Baldwin, La., we also will receive the following items for use by Arkansas Rice Depot:

### Children's Disaster Kits

- 1 coloring book
- 1 box of colored pencils
- 1 storybook (preferably about feelings)
- 2 small toy vehicles (these should be emergency vehicles such as police cars, fire trucks, ambulances)
- 1 soft, cuddly stuffed toy

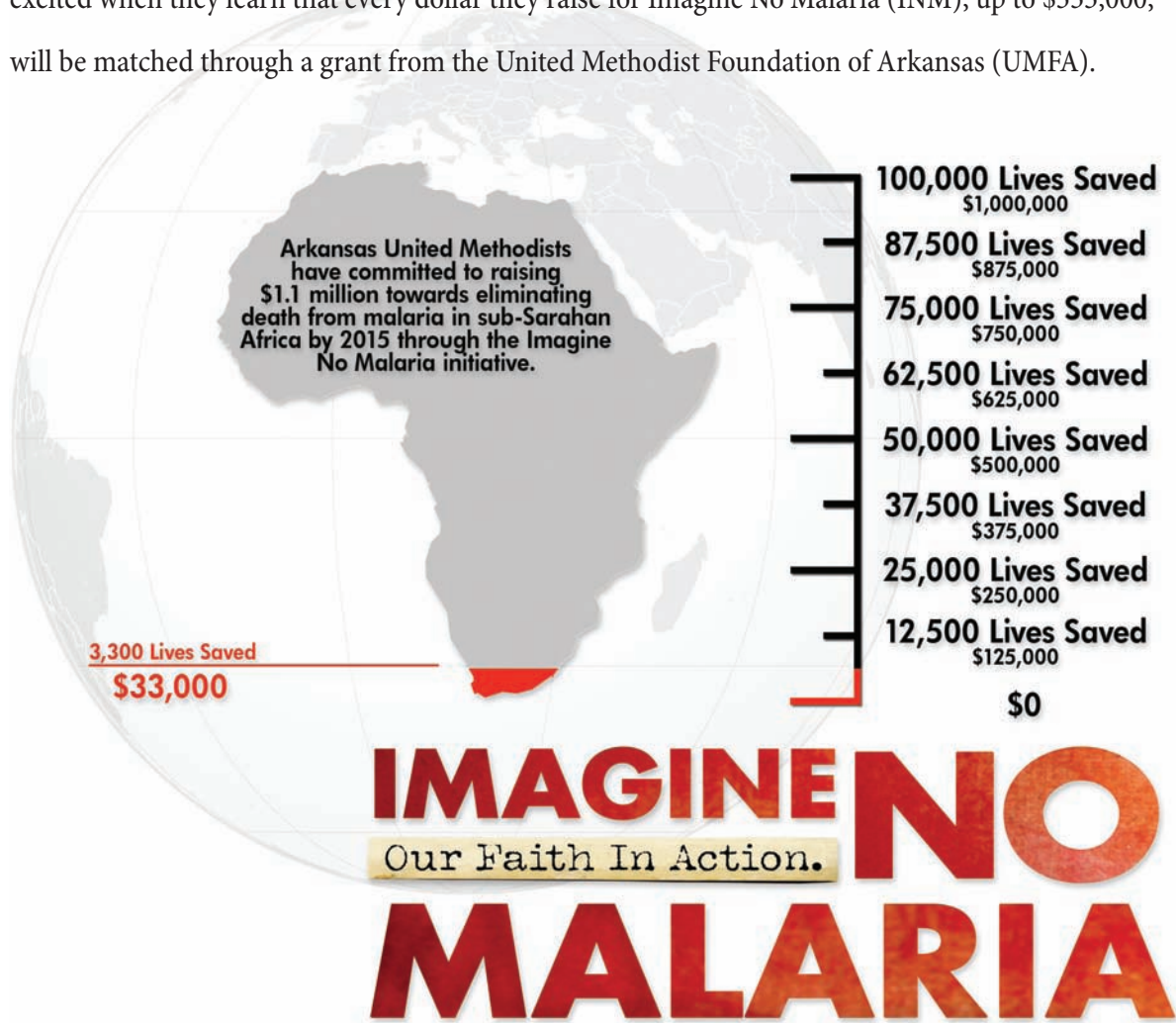
Place all items in a large zip-lock bag or box.

### Disposable diapers (all sizes)

Donations of diapers will be distributed through the Rice Depot's Arkansas Diaper Depot initiative, aimed at providing struggling mothers, families and their infants with much-needed diapers.

**“We’re ready to help!”** is the response heard most

frequently from Arkansas United Methodists when they hear how over 600,000 people, mostly children under age 5 and mothers-to-be, are dying each year from malaria. They are especially excited when they learn that every dollar they raise for Imagine No Malaria (INM), up to \$333,000, will be matched through a grant from the United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas (UMFA).



Each month, the Arkansas United Methodist will report on how many lives are being saved through our Conference’s giving. Our goal is to save 101,000 lives, or \$1.1 million. Note: The number above does not reflect the UMFA match.

Some of the ministries and churches already responding include Shiloh UMC Paragould, Mabelvale UMC, First UMC Little Rock, Mount Eagle Christian Center, First UMC Rogers, First UMC Fort Smith, Lakewood UMC North Little Rock, Central UMC Rogers and First UMC Springdale.

Don’t see your church listed? Be sure to let our INM field coordinator, Martha Taylor, know about your church’s goal or event so it can be reported accurately and quality for the UMFA match. Contact her at [mtaylor@arumc.org](mailto:mtaylor@arumc.org) or 501-324-8005.

## Receive INM online training this month

Are you ready to get started? Taylor will lead several one-hour online informational training sessions throughout the month of October. Each session will give a ministry overview of the initiative, the goal for Arkansas, ideas for local churches, and sources of free resources and support. The sessions are scheduled for:

- Monday, Oct. 8 at 3 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 10 at 11 a.m.

- Tuesday, Oct. 23 at 1 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 30 at 4 p.m.

The online training room will open five minutes before the start of each session. To log on for the session, go to <http://umc.adobeconnect.com/r4l83oum5i2>.

If your church would like to host an on-site training, contact Taylor at [mtaylor@arumc.org](mailto:mtaylor@arumc.org) or 501-324-8005.

### To have your gifts credited toward the UMFA matching grant:

- send checks to the Treasurer’s Office, Attn: Imagine No Malaria, Arkansas Conference Ministries, P.O. Box 3611, Little Rock, AR 72203, or
- visit [arumc.org/donate](http://arumc.org/donate), click the Imagine No Malaria button and be sure to include the name of your local church to receive the match.

## “THERE’S AN APP FOR THAT!”

Introducing the new Conference Directory Mobile Web App



Quick & Convenient Access to:

- Clergy Names & Numbers
- Church Info
- District Contacts
- Conference Contacts

To access the app on your mobile device:

Go to<sup>1</sup>: <http://dir.arumc.org>

or

Text **DIRECTORY** to **888777**

ACCESSIBLE FROM ANY  
INTERNET ENABLED SMARTPHONE  
OR MOBILE DEVICE<sup>2</sup>



1: APPLICATION MUST BE ACCESSED ON MOBILE DEVICE FOR PROPER USER EXPERIENCE  
2: INTERNET ACCESS IS REQUIRED FOR ACCESS TO MOBILE WEB APPLICATIONS

**THE 29TH ANNUAL FISH FRY TO BENEFIT CAMP ALDERSGATE**

Join us for a SUNDAY afternoon of fun, family fellowship and tasty fish with all the fixings! Be at 2000 Aldersgate Road in Little Rock from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 7. Free shuttle will be available from the parking lot of Baptist Medical Eye Center. Drive-Thru meals can be picked up at the corner of Kanis and Aldersgate roads.

**FLAT RATE \$15**    **KIDS 6 & UNDER FREE**    **DRIVE THRU \$15 ea.**

**PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT [WWW.CAMPALDERSGATE.NET](http://WWW.CAMPALDERSGATE.NET)**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 501.225.1444 OR VISIT [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CAMPALDERSGATEAR](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CAMPALDERSGATEAR)

*If the Church Were Christian*  
**CHRISTIAN**  
*Rediscovering the Values of Jesus*

Beloved Author and Quaker Pastor  
**PHILIP GULLEY**  
Saturday, October 13th at 6:00 pm  
Also speaking in Sunday services - October 14th, 9 & 11 am

Visit [fumclr.org](http://fumclr.org)  
for more information.  
Free Admission, Childcare Provided

**first united methodist church**  
DOWNTOWN LITTLE ROCK • 723 CENTER STREET • 501.372.2256 • [FUMCLR.ORG](http://FUMCLR.ORG)

## COMING UP

## October

**St. Paul UMC Little Rock pancake breakfast and 'country store' Oct. 6**

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 2223 Durwood Road in Little Rock, will host its annual Music Ministry Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, October 6, from 7 to 10 a.m. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 12 and under, and may be purchased from any choir or handbell member or the church office, and will be available at the door.

The St. Paul United Methodist Women will also host a Country Store featuring delicious baked goods and homemade crafts during the pancake breakfast.

A community favorite, the Pancake Breakfast is over 50 years old. Proceeds from the breakfast will go towards the Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir funds. The UMW will use its proceeds from the Country Store to further their mission throughout the year.

For more details, contact the church at 501-666-9429 or [stpaulumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpaulumc@sbcglobal.net), or visit [stpaulumcl.org](http://stpaulumcl.org).

**Camp Aldersgate Fish Fry set for Sunday, Oct. 7**

Camp Aldersgate's 29th annual Fish Fry is set for Sunday, Oct. 7, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (note it is still on a Sunday). In addition to fun, fellowship and fish, they also will have a Country Store filled with homemade goodies provided by United Methodist Women groups.

All proceeds support Camp Aldersgate, Arkansas' only nonprofit uniquely dedicated to serving children with disabilities, youth and senior adults in a camp environment.

In 2011, Camp Aldersgate served through its summer medical camp program 357 campers with disabilities ranging from diabetes and autism to muscular dystrophy and spina bifida. It also served more than 340 campers through weekend respite camps. Its Seniors Day Out program began in the 1970s, and last year served 54 senior adults.

Fish Fry tickets are available for advance purchase at [campaldersgate.net](http://campaldersgate.net). For information, visit Camp's Facebook page, [facebook.com/campaldersgateAR](http://facebook.com/campaldersgateAR) or contact Tisha Gribble at 501-225-1444 or [tgribble@campaldersgate.net](mailto:tgribble@campaldersgate.net).

**Philip Gulley at First UMC Little Rock Oct. 13-14**

Philip Gulley, Quaker pastor and author of the provocative book *If the Church Were Christian: Rediscovering the Values of Jesus*, will lecture at First United Methodist Church Little Rock, 723 Center Street at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13. Admission is free and childcare will be provided.

Following the lecture, Gulley will be available for a question and answer session. He will also preach at both the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services on Sunday, Oct. 14. There also will be a book signing.

Gulley is currently pastor at Fairfield Friends Meeting near Indianapolis. An author of 16 books, he also writes a column for *Indianapolis Monthly* magazine and is a regular contributor to *The Saturday Evening Post*. Famous for his own controversial

theology that affirms universality, Gulley urges readers to consider letting go of tightly held beliefs and start the journey toward a dynamic faith. His latest book explores a Christianity that is consistent with the teachings of Jesus and a church that encourages Jesus' example as a model for living.

**Mount Eagle to dedicate new pavilion Oct. 14**

Mount Eagle Retreat Center, a United Methodist ministry near Clinton, Ark., invites the public to the dedication of its new Rosewood Pavilion, an outdoor space for worship and fellowship. The open house event will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 14, with the dedication ceremony at 3 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and the Bull Creek Band of Floyd, Ark., will provide music.

Designed by architect Fred Perkins, the pavilion's construction cost was greatly reduced by using skilled volunteers from the RV-based mission group NOMADS ([nomadsumc.org](http://nomadsumc.org)) and Arkansas Volunteers In Mission (VIM) teams. Arkansas NOMADS member Jerrel Fielder served as project coordinator, supervising volunteer groups from Arkansas, Oklahoma, Georgia and South Dakota. The Rosewood Pavilion gets its name from the West Memphis United Methodist congregation that made a major donation to the project.

**Methodist Federation for Social Action Brunch Oct. 20**

The Arkansas Chapter of the Methodist Federation for Social Action (MFSA) will have its Fall Brunch on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Lakewood United Methodist Church, 1922 Topf Road in North Little Rock.

Barbara Wendland, creator of *Connections* newsletter, will be the featured speaker. Her topic is "Following Granddaddy or Following Jesus." Tickets are \$15. For reservations, contact Liza Godwin at [lizagodwin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lizagodwin@sbcglobal.net) or 501-580-8476.

**Fairview UMC 'country store' and luncheon set for Oct. 22**

The United Methodist Women of Fairview UMC Texarkana will hold their annual holiday Country Store and Luncheon on Saturday, Oct. 20 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event features holiday crafts, baked goods and more, including a drawing for a handmade quilt at 2 p.m. Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds from the event benefit local and national missions supported by United Methodist Women.

**Presbypops offers workshop, kicks off 'Trinity Presents' concert series Oct. 13-14**

The Trinity Presents Performance Series has announced its 2012-13 season, which begins with Bill Carter and the Presbypops Quartet at 6 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 14. Trinity United Methodist Church Little Rock, 1101 N. Mississippi Ave., hosts the series. Tickets will not be issued and people are encouraged to arrive early for preferred seating.

On Saturday, Oct. 13, the Presbypops Quartet will conduct a workshop from 9 a.m. to noon titled, "Jazz Belongs in the Church." The workshop is open to anyone interested in gospel jazz. Fee for the workshop is \$25 per person and group discounts

are available. Advance registration is strongly encouraged; call 501-666-2813 to register. For additional information about the quartet, visit [presbybop.com](http://presbybop.com).

Through donations and sponsors, all concerts in the Trinity Presents Performance Series are free and open to the public.

**UALR Wesley Foundation celebrates 50th anniversary Oct. 16**

Dinner at 6 p.m. and the music of Rodney Block at 7 p.m. highlight the Oct. 16 celebration of 50 years in ministry for the Wesley Foundation at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The event will be held at the Donaghey Center on the UALR campus. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased at The Wesley Foundation or by calling the Rev. Maxine Allen, 501-539-0280. Come support the work of The Wesley Foundation at UALR: an intentional Christian community on an urban university campus.

**St. Paul UMC Little Rock hosts concert Oct. 14**

The St. Paul Concert Series presents "Music for Soprano, Trumpet and Organ" on Sunday, Oct. 14 at 4 p.m. at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 2223 Durwood Road in Little Rock. The concert features Arlene Biebesheimer, soprano; Larry Jones, trumpet; and Betty Cohen, organ. The program is free. Donations are accepted to help promote the concert series and support the music ministry of St. Paul United Methodist Church. For information, contact the church office at 501-666-9429.

Future concerts in the series include "My Favorite Things" by Bob Bidewell, organ and piano, set for Sunday, Nov. 18, 4:00 p.m.; and an early 2013 performance by Basso Voce, a euphonium/tuba quartet.

**Whitaker to preach at Levy UMC North Little Rock Oct. 21**

Asa Whitaker, who served as lay leader of the Arkansas Conference from 2003 to 2012, will preach at Levy UMC, 701 West 47th Street in North Little Rock, on Sunday, Oct. 21. During his time as Conference lay leader, Whitaker also served as president of the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders and as a delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences. Worship at Levy UMC begins at 10:45 a.m.

## November

**'Refuge' retreat for middle-school youth Nov. 9-11**

Refuge 2012, an Arkansas Conference Council on Youth Ministry event for students in the sixth through ninth grades, will be held Nov. 9-11 at Shepherd of the Ozarks near Harriet, Arkansas.

The Rev. Rob Holifield will serve as the speaker for Refuge 2012. Holifield is director of community life at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Ky. A lifelong United Methodist, he is a PK (preacher's kid) and grew up in Arkansas.

The cost is \$125, and the registration deadline is Oct. 26. Visit [accym.org](http://accym.org) for more details, and contact Jay Clark at [jclark@phumc.com](mailto:jclark@phumc.com) or 501-664-3600 with questions about the event. Online registration is open at [arumc.org/register](http://arumc.org/register).

**Diane Keaton to speak at Methodist Healthcare Foundation's Cancer Center Luncheon Nov. 16**

Academy Award-winning actress Diane Keaton will reflect on her life, values and upbringing, as well as her journey to becoming a successful actress at the annual Methodist Cancer Center Luncheon on Friday, Nov. 16, 2012, at 11:45 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom at The Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tenn. Keaton will share her thoughts on gender and aging in Hollywood, being fearless and balancing work and family. Individual tickets start at \$125 and a table of ten starts at \$1,250. Tickets are available for general, preferred, and prime seating. To reserve your seat, call 901-516-0500 or purchase tickets online at [methodisthealth.org/cancerluncheon](http://methodisthealth.org/cancerluncheon). Proceeds from this year's luncheon will benefit the Methodist Cancer Center in Memphis.

## BUSINESS &amp; PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

## STAINED GLASS



Serving  
Arkansas  
with Quality  
Stained Glass  
since 1973

Churches ♦ Residential ♦ Commercial  
**(800) 791-7667**  
[www.soosstainedglass.com](http://www.soosstainedglass.com)  
P.O. Box 13452, Maumelle, AR 72113

## COUNSELING

## Daily Bread Counseling

(Member of Clergy Counseling Network)

Rev. Garry D. Teeter, MS, LPC, NCC, CBIST  
Offices in Benton, Hot Springs, Little Rock, & Dardanelle  
Call for confidential appointment  
501.847.2229 | 1.877.847.2229  
[www.dailybreadcounseling.com](http://www.dailybreadcounseling.com)





## Wanted: coaches for congregations

The Arkansas Conference's Center for Clergy and Laity Excellence in Leadership is seeking its first group of United Methodist laypersons to serve as congregational coaches for churches ready to hone in on fulfilling the vision, mission, core values and priorities for ministry approved by the 2011 Arkansas Annual Conference.

Congregational coaches' major responsibilities are outlined in the Imagine Ministry plan, but the people who feel called to serve in this role will have a part in determining just how this ministry with local churches unfolds.

"Congregational coaching under the Imagine Ministry plan is a work in progress," said John Crawford, interim coordinator for

congregational coaching. "We are looking for key lay people who wish to be pioneers and lead this journey."

The responsibilities of congregational coaches include helping pastors and laity determine how best to go about forming disciples; encouraging accountability for the ministry of the laity, whether it be in their own families, workplaces or secular community organizations; interpreting demographic data of a church's mission field; and assisting with local churches' visioning, planning, minor conflict mediation and teaching.

To learn more about expectations for congregational coaches, contact Crawford at [jcrawford@arumc.org](mailto:jcrawford@arumc.org).

## Hendrix College welcomes new UMYF, Miller Center scholars to campus

The Hendrix College Chaplain's Office and the Hendrix-Miller Center for Vocations, Ethics, and Calling welcomed eight new United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF) Scholars and five new Miller Center Service Scholars as part of the class of 2016.

UMYF Leadership Scholarships are awarded to students who have provided significant leadership in local church, district, and conference youth ministries of the United Methodist Church and who demonstrate outstanding potential for Christian leadership on the Hendrix campus.

Miller Center Service Scholarships are awarded to incoming freshmen who have been leaders in volunteer service while in high school and desire to continue volunteering in college as a way of exploring their vocation. Service Scholars perform a certain number of volunteer hours off campus each semester and participate in programs for vocational reflection, guided by the Miller Center staff.

"What a privilege it is to have the opportunity to work with exceptional students who come to Hendrix with outstanding leadership skills," said college chaplain the Rev. J. Wayne Clark. "The new life and leadership they bring to the entire campus pays many dividends, both on campus and off."

New United Methodist Youth Fellowship Scholars in the class of 2016 include Ross Ragsdale of Bryant, Ark.; Jake Higgins of Greenwood, Ark.; Michael McMurray and Hannah Shelton of Little Rock, Ark.; Austen Gnad of North Little Rock, Ark.; Susan Warren of Paris; Shannon Abbot of Albuquerque, N.M.; and Barbara Patterson of Houston, Texas.

New Miller Center Scholars in the class of 2016 include Daniel Imbro of Little Rock, Ark.; Jessica Amos of West Helena, Ark.; Isabelle Staines of Clarksville, Md.; Shannon Clark of Carthage, Mo.; Briana Wagner of Memphis, Tenn.; and Lindsey Lauritzen of Austin, Texas.

Founded in 1876, Hendrix College has been affiliated with the United Methodist Church since 1884. The college is located in Conway, Ark.

## TRANSFORMING THE WORLD

### Improving churches' energy efficiency with eye toward creation care

Members of Arkansas Interfaith Power and Light (IPL), Central Arkansas Chapter, on Sept. 8 made energy efficiency improvements to Walters Chapel Missionary Baptist Church near Carlisle.

Fifteen volunteers helped install insulation, caulking, weather stripping, door sweeps, new CFL bulbs and more accessories that will help conserve energy—one of many ways churches can become better stewards of God's creation. The changes also mean that the congregation can now spend less on utilities and more on ministry.

Arkansas IPL's partners for the project included Arkansas Energy Corps, AmeriCorps, Arkansas Mission Builders, Pulaski Technical College, Verve Solutions, Arkansas Sierra Club, Pulaski County Recycling District and the Arkansas Energy Office.

The Arkansas chapter of Interfaith Power and Light was established by individuals and participating congregations who share a concern for the earth's environment from a unique, nonpartisan, theological perspective. The Rev. Steve Copley, a United Methodist minister, serves as chair. Churches can visit [arkansasipl.com](http://arkansasipl.com) to apply for an energy makeover.



COURTESY PHOTO

### El Dorado team learns that 'what happens at Sager Brown...'

A group from First United Methodist Church El Dorado recently gave of their time and resources to embark on a mission trip to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Sager Brown Depot in Baldwin, La.

The team of 11 servants (Pat Anthony, Lou Ann Bradham, Angie Green, Kay Hardin, Millie Juarez, Becki Lusk, John Lusk, Linda Mayfield, Kelly Sheppard and Bob Stephenson, all of First UMC El Dorado, and the Rev. David Steele, pastor of Mount Ida UMC) spent the week of Aug. 5 at the disaster-relief distribution center, packing health kits for shipment, sewing school kit bags and doing maintenance work at the beautiful campus on Bayou Teche near New Orleans. The group shared cafeteria, chapel and work times with three other volunteer teams from Texas and Illinois.

Even though team members did not travel to a mission field where they were directly ministering to those in need, they say they felt as if we were playing a significant role in ministry, because relief supplies from the depot reach locations worldwide. "We loved the t-shirt in the gift shop which reads, 'What happens at Sager Brown does not stay at Sager Brown,'" said one participant.

To inquire about scheduling a mission trip to Sager Brown Depot, visit [sagerbrown.org](http://sagerbrown.org).

### Food pantry opens to serve Sparkman area

The grand opening of the first community food pantry in Sparkman, Ark., was held Thursday, Sept. 6. More than 175 hungry people from Dallas County were served on opening day, said Peggy Vickers, the Arkansas Foodbank's community relations director, who assisted with the startup.

"This is a wonderful group of dedicated individuals who have worked tirelessly to make this pantry a reality," Vickers said. "It is a real joy to see a community come together and work so hard to accomplish their goal of feeding the hungry."

Dallas County provided the pantry location rent-free, and volunteers used donated lumber to build shelves for holding canned goods and other supplies in what had once been a doctor's office.

The Sparkman Food Pantry receives its stock from the Caddo Valley Branch of the Arkansas Foodbank, near Arkadelphia. The pantry has widespread community support, including from Sparkman United Methodist Church. Sylvia Savage of Sparkman UMC serves as secretary-treasurer for the pantry, and has helped coordinate volunteers.



COURTESY PHOTO

Those present at the opening of the Sparkman food pantry included, from left, Joyce Ray and Sylvia Savage, two of many food pantry volunteers; Kathryn Burchfield, Arkansas Foodbank; and Henry Nalls, mayor of Sparkman.

"We've been helping as much as we possibly can with our small group," Savage said of Sparkman UMC, which has an average weekly worship attendance of about 15 people. Like Vickers, Savage has been pleased to see help from all the area's churches and community members. She said 16 people arrived to help unload the truck carrying the first month's supply of food, making light work of the job.

The Sparkman pantry opens on Fridays from 1 to 5 p.m. Area residents with a Sparkman home address are eligible, but Savage already has met some pantry visitors from just outside that boundary. "We're not going to turn anybody away," she said.

## PEOPLE OF FAITH

### Three United Methodists honored with Steel-Hendrix Awards

Three leaders in ministry received recognition for their work at the 28th Annual Steel-Hendrix Award Banquet, held at Hendrix College on Tuesday, Sept. 18.

**Karen Swales** received the Mary and Ira A. Brumley Award for Religious Education. Swales has served as a minister to families with children at First United Methodist Church Springdale since 2003. She develops and implements Christian education programs for children ages birth through 5th grade and their families and conducts weekly children's chapel services.

She received bachelor's degrees in elementary and special education and later, a Master of Education degree in special education, all from the University of Arkansas. She has also completed coursework for a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction.

Before joining the staff of First UMC Springdale, Swales was a special education teacher. She has also been an instructor for courses in special education at the University of Arkansas and John Brown University. In 2000, she was honored by the Arkansas Council for Exceptional Children as Teacher of the Year.

Swales is active in the music community in Northwest Arkansas as a member of the Decatur Community Choir, Northwest Arkansas Symphony Community Choir and Springdale First United Methodist Church Chancel and Handbell Choirs.

She is a member of the Council for Exceptional Children, American Association on Mental Retardation, and Arkansas Association for Children with Learning Disabilities. She also volunteers for the Regional AIDS Interfaith Network (RAIN) and AIDS Resource Center of Northwest Arkansas. She currently serves as the Arkansas Conference children's ministry coordinator.



**Karen Swales**



**Doni Martin**

**Doni Martin** received the Ethel K. Millar Award for Religion and Social Awareness. Martin has been an active board member of Kiwanis Club of Pocahontas, where she developed and implemented the provision of a copyrighted activity pack for children in doctors' waiting rooms. For 30 years, she has chaired Corning United Methodist Church's annual Christmas project to provide gifts anonymously to low income families. And since 1987, she and her family have organized and hosted a Thanksgiving Day dinner for the community.

For the past 11 years, she has also served as a part-time EMT volunteer for Corning Ambulance Service.

Martin received a Bachelor of Arts degree in special education and elementary education from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S.D., and a Master of Arts degree in preschool education of the handicapped and learning disabilities from the University of Memphis.

She is a recipient of the Augustana College Horizon Alumni Award, the 2006 Extra Mile Award from the Arkansas Parent Advisory Council and the 2011 Pocahontas Beta Sigma Phi Woman of the Year.

She currently serves as president of her local United Methodist Women unit and as a member of the group's Conference Committee on Nominations. She assisted with coordination of the Imagine Justice Summit in 2011, and recently completed a term as Chair of the North Arkansas and Arkansas Conference Board of Church and Society.

A Lay Speaker since 1982, Martin has taught Sunday school in all elementary grade levels and is currently the Pre-K teacher. She sings in the choir, plays in the handbell choir, and has given the children's message weekly since 1988. She also served as Corning UMC's 2012 Vacation Bible School director.

**Rod Hocott** received the Youth Minister of the Year Award. Hocott has dedicated the past 44 years to youth ministry. He currently serves as Minister to Middle School Youth and Assistant to the Youth Minister at First United Methodist Church Conway.

He received a Bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Central Arkansas and a Master's degree in music education/music therapy from the University of Kansas. His youth ministry experience includes stints at First United Methodist Church Fort Smith; Osawatome State Hospital in Osawatome, Kan.; St. James UMC Little Rock; First UMC Springdale; and the Arkansas Conference staff.

Hocott is currently a member of the design team for the Perkins School of Youth Ministry, which he chaired in 2007. He has also served on the General Board of Discipleship Curriculum Resource Committee, Youth Division; as co-chair of Community Life for the YOUTH 2007 Management Team; and as co-coordinator for South Central Jurisdiction Youth Ministry Organization (JYMO).

He sings with the River City Men's Chorus and also enjoys acting, reading, playing with his grandchildren, playing with the dogs, doing yard work and traveling.



**Rod Hocott**

### Convocation for Pastors of Black Churches scheduled for Jan. 9-11, 2013

Registration is now open for the 2013 Convocation for Pastors of Black Churches, to be held Wednesday, Jan. 9 through Friday, Jan. 11, in Atlanta, Ga. The Convocation exists for the information, inspiration and encouragement of pastors of Black churches and those who support them.

Scheduled preachers and presenters include the Rev. Vance Ross, Michelle Alexander, Dr. Felecia LaBoy, the Rev. Kirbyjon Caldwell, Dr. Doug Powe and Dr. Frederick Haynes. The event is sponsored by Cokesbury and the United Methodist Publishing House. Visit [www.convocation2013.org](http://www.convocation2013.org) to learn more and to register.

## 'Burger Bash' at Wesley serves UALR students



AUM PHOTO BY MARTHA TAYLOR

Approximately 100 students from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) enjoyed a meal and fellowship at the Sept. 12 Burger Bash held by the Wesley Foundation campus ministry at UALR. Some students also received door prizes, and everyone took home Imagine No Malaria gear and information on the United Methodist Church's effort to eradicate the disease.

Members of the Wesley board of trustees and others from a number of area congregations provided supplies and labor for the event, which spanned lunch and supper to accommodate students' varying schedules.

"There is a large, diverse, non-traditional student population on UALR's urban campus," said the Rev. Maxine Allen, director of the UALR Wesley Foundation. "We believe that our focus on intentional Christianity offers an oasis for these students."

The UALR Wesley on Oct. 16 will celebrate its 50th anniversary with dinner at 6 p.m. and the music of Rodney Block at 7 p.m. See page 8A for details.

### Perkins certification in spiritual direction available through Mount Eagle Now accepting applications; class size limited

Mount Eagle Retreat Center has partnered with SMU's Perkins School of Theology to offer a certification program in Spiritual Direction. The two-year program hosted by Mount Eagle (near Shirley, Ark.) begins on March, 8-10, 2013 with the first of six sessions.

The remaining required sessions take place July 12-14, 2013; October 25-27, 2013; March 7-9, 2014; July 11-13, 2014; and October 24-26, 2014.

The program is now accepting applications from both clergy and laity, and the class will be limited to 20 participants. Apply online at [www.smu.edu/Perkins/SpiritualDirection](http://www.smu.edu/Perkins/SpiritualDirection). **Be sure to request the Arkansas Campus when applying.** Clergy must have a reference from a district superintendent.

To learn more, contact the Rev. Lu Harding at [lu@mounteagle.org](mailto:lu@mounteagle.org) or 501-723-4580.

OBITUARIES

DANVILLE

William C. "Bill" Capehart

William Corey Capehart, 85, passed away Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012, at Chambers Memorial Hospital. He had been a resident of Mitchell's Nursing Home in Danville for the past three years.

He was born Sept. 4, 1927, to William George and Lena Capehart of Bonham, Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents; his beloved brother, Joe Bailey; and a young son, Walter.



Bill Capehart

He is survived by his wife, Ellen Moudy; and a son, Mark Moore and his wife, Jenni, of Spokane, Wash.

He was a perpetual member of the Masonic Lodges of Belleville and Danville, and a member of Miracle Outreach Ministries of Belleville and the First United Methodist Church Danville. From 1996 to 1998, he served as part-time local pastor for the Alix/Denning Charge in the North Arkansas Conference.

NORTH LITTLE ROCK

Charles P. McDonald

The Rev. Charles Paul McDonald Jr., 86, a United Methodist minister in Arkansas for six decades, died Thursday, Sept. 6, 2012, at Fox Ridge Senior Living Center in North Little Rock.

Born May 29, 1926, in Fort Smith, he earned a bachelor's degree from Hendrix College in 1946 and a master of divinity from Southern Methodist University in 1949. In 1972, he received an honorary doctorate from Hendrix College.



Charles McDonald

As a United Methodist minister, he served 10 churches in Arkansas, including congregations in Holly Grove (1949-52), Ozark (1952-58), Pocahontas (1958-61), DeWitt (1961-65), Rogers (1965-1971), Searcy (1976-79), West Memphis (1979-84 and 1991-92), Conway (1989-91 and 1992-95), Cave City and Bear Creek (2008) and Jacksonville (2008-09). He also served as district superintendent in Fort Smith (1971-76) and Fayetteville (1984-90), and as interim pastor at First UMC Las

Vegas, N.M. (2004-06).

He was active in Methodism at all levels. His service to the church included memberships on the North Arkansas Conference's boards of Social Concerns, Missions and Ministry; delegate to both the South Central Jurisdictional and General Conferences several times; and trustee of Hendrix College for five years.

He is preceded in death by his father, Charles Plato McDonald; his mother, Evangel Galloway McDonald; and a foster son, David Driver. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Lois Lee King McDonald; two sisters, Mary Price of Fort Worth, Texas, and Betty Lilly of Tulsa, Okla.; six sons, David McDonald of Little Rock, Ron McDonald of Memphis, Don McDonald of Memphis, Tom McDonald of Las Vegas, N.M., Jim McDonald of Mountain Home and Mark McDonald of Jacksonville; 20 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, Sept. 15, at First United Methodist Church Conway; the body is being donated to science. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to First UMC Conway 1610 Prince Street, Conway, AR 72034; First UMC Jacksonville, 308 W. Main Street, Jacksonville, AR 72076; or a charity of your choice.

Ripple effect: Even small acts have big impact

BY TOM MCDONALD
Special to the Democrat-Gazette

Click link below to read story via Arkansas Democrat-Gazette
http://epaper.ardemgaz.com/Repository/ml.asp?Issue=ArDemocrat/2012/09/10&ID=Ar01300&Mode=HTML
Find the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church on Facebook at facebook.com/arkansasumc
Kitchen Equip. & Supplies Buy at our prices and \$ave 1-800-482-9026 or 228-0808 AIMCO EQUIPMENT CO.

## Sept. 8 installation of Gary Mueller as Bishop of the Arkansas Area of the United Methodist Church

To view a video of the installation service, visit [youtube.com/arkansasumc](http://youtube.com/arkansasumc). To see more photos, visit the Arkansas Conference of the UMC on Facebook at [facebook.com/arkansasumc](http://facebook.com/arkansasumc).



Bishop Gary Mueller, left, Conference lay leader Karon Mann and Conference Episcopacy Committee chair the Rev. Rodney Steele read the covenant portion of the Sept. 8 Service of Installation. Bishop Mueller promised to lead in the fulfillment of the ministry which God has given the people of the Arkansas Conference. The congregation promised to join with the bishop in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world; to pray for him and his family; to seek his spiritual well-being; and to embrace him as a brother in Christ.

Near the end of his sermon, Bishop Mueller removed his clerical garb and rolled up his sleeves to emphasize his point that the church must set aside pretense for the sake of ministry. He invited the congregation to "imagine what it's like to be filled, and in community, and going out to serve. And then, not only imagine it, do it!"

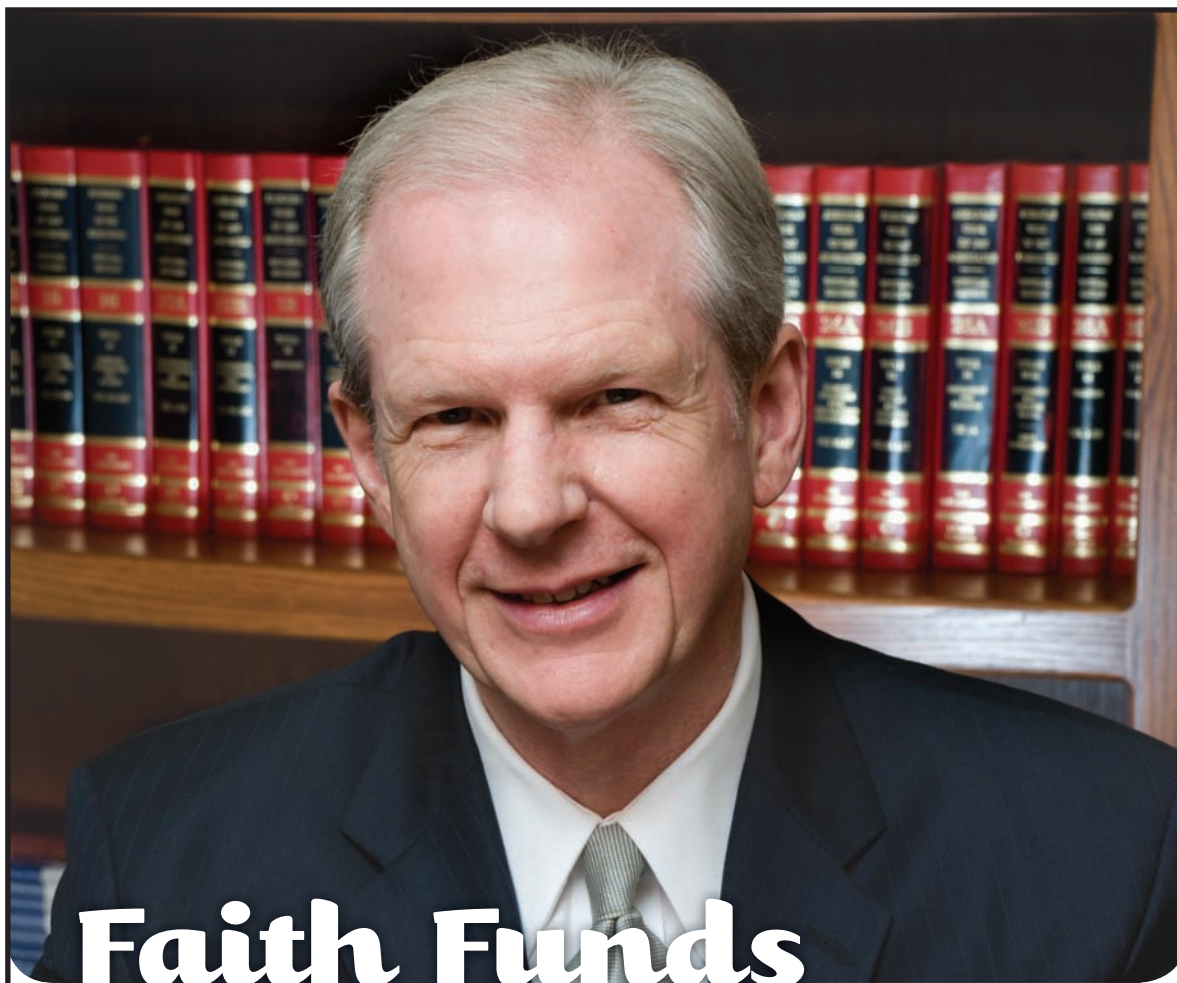


AUM PHOTOS BY  
AMY FORBUS



Following the service of installation, Bishop Mueller traveled to Conway to greet students of the Course of Study School, which met at Hendrix College that weekend. He is pictured here with the Rev. Sam Teague, left, head of the Course of Study School, and students Robby Harley of the Louisiana Conference and Luther Williams of Ebenezer UMC Conway.

AUM PHOTO BY MICHAEL ROBERTS



## Faith Funds

### *A Plan for Eternity*

"When I talk to a client about estate planning, my mission is to determine what the client wants to do, then get it done," said attorney Carl Crow, Jr. of Hot Springs. "The United Methodist Foundation is perfectly suited for this process when Methodist clients want to leave money to their church or another United Methodist organization. It exists to assure clients that gift assets will be wisely managed and safeguarded. And the Foundation has extremely competitive fees compared to corporate trustees."

A five-year board member of the Foundation, Crow is also on the Board of Trustees and the Endowment Foundation Board at First United Methodist Church in Hot Springs. He says it's the greatest feeling in the world when a client comes to him and expresses the wish to make a bequest to an endowment fund for his church or another church in the care of the United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas.

"The staff at the Foundation is eager to help and very professional," he said. "The work product is excellent and they are prompt, thorough and reliable." He believes the work of UMFA frees the church staff from burdensome administration, provides professional management of the endowment funds and allows the donor or the church to direct the assets according to their preferences.

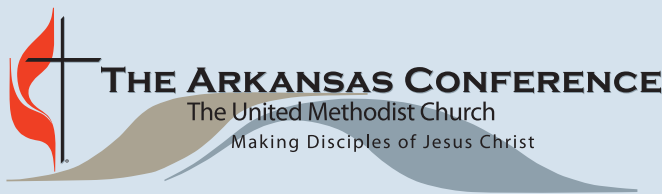


**The United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas**

5300 Evergreen Drive • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

501-664-8632 • Toll free 877-712-1107 • Fax 501-664-6792 • [www.umfa.org](http://www.umfa.org)

# 2013 BENEVOLENCE GUIDE



## A Guide to the Benevolences of The Arkansas Conference



Message from Bishop Mueller



Dear Sisters and Brothers,  
We have seen time and again we can do far more working together than we ever can do by ourselves. We saw it in our response to Hurricane Katrina and we saw it in Arkansas when we came together to help those affected by the winds of tornadoes. Working together works. This is true in our personal lives. It's true in our church life. We accomplish more mission and ministry when we share our resources through our worldwide United Methodist Connection.

But there's something else you need to know about this giving. It's not only in times of disaster or distress that giving matters. Every day it makes a positive difference in local churches by providing resources and support for local congregations, equipping clergy to provide leadership in local congregations and providing ways to do creative ministry in local congregations so that local congregations can do what Jesus has created them to do—make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

I was a local church pastor for a long time. I know how difficult it is for your church to make its budget. I understand the challenges you face and the sacrifices you must make. That's why I want you to know how grateful I am for the heroic efforts you are making in order for our beloved United Methodist Church to once again become that movement which transforms lives, communities and the world. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Grace and peace,

Gary E. Mueller

Resident Bishop, The Arkansas Annual Conference

### Vision

Congregations and surrounding communities transformed by the Holy Spirit to demonstrate holy living, justice, and love of neighbor

### Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ equipped to transform the world with excellence and passion

## ~Your Dollar at Work~

90¢  
**Local Church**

8¢  
**Jurisdictions, Annual Conferences & Districts**

1¢  
**Program Agencies**

1¢  
**Other General Funds**



# Connectional Giving

Connectional Giving enables United Methodists to do together what no church, district or annual conference could do alone.

All of this—and so much more—is possible because when we join The United Methodist Church, we promise faithfully to participate in its ministries through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Paying ALL of our apportionments at 100 percent, and giving faithfully to the six church-wide Special Sundays, we become a part of something big and accomplish wonderful things in Jesus' name!

When you give through your local church or annual conference your gifts expand your church's ministry globally.

## There are Seven Apportioned Funds approved by General Conference:

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

## There are six churchwide Special Sundays approved by General Conference:

- Human Relations Day Sunday
- One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday
- Native American Ministries Sunday
- Peace With Justice Sunday
- World Communion Sunday
- United Methodist Student Day

For more information on connectional giving, visit [www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org)



Mount Sequoyah is the retreat center for the South Central Jurisdiction, of which the Arkansas Conference is a part. Located in Fayetteville, it is available for local church, district and conference training events, retreats and spiritual formation experiences throughout the year.



In the United Methodist Church pastors are members, not of congregations, but of the Conference. When pastors retire, or when there comes a time for the pastor's family to face the future without them, which United Methodist congregation provides retirement income or support for the widowed spouse? The answer is, "We all do." Pastor retirement and benefits are funded by the apportionments our local congregations provide, and they are administered by the Conference pensions and benefits staff.



All the things you loved as a child can be found at Camp Aldersgate. But here, they also have state-of-the-art medical facilities and one-on-one helpers that allow children with medical disabilities to have a true camp experience. Today, a portion of each church's ministry share goes to the camp and United Methodist Women continue to support the camp's ministry through their pledges to Mission and local church circle activities.



The World Service Fund is the primary avenue of support for the global mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church. World Service connects your church to a long list of Christian mission and ministry throughout the denomination in the work of the general church agencies and other national and international programs. Five years ago, in a Sunday school classroom at Jonesboro's St. Paul United Methodist Church, Christ Way UMC Jonesboro had its first meeting. On Jan. 22, 2012, the startup congregation celebrated being officially constituted into the United Methodist Church. The World Service Fund is changing lives in the name of Christ by creating new places for new people.



# sharing together

IN CHRIST'S NAME

Learn more about the conference benevolences at [sharingtogetherumc.org](http://sharingtogetherumc.org)  
Videos, worship resources and Bible studies for all ages.

# 2013 Budget

## Clergy and Retiree Benefits

Pension & Benefits	3,031,430 <sup>1</sup>
Conference Staff Pension (clergy only)	308,093
Retiree Health Care	1,380,000
Disability Health Care	300,000
<b>Subtotal Clergy and Retiree Benefits</b>	<b>5,019,523</b>

## General Apportionments

World Service	1,299,615
Ministerial Education	446,178
Black College	177,968
Africa University Fund	39,826
Episcopal Fund	376,614
General Administration	156,822
Interdenominational Cooperation	34,877
<b>Subtotal General Apportionments</b>	<b>2,531,900</b>

## Jurisdictional Apportionments

Jurisdictional Administration	24,745
Lydia Patterson Institute	52,833
Mount Sequoyah	12,634
SMU Campus Ministry	6,509
<b>Subtotal Jurisdictional Apportionments</b>	<b>96,721</b>

## Conference Administration

District Superintendents	541,130
DS Travel	87,500
DS Health Insurance	100,000
Finance and Management	379,258
Episcopal Residence	18,000
Episcopal Office	20,000
Episcopal Discretionary	11,000
Board of Ordained Ministry Administration	137,280
Pastors Moving Expense	75,000
Administrative Boards	163,750
Stabilization	192,270
<b>Subtotal Conference Administration</b>	<b>1,725,188</b>

## Resourcing Local Congregations

Conference Ministries Office	526,984
Equitable Compensation	165,000
Conference Center for Clergy & Lay Excellence	501,500
Conference Center for Technology	614,087
Conference Network: Holiness of Heart and Life	50,000
General & Jurisdictional. Conference Delegate Exp	10,000
Interim Pastor Training	5,000
Connectional Ministries	1,457,738
<b>Subtotal Resourcing Local Congregations</b>	<b>3,330,309</b>

## Institutional Ministries

Camp Aldersgate	123,985
Hendrix College Student Scholarships	320,000
Philander Smith College	320,000
<b>Subtotal Institutional Ministries</b>	<b>763,985</b>

**Total Conference Budget 13,467,626**



St. Mark UMC Pine Bluff/White Hall used a grant awarded last fall by the Conference Hunger Task Force to carry out a "Potted Garden Project" at the Boys and Girls Club of Jefferson County. Church members partnered with the club staff, a local Girl Scout troop, House of Levi and HOPE Community Coalition to make the event happen.

## Connectional Ministries include:

- New & Refocusing Ministries
- Committee on Episcopacy
- Committee on Nominations
- New Church Development
- Leadership Development
- Age Level Ministries
- Church & Society
- Discipleship
- Global Ministries
- Higher Education & Campus Ministries
- Board of Laity
- Outdoor Ministries
- Commission on Religion and Race
- Commission on Status and Role of Women
- Connectional Allowance
- Connectional Ministries Travel



The Network for Heart and Life will connect local churches and individuals seeking deep spiritual experiences with resources for growth and formation as well as encouraging commitment to changing to the world in service to others.

<sup>1</sup> Figure reflects 25% billed directly to churches.

# How our apportionments are determined

## 2013 Arkansas Conference Apportionment Calculation

### Section I: Gather Information

The following information can be found on Table II of the "End of the Year Report" 2011

Health insurance paid to conference (Line 52)	_____
Pastor's salary (Line 53)	_____
Associate's salaries (Line 54)	_____
Utilities and allowances (Line 55)	_____
Accountable reimbursements paid to pastors (Line 56)	_____
Other cash allowances (Line 57)	_____
Deacon ministry compensation (Line 58)	_____
Diaconal ministry compensation (Line 59)	_____
Other staff compensation (Line 60)	_____
Current program expenses (Line 61)	_____
Current operating expenses (Line 62)	_____
<b>Church Total Financial Consideration</b>	_____

### Section II: Calculate the Decimal

Divide the Church Total Financial Considerations by the Financial Considerations of all 676 churches in the Conference = Church Decimal (0.00000000)

$$\text{Church Total Financial Consideration} \div \text{Conference Total} = \text{Church Decimal}$$

\_\_\_\_\_                      71,882,595                      \_\_\_\_\_

(This number is the total from Section I)

### Section III: Figure the Apportionment

"Multiply the "Church Decimal" by the amount of each line in the Conference Budget. Total all Lines " for your 2013 Conference Apportionment.

	Conference Budget	x	Church Decimal	=	Church Apportionment
Clergy and Retiree Benefits	5,019,523		_____		_____
General Apportionments	2,531,900		_____		_____
Jurisdictional Apportionments	96,721		_____		_____
Conference Administration	1,725,188		_____		_____
Resourcing Local Congregations	3,330,309		_____		_____
Institutional Ministries	763,985		_____		_____
<b>TOTAL APPORTIONMENTS</b>	<b>13,467,626</b>		_____		_____

# How pension direct billing will work

In 2013, the Conference will begin to bill pension costs directly to local churches based on their pastor's compensation. This will be billed directly to each church on a monthly basis. In 2013, 25% of the total costs will be billed to local churches and the remaining 75% will be included in the Conference budget.

Pastor's Gross Salary <sup>+</sup>	\$ _____
Housing <sup>++</sup>	\$ _____
Total of above compensation	\$ _____
Annual Pension Billing Amount (Compensation * 0.16)	\$ _____
2013 Pension Billing Amount (Previous line * 0.25)	\$ _____

<sup>+</sup> Does not include professional expense accounts  
<sup>++</sup> Either housing allowance amount or 25% of salary for parsonage

## Anytown UMC Example

Pastor's Salary <sup>+</sup>	\$ 50,000
Housing <sup>++</sup>	\$ 12,500
Total of above compensation	\$ 62,500
Annual Pension Billing Amount (Compensation * 0.16)	\$ 10,000
2013 Pension Billing Amount (Previous line * 0.25)	\$ 2,500
Monthly Billing Amount (Previous line /12)	\$ 208

## Office of Administrative Services

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 3611, Little Rock, AR 72203  
 Physical Address: 800 Daisy Bates Drive, Little Rock, AR 72202



**Todd Burris,**  
**Treasurer**  
 tburris@arumc.org  
 501.324.8004



**Diane Denham,**  
**Assistant Treasurer**  
 ddenham@arumc.org  
 501.324.8054



**Mona Williams,**  
**Benefits Officer**  
 mwilliams@arumc.org  
 501.324.8003



**Wendy Brunson Daniels,**  
**Assistant Benefits Officer**  
 wbrunson@arumc.org  
 501.324.8040



**Melissa Sanders,**  
**Administrative Assistant**  
 msanders@arumc.org  
 501.324.8002



**Cathy Hall Hughes,**  
**Church Relations Liaison**  
 chughes@arumc.org  
 501.324.8020

## Anytown UMC Example

### Section I: Gather Information

The following information can be found on Table II of the "End of the Year Report" 2011

Health insurance paid to conference (Line 52)	16,914
Pastor's salary (Line 53)	75,000
Associate's salaries (Line 54)	35,000
Utilities and allowances (Line 55)	10,000
Accountable reimbursements paid to pastors (Line 56)	4,000
Other cash allowances (Line 57)	4,000
Deacon ministry compensation (Line 58)	25,000
Diaconal ministry compensation (Line 59)	25,000
Other staff compensation (Line 60)	40,000
Current program expenses (Line 61)	20,000
Current operating expenses (Line 62)	35,000
<b>Church Total Financial Consideration</b>	<b>289,914</b>

### Section II: Calculate the Decimal

Divide the Church Total Financial Considerations by the Financial Considerations of all 676 churches in the Conference = Church Decimal (0.00000000)

$$\text{Church Total Financial Consideration} \div \text{Conference Total} = \text{Church Decimal}$$

289,914                      71,882,595                      0.00403316

(This number is the total from Section I)

### Section III: Figure the Apportionment

Multiply the "Church Decimal" by the amount of each line in the Conference Budget. Total all Lines for your 2013 Conference Apportionment.

	Conference Budget	x	Church Decimal	=	Church Apportionment
Clergy and Retiree Benefits	5,019,523		0.00403316		20,245
General Apportionments	2,531,900		0.00403316		10,212
Jurisdictional Apportionments	96,721		0.00403316		390
Conference Administration	1,725,188		0.00403316		6,958
Resourcing Local Congregations	3,330,309		0.00403316		13,432
Institutional Ministries	763,985		0.00403316		3,081
<b>TOTAL APPORTIONMENTS</b>	<b>13,467,626</b>		<b>0.00403316</b>		<b>54,318</b>