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ACCOUNTABILITY GROUP

With the beginning of a new year the Accountability Group continued focus on one of the Four Foci for this quadrennium, *leadership development*. This is an area that needs our full attention across all ministries. It is vital that our clergy and laity groups develop plans and programs to identify, equip and nurture a diverse pool of leaders to move our church and congregations to the levels that we envision. Efforts to move the conference toward models of inclusive ministry is evident in the following reports.

ANTI-RACISM TEAM: A CONFERENCE STRATEGY FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE

□ If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; But when they attend to what he reveals, they are most blessed. □ Proverbs 29:18a, The Message

The Conference Anti-Racism Team (ART) is far from being another advocacy group that is trying to make sure that Black people have a voice. Its focus is not that small nor is its understanding that shallow. The ART exists as a vehicle for institutional transformation in our Conference and the communities it serves. The Team's charge is to assist congregations, districts, and the Annual Conference in seeing and naming this stronghold and identifying ways to resist its power over us. This is an effort that requires working closely with the Bishop and Cabinet, the members of the Conference/Core Leadership Team, churches, and individual lay leadership and pastors. This year the Team has continued its strategic initiative to move us closer to our vision.

This is the vision that we work under:

“Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the people of the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church seek to fulfill the word of God by committing to the full participation of people of all racial identities including their gifts, their worldviews and their cultures.

Being restored into the image of Christ, we claim our identity as an anti-racist, multi-cultural church where power sharing and inclusive decision making are practiced through clear lines of accountability to racially oppressed people; redefining and rebuilding relationships; and working to dismantle racism in the entire community wherein individuals, congregations, communities and society are transformed toward God's design for creation.”

Our strategic plan was developed and is refreshed annually with an understanding that we cannot teach racism and the white privilege it brings away. Organizing to resist the misuse of power is at the core of what we have been doing this year. Our work with getting two of our Dallas churches, Lovers Lane and St. Luke “Community”, to come together in a joint dialogue is one of the ways we are about organizing to facilitate transformation. The work done with our CCYM youth camps and Summer Camps at Bridgeport is another way we are about the task of organizing to facilitate transformation in our Conference. ART members have even been asked to participate in workshops for SPILIRA and JYMO. The collaboration we have done with Wesley in Greenville and the church and civic partnerships that are being formed there is another example of the organizing we do to facilitate transformation in our Conference and the communities it serves. Consistent with our strategic plan, the number of persons in the Conference who know and share a common definition of “racism” and have some knowledge of our analysis of racism grows. Still our organizing continues.

This year we conducted another Residents 2.5 Day Training. Equipping new leaders is a vital part of our strategy so we listened to the residents and adjusted the training to allow place and time for spiritual formation in a setting that was more conducive, the Prothro Retreat Center on Lake Texoma. By all accounts the training is getting better each year. The base of Conference members who own a deeper analysis of the impact of racism on our ability to effectively make disciples for Jesus Christ widens. At the same time the demographics of our Conference area continue to change at a rapid pace as our struggle to be relevant and impactful grows more intense. At this point our goals seem more valid than ever and the need to work for them even more vital than perhaps ever before. The following updates our progress toward reaching critical mass.

GOAL 1: Pertaining to **IDENTITY CHANGE** of a critical mass understanding, owning, and affirming an analysis of systemic racism the following individuals have completed a 2 ½ day Training:

CLASS of 2002

Victor Aves	Paul Meyenberg
Ann Barton	Joseph Nash
David Barton	Michael Nichols
Otto Bielss, Jr.	Buster Noah
Shirley Black	Janet Bell Odom
Jo Blount	Joy Perry
Carol Boyd	Steve Richardson
W. J. Bryan III	Gail Roe
Mary Brooke Casad	Michael Rowe
William Cottle	Ben Shinn
Eliza Davis	Andy Stoker
Valarie Englert	Patricia Thresher
Javier Escalera	Mark Treger
Cindy Johnson	Sally Vonner
Shonda Jones	Vickie Washington-Nance
Levy Laguardia	Carole Walker
Brian D. Larney	Dee Weaver
Peggy Larney	Celia Williamson
J. I. Minor	

CLASS of 2005

Linda Bass
 Alice Coder
 Frank Drenner
 Reid Fade
 Phyllis Jefferson
 Mark Long
 Karan Marshall
 Thalia Matherson
 Mary Nickson
 Ben Read
 Leo Tipay
 Herman Totten
 Mary Nickson
 Mike Wright-Chapman
 Jackye Waiters-Lee

CLASS of 2008

Nancy Arnold
 Glorias Dixon
 Robert Evans
 Sabrina King
 Classi Nance
 Calvin Page
 Daniel Perkins
 Ruth Robinson
 Anna Rogers
 Constance Smith

GOAL 2: Pertaining to the Conference **LEADERSHIP** and other key influencers, understanding, owning, and affirming our analysis of systemic racism:

- a. the following individuals have completed a 2 ½ Residency Day Training **CLASS of 2010:**

CLASS of 2010

Shawn Bakker	Dyan Dietz	Walt Lunde	Susan Robb
John Baldwin	Chris Everson	Scott Melton	Nancy Sherman
Janet Collingsworth	Aleze Fulbright	Monty Moore	Ed Volfe
Jay Cousino	Holly Gotelli	Cheryl Murphy	Preston Weaver
Annelda Crawford	Alan Hitt	Jerry Pagdilao	Jessica Wright
Wendy Curran	David Lessner	Stacey Piyakhun	

- b. the following individuals have completed a 2 ½ Day Residency Training **CLASS of 2009:**

CLASS of 2009

Lyle Benson	Rebecca Grogan	Lisa Marshall	Michael Rowe
Marjorie Bishir	Leslie Herrscher	Paul McKay	Abe Smith
Judith Brandt	Derrick Jacobs	Sandra Minor	Donna Lea Sutton

Wally Butts	John Johnson	Marie Mitchell	Terri Swan
Herbert Coleman	Ashleigh Joyner	Liz Moen	Rodney Whitfield
Marc Corazao	Beth Kellner	Caroline Noll	Jackie Wickware
Nancy DeStefano	Michael Langdon	Dana Norton	Chris Yost
Chris Dowd	Mai Le	Denise Peckham	
Gloria Fowler	Dean Libby	Paul Rasmussen	

- c. the following individuals have completed a 2 ½ Day Leadership Training **CLASS of 2005**::

John Allen	Mary Brooke Casad	Ron Henderson	John Rosenburg
Holly Bandel	Perry Crenshaw	Joan LaBarr	Tom Talbert
Shirley Black	Jim Dorff	Don Lee	Sally Vonner
Joe Dan Boyd	Fred Durham	Doug Miller	Derrick Wright
Todd Bristow	Marvin Guier	Calvin Page	Mike Wright-Chapman

- d. The following groups have attended a 2 ½ Day Training:
- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Residency Class of 2010 | 02/2010 |
| Residency Class of 2009 & 2010 | 02/2009 |
| Conference Leadership Team | 02/2005 |

- e. The following Training has been attended by the Team Apprentice Trainees:
- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------|
| ERACE | Kalamazoo, MI | Bill Bryan III | 12/2009 |
| Roman Catholic Diocesan Schools | Chicago, IL | Bill Bryan III | 11/2009 |
| Western Pennsylvania Conference | Pittsburg, PA | Reid Fade | 05/2009 |
| Western Pennsylvania Conference | Pittsburg, PA | James Minor | 05/2009 |
| Chicago Assoc. of Social Workers | Chicago, IL | Bill Bryan III | 03/2009 |
| ERACE | Kalamazoo, MI | Karan Marshall | 09/2008 |
| Episcopal Diocese | Ocean City, NJ | Karan Marshall | 10/2008 |
| Episcopal Diocese of Chicago | Chicago, IL | James Minor | 05/2008 |
| Chicago Housing Authority | Chicago, IL | VickieWashington-Nance | 03/2008 |

GOAL 3: Pertaining to **OPENNESS AND TRUST** across racial lines signifying readiness to build and accept new structures of culture and power sharing:

- a. the following churches have conducted Round Table Seminars on racism:
- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Holy Covenant | 02/2007 |
| First Richardson | 07/2006 |
| Greenland Hills | 03 & 04/2004 |
- b. the following group conducted Seminars on racism:
- | | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Dallas-Denton UMW District | 09/2008 |
|----------------------------|---------|
- c. the following groups have attended a 90 min Presentation:
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Jr. High Summer Campers | 07/2008 |
| Dallas-Denton UMW District | 08/2007 |
| Jr. High Summer Campers | 06/2007 |
| Conference Clergy Women’s Fellowship | 10/2006 |
| Lay Speakers Training | 03/2006 |
| Conference Youth Council | 11/2003 |

GOAL 4: Pertaining to **SPIRITUAL CHANGE** to effect a deeper and commonly affirmed spiritual and theological understanding for doing anti-racism work and claiming an anti-racist

identity-- progress toward this goal has been realized as the Team spent a 2 Day Retreat in prayer, worship, study, and fellowship to re-ignite the vision and resolve to continue in this work.

GOAL 5: Pertaining to **ORGANIZING** for the formation of additional anti-racism teams among partnering churches the following churches have participated in:

- a. 45 min. Introductory Presentation: Racism – Owning A Common Definition.

Jr. High Summer Campers	07/2008
DN Arapaho	01/2006
First Richardson	08/2003

- b. 90 min. Dismantling Racism Presentation: Claiming an Anti-Racism Identity in the 21st Century

DD Lovers Lane	
DS St. Luke “Community”	10/2009
DS Tyler Street	01/2009
PS Wesley, Greenville	02/2008
DS Art Spirit	06/2004
DD St. Paul	09/2004
DN Casa View	09/2004
DN First Richardson	06/2004
DN Hamilton Park	08/2004
DS Owenwood	01/2004
DN St. Mark	01/2004
DN St. Stephen	01/2004
DN Munger Place	09/2003
DN Greenland Hills	03/2003

GOAL 6: Pertaining to **EXTERNAL COLLABORATION** between anti-racism organizing that is taking place within the North Texas Conference structure and anti-racism organizing that is taking place within the larger community to which the North Texas Conference is connected by developing a “cross-structural” consortium to continue anti-racism work.

Progress toward this goal has been realized as we:

The Team partnered with the Dallas Peace Center in 12/2006.

Reid Fade and J. I. Minor, Co-Chairs

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE ON SEXUAL ETHICS (BCOSE) – Alice Zaccarello, Chair

The committee had 10 monthly noon meetings. In addition, members of the committee met with Fred Durham, Bishop Bledsoe's assistant to discuss the committee's work.

Education Work

BCOSE provided a speaker at seven District Lay Training meetings. Also, we planned and provided clergy sexual misconduct training for Residents. We completed the planning for and conducted three half-day sessions (different dates and locations) of clergy sexual misconduct training, making it available to **all** clergy in the North Texas Conference, utilizing a nationally known expert, Joy Melton. The theme of the training was Covenantal Integrity. A time for small group discussion of boundary and power issues was an important part of the training. The evaluations indicated the training was very well received.

Healing Work

In April we maintained the ongoing readiness of the Response Team with an all-day training, utilizing Jim Poling and Sara Rieth of FaithTrust Institute.

In May the Response Team held a second congregational meeting in Royse City.

Advocacy Work

We maintained a readiness of Resource Persons to be of support to someone alleging an incident of clergy sexual misconduct. One Resource Person was assigned during 2009.

We pray and hope that sexual abuse and sexual harassment will not occur in the North Texas Conference. We work to make this hope a reality.

COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE (CORR) – Dee Weaver, Chair

In 2009, CORR leadership was part of the design team for the South Central Jurisdictional Religion and Race conference held in Oklahoma. The importance of the conference cannot be overstated since more than 10 years had elapsed since the jurisdiction had once again started conducting such events.

National Association of Filipino American United Methodists (NAFAUM) held their convocation in Dallas in July, at Cochran Chapel UMC. This gathering presented an opportunity for CORR to participate in NAFAUM'S workshops and trainings. Texas Filipino American United Methodists hosted Filipino brothers and sisters from across the United States and the Philippines.

Under the leadership of the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, CORR was part of the training given to clergy and laity about the importance of monitoring Annual Conference sessions, events and district meetings. "CORR..ageous" Awards were given during an Annual Conference luncheon sponsored by CORR. Featured speaker at the luncheon was Rev. Anita Phillips, Executive Director of the Native American Comprehensive Plan.

CORR has continued to support BMCR as it sends members to annual conferences or meetings. Membership in the Hispanic Task Force has allowed CORR an insight into the challenges and possibilities for ministry to Hispanic congregations throughout the North Texas area.

"Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate their brothers and sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen."- 1 John 4:20

Ruth Robinson, Chair

CREATING CONGREGATIONS TEAM

The Creating Congregations Team is excited about the prospects offered by the New Strategic Plan to re-envision and restructure its work. This will strengthen our efforts to meet the changing and challenging demands of "Being the Church" in our day. While the make-up and thrust of the Creating Congregations Team will change during this coming year as it transitions into The Center for New Church Development and Congregational Transformation, its major emphases remain the same: (1) create a culture of churches birthing new churches and faith communities, and (2) facilitate Congregational Transformation.

New Church Development

Currently CCT supports 11 projects at various stage of becoming new churches:

1. The Woods...Grand Prairie (merger of two churches in a new location with a new name, pastored by Jill Jackson Sears; 2008)
2. Connección Hispanic at Oak Cliff ... (Oak Cliff UMC intentionally starting, then giving itself to become a new Hispanic faith community) pastored by Edgar Bazan; 2008
3. St. Luke South...DeSoto (Satellite extension campus of St. Luke "Community") pastored by Derek Jacobs; 2008
4. FaithBridge...Rockwall (daughter church of 1st Rockwall) pastored by Frank Rahm; 2008
5. New Beginnings Christian Fellowship...Grand Prairie (African American Parachute Drop) pastored by Perry Crenshaw; 2008
6. Falls Chapel ... Wichita Falls (close/restart in new location with new name) pastored by Louis Pearce; 2009
7. Journey of Faith...Rhome (close/restart in same location with new name) pastored by Alan Hitt; 2009
8. 1st Krum...(relocation, new facility, new name) pastored by Christy Thomas; 2009
9. St. Andrew North... Satellite extension campus of St. Andrew (Mission field along Preston, name to be determined, Tollway near 380) pastored by Edlen Cowley; 2010
10. Munger Place Campus...Dallas (close/restart as satellite extension campus of Highland Park) pastored by Paul Rasmussen; campus pastor Andrew Forrest; 2010
11. Grace Avenue...Satellite extension campus; (proposed mission field somewhere in north Frisco, near 380) pastor and name not yet announced; 2010

To assist us in determining where/when/how new churches would be planted, we contracted with CDS Demographic research. As a result of their work, we are currently planning three new sites for 2011, plus planting at least one new language-specific church.

Not every church is a typical "church" ... to broaden our understanding of "New Faith Communities," we are partnering with Dr. Elaine Heath from Perkins School of Theology to fund interns in up to three "New Day" intentional emergent settings. These 'micro-communities' are missional neighborhood faith communities.

Planting a new church requires the convergence of several factors: (1) The right mission field; (2) The right planter, (3) The right strategy; (4) The right mother church, (5) The right timing; and (6) The right funding plan.

Each year we learn more and try to get better so we can "create a culture of churches starting churches" where these 6 key components can come together. This year we have implemented 'best practices' of Path1 (The General Church's strategy for planting new churches) by instituting policies:

1. Mission Fields within the NTC are assessed using the consulting firm, "CDS Strategic Demographics," as well as other research tools like Percept, and 'in the field' observations by laity and clergy.
2. New Church planter candidates must attend The New Church Leadership Institute.
3. Candidates are then assessed by our NTC assessment team, made up of clergy and laity trained by Jim Griffith & Associates.
4. Prospective Mother Churches attend a NTC sponsored, "New Church Assessment & Training," workshop led by Jim Griffith & Associates.

5. Planters and launch team members attend “New Church Boot Camp” accompanied by their DS and Senior Pastor.
6. Planters are provided a performance coach.
7. New Church projects are monitored weekly for lay involvement, attendance, missional outreach, new attendance, baptisms, and giving.

The CCT was pleased to receive a 12-acre donation of land on Wintergreen Road in DeSoto, appraised at \$1.3 million to be used either as the site of a new church or to be sold with proceeds going to plant a new church elsewhere in the Conference.

Congregational Transformation

This past year has seen us complete the first year cycle of the 3-year Congregational Transformation Process, involving some 70 churches of all sizes from all over the Conference.

Hundreds of laity and clergy in the process have participated in on-site visits by consultant Don Nations and the respective District Superintendents, and in 3-hour seminars throughout the year conducted by Don Nations and Jim Ozier.

1. Hospitality Training, by Don Nations in October 2009
 2. Improving Ways to Reach the Community, by Jim Ozier in January 2010
 3. Attracting More Young People, by Don Nations in April 2010
 4. Leveraging the Strategic Plan to Benefit Your Church, by Jim Ozier this coming September, 2010
 5. Worship That Reaches People, by Don Nations in October 2010
- Pastors in the Transformation Process have 24/7 email and phone coaching access from DNA Coaching.
 - Churches and their designated lay leadership have the same 24/7 access to consultative services provided by DNA Coaching.

So far, dozens of pastors and churches have benefitted from this important component of the Congregational Transformation Process.

This process is designed to answer the question: “What is a healthy, vital church?” According to DNA Coaching, “It is a faith community, dedicated to helping people meet, know and serve God through a Holy Spirit empowered relationship with Jesus. It is a congregation that expresses care and compassion for both its members and its community. It has leaders that know, own and live out the clearly-stated mission, vision and values of the church. It experiences numerical and spiritual growth. It has worship services that both inspire long-term members and are meaningful to first-time guests. It has a warm, welcoming environment and numerous opportunities for people to develop deep personal friendships. The ministry of the church leads to new people coming into a personal relationship with Jesus. It is both rooted in the historic theology of the Church and willing to try new ways to share the good news of Jesus with those not involved in a church.”

This quote comes from the “Congregational Transformation Survey” prepared by Don Nations of DNA Coaching ... the organization guiding the North Texas Conference’s efforts at strengthening our local churches.

“Congregational Transformation” has become a vital part of the Creating Congregations Team during this year. One of the key goals of this new 3-year intentional process is to help us grow existing churches with the potential to become mother churches of new congregations.

We now have over 30 pastors who have completed the New Church Leadership Institute training as they discern where God may be calling them regarding planting a new church. With this many outstanding potential new-church pastors, we need to develop more mother churches capable of giving birth to new congregations -- one of the goals of Congregational Transformation.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Dunagin

Project Pentecost, 2009 – 2010

According to recent reports, 4.3 percent of Texans are of Asian Descent. Project Pentecost seeks to reach out to those persons in many ways.

Asian And African Pastors Fellowship Meetings, 2009-2010:

- March 22, 2009, Asian Pastors Task Force, NTC Conference Office
- May 4, 2009, Asian Pastors Fellowship: Umphress Road UMC (Filipino)
- August 24, 2009, Asian Pastors Fellowship, 1st UMC Richardson (Zimbabwe)
- September 14, 2009, Asian Pastors Task Force, NTC Conference Office
- October 26, 2009, Asian Pastors Fellowship, Living Faith UMC (Vietnamese)
- December 6, 2009, Project Pentecost Christmas Celebration, Faith UMC (Filipino) with 500 present
- February 8, 2010, Asian Pastors Task Force, NTC Conference Office
- March 22, 2010, Project Pentecost Fellowship, Faith UMC (Filipino)
- April 20, 2010, Asian Pastors Fellowship: Umphress Road UMC (Filipino)

16 Asian Churches and Fellowships.

Three English Language 1.5 – Generation Congregations

1. Korean Central UMC Irving
2. Good Seed UMC Fairview
3. First Korean UMC Richardson

All Saints Zimbabwe UM Fellowship (Shona Language)

Meeting at First UMC Richardson, with 50+ Members

Asian Women’s Fellowship

Meets spring and fall during the year.

This ministry of the North Texas Annual Conference began in September 2000. We are now celebrating the completion of ten years of Project Pentecost. Bishop Bledsoe suggests this ministry now become a caucus. We will be working on a new name or title.

Kenneth B. McIntosh, Coordinator

EQUIPPING DISCIPLES

The Equipping Disciples Team has worked diligently in the past year in the United Methodist Church's focus area of "developing principled Christian leaders" by serving as a resource to churches in ways that are beyond the means of most local churches in the area of discipleship for all ages. Our members are concerned with people of all ages, from the youngest to the most senior, and we are concerned with faith development of people from the earliest stages to deeply-maturity. We have experienced great energy working together in a new way over the last months. Individuals were selected for this team on the basis of expertise in a specific area, but we decided to pool our individual budgets to the extent we could while honoring on-going commitments and to pool our energies to work on programs that touch many of our specific areas.

In the past year, we have presented the following:

- 2 seminars training pastors to use "Growing Love in Christian Marriage" in marriage ministry in a local congregation to qualify that church in the *Texas Together* program allowing couples to get a marriage license without paying a state fee. 5 were trained the first seminar; 28 were trained the second one.
- 2 seminars for "Stewards of Children" with 15 attendees from across the Conference
- 2 Homebound Communion Training meetings
 1. FUMC-Mesquite, facilitator Dr. Mark Stamm, 28 attended from 12 churches
 2. FUMC-Wichita Falls, with Dr. Mark Stamm, 15 attended from 7 churches
- Services of Holy Communion before Conference sessions, average attendance 50 people
- A prayer room was set-up and maintained during Annual Conference
- 4 workshops held across the Conference in April and May, 2010, on "Creating Contagious Faith". Over 100 persons from more than 60 churches participated.
- Held "Praying the Scriptures" events with Rev. Brian Hardesty-Crouch - 75 persons attended the 3 events from 15 churches
- Co-Sponsored with Northaven UMC "Lunch with Dr. James Finley" with 20 persons from 12 churches
- Offered "Visio Divina: Creating Sacred Spaces" event
- Co-sponsored with Church and Society "Spiritual Formation and Social Justice" event with Dr. Bill McElvaney for about 40 persons from 20 churches.
- Sponsored and provided leadership for the "Academy for Spiritual Formation" at Prothro Center - 40 people attended from 20 churches in the jurisdiction.

Life Stage Ministries

Rev. Andy Stoker is staff liaison for Life Stage Ministries, another arm of the Equipping Disciples Team. His report follows:

Children's Ministries. Since last year, we have shaped a vision for what Children's ministries ought to be for local churches through intentional networking and accountability. Throughout 2009 and 2010, our Children's Ministry Network met in 14 local churches. As an educational connection we read together, *Loving God with Your Mind* by Thomas Hawkins. Hawkins' text connected us with the spiritual needs of children with the physical and cognitive developmental needs of children.

Youth Ministries. Over the last year, we have focused on what we have learned from Mark DeVries' text, *Sustainable Youth Ministry*. We capped the year with a visit from Mark DeVries to Perkins School of Youth Ministry! Our network met monthly to connect on issues and concerns in

our local churches as well as trying to discern how a *Sustainable* approach could be used within the churches we serve. Georgia Harrison continues to serve as Conference Council on Youth Ministries Coordinator. She works tirelessly to serve the needs of those in leadership.

Family Ministries. This year, in Family Ministries, we focused on broad-scale parent education in local churches and pre-marital educational ministries. Andy Stoker focused on eight areas of parent education: history of families, economic lives of families, family development, raising boys, raising girls, developmental assets, human sexuality and church as family system.

Camping Ministries. The North Texas Conference has been blessed by our camping and retreat ministries. Each of the program areas in Life Stage Ministries benefits from this great relationship. In the conference year, we have embraced a new Executive Director of Bridgeport, Trueman Hoffmeister. As children's Bible retreats, youth midwinter camps and many churches in the North Texas Conference participate at Bridgeport and Prothro, we give God thanks for the blessing our camps give to people of the North Texas Conference.

Here are the programs and events that nurtured and sustained Life Stage Ministries:

- Confirmation Celebration with the Bishop was hosted by First United Methodist Church in Denton. The lay people, adults and youth included, of FUMC-Denton created a space for the celebration that was open and inclusive. There were 1042 confirmation students and their leaders who sang, played and worshipped. In 2010, the Confirmation Celebration with the Bishop will be held on February 13 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at FUMC-Denton.
- The Conference Council on Youth Ministries provided leadership for three Youth Midwinter Spiritual Life Retreats in January and February with the theme, "Feed the Faith." Attendance for the three retreats was 619. Three midwinter retreats will be held at Bridgeport Camp in 2011: January 28-30, February 4-6, and February 18-20. *Every midwinter event is a junior and senior high mixed event.*
- Youth Annual Conference 2009 was held at the beginning of March 2009. The theme for the event was advocacy. Youth were empowered to understand and grow in their knowledge of the United Methodist Church and the helping agencies within its bounds. Also, the Conference Council on Youth Ministries held elections for four new members to the team. Youth Annual Conference 2011 will be held March 4-6.
- Children's Ministries sponsored a Bible Retreat for 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders at Bridgeport in Fall 2009. 180 participated in the event. The event's participants' learned how Methodism has viewed the Bible through its history through experiential activities (and even a visit from John Wesley). The Bible Retreat will be at Bridgeport on September 17-18.
- Summer Camps 2009 were exceptional! Over 2600 persons participated in the summer activities. We are looking forward to another great summer 2010. The Children's Camps theme is "Wii Play," it will focus on the book of Acts and how to be a Christian in challenging times with joy and hope. Youth Camps theme is "Looking . . .," modeled to encourage growth in grace and discipleship in Jesus Christ. Register for camp at www.bridgeportcamp.com. SEEK (Summer Events for Exceptional Kampers) Camps for children, youth, young adults and Adults continues to flourish. This is a ministry all persons can feel called to. Would you like to serve at a SEEK Camp? Contact the Life Stage Ministries Office.
- C2K (Connect to the Kingdom) had a very successful summer 2009, as well as a strong fall hosting teams and groups for growth and team building. Thanks to Charles Harrison for his diligence in maintaining the building and his visionary leadership for this growing program. Register your team at www.c2kdallas.org.

- Family Ministries hosts two visions for our conference. The first vision is family life education. Family Ministries hosted a “Stewards of Children” event in the spring and are looking forward to more opportunities for service at the Ministry Center and in local churches. The second vision is marriage education and enrichment. As part of a wider vision for family life in North Texas, Family Ministries will be encouraging churches to participate in the state’s “Twogether in Texas” program. This program educates and helps engaged couples learn about married life. The North Texas Conference will be hearing much more about this in the coming annual conference year.

For more information, contact Andy at the Conference Office or, during the summer, please call Bridgeport Camp, 940-683-2555.

Higher Education and Campus Ministry

The Equipping Disciples Team sponsors campus ministry in the North Texas Conference. That report, submitted by chairperson Rev. Judith Reedy, follows:

A Word from the Campus Ministry Task Force for 2009-2010

Eleven percent of elders in the Mississippi Annual Conference are under the age of 35, more than double the percentage of young elders nationally. The conference’s success is no accident. The state is reaping the success of efforts that include committing resources to campus ministry. Mississippi has a campus ministry unit on every college campus, including community colleges, says Bishop Hope Morgan Ward.

The North Texas Annual Conference is taking the effort to develop principled Christian leaders seriously. Campus Minister Rev. Cammy Gaston reports that the Denton Wesley Foundation was awarded “Organization of the Year” in 2010 by the University of North Texas for their leadership and overall involvement in campus life. The ministry has been defined by the Four Areas of focus from General Conference. Creating principled Christian leaders is at the top of the list for DWF. Students lead worship and small groups, prepare for theology school and are involved in social justice practices. Mission and acts of service have led DFW to a partnership with the Lydia Patterson Institute, as well as to service to the homeless in their own community. Projects such as “Imagine No Malaria, Project Transformation, “Invisible Children” and “Tom’s Shoes” give students an opportunity to respond to the health needs of society. In order to make worship very accessible, DWF has taken worship outdoors to their amphitheater when weather permits. The ministry is very active and faithfully alive. It involves nearly 100 students in small groups, worship, missions and outreach. Additionally, they reach out to the community, providing a weekly free lunch for 125 students, staff and faculty.

In 2009, the DWF Board of Directors executed a plan to raise funds for a \$68,000 renovation to their aging facility. The fall campaign successfully raised enough cash to begin the first phase of the project – the renovation of the kitchen. A United Methodist mission group called the NOMADS provided the volunteer labor over the winter holiday, and when the students returned, phase one was completed. Enough pledged money was received to embark on phase two – the renovation of the worship space. Volunteer labor will be utilized to build a new stage, paint and put in lighting. Students will also be utilized in the project. Future plans for renovation include replacing and updating the signage, and providing more parking for students.

During this same year, the Wesleyan Campus Ministry at Texas A&M Commerce, under the direction of campus minister Rev. Aleze Fulbright, has focused on CONNECTING, GROWING,

and SERVING. With “CONNECT,” their passion has been hospitality. WCM is committed to serve as the facility where students feel welcome and at home. Students regularly come to meet up with friends, study or take a nap; some have labeled WCM their “home away from home.” A free lunch opportunity made possible by loving and caring people from FUMC-Commerce and Paris-Sulphur Springs has grown from a small gathering to a major feast of approximately 25-40 students every Wednesday and Thursday.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, the mission of WCM is to make disciples. They use the opportunity to learn how to be and go and do through their weekly Tuesday night Bible Study REGENER-8, a special time where students rejuvenate and regenerate their minds, bodies, and souls through participating in times of fellowship and studying the Word and applying what they learn in their everyday lives.

The guiding principle of “SERVING” for WCM is “The body has to be utilized for service to others. More bliss can be got from serving others than from merely serving oneself!” Students have participated in FUMC-Commerce’s Helping Hands events, offering the community the blessing of hands and sweat from caring people giving of themselves.

Additional wins this past year include the launching of a brand new website as a source of information: www.commercewesley.org; a faithful and committed WCM Board and Student Leadership Team; hosting a successful FUN-Raiser for a new computer lab (\$2500 was used to purchase 3 computer units); serving as a ministry center for other organizations, such as a gospel choir and a praise dance ministry; connecting with various sororities and fraternities as a place where they hold weekly Study Hall events. Like DWF in Denton, WCM in Commerce is a recognized student organization on campus and a ministry with the heart for nurturing the spiritual appetites of all they encounter.

Wichita Falls Wesley Foundation has seen a year of new faces, especially those of international students who make up 10 percent of the student population at Midwestern State University. Most students hail from the Caribbean, but recently the school has welcomed students from Africa, China, Korea, Vietnam, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Many of these students arrive with no warm clothing, blankets, hats, gloves or scarves, so this year the Wesley Foundation began an intentional pursuit of outfitting anyone who needed protection from the coldest winter in North Texas in many years! They also collected and refurbished gently used bicycles for students to get around in the warmer months.

WF Wesley Foundation still has the challenge of doing ministry without a building, but they have been meeting on campus and in students’ apartments, as well as having a weekly lunch in the fellowship hall of University UMC, attracting over 100 students. This year they also formed an ecumenical alliance with the newly formed United Campus Ministry, consisting of students from Episcopal, Presbyterian, Lutheran and Disciples of Christ traditions.

“God is working in the midst of campus ministry to raise strong Christian leaders,” says campus minister Rev. Cheryl Murray. Wichita Falls Wesley sponsored three students at Exploration ’09 in Dallas, a weekend opportunity for students to explore their call to ordained and lay ministry possibilities in the United Methodist Church.

Meanwhile, at Paris Wesley Foundation, under the ministry of Rev. Ed Dodd, students continue to find a place for a weekly community meal and study opportunities.

Once again, the North Texas Campus Ministry task force will award a scholarship for a graduating senior bound for a United Methodist college. We subscribe to the grassroots focus of developing

principled Christian leaders, and we are convinced that the greatest window of opportunity to do this is in our campus ministries. The task force wishes to thank the North Texas Conference for believing in, supporting, encouraging, and growing our campus ministries!

In addition to these specific programs, the Equipping Disciples Team has sponsored networks of adult Christian educators, children's workers and youth workers which meet monthly. All these groups provide important support and learning for participants.

The Equipping Disciples Team wants to remind all churches that it is important to continue to provide opportunities for continued growth in faith. We believe that the rewards for such growth include greater joy, a closer walk with God, and a blessed connection with other children of God. We are grateful to have served together over this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Katherine Glaze Lyle, Chairperson

SENDING SERVANTS TEAM

The Sending Servants Team has the specific responsibility of promoting and overseeing Conference level missions and outreach. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a transformational message of hope. This message desperately needs to be heard and experienced by the world. Each of the work areas represented on Sending Servants is oriented toward this goal. United Methodists in the North Texas Conference unite to transform the world and offer hope in the name of Jesus Christ, and we ourselves are transformed in the process. We encourage local churches to practice balanced ministry. We believe that worship and discipleship need to be balanced with a commitment to global justice, compassionate outreach, and concern for the creation. I commend to you this report of the ministry of Sending Servants during 2009/10.

Church And Society – Robert Diggs, Chair

Stamping out killer diseases by improving health globally – Our efforts have centered on Caring for Creation and supporting efforts to improve health insurance for children.

- We continue to encourage sustainable environmental efforts, green building programs and creation care ministries in local churches. In response to the Resolution passed at 2009 Annual Conference, the Green Team was formed to bring actionable Caring for Creation information to the NTC. This team is a conference-wide resource to churches; not just new builds, but existing facilities.
- Rev. Mel Caraway led a team from the North Texas Conference at the April 15-18 Caring For Creation Conference held at Mt Sequoyah. Church and Society funded bus expenses allowing the group to travel together.
- We endorse awareness programs for HIV/AIDS locally and internationally. We ask each local church to join us by reaching our commitment of raising \$160,000 for the UMC Global AIDS Fund.

Engaging in ministry with the poor – We support efforts in the areas of Peace with Justice and Restorative Justice.

- We attended the Justice Revival Nov 10-12. Held at Dallas Market Hall, the Justice Revival brought together the Greater Dallas area across racial, political, generational, and denominational lines challenging individuals to put their faith into action for social justice. On Saturday, Nov. 14, a Day of Action took the first step in a faith-driven campaign to further God's kingdom in the areas of public education and housing.
- We were part of the organizing committee celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Greensboro Sit-Ins Jan 30 – Feb 1, 2010. Sponsored by the Dallas Peace Center, the celebration remembered the birth of the '60s Civil Rights Movement when young people of color in Greensboro, N.C., decided to sit down and have lunch at an all-white Woolworth's counter.
- We are active in Immigration Reform. We led a North Texas Conference delegation which joined over 200,000 people in Washington DC for the "March for America: Change Takes Courage & Faith" demonstration on March 20.
- Members participate with WIN (Welcoming the Immigrant) and RITA (Reform Immigration for Texas Alliance). Activities included meetings with Congress members (Sen. John Cornyn, Rep. Pete Sessions, Rep. Kenny Marchant), enhancing media awareness, and Prayer Vigils.
- In a meeting on January 30 with four Texas Bishops to discuss Immigration, an agreement was reached to support a multi-conference Task Force focused on Immigration. We ask each local church to join with us by supporting the resolution to Annual Conference 2010 on Immigration. Similar resolutions are being presented at all Texas Conferences, so that a single voice may be heard from Texas Methodists on this important issue.
- We presented Prison Ministry workshops at the Dallas Denton UMW annual conference Sept 15.

Developing principled Christian leaders – We promote Leadership Development through the formation and sustaining of partnerships with Community, National, and International organizations:

- The Task Force provided scholarships for youth to attend the April 15-18 Caring for Creation Conference held at Mt Sequoyah.
- We sponsored the Youth Gathering during the 50th Anniversary of the Greensboro Sit-Ins as the Rev. Lawson shared his wisdom with young people from Dallas.
- Church and Society participated in the April 24 Mission Day, where youth and clergy worked side by side on a hunger-relief effort.
- Rev. Mel Caraway attended the National Council of Churches Lobby Day Sept 14-15. Citizens from across the United States put faith into action. Through working groups and role playing, participants learn how to shape their message to how to approach their legislators on Capitol Hill. Lobby Day ended with one-on-one visits with members of Congress.
- We are actively engaged with Texas Impact. Lori Stafford represents the North Texas Annual Conference as a board member.
- We continue to support the work of the Dallas Peace Center. Church and Society hosted a table at the Dallas Peace Center's annual Peacemakers Award Dinner.
- Rev. Bill Matthews currently serves as President of the Texas Division of UNA USA. Church and Society hosted a table at the United Nations Day Banquet Oct 24.

Creating new places for new people by starting new congregations and renewing existing ones – Church and Society celebrates with Church of the Disciple DeSoto as they use grant funds from the General Board of Church and Society for outreach programs to the neighborhood. The Grant has

been used to reach the community by hosting a Women's Conference, VBS outreach to community, and holding a Back to School health fair.

Communities of Shalom — Rick Hawkins, Chair

The NTC Shalom Communities have been God's hands and feet in many ways this past year. Over 40 leaders from the eight NTC Shalom sites participated in Shalom training over three weekends in September, November and December. After review of the principles and strategies of Shalom, sites were retooled and equipped to enhance their Shalom ministries accordingly. Training concluded with sites having drafts of written Shalom Plans. The Plans identify the priorities of sites over the next year. Training was facilitated by Sally Vonner, NTC Conference Shalom Coordinator and Rev. Sylvesta Shed, pastor of Glen Oaks UMC and longtime Shalom advocate.

The annual Shalom End of Year Celebration was held December 5 at the NTC Ministry Center. The celebration kicked off with the last Shalom training session on Public Relations which provided tools for sites to "tell their stories." The training was a great lead for the rest of the Celebration time as sites shared their vision, mission and goals from their draft Shalom Plans. The Celebration concluded with a Commissioning Service followed by lunch.

Ten representatives from various sites and others participated in the National Shalom Summit in October in Columbia, SC. It was wonderful to learn and fellowship with other Shalom communities from around the U.S.

Each site has been engaged in ministry throughout the year. Highlights from each site:

Ferris continued their participation in local events, i.e., MLK Birthday Celebration, National Night Out, Brickfest, Juneteenth and fall festival as a mean of community-building. The Juneteenth parade and celebration had over 200 attendees. They honor their senior citizens at Thanksgiving by preparing, serving and delivering meals with all the Thanksgiving trimmings. Their annual Fourth of July flag distribution (1000) with the Boy Scouts continue to give them visibility and presence in the community. They continued assistance to community residents having to travel long distances for medical treatment and established a scholarship to support seniors and existing college students from Ferris.

The **Peniel** Community of Shalom, a ministry of Salem-Kinser UMC, was engaged in several activities throughout 2009. These include creating safe spaces in the community for youth by providing facilities for Boy and Girl Scouts' leader training, scouting events, donating basketballs to youth and helping clean-up a local park which is now declared a drug-free zone and offers a soccer field. Peniel also donated coats and heaters during the winter to over 100 families and fans in the summer. They hosted a Neighborhood Night Out providing food and entertainment for over 50 community residents. Participants included the Mayor of Greenville and representatives from the Police, Fire and Sheriff's Departments.

Lastly, the Peniel Shalom continued their efforts in coordinating home repairs for persons in need, supporting families (women and children) in shelters, 12-step groups and meeting needs as they arise. One such need is providing memorial services for indigent families. Services provided for five families in 2009.

Community UMC Shalom (formerly Lambuth UMC site) went through transition as part of a church merger. They managed to continue their crime watch efforts in the new community. Community also initiated a community-based food bank working in partnership with Crossroads

Community Services. The food bank serves residents in the 75216 zip code. They also worked very hard on starting an after-school program in January after working through significant logistics.

Camp Wisdom UMC Shalom hosted a summer program for children with over 30 participants each week.

Eastside Community of Shalom (Wichita Falls) struggled to get grounding in 2009. They hosted two events: a youth leadership training for over 25 youth and a summer work camp, hosting a youth group to renovate homes of senior citizens in their community. Effective December 1, the Eastside Shalom became an inactive site until reorganization.

Highland Hills UMC Shalom community of Dallas continued their focus on health and wellness by providing screenings in conjunction with Methodist Hospital throughout the year. Additionally they continue their outreach to Dallas homeless and community senior citizens.

North Town Shalom (Haven Chapel UMC-Denison) is continuing focus on children and youth in their community. In February their Seniors With A Purpose (SWAP) program took more than 80 high school students from Sherman and Denison by buses to Prairie View A&M in Prairie View, Texas for the University's annual Pantherland Day. In March, Bishop Earl Bledsoe visited the newly renovated Shalom House. A Celebration of Health event was held in May in partnership with the local Community Center. Screenings, demonstrations, wellness information and door prizes along with a healthy salad lunch was shared by over 50 participants.

North Town became the first NTC Shalom Site to host a Drew University intern for the summer. Michelle Bodle was a great asset helping to make stronger connections between the community and the Shalom site. Her efforts proved fruitful for the Annual Back to School Festival. Approximately 170 students registered for school supplies, school physicals, dental exams, participated in various recreational activities and ate lots of good food. Thanks to Michelle's help the community partners for this event increased over previous years.

Lastly, North Town hosted their annual Community Wide Vacation Bible School at Hopewell Baptist Church. The week-long event averaged 70 children each evening. We welcome Rev. Cheryl Jones as the new pastor of Haven Chapel.

SE Dallas Cooperative Parish of Dallas continued offering its "Justice For Our Neighbors" immigration clinic which served 500 new neighbors (clients). Other ministries also continued: The Caring Services ministry serving senior citizens, after school tutoring for community children, Project Transformation, Amigos Days, ministry to youth, affordable housing for persons over 62 years, ESL classes and Angel Food program.

Ecumenical Ministries Team (EMT) - Sam Martin, Chair

The team had a busy year in 2009. We updated our 2 hour workshop on Ecumenism, Bound by Love, and had a train-the-trainers teaching session in May. NTC members have continued to play a role in the restructuring of the Texas Conference of Churches. TCC had a combined Annual Assembly and a Faith and Order Conference in November and EMT members were in attendance. There is still a critical need for a statewide ecumenical presence and we are hopeful that TCC can continue to fill that need.

EMT was represented at the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January of 2009.

EMT leadership was involved in the UMC Quad training in January 2009 and also participated in the National Workshop on Christian Unity in April. The NWCU program included a separate United Methodist Network for the first time.

In October EMT teamed with Perkins School of Theology for a one day seminar with Dr. Robert Hunt on Facilitating Interfaith Dialog. Perkins hosted the event at the new Prothro Hall and we appreciate their hospitality.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America approved our bilateral agreement for sharing of pulpit and table. We have opened lines of communication with our Lutheran counterparts.

The Ecumenical Ministries Team continues to support the Conference by serving as the eyes and ears for ecumenical and interfaith issues and advocacy.

I wish to thank my team members for the consistent support and hard work. They include Jennifer Akins, Carol Berglund, Judith Brandt, Nancy DeStefano, Terry Heislen, Irene Jackson, Kathy Johnson, Bill Matthews, Greg Neal, Judith Reedy, Troy Sims, Leo Tipay Jr. and Dave Yunker with Conference support from Fred Durham and Sally Vonner.

Global Ministries – Chris Allen, Chair & GSGM Representative

The North Texas Annual Conference Board of Global Ministries supports and oversees the work of the General Board of Global Ministries, which is the mission arm of the United Methodist Church. Specifically, we work with the itineration of Board of Global Ministries missionaries assigned to our Conference. We work with the scheduling of speaking assignments and financial assistance for the missionaries while they are visiting our conference. In addition, we support the missional work of the North Texas Annual Conference providing mission forums and financial support for various projects of the Annual conference: the mission to Cameroon, “Zoe Ministries; Giving Hope Program” and Bill and Jerry Savuto in their medical work in Kenya.

In addition, we were pleased to host the meeting of our South Central Jurisdiction General Secretaries of Global Ministries as well as our Board of Global Ministries Representatives. We visited various mission projects within our conference. Further, we were very happy to have Dr. John Nussel lead a study of his book “Faithful Witnesses: United Methodist Theology of Mission” Our missionary support as a conference for 2009 was 41,945 dollars while our total advance giving was 383,090. One of our primary goals is to continue to build up support for our GBGM missionaries assigned to our annual conference in the form of covenant partnerships.

Health and Welfare Ministries 2009-2010 – Ann Barton, Chair

Health and Welfare Ministries continued to build an inclusive membership of ethnically diverse lay and clergy, women and men from each of the districts. Our mission, to 1) promote increased awareness of and support to institutions of health and welfare that relate to the North Texas Conference; and 2) assist local churches in identifying needs and developing health and welfare ministries in their communities, was lived out in a series of articles in the conference edition of the *United Methodist Reporter* and through the beginning of a data base of health and welfare ministries currently in operation in local churches throughout the conference.

Disability Concerns Committee – Liz Moen, Kenny Dickson, Chairs

In 2009-2010, the Disability Concerns continued to raise awareness of the need for local churches and our conference to be in ministry with persons with disabilities through hosting a booth at Annual Conference 2009, Creation of an Awareness Video which can be viewed at

<http://ntcumc.org/disabilityconcerns>, and the creation of a quarterly newsletter *All Things Possible*. In October, we hosted a *Beyond Disability in Ministry* luncheon where Bishop Peggy Johnson, and Mrs. Leslie Bledsoe offered messages of inspiration and challenge. We also assisted GBGM in hosting a meeting of the Association of Ministers with Disabilities. We also provided support for local churches interested in beginning disability ministries through direct consultation.

For further information on establishing a covenant partnership within your church please contact the GBGM website at <http://gbgm-umc.org/mp>. They will be able to suggest suitable missionaries for your area.

Mission Personnel – Preston Weaver, Chair

The Conference Committee on Mission Personnel (CCMP) has, in collaboration with the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM), reorganized and established some objectives addressing the need for commissioned missionaries from the North Texas Conference. Roberta Bower, Custer Road United Methodist Church, has been recommended for commissioning as a GBGM Missioner. However, due to budgetary constraints at GBGM, our recommendation has been placed in abeyance.

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Bower, through her tenacity and perseverance is currently serving at Misionera de Crescendo in Santiago, Chile through Individual Volunteers in Mission (IVIM). We are grateful to Rev. John Baldwin and Rev. Wes Magruder for their suggesting IVIM as an option for Ms. Bower.

The CCMP, a committee of local clergy and laity within the North Texas Conference, is intent on meeting need for mission service at GBGM. We are committed to mission service and we are responsible for recruiting, guiding and mentoring interested persons through the application and discernment process for mission service.

United Methodist Committee On Relief – UmcOR – Clay Womack, Chair

2010 is an anniversary year for UMCOR: **70 years of “Being There. Being Hope”**. In 1940, Bishop Hubert Welch put forth a challenge to the general church to establish a “voice of conscience among Methodists to act in the relief of human suffering without distinction of race, color, or creed.” Since that time, United Methodists - and the North Texas Conference - have responded strongly to that challenge, spreading hope and aid to God’s most vulnerable people, through UMCOR.

UMCOR’s mission – to alleviate human suffering whether caused by war, conflict, or natural disaster - and to do so with open minds and hearts – continues in this conference year to be a centerpiece of our United Methodist identity and calling. During this past year, North Texas United Methodists have, again, put together a very strong effort of participation within UMCOR’s core-ministries: *Emergency/Disaster Response, Global Health, Hunger Relief, Immigration & Refugee Services*. For example, **124 congregations participated in The Advance** opportunity, supplying monetary resources of over \$270,000 to UMCOR and GBGM targeted projects. A further illustration: so far in this conference year, **204 congregations have responded with profound monetary generosity to the devastating earthquake in Haiti** through UMCOR channels. Added to this, NTC churches have supplied untold volumes of prayer, specialty supply kits, bulk materials for relief purposes, and volunteers.

It is critical to note that UMCOR does not receive any support through the apportionment system. 100% of all designated donations/contributions go directly to the location of designated need. The **One Great Hour of Sharing offering** opportunity that annually comes our way is UMCOR's sole source of support for "keeping the lights on" and providing fill-in funding for needs/projects not yet designated by way of appeal or The Advance. PLEASE, provide for a One Great Hour Of Sharing Offering some time during each conference year. Persons and groups can also support the OGHS offering online at www.umcor.org. A special thank you is given to the **46 congregations of our conference who have already made the One Great Hour of Sharing Response this year:** *Argyle, Walnut Hill, Denton First, Denton Trinity, Farmers Branch Christ, Webb Chapel, Flower Mound, Northgate, Vista Ridge, Sanger, Fellowship, Dallas Grace, Preston Hollow, Ridgewood Park, Frisco First, Plano Christ, Sachse First, Wylie, Garland First, Cockrell Hill, Kessler Park, Umphress Road, Wheatland, Duncanville Trinity, Kaufman, Kemp, Becker, Lancaster First, Deport, Salem-Kinser, Westview, Sulphur Springs First, Wolfe City, Bonham Wesley, Denison Trinity, Denison Waples Memorial, Ector, Gainesville First, Gainesville Whaley, McKinney First, Princeton, Sherman Grace, Whitesboro, Windom, & Wichita Falls St. Marks.*

Thank you for supporting UMCOR and allowing it to give life to our Christ-mandated calling of alleviating suffering, welcoming the stranger, rebuilding lives and communities, and promoting global health.

Justice For Our Neighbors – Dawn McMullan,
Refugee/Immigration Ministry Coord.

Justice For Our Neighbors (JFON) is blessed to count on the continued support of the North Texas Conference and its churches. In 2009, JFON was thrilled to celebrate 10 years of ministry among low-income immigrants in our communities, receiving them in Christian hospitality and providing them with free, high-quality immigration legal services. In 2009, Justice For Our Neighbors' Dallas office served over 500 new clients in addition to the nearly 900 follow-up clients. In addition, Justice For Our Neighbors continued to offer citizenship preparation classes through the help of dedicated volunteers.

Also in 2009, Justice For Our Neighbors actively participated in several nationwide campaigns through the General Board of Church and Society, including prayer vigils, post card signings, breaking bread and barriers events, among other activities. JFON continues to work with churches in the North Texas Conference and other community partners in building bridges and strengthening relationships with the immigrant community.

Jan Davis, Chair

Volunteers In Mission (VIM) – Dana Coker, Chair

The VIM Task Force has worked largely as a granting committee this year. We have approved several grant applications to three churches in 2009 with the purpose of helping first time VIM projects get off the ground in several of our local churches.

We have added to our responsibilities this year the granting oversight of some outside funds that are meant to be used for teams in our conference to work with Habitat International to build homes. Our first grant application for this will be seen in April.

During last year's Annual Conference Project, we raised \$18,956.95 for the continued rebuilding efforts of Sabine Pass UMC after they were affected by two hurricanes. We also raised awareness

about both their needs and their ministry through a video, and an annual conference luncheon where their pastor Kitty Key was our guest speaker.

Due to the strategic plan and the changes it might bring, we have put a few of our normal projects on hold and are waiting to see the direction our conference takes.

LAY SPEAKING MINISTRIES

The North Texas Conference Lay Speaking Ministries is primed and ready to participate in developing principled Christian leaders for the church, the North Texas Conference and the world.

The Lay Speaking Ministries program within the North Texas Conference has for years worked to intentionally equip and engage our program participants with effective and efficient management and leadership skills.

- The Lay Speaking Ministries Conference Committee can participate specifically and directly in the accomplishment of this responsibility.
 - We are excited about the possibility of helping with the accomplishment of the four focus area previously identified by offering leadership training for North Texas Conference laity who is in ministry in countless ways.
 - We are interested in **increasing awareness in the conference**:
 - of the **availability of courses** provided through Lay Speaking Ministries training in **the various districts** throughout the year, plus conference-wide training, *and online training* events
 - that these courses are **open to ALL** laity (and clergy!), not just those interested in becoming Local or Certified Lay Speakers
 - That Lay Speaking Ministries can assist with the development of training programs to satisfy specific needs of conference entities.
 - that Lay Speaking Ministries involve **MUCH MORE than speaking or preaching**, as evidenced by the **range of courses** available, relating to nearly every ministry area of the local church
- The Lay Speaking Ministries program within the North Texas Conference has aggressively pursued a redirection of resources. We have recently successfully completed a pilot online training course in Lay Speaking Ministries in the North Texas Conference! 20 Certified Lay Speakers participated in an Orientation for Instructors of the new Adult Basic Course curriculum that was recently published by GBOD. It will serve as a foundation for developing other online learning opportunities for some of the Advanced Courses in Lay Speaking Ministries, as well as for other training and conferencing experiences (such as on-line meetings) for conference laity and clergy. *We estimate that the annual savings to the Conference in travel reimbursements and on-site meeting expenses could easily pay for the necessary technology to provide accessible online learning and meeting opportunities for Conference groups.*
- In addition to this effort, we have effectively used the Conference's telephone conference call phone system for half of our quarterly meetings, saving the conference approximately \$400 per year.
 - We have recently purchased from www.elluminate.com an on-line collaborative learning platform for twenty-five people at one time. This service is available 24/7 throughout the year and will be used for on-line meetings and other forms of collaborative training.
 - We have recently developed a brief on-line training program focusing on the duties and responsibilities of the Church Chair of administrative/Church council, and we are

working with Tom Christian to develop a second such program that will address the trustee responsibilities of the local church. Additionally, we are targeting other committees such as Finance and the SPRC/PPR for such on-line training.

- On-line, collaborative training has several benefits:
 - First, let's address monetary savings. The cost of bringing people to a central point for training becomes expensive from two points of view.
 - If we expect the participants to cover their personal travel costs, then having on line training reduces or eliminates that expectation.
 - If the conference or district pays for the travel costs, then having on-line training eliminates the requirement to budget for such expenses.

In other words, we are being effective stewards by exploring and using on-line collaborate capabilities for both meetings and training.

- The second integral part of the on-line collaborative training is that such services appeal to the younger members of our church. On-line techniques and capabilities are nothing new to the younger generation and are being used across the spectrum of various training environments. Such programs become a sign of progress and innovation, and indicate to the younger members of our church that an exciting movement is at hand, one which endeavors to “keep up with the times.” Also, by involving them in such programs, we benefit from their knowledge and their eagerness to participate in such programs. This becomes a pathway for inviting and equipping and launching new and culturally diverse programs that satisfy needs that may not have been recognized or addressed in the past. By doing so, we build a cadre of laity, empowering them along the way to become the leaders of the UMC not in the future but today.

We know that our Church's capacity for Christian transformation depends on growing and deepening its reservoir of spiritual leadership. In Lay Speaking Ministries, we are recruiting, training and supporting Lay Speakers *SO THAT* we can “Make disciples of Jesus Christ *for the transformation of the world!*” We are not in the business of simply putting on courses! We *ARE* in *God's Kingdom business* of planting seeds and helping to **grow spiritual leaders** who can share God's love through caring, communicating and other leadership ministries in their congregations and communities! Our role is to *equip* new laity leaders and *renew* current laity leaders – and *no other entity in the North Texas Conference is better positioned to do that than the Conference Lay Speaking Ministries program!*

- We believe Lay Speaking Ministries in the North Texas Conference (and in United Methodism in general) is one of the best-kept “secrets” around! **We have available among our Basic and Advanced courses some of THE best opportunities for equipping leaders for practically every position and ministry in the local church.** (See brochure: Lay Ministry Equipping Resources 2010 for list of courses.)
- Lay Speaking Ministries courses can clearly be incorporated as a part of the “spiritual disciplines” for those who are called to lead (which includes those who teach and those involved in caring ministries) at the local church level.
- We have a **built-in cadre of highly-skilled, experienced instructors** – lay persons who can facilitate not only Lay Speaking Ministries courses, but possibly could become instructors and trainers for other lay leadership initiatives, including training that is provided in the districts each January for those elected to leadership roles in the local church. *We are especially eager to work in partnership with the Clergy and Lay Leaders of the Conference, the districts and the local churches to support and shape vital faith communities □ be they existing congregations or new church plants.*
- One of the things we do VERY WELL is teaching adult leaders HOW to teach/train other adults – regardless of the training content. Our two courses “(Lay Speakers) Teach Adults” and “Prepare to Teach” are excellent preparation to **improve transformational effectiveness**

for ANYONE at the local, district, or conference level who trains or teaches other adults – whether in ongoing classes or courses, or short-term or one-time training events.

We endorse the SPTs proposal to establish a Center for Leadership Development within the North Texas Conference, and strongly support the participation of the Lay Speaking Ministries program in this new effort.

May God bless us all during this period of transformation.

John Barham, Director, North Texas Conference Lay Speaking Ministries

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The mission and ministry of the United Methodist Women for this year were focused around the theme “*Together At the Table*”. United Methodist Women across the conference expanded our Purpose to being inviting, engaging, involving and including any and all who were not currently At the Table with us in ministry. Many women continued to reach out to the Sudanese women community, several supported Immigration Prayer Events, and we studied at the Regional School together for the first time at a HBCU (historical black colleges and universities)- Dillard University, in New Orleans, La. The North Texas Conference’s own president, Ruth Robinson, was elected to serve as the Dean for the West Gulf Regional School for 2010.

Our own mission education events, the School of Christian Mission and the Weekend Cooperative Mission Event were outstanding. We were blessed to have incredible leadership for both events and we were fortunate to have Ray Karrer to serve as the dean for the WCME.

To be sure that all were being included At the Table, this year’s mission project for the UMW Annual Meeting was- “Project Golden Touch: Adopt-a-Senior”. This year, we chose to be in service to residents of Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Centers and Convalescent Homes. In each community of the North Texas Conference, United Methodist Women dedicated themselves to being in community with the elderly and/or medically involved citizens. This ministry resulted in a cumulative 3,500 hours of service to this population of our community.

We celebrated our Annual gathering at First United Methodist Church of Wichita Falls. The Wichita Falls District leaders and members were wonderful hostesses. Officers’ Training followed the Annual Meeting and the United Methodist Women met and exceeded their pledge to mission for 2009. To God be the Glory!!

PURPOSE of the United Methodist Women

“The organized unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose **Purpose** is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, support fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.”

Ruth E. Robinson, President

COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

The Communications Commission's responsibility includes coordinating internal and external communications, serving as press office for the bishop and conference, supporting local churches in marketing and promotion, and providing communication and marketing training for local churches.

Highlights of the past year include:

- Developing and launching a web-based video newscast to be distributed at the first of the month to clergy, local church communicators and other key officials. Goal is to move from monthly to weekly distribution in the year ahead. The newscast is available to all on the www.ntcumc.org Video Center Page and North Texas Conference Facebook Fan Page.
- Receiving four major United Methodist Association of Communicators awards for excellence in communication ministry: The Robert F. Story Award for Excellence in Publications for the North Texas Edition of the United Methodist Reporter and the best in Division B (Conferences) for the NT UMR and the Best in Division and Best in Class for Streaming Video for the web stream of the 2009 Service of Ordination and Commissioning.
- Coordinating and producing the live web stream of the announcement of the South Central Jurisdiction announcement of Episcopal Area realignment at the request of the SCJ College of Bishops.
- Launching of the NTC Facebook Fan page, an opportunity to post news and share photos and videos quickly and economically.
- Conducting two major marketing campaigns for Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter utilizing radio, newspaper, cable television and introducing electronic "card" distribution as an alternative to the complimentary printed oversize postcards.
- Hosting a United Methodist Communications internet technology seminar for some 100 participants in September 2009.
- Upgrading the www.ntcumc.org website with new, more flexible and powerful content management software.
- Developing two interactive websites, holyconferencing.com (for the Strategic Planning Team) and zapmalaria.com (for the Imagine No Malaria Campaign). Both can be accessed from the main website or independently.
- Coordinating the multi-media and reporting responsibilities for annual conference sessions – a task requiring a dedicated team of volunteers and NTC staff.

NTC Communications and the Igniting Ministry Team, composed of representatives from the Communications Commission and the Equipping Disciples Team, collaborated on resources to enable churches in inviting, welcoming and discipling. Many thanks are due the hard-working volunteers and staff who gave so much of themselves to their mission.

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY REPORT

April 28, 2010

The North Texas Conference Board of Ordained Ministry is charged with recruiting, credentialing and supporting those serving as pastors in the North Texas Conference from the time they sense God's call to their retirement and beyond so that the congregations of the North Texas Conference can carry out their mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The Board's work is carried out by talented and committed members through several teams and committees: the Executive Committee, the Committee on Preparation and Qualifications for Elders and Deacons, the Director of Local Pastor Education, the Committee on Local Pastors, the Committee on Certification, the Committee on Clergy Effectiveness, the Committee on Recruitment, the Committee on Transfer Review, the Committee on Conference Relations, the Committee on Chaplains and Related Ministries and the Committee on Provisional Membership.

Even as the Board carries out its important ongoing work, it has embraced several strategically important initiatives so that the sometimes cumbersome process for entering ministry becomes clearer, simpler and easier to navigate.

- The Board worked with the Chairs of the District Committees on Ministry to develop a common process that all district committees will use in carrying out their work. The goal of this common process is to make the journey more transparent and consistent for those seeking to enter ministry.
- The Board initiated a process for working round the commissioning interview to address the realities concerning the availability of appointments for those being commissioned on the elder track.
- The Board purchased the "Pathways to Ministry" software package that, when implemented, will allow District Committees and the Board to partner with candidates to track their process online. This will be a significant step forward in enabling candidates to be clearer about the process and their progress in it.
- The Board worked with District Superintendents to develop the new District Committees on Ministry that will result from the implementation of the Strategic Plan so that the new committees can function as quickly and efficiently as possible.
- The Board has begun developing a website that will provide clear and consistent information in an easily accessible manner.
- The Board has begun exploring how to handle scholarship money so that persons entering ministry, especially younger and more diverse clergy, will not be saddled with burdensome student loans as they enter ministry.
- The Board is working to develop more intentional and effective ways to recruit younger and more diverse clergy.

The members of the Board of Ordained Ministry are deeply appreciative of the staff that assists it in carrying out its responsibilities, Duane VanGiesen and Janet Thompson. Their expertise and hard work greatly enhance the Board's endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary E. Mueller, Chair

COMPENSATION OF CLERGY
APPOINTED BEYOND THE LOCAL CHURCH-2009

	ANNUAL CASH SALARY	UTILITIES/OTHER HOUSING RELATED ALLOWANCE	OTHER CASH ALLOWANCE	TRAVEL ALLOWANCE
Shawn Bakker	97,000			
Laura J. S. Benson	34,500	18,000	840	Vouchered
Katherine Betz	37,000			
Cathy Bingman	55,000			
Georjean Blanton	34,000	12,000	2,000	
George D. Bond	85,000			1,500
Veronica D. Brown	25,000			
William J. Bryan	83,067	24,000		
Charles R. Carnahan	83,000	30,000		Vouchered
Jennifer Griffith Cobb	28,625	23,400		
Herbert Coleman	54,590			
Betty Crowell	34,500		Vouchered	
Dale Royce Daniels	44,740	15,000		1,500
Paul Lynd Escamilla	55,000	33,000		6,000
William M. Finnin, Jr.	47,500	Vouchered	Vouchered	3,600
Cammy Gaston	56,422	12,000	2,000	
C. David Grant	90,750			Vouchered
Joel B. Green	93,000			
Michael Green	84,423	30,804		
Julia Halstead	41,500	27,000		
Shannon Hamrick	20,000	15,000		
Brian L. Hardesty-Crouch	19,808			
Terrance Heislen	34,000			
Sheri Hollingsworth	17,000	12,000		
Andrew B. James	82,000			
Leslie A. Janovec	92,000			
Steven Jenkins	45,000			
Shonda Jones	45,000	30,000		
Dwight H. Judy	47,830	16,000	1,500	
Janette C. Kotey	45,000	15,000		
Sarah Heaner Lancaster	21,950	34,800	150	1,000
William B. Lawrence	145,000	60,000		7,800
Traci E. Loveman	9,248			Vouchered
Robin W. Lovin	165,000	33,000		
Karan Marshall	44,670			990
Kenneth Bennett McIntosh	12,000			Vouchered
Paul David McKay	40,000	12,000		
Thomas R. McKnight	35,715	Vouchered	5,548	2,400
Valerie Mireb	42,640	8,500		
Cheryl K. Murray	36,209	12,000		
Beatriz Pacheco	37,500	14,500		Vouchered
James C. Pierce	81,000	19,000		
Joerg Rieger	57,000	50,000		1,500
Kristie Rosset	24,000			
Norma Salinas	53,000			Vouchered
Stanley Seat	24,000			
Donald Smith	172,500			
Dorothy Smith	16,041			
Carole Somers-Clark	90,000	20,000		Vouchered
Sarah Squires	43,000			
Mark W. Stamm	74,967			1500
Patricia Piron Thresher	34,080			

	ANNUAL CASH SALARY	UTILITIES/OTHER HOUSING RELATED ALLOWANCE	OTHER CASH ALLOWANCE	TRAVEL ALLOWANCE
John Thornburg	30,000			
Edilson Volfe	28,000			
David Farrell Watson	48,250			
Preston Weaver	51,250			
Patrick Whittemore	61,992			
Jayne Wolfe	22,000			
Harry Wright, Jr.	73,000			

BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS

HEALTH BENEFITS POLICIES

June 2010

INTRODUCTION

The North Texas Conference provides a conference health insurance program designed to provide its eligible employees (defined herein) with a comprehensive plan for major medical insurance. The program is administered through a group plan overseen by the conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits. The North Texas Annual Conference participates in HealthFlex, the health benefits program of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of The United Methodist Church.

All full-time clergy appointed to local churches within the conference or as District Superintendents or to the conference staff (ordained elders, deacons in full connection, deacons on track to become elders, commissioned persons on track to become elders or deacons, full-time local pastors, members of other conferences or denominations appointed according to Paragraphs 346.1 or 346.2) **are required** to be enrolled in the conference health insurance plan and their respective church or salary-paying unit is responsible for the premium for the appointee. Coverage for spouses and dependents is optional, and the premium for an appointee's spouse and dependents is the responsibility of the appointee.

ELIGIBILITY

The following are eligible for coverage under the program and in accordance with the adoption agreement between the North Texas Conference and The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits:

1. Ordained elders and deacons and commissioned persons on track to become elders or deacons (including those with full conference membership, probationary membership and associate membership), and full-time local pastors appointed full-time to local churches within the conference and their eligible dependents.
2. Clergy serving as district superintendents and conference staff.
3. Clergy from other United Methodist annual conferences and ordained ministers from other denominations employed full-time and under episcopal appointment to a local church or charge of the North Texas Annual Conference under the provisions of Paragraphs 346.1 or 346.2 of the 2008 *Book of Discipline*.

4. Clergy appointed beyond the local church within the connectional structure to a General Agency, to other than a unit of a conference or other than a General Agency, an ecumenical agency and extension ministry endorsed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry under the provisions of Paragraph 344.1a(2), 344.1a(3), 344.1a(4) and 344.1b, only if they are listed specifically in the annual GBOPHB adoption agreement.
5. Clergy appointed to Leave of Absence or Sabbatical (eligible for one year only).
6. Diaconal ministers appointed full-time to local churches within the conference.
7. Lay persons who are full-time (at least 30 hours per week) employees of the annual conference and their eligible dependents.
8. Full-time (at least 30 hours per week) lay employees and their eligible dependents of local churches or connectional agencies in the North Texas Annual Conference which offer the conference group insurance program to all of their full-time lay employees, if the church has a sub-adoption agreement with the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and meets the 75% participation rule.
9. Retired clergy members of the conference immediately eligible to receive pension from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits at the beginning of the month following the month in which the retired relation takes place, and who had a minimum of five (5) continuous and consecutive years of active participation in the North Texas Annual Conference group health program at the time of retirement, and their respective dependents. Retired Clergy can retain future rights to HealthFlex coverage if at the time of retirement coverage was declined because the clergy had other employer sponsored group health insurance.
10. Disabled clergy members of the conference (who were enrolled in HealthFlex at the time of their disability) immediately eligible to receive disability benefits from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits at the beginning of the month following the month in which the disability leave with disability benefits takes place, as granted by the Division of Conference Relations, and their respective dependents.
11. Retired lay employees of the conference or a local church within the conference at the beginning of the month following the month in which the retired relation takes place, and who had a minimum of five (5) continuous and consecutive years of active participation in the North Texas Annual Conference group health plan at the time of retirement, and their respective dependents, if the church selects that category in the sub-adoption agreement with GBOPHB.
12. Disabled lay employees of the conference or a local church within the conference (who were enrolled in HealthFlex at the time of their disability) at the beginning of the month following the month in which the disability leave takes place as granted by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, and their respective dependents.
13. Surviving dependents of a deceased active participant as long as the participant and dependent were covered participants at the time of death.
14. Surviving dependents of a deceased retired participant as long as the participant and dependent were covered participants at the time of death. If the surviving dependents declined coverage at the time of the participant's retirement due to having other **employer sponsored group health insurance**, that dependent retains future rights to coverage as long as the other employer sponsored group health remains in effect.

15. Eligible dependent children include any unmarried child under the age of 19, unmarried full-time students under the age of 25, including all natural, legally adopted and step-children for whom the participant has court ordered legal guardianship. Children who do not live with the participant can be eligible as long as the participant is responsible by legal decree for the majority of financial support.

16. A divorced spouse of an active participant is eligible provided the participant is responsible by legal decree for the majority of financial support of the former spouse or specifically responsible for the medical or other health care expenses of the former spouse.

17. Continuation health benefits are available for a period of one year for any participant who becomes ineligible providing they have been on the plan for at least three months. The plan and premium is the same and is billed directly to the participant. Notification of ineligibility must occur within 30 days and application for continuation benefits must occur within 60 days of becoming ineligible and the continuation benefits begin the day after the participant became ineligible.

Eligible persons must complete a HealthFlex enrollment form and return it to the conference Office of Administration within 30 days of their date of hire, date of newly acquired eligibility or family status change. Family status changes which allow late enrollment are: birth, death, marriage, divorce, or loss of other coverage. There is also an open enrollment period every year in November for coverage to begin in January of the following year.

MEDICAL BENEFITS PROGRAM FOR ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS

A Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) plan is the base plan for active participants and their dependents. This plan is currently administered by Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois. The lifetime maximum coverage for each eligible insured and eligible dependent shall be limited to \$3,000,000. Prescription drugs are covered for active participants through Medco and the prescription plan has an annual deductible and co-pay amounts for three tiers of drugs. A mail order program is also available to obtain 90-day supplies of maintenance drugs at a lesser cost and is required for all maintenance prescriptions.

Mental health and chemical dependency benefits are provided through United Behavioral Health (UBH). A participant must call UBH at 1-800-788-5614 before receiving inpatient or outpatient treatment either in-network or out-of-network. There is also a Pastoral Consultation Hotline for clergy available for both active and retired clergy at no charge. The number is 800-842-2869.

Vision benefits are available through VSP. A basic vision examination is provided and discounts for eyeglasses and contact lenses are available.

Term life insurance is provided through Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company as a part of the health benefit. The amount of insurance is as follows: \$5,000 for lay employees; \$10,000 for all other clergy to age 65; \$5,000 for clergy age 65 to 70; \$1,000 for clergy over age 70. This benefit is for both life insurance and accidental death, dismemberment and loss of sight. Dependent insurance is provided in the following amounts for covered dependents: \$2,000 for spouses; \$1,000 for children ages 6 months to 25; \$100 for children ages 14 days to 6 months.

Medical Reimbursement Accounts (MRA) and Dependent Care Accounts (DCA) are also available to active participants through Ceridian. A participant may select annual MRA/DCA amounts between \$300 and \$5000 to be deducted by the salary paying unit on a monthly basis as a salary reduction. This money may be used for medical expenses which are not covered by the plan such as deductibles, co-pays, dental, vision and other qualified costs. The DCA may be used to pay for

qualified child or parent daycare expenses. Forms to be used to submit claims are available at www.gbophb.org or in the conference Office of Administration.

CONFERENCE FUNDING POLICIES FOR ACTIVE HEALTH BENEFITS

1. The entire premium for full-time clergy appointed to local churches within the conference or as district superintendents or to the conference staff (ordained elders, deacons in full connection, deacons on track to become elders, commissioned persons on track to become elders or deacons, full-time local pastors, members of other conferences or denominations appointed according to Paragraphs 346.1 or 346.2) is to be paid by the local church or salary paying unit.
2. The premium for the appointee's spouse and dependents is the responsibility of the appointee. An optional agreement may be made between the church or salary paying unit and the appointee for the church or salary paying unit to pay the family premium.
3. The Conference will pay the premium for lay employees of the annual conference. The premium for dependents is the responsibility of the employee.
4. Responsibility for the premium for eligible lay employees of local churches or institutions within the connectional structure will be determined by the employer and the employee.
5. The Conference pays the active premium for disabled clergy members of the conference who were appointed to a local church or as district superintendent or to the conference staff and were enrolled in HealthFlex at the time of disability. Approval by the Division of Conference Relations and eligibility to receive disability benefits from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits is also required. Payment begins the month following the month in which the disability leave with disability benefits takes place. The premium for dependents is the responsibility of the clergyperson.
6. Subsidies are available on a sliding scale for those churches whose pastor's Total Compensation is below the Denominational Average Compensation for the appointee's premium and those pastors whose compensation is below the DAC for their dependents. A written application must be submitted to and approved by the appropriate District Superintendent. Only those appointed full-time as "pastor-in-charge" are eligible for this supplement. The guidelines for application are as follows:

Guidelines for 2010 Health Insurance Supplement Applications

1. Local churches must submit to their district superintendent a written application signed by the Pastor (Staff) - Parish Relations Committee chairperson and the Administrative Council/Board chairperson for appointee supplements.
2. Pastors must submit to their district superintendent a written application for dependent supplements.
3. The pastor's Total Compensation for Insurance Supplement Eligibility (line IX from the 2010 Ministerial Compensation Report turned in at Charge Conference) must be below \$60,341 (the 2010 Denominational Average Compensation).
4. If the need exists in the judgment of the district superintendent and funds are available, appointee supplements may be awarded to churches on the following scale (annual amount shown - paid monthly):

Pastor's Total Compensation	% DAC	Church Pays	Amount of Supplement
\$60,341 and above	100%	\$8,616	\$ 0
\$60,340 - 57,324	95%	8,185	431
\$57,323 - 54,307	90%	7,754	862
\$54,306 - 51,290	85%	7,324	1,292
\$51,289 - 48,273	80%	6,893	1,723
\$48,272 - 45,256	75%	6,462	2,154
\$45,255 - 42,239	70%	6,031	2,585
\$42,238 - 39,222	65%	5,600	3,016
\$39,221 - 36,205	60%	5,170	3,446
\$36,204 and below		5,170	3,446

5. If the need exists in the judgment of the district superintendent and the funds are available, dependent supplements may be awarded to pastors on the following scale (annual amount shown - paid monthly):

Pastor's Total Compensation	% DAC	One Dependent		Two or More Dependents	
		Pastor Pays	Amount of Supplement	Pastor Pays	Amount of Supplement
\$60,341 and above	100%	\$7,740	\$ 0	\$12,036	\$ 0
\$60,340 - 57,324	95%	7,353	387	11,434	602
\$57,323 - 54,307	90%	6,966	774	10,832	1,204
\$54,306 - 51,290	85%	6,579	1,161	10,231	1,805
\$51,289 - 48,273	80%	6,192	1,548	9,629	2,407
\$48,272 - 45,256	75%	5,805	1,935	9,027	3,009
\$45,255 - 42,239	70%	5,418	2,322	8,425	3,611
\$42,238 - 39,222	65%	5,031	2,709	7,823	4,213
\$39,221 - 36,205	60%	4,644	3,096	7,222	4,814
\$36,204 and below		4,644	3,096	7,222	4,814

6. If the pastor's Total Compensation for Health Insurance Supplement Eligibility is above \$60,341 but extraordinary circumstances exist in the judgment of the district superintendent, an appointee supplement may be awarded to the church and/or a dependent supplement may be awarded to the pastor at the lowest level on the scales above if funds are available. Likewise, superintendents are not obligated to award any supplements even though an applicant may be eligible, if they determine that no need exists.

7. District superintendents are asked to distribute these Guidelines and the supplement application forms to churches and pastors who may be eligible as soon as possible. Additional application forms will be available in the District and Conference Offices.

8. District Superintendents are asked to fax or mail the approved Health Insurance Supplement Application Forms to the Office of Administration by December 1 of each year. No supplements will be processed until the approved Application Forms are received in the Office of Administration. Forms received after the deadline will be processed for the following month's billing and they will not be done retroactively.

9. All supplements cease when a pastoral change occurs. New applications are to be submitted to the Office of Administration by the 1st day of the month following the move. A supplement may be processed one month retroactively only in the event of a mid-year move.

MEDICAL BENEFITS PROGRAM FOR RETIRED PARTICIPANTS

The conference medical benefits program for retired participants, dependents and surviving spouses assumes participation in Medicare Parts A and B. The program is designed to extend certain benefits beyond what Medicare pays and, in addition, provide a pharmacy benefit and other additional benefits not covered under Medicare. It is assumed that all retired participants shall enroll in Medicare Parts A and B at their own expense. The amount of conference funding available to clergy that opted out of Social Security and consequently are not eligible for Medicare, and their dependents and surviving spouses, will not exceed that of those who have Medicare benefits.

Clergy in the retired relationship with the annual conference who continue to work full time continue in the active plan. Retired clergy who opted out of Social Security and their dependents and surviving spouses continue in the active plan if they continue working.

A dependent spouse may be eligible for HealthFlex retiree benefits even if not a covered dependent at the time of the participant's retirement. If the spouse is covered by another **employer sponsored group health insurance plan**, he/she may decline HealthFlex coverage while still maintaining future rights to coverage. The retiring participant may also decline HealthFlex coverage at the time of his/her retirement while maintaining future rights to coverage if he/she can be covered under a spouse's **employer sponsored group health insurance plan**. Future coverage rights can be exercised at any open enrollment opportunity or within thirty days of losing the other employer sponsored group health coverage as long as the other coverage was maintained up to the day the HealthFlex coverage is to begin.

The divorced spouse of a retiree may retain coverage or future rights to coverage as described above if it is declared in the divorce decree that the participant is responsible for health coverage or is responsible for a majority of the financial support of the divorced spouse. Future rights to coverage will end when the specified period in the legal decree has expired or upon the death of the participant (providing the decree provides for termination of the participant's responsibility at that time).

A new spouse or dependent acquired by a retiree after retirement is not an eligible dependent with the exception of a dependent child gained through court ordered legal guardianship.

After retirement, if a retiree, dependent or surviving spouse terminates HealthFlex coverage, they will no longer retain any future rights to coverage.

CONFERENCE FUNDING POLICIES FOR RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS

The North Texas Annual Conference through its Insurance Subsidies apportionment shares the funding of the health benefit for eligible retired clergy participants, dependents and surviving spouses with the retirees and spouses.

1. For those eligible clergypersons enrolled in the conference health insurance plan who retire after January 1, 2003, and their eligible spouses, the conference will pay from 15 - 50 % of the HealthFlex Medicare Supplement Plan 2 premium for those retiring at age 65 (or full retirement age) based on their years of ministerial service (which qualify for retirement credit) in The United Methodist Church in which they were appointed to a local church or within the connectional structure as defined in the 2008 *Discipline* Paragraphs 344.1(a)(1) and (2), or partial years of like service for less than full-time appointments, as follows.

<u>Years of Service (full time equivalent)</u>	<u>% of Med. Supp. 2 Premium Paid</u>
0 - 4	0
5	15 %
6	16 %
7	17 %
8	18 %
9	19 %
10	20 %
11	22 %
12	24 %
13	26 %
14	28 %
15	30 %
16	32 %
17	34 %
18	36 %
19	38 %
20	40 %
21	42 %
22	44 %
23	46 %
24	48 %
25 or more	50 %

For those eligible clergypersons enrolled in the conference health insurance plan who retired before January 1, 2003, and their eligible spouses, the North Texas Conference will continue to pay 50 % of the HealthFlex Medicare Supplement Plan 2 premium.

2. For those clergy who retire who are at least 62 years of age (but not 65) or have 30 years of service, and their eligible spouses, the conference will pay the same benefit as for those in the Regular Retirement category above (15 - 50 % of the Medicare Supplement Plan 2 premium). These participants will pay the remainder of the Medicare Supplement Plan 2 premium (50 - 85 %) plus the difference between the active plan (which they must be on until they are eligible for Medicare) and the Medicare Supplement plan. Those retiring under “the twenty year rule” (i.e., are not 62 and have at least 20 years but not 30 years of service) are eligible to remain on the conference insurance plan. These participants must pay the entire active premium until they reach 65 (or full retirement age). At that time the conference will pay the same level of benefits as for those in the Regular Retirement category above.

3. For retirees who continue to serve local churches in the North Texas Conference the conference will pay the same benefit as for those in the Regular Retirement category above (15 - 50 % of the Medicare Supplement Plan 2 premium for both retiree and spouse) and the retiree will be responsible for the balance of the premium (50 - 85 % of the Medicare Supplement Plan 2 premium) for retiree and spouse. The retiree will be required to pay any additional cost due to the employment (i.e., the difference between the active plan which the working retiree might have to be on according to the anti-discrimination laws and the retiree plan) for the spouse. (A local church or other salary paying unit can opt to pay the participant and spouse’s cost.) The local church employing a retired participant will be required to pay any additional cost due to the employment (i.e., the difference between the active plan which the working retiree might have to be on according to the anti-discrimination laws and the retiree plan) for the retiree.

4. Surviving spouses of deceased retired clergy are eligible for coverage as long as the participant was a covered participant at the time of death. The health plans available to surviving spouses are the same as those available to retiree participants and conference funding is the same as for the retiree.
5. The health plans available to retired Diaconal Ministers are the same as for retired clergy and the conference funding is the same as for retired clergy.
6. The health plans available for retired lay employees of the annual conference are the same as for retired clergy. Conference funding for the retired lay employee of the annual conference with 10 or more years of service (not including spouse or dependents) is based on the same scale of service as that for retired clergy beginning at the 10 years of service level.
7. Retired lay employees of a local church or qualified agency within the conference are eligible to participate in any of the health insurance plans available to retired clergy, if the church or agency has a sub-adoption agreement with the GBOPHB. The premiums are the same as for the retired clergy, but the responsibility for payment remains entirely with the retired lay participant.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Enrollment material can be obtained from the conference Office of Administration. Enrollment forms must be completed, signed and returned to that office within 30 days of the employee's date of hire or family status change. If the 30-day time period is not met, an election of "No Coverage" is assigned (**although the salary paying unit is still responsible for payment of the appointee's premium in the case of mandatory categories of participants**) and the employee would be eligible for coverage at the next open enrollment opportunity. Upon receipt of enrollment forms, the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits will inform the insurance provider and the participant should receive election material and appropriate insurance cards within a reasonable period of time.

The monthly health insurance billing is mailed to the appropriate local church, agency, or individual on the 1st of each month and the payment is due in the conference office by the 20th of that month. Premiums not received by the next billing period are considered "past due" and so marked on the next month's bill. Termination procedures begin for any accounts more than 60 days in arrears. District Superintendents are informed each month of those churches with past due balances.

Participants will receive annual election materials each fall prior to the Open Enrollment period from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits with instructions for changing or maintaining health coverage for the next calendar year. GBOPHB will also provide claim forms, MRA and DCA forms at the beginning of each calendar year. Additional forms may be obtained at www.gbophb.org or from the conference Office of Administration.

Denial of benefits policies and appeals procedures are those of the HealthFlex insurance carrier and GBOPHB.

HEALTH BENEFITS POLICY STATEMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS COVERED THROUGH 20-YEAR RULE RETIREMENT, EXTENSION MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS, CONTINUATION INSURANCE, AND RETIREES AND SURVIVING SPOUSES PAYING PREMIUMS DIRECTLY TO THE NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE

The North Texas Conference makes health insurance available to clergy who have retired under the 20-year rule and to some clergy who are appointed to extension ministry positions. (Special

arrangements for health coverage can be made in some cases for those appointed under ¶344.1b, and ¶344.1d.) The premiums must be paid by the individual one month in advance and are due on the 20th of every month. Accounts are past due if not received by the 20th and if two payments are due on the 20th of any month, a letter will be sent to the individual with notification of insurance cancellation. In addition, an attempt will be made to schedule a meeting with the participant and a member of the conference staff to explain the termination of coverage. Any account that is two payments past due will be terminated if payment has not been received in the conference office by the end of the month. The termination date will be retroactive to the first of the month of unpaid premium. (For example: The premium for February is billed on January 1 and is due by January 20. The premium for March is billed on February 1 and is due by February 20. If neither February nor March premium is paid by February 20, the insurance will be terminated retroactive to February 1.)

The North Texas Conference offers continuation health insurance to participants who have been terminated or have lost eligibility if they have been covered for at least three consecutive months prior to loss of eligibility. The continuation coverage can extend up to one year following the loss of coverage date. The first month's premium is due with the application for coverage and future premiums are due one month in advance on the 20th of every month. Accounts are past due if not received by the 20th and if two payments are due on the 20th of any month, a letter will be sent to the individual with notification of insurance cancellation. In addition, an attempt will be made to schedule a meeting with the participant and a member of the conference staff to explain the termination of coverage. Any account that is two payments past due will be terminated if payment has not been received in the conference office by the end of the month. The termination date will be retroactive to the first of the month of unpaid premium.

The North Texas Conference offers a Medicare supplement health insurance plan to retirees (who have been enrolled in the active health plan the five years immediately preceding retirement), their spouses and surviving spouses of eligible clergy. The conference pays a portion of the premium based on years of service and the scale which appears in the report section of the North Texas Conference Journal each year. The remainder of the premium is the responsibility of the retiree or spouse and is usually paid by pension deduction. Those retirees or spouses who pay their portion of the premium by check directly to the conference must remit the payment one month in advance by the 20th of every month. Accounts are past due if not received by the 20th and if two payments are due on the 20th of any month, a letter will be sent to the individual with notification of insurance cancellation. In addition, an attempt will be made to schedule a meeting with the participant and a member of the conference staff to explain the termination of coverage. Any account that is two payments past due will be terminated if payment has not been received in the conference office by the end of the month. The termination date will be retroactive to the first of the month of unpaid premium.

If anyone in the above categories has extenuating circumstances which prevent them from making timely payments, a hearing may be scheduled with the conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits to appeal the scheduled termination and request a payment plan.

This policy will be effective July 1, 2009.

RETIREE MEDICAL LIABILITY

In 2002 the North Texas Conference took initial steps to establish a plan to fund our liability for promised retiree health insurance benefits. An update to the Retiree Medical Liability Funding Plan may be found in Section IX., LA 16 (2008 *Journal*). We continue to be confident that we will be able to provide the benefits promised to our retirees and spouses as well as our active participants.

North Texas Conference - Comparison Information for 2011 Apportionment Budget Recommendation

	2008 Budget	2009 Budget	2009 Actual Expenses	2010 Budget	
General Conference					
World Service Fund	1,861,690	1,845,740	1,767,677.89	1,873,586	
Ministerial Education Fund	453,791	478,783	458,577.89	481,035	
-Annual Conference share ⁽¹⁾	151,264	159,594	102,326.46	160,345	
Black College Fund	240,930	254,674	242,901.90	255,872	
Africa University Fund	53,205	56,998	56,998.00	57,266	
Episcopal Fund	486,870	501,356	494,279.31	515,349	
General Administration Fund	163,885	205,667	195,852.99	203,005	
Interdenominational Coop. Fund	47,788	49,752	46,984.10	49,918	
	3,459,423	3,552,564	3,365,598.54	3,596,376	
Jurisdictional Conference					
Lydia Patterson Institute	57,078	65,268	62,258.13	65,268	
Mt Sequoyah Assembly	11,675	14,877	14,309.30	14,877	
Jurisdiction Administration Fund	27,948	31,018	29,671.05	31,018	
SMU Campus Ministry	7,351	8,160	7,857.10	8,160	
	104,052	119,323	114,095.58	119,323	
1. Conference Benevolences					
A. Creating Congregations					
New Church Starts				536,300	
Transformation				125,000	
Sub-Total	529,000	677,500	651,649.32	661,300	(3)
B. Connectional Ministries					
Equipping Disciples	69,238	72,916	79,145.48	239,366	(3)
Sending Servants	148,900	156,370	122,006.93	140,985	
Accountability Group	42,415	44,350	36,625.60	39,915	
Communications	201,600	222,900	200,547.38	222,900	
Administration	35,000	35,000	16,690.98	30,000	
Sub-total	497,153	531,536	455,016.37	673,166	(3)
C. Conn. Min. and Comm. Staff					
Sub-total	761,072	791,515	1,170,742.36	822,515	(5)
Total	1,787,225	2,000,551	2,277,408.05	2,156,981	(6)
2. Texas Methodist Colleges	100,000	100,000	95,883.84	100,000	
3. Campus Ministries	439,864	451,864	433,763.34	451,864	
Total Conference Benevolences	2,327,089	2,552,415	2,807,055.23	2,708,845	
4. Camping and Retreat					
Bridgeport					
Program	113,000	116,500	168,519.25	116,500	(7)
Facilities	81,700	84,000	100,752.99	84,000	(8)
Sub-total	194,700	200,500	269,272.24	200,500	(8)
Prothro Center					
Operations	120,000	100,000	95,694.09	100,000	
SEEK Program	15,000	20,000	19,138.75	20,000	
Sub-total	135,000	120,000	114,832.84	120,000	
Total Camping and Retreat	329,700	320,500	384,105.08	320,500	(7)(8)

	2008 Budget	2009 Budget	2009 Actual Expenses		2010 Budget	
5. Area and Conference Administration						
Area Administration						
Area Office	65,450	65,650	123,392.73	(9)	68,150	
Office of New Church Dev.	120,000	210,000	185,010.18		210,000	
Episcopal Residence	25,933	28,526	36,234.30	(10)	28,526	
Sub-total	211,383	304,176	344,637.21	(9) (10)	306,676	
Professional Ministries						
Prep. and Qual.	9,630	13,030	14,524.37		11,250	
Conf. Relations, etc.	1,900	3,200	0		1,650	
Recruitment		2,200	2,390.00		1,750	
Residency		3,500	207.8		800	
BOM Admin.	7,100	14,200	13,771.62		10,950	
Clergy Effectiveness	13,000	25,000	7,757.26		27,000	
Sub-total	31,630	61,130	38,651.05		53,400	
Conference Administration						
Administrative Agencies	26,000	26,000	17,748.67		23,500	
Office of Administration	80,596	80,596	86,878.20		80,596	
Chancellor	15,000	15,000	14,765.95		15,000	
Annual Conference Session	44,000	44,000	50,191.55	(11)	48,000	
Journal	27,000	27,000	22,910.46	(12)	23,000	
Ministry Center Operations	142,313	142,313	133,696.36		142,313	
Ministry Center Debt Service	330,000	330,000	343,286.09		330,000	
Sub-total	664,909	664,909	669,477.28	(11)(12)	662,409	
Staff	714,393	742,969	853,314.60	(13)	552,663	
Total Area & Conf. Admin.	1,622,315	1,773,184	1,906,080.14		1,575,148	
6. Board of Pen. & Health Benefits						
Pensions						
Past Service Funding	1,717,649	0	0		0	
CPP	570,271	630,000	618,303.93		618,000	
CRSP Supplement	266,116	0	(14) 78,784.40	(14)	0	(14)
Board Expenses	11,500	12,000	12,138.00		12,000	
Sub-total	2,565,536	642,000	709,226.33		630,000	
Health Insurance Subsidies						
Appointees	81,600	75,000	72,854.00		0	(15)
Dependents	26,852	10,000	10,521.00		0	(15)
Retirees						
Current Year Benefits	687,739	517,800	605,869.35	(15)	517,800	(15)
Past Service Funding	0	784,000	769,249.24		784,000	(16)
Ret. Med. Liab. for Cur. Group	120,000	0	0		0	(16)
Ret. Med. for New Entrants	213,000	213,000	209,035.23		213,000	(16)
Sub-total	1,129,191	1,599,800	1,667,528.82		1,514,800	
Total BOPHB	3,694,727	2,241,800	2,376,755.15		2,144,800	
7. District Superintendents						
Base Salaries	591,539	615,792	615,792.04		615,792	
CRSP	52,463	58,092	58,804.56		62,118	
Travel /Expenses	76,073	79,877	71,590.12		79,877	
Emergency Fund	10,000	10,000	3,735.00		10,000	
Total	730,075	763,761	749,921.72		767,787	

	2008 Budget	2009 Budget	2009 Actual Expenses	2010 Budget
8. Equitable Compensation				
Pastors' Subsidies	85,000	85,000	88,545.13	85,000
Missional Church Grants	25,000	25,000	13,601.00	25,000
Total	110,000	110,000	102,146.13	110,000
9. Moving Fund	130,000	130,000	74,314.54	117,000
Total Annual Conference	8,943,906	7,891,660	8,400,377.99	7,744,080
Grand Total	12,507,381	11,563,547	11,880,072.11	11,459,779

N O T E S

- 1) The Ministerial Education Fund is a General Conference apportionment and thus the amount is determined by General Conference. However, the Annual Conference retains 25% of it. This comprises approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the funds available for the work of the Board of Ordained Ministry.
- 2) In accordance with a policy established two years ago, the year-end balance in the Creating Congregations account was transferred to the Creating Congregations Reserve Fund.
- 3) \$100,000 for Hispanic Ministries and \$75,000 for Ethnic Local Churches (1/3 each for African-American, Hispanic and Asian ministries) were moved from Creating Congregations to Equipping Disciples in 2010. Thus, the actual increase for Creating Congregations was \$198,600 or 29.3%.
- 4) \$120,270.02 of the amount expended from this line was received in other non-apportioned receipts and \$267,101.97 was received in internal transfers to be expended from this line. Thus, the comparative number for expenses from the apportionment is \$783,370.40.
- 5) \$15,000 for Board of Ministry administrative services was moved from Conference Administration staff to Connectional Ministries staff.
- 6) In accordance with a policy established several years ago, the year-end balance in the Conference Benevolences apportionment of \$33,935.94 was transferred to the Mission Shortfall Fund to begin 2010.
- 7) \$58,325.02 received in other non-apportioned receipts was expended from this account. Thus, the comparative number for expenses from the apportionment is \$110,194.23.
- 8) \$16,790.44 of beginning balance and \$3,573.42 received in other non-apportioned receipts was expended from this account. Thus, the comparative number for expenses from the apportionment is \$80,389.13 and the total comparative number for Bridgeport Camp is \$190,583.36.
- 9) This year the conference treasurer was asked by the bishop to assume the treasury function for the Episcopal Office. \$20,000 received in other non-apportioned receipts and \$40,000 received in internal transfers was expended from this line. Thus, the comparative number for expenses from the apportionment is \$63,392.73.

- 10) \$10,000 received in other non-apportioned receipts was expended from this line. Thus, the comparative number for expenses from the apportionment is \$26,234.30 and the total comparative number for Area Administration is \$274,637.21.
- 11) \$1,347.60 received in other non-apportioned receipts was expended from this line. Thus, the comparative number for expenses from the apportionment is \$48,843.95.
- 12) \$2,981.50 received in other non-apportioned receipts was expended from this line. Thus, the comparative number for expenses from the apportionment is \$19,928.96 and the total comparative number for Conference Administration is \$665,148.18.
- 13) \$188,629.30 received in other non-apportioned receipts was expended from this line. Thus, the comparative number for expenses from the apportionment is \$664,685.30
- 14) \$39,392.20 received in internal transfers was expended from this line. Thus, the comparative number for expenses is \$39,392.20. It was planned to use beginning balance to fund this item in 2009 and 2010.
- 15) It was planned to use health insurance reserve funds to provide funding for these items in 2009 and 2010.
- 16) These amounts are scheduled in the Retiree Medical Liability update approved at the 2008 Annual Conference.

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE TREASURER'S REPORT

REMITTANCES

	2008 RECEIPTS	2009 RECEIPTS
APPORTIONMENTS		
World Service	\$1,668,605.92	\$1,767,677.89
Ministerial Education	547,037.77	611,436.63
Black College Fund	221,635.72	242,901.90
Africa University Fund	53,206.00	56,998.00
Interdenominational Cooperation Fund	42,795.44	46,984.10
General Administration Fund	148,097.90	195,852.99
Episcopal Fund	466,504.92	494,279.31
Lydia Patterson Institute	53,264.03	62,258.13
Mt. Sequoyah	10,851.15	14,309.30
Jurisdictional Administration Fund	25,977.47	29,671.05
SMU Campus Ministry	6,871.15	7,857.10
Conference Benevolences	1,627,269.48	1,923,972.00
Texas Methodist Colleges	91,769.87	95,883.84
Campus Ministries	405,461.71	433,763.34
Camping and Retreat	303,840.05	306,711.71
Area and Conference Administration	1,529,518.17	1,737,163.50
Board of Pension & Health Benefits	3,424,211.81	2,200,370.10
District Superintendents Fund	721,029.64	762,550.88
Equitable Compensation Fund	104,708.44	108,765.30
Moving Fund	119,693.87	126,156.00
District Administration Fund	<u>769,391.00</u>	<u>786,119.00</u>
TOTAL APPORTIONMENTS	<u>12,341,741.51</u>	<u>12,011,682.07</u>
NEW VISIONARIES		
New Visionaries	99,838.74	31,156.88
Original "Founding" Visionaries	<u>18,395.00</u>	<u>3,745.00</u>
TOTAL NEW VISIONARIES	118,233.74	34,901.88
AFRICA UNIVERSITY INITIATIVE	582,231.06	491,048.11

	2008 RECEIPTS	2009 RECEIPTS
TARGETED CAUSES		
Second Mile Apportionment Fund	38,975.76	58,793.62
GENERAL ADVANCE SPECIALS		
National Missions	1,232.53	1,959.00
UMCOR		
UMCOR Undesignated Gifts	23,219.76	7,562.58
UMCOR Relief Supplies	9,852.33	1,521.71
Heifer International	3,300.00	9,791.57
Domestic Disaster Response	67,794.83	3,766.51
International Disaster Response	22,134.63	14,294.69
World Hunger & Poverty	4,500.00	5,122.00
Global Aids Fund	14,564.11	727.10
Nothing But Nets	112,302.74	53,807.30
Zoe Ministry-Rwanda	26,787.32	13,485.41
Haiti Advance Project	6,395.00	1,272.50
Total UMCOR	290,850.72	111,351.37
World Missions		
Regional Africa	150.00	0.00
Cameroon	51,018.75	12,904.55
Congo	0.00	2,000.00
Kenya	53,195.97	79,326.84
Liberia	330.00	23,543.00
Mozambique	2,000.00	165.00
Zimbabwe	43.25	0.00
China	1,500.00	1,500.00
Mongolia	0.00	1,125.00
Southeast Asia	0.00	1,125.00
Czech Republic	5,600.00	5,600.00
Kazakhstan	0.00	1,125.00
Russia	11,493.00	14,843.91
Spain	3,750.00	3,500.00
Latin America and the Caribbean	3,400.00	4,300.00
Brazil	4,572.50	0.00
Chile	2,650.00	4,000.00
Costa Rica	2,000.00	0.00
Honduras	0.00	522.45
Mexico	0.00	500.00
Middle East	0.00	50.00
Israel/Palestine	0.00	1,150.00
Total World Missions	<u>141,703.47</u>	<u>157,280.75</u>
TOTAL GENERAL ADVANCE SPECIALS	433,786.72	270,591.12

	2008 RECEIPTS	2009 RECEIPTS
WORLD SERVICE SPECIAL GIFTS		
Africa University Special	10,400.00	0.00
BISHOP'S APPEAL- KATRINA	8,847.82	600.00
YOUTH SERVICE FUND	3,979.91	2,549.82
GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFERINGS		
One Great Hour of Sharing	12,674.98	19,011.53
World Communion	8,067.19	9,955.58
UM Student Day	2,281.31	3,237.84
Human Relations Day	1,706.96	2,190.11
Peace With Justice	2,962.35	5,275.40
Native American Ministries	<u>2,848.20</u>	<u>2,683.70</u>
TOTAL GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFERINGS	30,540.99	42,354.16
ANNUAL CONFERENCE OFFERINGS		
Golden Cross	16,863.94	19,765.29
Methodist Mission Home	20,974.46	22,711.03
Methodist Home Waco	<u>26,690.21</u>	<u>35,425.25</u>
TOTAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE OFFERINGS	64,528.61	77,901.57
JURISDICTIONAL FAIR SHARE GOAL		
Lydia Patterson Endowment	450.00	1,841.08
Lydia Patterson Special/Scholarship	<u>7,357.50</u>	<u>9,570.00</u>
TOTAL JURISDICTIONAL FAIR SHARE GOAL	7,807.50	11,411.08
CONFERENCE ADVANCE SPECIALS		
Bethlehem Center	6,155.15	9,955.70
C. C. Young Home	3,840.31	4,861.92
Methodism Breadbasket	22,879.00	2,697.10
One Man's Treasure Clothes Closet	1,073.50	3,118.11
Bridgeport Camp & Retreat Center	0.00	250.00
Project Transformation	12,808.75	17,824.96
Summer Event Scholarship	141.00	0.00
Seek Camp – Scholarship	165.00	0.00
Wesley Rankin Community Center	8,291.50	12,921.25
Wesley Village Retirement Home	<u>1,017.00</u>	<u>270.36</u>
TOTAL CONFERENCE ADVANCE SPECIALS	56,621.21	51,899.40

	2008 RECEIPTS	2009 RECEIPTS
OTHER BENEVOLENCES	<u>284,937.98</u>	<u>263,668.88</u>
TOTAL NON-APPORTIONED FUNDS	1,640,891.30	1,305,719.64
TOTAL APPORTIONED FUNDS	<u>12,341,741.51</u>	<u>12,011,682.07</u>
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	\$13,982,632.81	\$13,317,401.71

**2009 SUMMARY REPORT OF FUNDS
ADMINISTERED BY CONFERENCE TREASURER**

	Beginning Balance	Apportioned Receipts	Other Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance
APPORTIONED FUNDS					
General Conference Appor.		2,804,694.19		2,804,694.19	
Jurisdictional Conf. Appor.		114,095.58		114,095.58	
Ministerial Education Fund	156,291.37	611,436.63		560,904.35	206,823.65 ⁽¹⁾
Conf. Benev. and Camp Min.		2,453,619.18	413,413.00	2,833,096.24	33,935.94
Bd. of Pen & Health Ben	410,158.27	2,200,370.10	2,597,213.37	4,848,403.97	359,337.77 ⁽²⁾
Camping and Retreat Fund	16,790.44	306,711.71	61,898.44	384,105.08	1,295.51
Area and Conf Admin.	120,077.13 ⁽³⁾	1,737,163.50	222,958.40	1,846,962.49	233,236.54 ⁽³⁾
District Superintendents	18,398.57	762,550.88	1,997.96	749,921.72	33,025.69
Equitable Compensation	98,802.55	108,765.30		102,146.13	105,421.72 ⁽⁴⁾
Moving Fund	130,905.16	126,156.00		74,314.54	182,746.62 ⁽⁵⁾
TOTAL	951,423.49 ⁽³⁾	11,225,563.07	3,297,481.17	14,318,644.29	1,155,823.44 ⁽³⁾
OTHER FUNDS					
District Administration Funds		786,119.00		786,119.00	
Adv. Specials/Other Benev.			496,448.92	496,448.92	
Conference Mission Proj	282,657.09		605,469.68	588,134.82	299,991.95
Original Visionaries	41,130.16		4,215.88	12,595.15	32,750.89 ⁽⁶⁾
New Visionaries	526,536.42		39,071.44	445,978.48	119,629.38 ⁽⁶⁾
Africa University	127,890.11		558,000.89	685,891.00	
Creating Cong Team	743,398.35		916,458.32	867,275.67	792,581.00
Camping and Ret Min	391,115.69		703,287.16	600,332.61	494,070.24 ⁽⁷⁾
Board of Pensions	37,569.62		563.28		38,132.90
Health Insurance Res	2,288,173.12		476,274.18	338,759.96	2,425,687.34 ⁽⁸⁾
Health Disability Trusts	333,423.74		5,001.36	51.68	338,373.42
Conference Admin. Serv	53,179.20		324,718.47	332,734.34	45,163.33 ⁽⁹⁾
PACT-Prop. & Liab Ins.	228,334.41		5,509,900.27	5,323,055.93	415,178.75 ⁽¹⁰⁾
Board of Trustees	472,074.70		440,164.64	316,585.01	595,654.33
Holding Funds	433,020.71		349,328.46	408,661.50	373,687.67
Conference Res Fund	1,010,779.87		54,843.52		1,065,623.39 ⁽¹¹⁾
Episcopal Office			267,383.61	196,660.21	70,723.40 ⁽¹²⁾
TOTAL	6,969,283.19	786,119.00	10,751,130.08	11,399,284.28	7,107,247.99
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	7,920,706.68	12,011,682.07	14,048,611.25	25,717,928.57	8,263,071.43

NOTES TO 2009 SUMMARY REPORT OF FUNDS
ADMINISTERED BY CONFERENCE TREASURER

- (1) In order to fund college and seminary scholarships for candidates for ministry, it has been the policy of the Board of Ordained Ministry for many years that prior year receipts would fund current year expenses. The Board has been working toward returning to that position.
- (2) This includes \$143,009.80 in health insurance subsidies and \$216,327.97 in pensions. The pensions balance was due to spending less than anticipated on CRSP supplements during the first two years of the new pension program, even though the budget for CPP ran a deficit both years. It has been planned to spend down this balance in 2010 and 2011.
- (3) The 2009 beginning balance differs from the 2008 ending balance because it includes \$69,469.92 listed in other funds in 2008 as “Strategic Planning Process/Emerging Ministries”. The 2009 ending balance includes \$131,302.13 designated for the Strategic Planning Process and Emerging Ministries. These funds are the remaining funds budgeted for the Provost position which was eliminated in September 2008, which were designated for SPP/EM by CF&A. The remainder of this ending balance includes \$46,190.99 in Professional Ministries (Board of Ordained Ministry), \$20,669.97 in Office of New Church Development and Congregational Transformation, \$6,288.17 in Conference Administration, \$27,051.23 in Administrative Staff, and \$1,734.05 for the Episcopal Residence.
- (4) This is a combination of the Salary Supplements Fund administered by the Commission on Equitable Compensation and the Missional Grants Fund administered by the Appointive Cabinet.
- (5) The Moving Fund was established with the intent that prior years receipts would fund current year expenses so as not to impede the clergy appointment process.
- (6) The difference in receipts on these two items in this report compared to the Remittance Report is due to the inclusion of interest earnings in this report.
- (7) This includes approximately \$314,000 in a Bridgeport building account, which is being used to construct a new 36-bed cabin at the Bridgeport Camp & Conference Center, as well as several other designated accounts.
- (8) The target for this reserve fund is between \$1,000,000 and \$1,500,000 in order to preserve the conference’s future health insurance options. It increased last year due largely to Medicare Part D refunds to the retiree plan. The BOPHB has already begun spending down this balance and plans to continue to do so by lessening future premium increases.
- (9) This includes \$36,587.48 from an estate gift designated for clergy special needs and administered by the Appointive Cabinet. The remaining \$8,575.85 is a combination of balances in six other designated accounts.
- (10) \$378,037 for previous years’ endorsements was paid in the first quarter 2010.

- (11) The increase in 2009 included \$54,843.52 of undistributed 2009 investment earnings. The current target for this fund is 10% of the annual apportionment budget (approx. \$1.15 million).
- (12) In 2009 the conference Treasurer was asked by the Bishop to assume the treasury function for the Episcopal Office.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE 2005-2009 ENDING FUND BALANCES

APPORTIONMENT FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Ministerial Education Fund	92,376.91	131,452.99 ⁽¹⁾	150,932.46 ⁽¹⁾	156,291.37 ⁽¹⁾	206,823.65 ⁽¹⁾
Conf. Ben. & Campus Min.		30,469.95 ⁽²⁾	75,064.56 ⁽²⁾		33,935.94 ⁽²⁾
Insurance Subsidies		8,179.31	90,314.49 ⁽³⁾	154,182.15 ⁽³⁾	143,009.80 ⁽³⁾
Camping & Retreat	75,266.35	100,548.18	38,694.00	16,790.44	1,295.51
Area & Conf. Admin.	73,486.17 ⁽⁴⁾	91,758.20 ⁽⁴⁾	96,403.43 ⁽⁴⁾	50,607.21 ⁽⁴⁾	101,934.41 ⁽⁴⁾
Board of Pen. & Health Ben.	5,546.42	3,969.20	164,335.51 ⁽⁵⁾	255,976.12 ⁽⁵⁾	216,327.97 ⁽⁵⁾
District Superintendents Fund	7,519.19	30.37	846.34	18,398.57	33,025.69
Equitable Compensation	76,379.24 ⁽⁶⁾	97,047.98 ⁽⁶⁾	91,118.44 ⁽⁶⁾	98,802.55 ⁽⁶⁾	105,421.72 ⁽⁶⁾
Moving Fund	110,649.20 ⁽⁷⁾	74,816.83 ⁽⁷⁾	98,930.44 ⁽⁷⁾	130,905.16 ⁽⁷⁾	182,746.62 ⁽⁷⁾
TOTAL APPORTIONMENT FUNDS	441,223.48	538,273.01	806,639.67	881,953.57	1,024,521.31

OTHER FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

Conference Reserve Fund	804,139.04 ⁽⁸⁾	865,275.12 ⁽⁸⁾	865,275.12 ⁽⁸⁾	1,010,779.87 ⁽⁸⁾	1,065,623.39 ⁽⁸⁾
Strategic Plan. Process/Emer. Min.				69,469.92 ⁽¹⁵⁾	131,302.13 ⁽¹⁵⁾
Mission Shortfall Fund	30,604.60 ⁽²⁾	30,604.60	61,074.55	37,211.44 ⁽²⁾	48,576.39
Creat. Cong. Reserve Funds	47,342.85	67,168.55	500,226.92 ⁽⁹⁾	426,584.49	514,136.48
Creat. Cong. Land Funds	80,941.62	124,646.22	249,011.80 ⁽⁹⁾	255,062.79	247,019.06
Creat. Cong. Visionaries	13,044.18	15,987.70	20,929.86	29,400.54	31,605.89
New Vis. - New Ch. & Cong. Red.	140,350.61	157,348.41	191,869.20 ⁽⁹⁾	230,232.25 ⁽⁹⁾	116,609.05
Creat. Cong. Central City	84,034.33	86,958.72	90,167.50	61,751.07	31,425.46
From Special Offerings or Grants					
Town & Country Visionaries	3,124.76	13,868.15	6,734.25	6,255.64	49.68
Urban Ministries Visionaries	3,040.73	1,624.61	3,218.35	5,473.98	1,095.32
New Visionaries - Comm. Dev.	24,340.72	33,304.83	28,806.21	5,677.07	3,020.33
New Visionaries - Camp & Ret.	170,722.90 ⁽¹⁰⁾	207,569.56 ⁽¹⁰⁾	259,033.62 ⁽¹⁰⁾	290,627.10 ⁽¹⁰⁾	
Christ's Foundry Building Fund	2,303.39	2,303.39			
Christ's Foundry Op. Fund				1,462.60	
Disaster Relief	65,379.53	5,732.63	57,504.97	10,120.97	1,261.07
Robertson Awards	340.00				
Methodist Warehouse	4,516.95	2,300.00	1,609.26	964.99	814.66
VIM Projects		530.00	1,270.78	17,971.23	3,032.92
Shalom Zones	5,719.73	4,661.74	4,661.74	5,344.41	2,411.74
Global AIDS Fund				7,055.77	7,055.77
GBGM Grants	17,770.68	30,383.81	34,259.13	32,130.69	30,677.16
Nat'l and World Outreach	1,162.80	2,075.34	2,350.34	2,775.25	3,189.93
Native American Ministry	7,320.93	7,893.55	9,226.80	10,200.89	10,365.74
UM Men	5,002.28	5,322.51	4,708.34	2,777.60	2,720.98
Children & Pov. Task Force	2,315.19	2,315.19	215.19	215.19	215.19
Ethnic Local Church Grants	4,660.00				10,000.00
Higher Educ. - Student Day	39.30	39.30			
Tri-District Urban Min./Amigos	2,787.58	2,185.89	23,174.02	21,457.38	23,343.03
Church and Society	1,685.06	185.06			
Peace with Justice	2,794.64	4,304.93	5,488.00	6,442.38	6,755.80

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Youth Service Fund	609.30	1,554.00	106.63	2,892.56	1,793.63
Christian Education Sunday	27.10	52.10	52.10	52.10	52.10
Robertson Scholarship Fund		558.77	448.82	1,086.10	701.62
Bishop Moncure Scholarship		4,487.00	4,652.57	4,765.63	
District Second Mile Funds		2,463.45	3,866.65	3,832.15	3,401.10
Camp Interns	3,000.00	3,000.00			
Pakistani Mission			800.00	800.00	800.00
Restorative Justice	1,066.90	1,066.90	816.90	816.90	816.90
Project Pentecost	907.41	6,907.41	4,268.52	6,918.52	9,418.52
Retirees Newsletter	672.02	10.57			
Episcopacy Committee			2,500.00		2,283.35
2008 Jurisdictional Conf.	5,133.00	5,311.63	16,429.35		
Bridgeport Capital Projects		1,249.87	206,700.00	196,911.77	313,926.84
Annual Conference Signing					755.00
Going Public Radio Project					15,000.00
From Fees Collected					
Cooperative Mission Event	5,127.32	4,804.79	6,856.48	8,173.27	2,558.41
UMR Subscriptions	7,912.67	8,214.73	7,555.73	5,161.73	9,214.73
Board of Laity				487.40	4,757.40
Conf. Resource Center	2,076.21	2,302.21	2,202.21	2,405.21	487.21
Five Day Academy	2,590.00	3,938.80	4,333.69	6,341.68	341.54
Background Checks	25,435.26	18,893.84	16,886.79	16,697.03	16,697.03
Equipping Disp. Workshops	394.15	594.15	414.15	943.80	943.80
Anti-Racism Event	14.12	8,014.12	7,994.32	17.47	3,048.12
New Church Start Events	5,679.81	2,933.16	7,004.28	14,576.52	15,807.83
Older Adult Ministries	470.00	470.00	470.00	470.00	470.00
Evangelism	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
Bishop's Initiative for SS	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
Religion and Race Lunch	40.00				
Communications	908.58	421.05		995.00	1,073.88
Lay Speaking	803.73	65.00	262.09	1,113.66	2,489.50
Campus Ministry	24,420.06	49,820.76	23,232.06	21,645.04	46,957.11
Youth Events		83.50	9,113.44	30,115.68	7,105.64
Children's Events			2.74		8,985.60
Mission Staff Reserve		18,018.06	18,018.06		
Camp Receipts	77,198.45	74,481.65	71,907.37	115,407.66	100,299.51
Prothro Registration Fees	4,888.65	5.65			
Clergy Spouses Club	1,361.64	2,163.11	1,822.00	1,957.12	2,103.14
Clergy Disability Fund					20,394.72
Trustees – General	36,314.07	36,200.91	26,281.83	27,262.42	19,283.41
Trustees - Ministry Center	333,866.31	501,640.72	369,744.23	311,704.63 ⁽¹¹⁾	422,856.57 ⁽¹¹⁾
PACT - Prop. & Liab. Ins.	61,698.28	464,394.56	208,423.71	228,334.41	415,178.75 ⁽¹⁶⁾
Camp & Retreat	111,603.72	106,562.15	76,450.91	78,796.26	79,843.89
Episcopal Residence Equity	92,092.66	91,321.53	112,437.64	112,732.16	132,037.74
Health Insurance Res. Fund	1,223,434.85	1,567,922.94 ⁽¹²⁾	1,850,905.25 ⁽¹²⁾	2,197,776.10 ⁽¹²⁾	2,285,311.23 ⁽¹²⁾
Wellness Initiative Fund	38,130.93	43,563.89 ⁽¹³⁾	50,390.13 ⁽¹³⁾	90,397.02 ⁽¹³⁾	140,376.11 ⁽¹³⁾
Bd. of Pensions	34,179.79	157,659.25	36,674.38	37,569.62	38,132.90
Davis Estate - Clergy Sp. Needs	42,298.31	43,770.29	45,385.41	46,488.28	36,587.48
Legal Fund	26,158.40	11,814.89	12,034.65	13,693.50	15,290.86
Episcopal Candidate			709.50		
Archives and History	11,514.54	9,814.80	9,477.06	6,681.99	6,185.75
Internal Operating Funds					
Print / Mail Room	5,582.97	3,665.74	1,518.78	881.85	
Other	3,245.59	3,151.59	825.42	19.80	33.26
Trust Funds					
Health Trust(Railey)	400,970.05	413,387.92	419,030.06	314,324.67	318,987.86
Clergy Disability Trust	17,377.68	17,982.42	18,645.97	19,099.07	19,385.56
Holding Funds	288,743.43	428,177.66 ⁽¹⁴⁾	519,957.38 ⁽¹⁴⁾	433,020.71	353,292.95
VISION 2020	900,050.57	513,204.04			

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Africa University			85,870.08	127,890.11	
Episcopal Office					70,723.40 ⁽¹⁷⁾
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS	5,323,533.93	6,310,762.39	6,684,346.29	7,038,753.11	7,238,550.12
GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS	5,764,757.41	6,849,035.40	7,490,985.96	7,920,706.68	8,263,071.43

NOTES:

- (1) In order to fund college and seminary scholarships for candidates for ministry, it has been the policy of the Board of Ordained Ministry for many years that prior year receipts would fund current year expenses. The Board has been working toward returning to that position.
- (2) In accordance with the policy established several years ago, this balance is transferred to the Mission Shortfall Fund to begin the new year. If there is a deficit, funds from the Mission Shortfall Fund are used to cover it.
- (3) It has already been planned to spend down this balance in 2009 and 2010.
- (4) This is actually a combination of balances in five areas. In 2009 it included \$46,190.99 in Professional Ministries (Board of Ordained Ministry), \$20,669.97 in Office of New Church Development and Congregational Transformation, \$6,288.17 in Conference Administration, \$27,051.23 in Administrative Staff, and \$1,734.05 for the Episcopal Residence.
- (5) This balance was due to spending less than anticipated on CRSP supplements during the first two years of the new pension program, even though the budget for CPP ran a deficit both years. It has already been planned to spend down this balance in 2010 and 2011.
- (6) This is a combination of the Salary Supplements Fund administered by the Commission on Equitable Compensation and the Missional Grants Fund administered by the Appointive Cabinet.
- (7) The Moving Fund was established with the intent that prior years receipts would fund current year expenses so as not to impede the clergy appointment process.
- (8) During 2005 CF&A decided to move the General Shortfall funds into the Conference Reserve Fund. The increase in 2008 included \$56,976.19 of undistributed 2007 investment earnings and \$88,528.56 of undistributed 2008 earnings. The current target for this fund established by a previous council is 10% of the annual apportionment budget (approx. \$1.2 million).
- (9) These increases were due to the sale of the facility of a failed new church start, the repayment of a loan, and an effort to build the New Visionaries balance.
- (10) Both the Bridgeport and Prothro Boards are attempting to build this balance to be used for capital improvements.

- (11) Most of the balance is a Ministry Center Debt Service Reserve/Major Maintenance Fund established to accommodate a future floating interest rate and to provide for future major maintenance needs. In addition, a small number of construction-related expenses are still in process.
- (12) The target for this reserve fund is between \$1,000,000 and \$1,500,000 in order to preserve the conference's future health insurance options. It has increased the past four years due largely to Medicare Part D refunds to the retiree plan. The BOPHB has already begun spending down this balance and plans to continue to do so by lessening future premium increases.
- (13) The BOPHB built this balance in order to fund wellness efforts in the future. Beginning in 2010, it is no longer collecting for this effort.
- (14) The balance of these accrual funds increased due to anticipated staff costs related to beginning the new property and liability insurance program and anticipated transition costs related to moving into the new Ministry Center. It is anticipated that they will be spent down over a 2-3 year period as experience in these areas is gained and transition expenses are completed.
- (15) After the Provost position was eliminated, CF&A designated the remaining funds budgeted for that position in 2008 and 2009 for the Strategic Planning Process and Emerging Ministries. The Strategic Planning Process is continuing in 2010 and the congregational transformation process is an emerging ministry being partially funded by this account.
- (16) \$378,037 for previous years' endorsements was paid in the first quarter 2010.
- (17) In 2009 the conference treasurer was asked by the bishop to assume the treasury function for the Episcopal Office.

2009 DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORTS

	Dallas Denton	Dallas Northeast	Dallas South	Paris-Sul. Springs	Sher. McK.	Wichita Falls
1. INCOME						
Received from apportioned funds	122,058	144,513	137,808	145,364	121,377	105,395
Received from interest or investments	105	5,390	45,319	211	59	1,006
Other Income	5,003			1,369		
TOTAL INCOME	127,166	149,903	183,127	146,944	121,436	106,404
2. EXPENDITURES						
Parsonage mortgage	6,290	7,200		10,320	11,820	
Parsonage repairs, upkeep, ins. etc.	7,589	9,134	7,502	7,916	6,341	7,096
Parsonage furnishings						
Parsonage utilities	5,933	7,583	8,263	6,312	6,912	7,962
DS travel reimbursement	1,430		2,311			
DS professional expenses					4,541	4,829
DS health insurance premiums		7,872	7,023	7,872	7,872	7,872
DS continuing education	3,287	2,089	1,483	128	681	
Office rent	17,407	7,879	4,380	2,400	10,956	9,957
Office utilities	4,830	6,382		8,840	3,920	3,765
Office equipment and supplies	4,355	4,674	14,432	12,057	8,420	2,260
Staff salaries and benefits	47,614	55,799	39,986	62,683	41,286	46,936
Audit	600	1,800	1,500	350		600
District programming	2,828	24,834	15,813	12,902	3,327	2,988
Missional Assistance	1,451	14,358		-1,789	2,350	
Other	3,667			3,100		2,189
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	107,281	149,604	102,693	133,091	108,426	96,454
3. RETAINED BALANCES						
Balance in operating account	20,054	12,376	37,241	74,403	33,903	21,466
Balance in savings or investments	7,695	311,455	151,315	19,143		55,542
Balance in other accounts	10,683		949,148	9,392		
TOTAL BALANCES	38,432	323,831	1,137,704	102,938	33,903	77,008
4. VALUE OF OTHER ASSETS						
Value of parsonage and furnishings	495,000	300,000	397,000	325,000	312,000	170,366
Value of office furnishings/equip	50,000	22,000	17,000	50,000	25,000	10,560
Value of other assets			34,759			
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS	545,000	322,000	448,759	375,000	337,000	180,926
5. LIABILITIES						
Mortgage or other current loans	51,564	83,220		101,895	154,138	

2011 DISTRICT BUDGETS

	East	Metro	North Central	Northwest
INCOME:				
District Fund Apportionment	152,171	151,862	152,427	143,540
EXPENDITURES:				
DISTRICT OFFICE:				
Office Operations/Rent	22,150	25,200	25,000	32,900
Staff	60,339	47,000	53,296	52,628
Staff (Other)		5,324	13,500	5,000
Health Ins/wkcomp	16,950	9,256	9,000	9,000
Program	9,450	20,000	8,000	8,000
News/meals			1,000	1,600
Contingency/Misc.	4,962	4,312	4,111	1,812
TOTAL	113,851	111,092	113,907	110,940
DISTRICT PARSONAGE:				
Utilities	6,000	7,800	7,000	9,100
Maintenance	6,500	6,000	6,000	6,500
Insurance	1,500	2,550	1,520	2,000
Debt Service	10,320	6,420	12,000	
TOTAL	24,320	22,770	26,520	17,600
PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES:				
Insurance	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
Travel		1,000		
Staff Expenses	2,500	5,000		5,000
Continuing Education	2,500	3,000	3,000	1,000
TOTAL	14,000	18,000	12,000	15,000
GRAND TOTAL	152,171	151,862	152,427	143,540



April 30, 2010

To the Members of the Annual Conference
North Texas Conference of
The United Methodist Church
500 Maplelawn Drive
Plano, Texas 75075-5739

We have audited the combined statements of assets, liabilities and net assets-modified cash basis of the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church as of December 31, 2009, and the related combined statements of receipts, disbursements, and changes in net assets-modified cash basis for the year then ended and have issued our report thereon.

In our report, dated April 30, 2010, on the financial statements of the North Texas Conference, we expressed an unqualified opinion that the financial statements were presented fairly, in all material respects, on the modified cash basis of accounting.

The financial statements referred to above are not included in this Journal. A complete copy of the financial statements and our audit report thereon are available for review, during normal business hours, at the Conference offices located at 500 Maplelawn Drive, Plano, Texas, 75075.

Sincerely,

Thomas Stephen & Company, LLP

BICENTENNIAL FINANCIAL CENTER
250 W SOUTHLAKE BLVD • SUITE 250
SOUTHLAKE, TEXAS 76092
(817) 552-3100 • FAX (817) 424-2474

THE CENTRUM
3102 OAK LAWN AVENUE • SUITE 800
DALLAS, TEXAS 75219
(214) 824-2556 • FAX (214) 823-9367

LYDIA PATTERSON INSTITUTE

It is my pleasure to bring this report to the Bishop and members of your annual conference. I extend to you my deepest appreciation for your support and prayers throughout the years. Lydia Patterson Institute is an institution that touches lives daily and all students whose lives have been changed carry every United Methodist from this conference in a very special place in their hearts. Please receive a warm greeting and word of gratitude from them as well as our faculty and staff.

Like everyone else, this past year has been a real challenge to us. Lydia Patterson is affected by the economic conditions on both sides of the border. On the one hand, the U. S. economy has created a loss of giving potential for our supporters. On the other hand, large numbers of parents have lost their jobs due to the crumbling Mexican economy. Many of our parents were employed in the American manufacturing plants that have had to, either relocate, or close their doors. This current school year, we saw a small drop in our enrollment. Parents are having a very hard time sending their kids to school. We gave out 20% more scholarships to our current students as well as helped as many as possible enroll for the first time. We are very grateful to all our friends and churches of the UMC who are in touch with the challenges that we face and have stepped up to help with one or more scholarships. Without your help, we could not possibly do our work and live to tell all the success stories that come out of this generous gift.

As if poverty and a bad economy were not enough, our students live a much more fearful threat every day; the violence on the streets. You hear it on the news daily. Juarez, Mexico, is the deadliest city in the world at the moment. Ten to 15 deaths occur daily, and our students must live through it. They still have to walk on those deadly streets on their way to school. One student said that once she walked over the bridge and into the U. S., she felt that she could breathe again. CNN, on a news report to the nation, named Lydia Patterson Institute a haven to the students who needed refuge from a world of violence. This same report also mentioned the interesting fact that Lydia Patterson was established as a refuge to displaced immigrants fleeing from a Mexican revolution. Almost 100 years later, LPI brings hope and a safe place for students running from the streets of violence. You can still access this report if you go to CNN.com.

In the midst of all, Lydia Patterson is a bright and shiny beacon in the life of the church. Sixty-seven students graduated last year and 65 are in college today. Once more, the UMC has stepped up to continue our ministry. Twenty-four colleges and universities are providing scholarships for our students so that they can continue their education and escape the threats previously mentioned. Southwestern University called the life of one of our students, "A Cinderella Story". When you take students from a life of very little or no resources and send them to college where they excel, these are storybook stories. Saul Bueno is a student at Southwestern University who will graduate in the spring with double majors and a plan to earn a master's degree. Fernando Rivera, on the other hand, is a student at Oklahoma City University planning to go to seminary and to prepare for the ordained ministry. Twenty-three students are serving churches throughout the country while they attend college.

The student lay ministry program is growing. We have 37 in this program being trained to lead churches, youth groups, develop Hispanic ministries, etc. Eight of these students will travel to Germany, in July, to represent the South Central Jurisdiction in the Global Young Peoples Convocation. They are working tremendously hard to raise the funds to make this possible.

I have no doubt that God blesses those who do His work. Lydia Patterson is blessed with the love, support and prayers of all our friends of this conference and the jurisdiction. I invite you to come home to El Paso and experience the greatness of our ministry. I extend a special invitation to you

to come on a mission trip or a work team and be blessed as well. Thank you, again, for being there for us.

Respectfully,
Socorro Brito de Anda, President

METHODISM'S BREADBASKET

Forty years ago, in May of 1970, Bishop Kenneth Pope appointed Rev. John Tatum as associate pastor to St. Luke □Community□ United Methodist Church in southeast Dallas. Rev. Tatum immediately saw a need for an emergency aid and assistance program that would include a food pantry and clothes closet and Methodism's Breadbasket was born! We are humbled to be a mission of the North Texas Conference and count it a blessing to work in partnership with churches, individuals and companies providing a range of services including emergency food and or clothing assistance, homeless kits, bus passes, non-clinical counseling, and community referrals to our brothers and sisters in need in the south, southeast Dallas, and Pleasant Grove communities. We are very grateful to all the churches and individuals in the North Texas Conference who partner with Methodism's Breadbasket, which continues to be housed at St. Luke □Community□ UMC. In 2009, services were provided to over 4,500 individuals and families, of which 1178 were children, 971 were senior citizens and over 500 were new clients. Additionally backpacks and school supplies were provided for over 200 children during our annual *Back-to-School Backpack Giveaway* sponsored by Highland Park Cornerstone Church; turkeys and Thanksgiving 'fixins' for nearly 200 families at our *Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway* sponsored by University Park UMC; and toys and gift items for over 50 families during our *Christmas Gift-Away*. As we begin our 40th year of service we look forward to continued partnerships in this work that we have been called to do. We invite you to save the date of Friday, September 24, 2010 as we gather for a *Luncheon of Appreciation* in celebration of our 40th year of service when we will be honored to have Rev. John Tatum with us to mark this milestone. We welcome any persons who would like to donate their time, talent, and or gifts to help in this celebration. Please call the Methodism's Breadbasket office at 214.887.3926. In the midst of celebrating, the work continues! Please visit www.methodismbreadbasket.org to explore all the ways in which you can assist Methodism's Breadbasket in sharing the bread of life!

METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME

Report to the North Texas Annual Conference

Methodist Children's Home continues to press on toward our goal of becoming the most redemptive, faith-based childcare organization in the country. In order to do so, we must challenge ourselves and rely on the generosity of our friends in the North Texas Annual Conference.

As many of you know, I have battled Parkinson's in recent years. At the end of 2009, I chose to have a surgical procedure that can potentially slow the progression of some of its effects. Although I have experienced benefits from this procedure, it became evident that the effects of Parkinson's would prevent me from continuing to fulfill my responsibilities as President. After much prayer and discussion with my family and medical professionals, I decided to announce my plans to retire as President of Methodist Children's Home during our Board of Directors meeting in February. At the time this report was submitted to the North Texas Annual Conference, I was working with the Home's Board of Directors to determine my retirement date.

I certainly feel sadness that the effects of Parkinson's led me to this decision. I wish I had many more years to serve in this ministry. However, my sadness is outweighed by my great joy at the thought of the increased opportunities I will soon have to spend time with my loved ones and the realization of the great honor it has been to lead this special ministry since 2003.

As I reflect on what the Home has accomplished during my time as President, I am reminded that God is amazing. Opportunities to implement innovative programs to better serve children and expand our services to care for more young people throughout Texas and New Mexico testify that God has His hand on this special ministry. I give God glory for the work that went in to surpassing our initial mandate to double the number of children served daily from 500 to 1,000 and for His continued guidance as we press on toward our goal of becoming the most redemptive childcare program in the nation.

As President, I surrounded myself with talented and dedicated people whose main objective was to provide the best for at-risk children. My life is better because of these people and the many special relationships I have developed with our children, staff, Board and benefactors – some of whom are now close friends.

Supporters, like those we have in the North Texas Annual Conference, help the Home do great things. Guided by our core values of Christian Principles, Relationships, Responsibility, Growth, Service and Hope, the Home has recently accomplished the following for the glory of God:

- Provided services for nearly 1,600 children during the year.
- Expanded services through our outreach offices in Dallas, Bedford and Sulphur Springs.
- Completed construction of a Recreation and Activities Center at our Boys Ranch.

The future will provide the Home with as many, if not more, opportunities to positively impact the lives of children, youth and families. The Home's staff remains passionate about our work with young people and will be ready to help change lives and, in the process, empower our children to one day be productive members of society and this faith community.

We are grateful for the leadership and support of the North Texas Annual Conference. Our achievements in the past, and those yet to come, are directly related to Board members and benefactors from the North Texas Annual Conference who give their time, talents and resources to bless our children. We are grateful for the leadership of Mrs. Patsy Johnson of Sulphur Springs, who recently completed nine years of service on the Board of Directors, Dr. J. Clayton Oliphint of Richardson, Dr. Ouida Lee of Desoto, Mrs. Betty Vilven of Plano, and Mr. Scott Wallace of Highland Park. The Board of Directors and our benefactors enable our ministry to offer hope to children, youth and families through a nurturing, Christian community. As a result, the Home is helping transform our world, one child at a time.

On behalf of Methodist Children's Home, thank you for sharing the story of the Home in your churches and communities. If you would like to schedule a speaker, arrange a tour or need resources to designate a Methodist Children's Home offering, contact our development office at 1111 Herring Avenue, Waco, Texas 76708 or by phone at (254) 753-0181 or (800) 853-1272. I also encourage you to visit our web site at www.methodistchildrenshome.org to download stories and resources to help educate your congregation on the Home's ministry.

I believe great things are on the way for Methodist Children's Home. I have often told our staff that we are about the work of angels. It warms my heart and gives me hope to know this work will continue at the Home. My prayer each day has been, and will always be, that God blesses our

children through our dedicated staff, generous benefactors and unique mission.

I cannot thank you enough for what you do to help the work of this ministry. May God bless you and Methodist Children's Home.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobby R. Gilliam

METHODIST HEALTH SYSTEM

Through our covenant relationship between the North Texas Conference and Methodist Health System (Methodist), we proudly reaffirm that the care of the sick and injured, as well as the education of people to care for them, are important ministries for our community.

The Church and Methodist influence one another in many varied areas. Essential to the values and mission of Methodist Health System is our commitment to provide direct services on behalf of the Conference, such as pastoral care and educational opportunities, and to render charity services including those provided through the Golden Cross Program. We know these activities are designed to reflect our mutual continuing commitment to Christian life and learning. Central to that, the bishop, Methodist ministers, and laypersons carry out leadership roles on Methodist's governing and advisory committees. Another central philosophy to our mission is that Methodist Health System treats people from all walks of life with respect and dignity. At each facility, we strive to conduct our ministry of caring and healing in a compassionate way that brings recognition and credit to the United Methodist Church.

Methodist Dallas Medical Center is a 515-bed hospital located just southwest of downtown Dallas, which serves as the teaching and referral hospital of Methodist Health System. Among Methodist Dallas Medical Center's many areas of expertise are cancer treatment, cardiology, day surgery, emergency/trauma care, gastroenterology, intensive care, maternity, neonatal intensive care, neurosciences, orthopedics, outpatient services, radiology, transplantation, and urology. The Methodist Dallas Transplant Institute performed 117 transplants in 2009 and has done almost 2,500 procedures since its founding in 1981, including adult kidney, pancreas, and liver transplants. Methodist Dallas Medical Center made medical history in 1992 when it performed the world's first successful simultaneous heart-kidney-pancreas transplant.

Methodist Charlton Medical Center, with 301 beds, serves the residents of the suburban communities in southwest Dallas County. Methodist Charlton provides a variety of exceptional programs, including cancer treatment, cardiology, day surgery, emergency care, general medicine and surgical care, radiology, and women's services. Last September, Methodist Charlton completed an extensive \$116 million renovation and expansion, adding a new patient bed tower, additional surgical services, and physician offices.

The 160-bed Methodist Mansfield Medical Center which opened in December 2006, offers high-quality care to the growing areas of Mansfield and the surrounding communities. The hospital recently completed an expansion including a 36-bed medical-surgical unit, additional operating suites, and an expanded emergency department. Services include cancer treatment, cardiology, emergency care, gastroenterology, general surgery, intensive care, maternity, neurology, nephrology, obstetrics and gynecology, orthopedics, pulmonology, and radiology.

In June 2009, the 209-bed Methodist Richardson Medical Center was added into our family of facilities. We welcome this full-service general acute care community hospital, which includes a cancer center, accredited cycle III chest pain center, sleep disorder center, and center for women's health with digital mammography, fellowship-trained breast surgeon, and patient navigator. Specialty services at this facility include orthopedics, neurosurgery, and cardiology.

Methodist Family Health Centers now extend family health care and general medical services through 10 neighborhood locations in the Methodist service area. Additional locations were added in 2009 in Oak Cliff and Uptown Dallas to join sites in Dallas, Cedar Hill, Grand Prairie, Mansfield, and Midlothian. Methodist Midlothian Health Center offers diagnostic imaging to serve the needs of the growing Ellis County community.

The 40-bed Methodist Rehabilitation Hospital, in affiliation with Centerre Healthcare, provides inpatient and outpatient physical rehabilitation services for patients recovering from traumatic brain injury, trauma, stroke, orthopedic surgery, and other conditions.

A partnership between Methodist and area physicians, the 16-bed Methodist McKinney Hospital opened in February 2010 to serve Collin County and surrounding areas.

Methodist Hospital for Surgery in Addison is a joint venture in partnership with a physicians group. The facility is now under construction and scheduled to open by early 2011. It will be a center of excellence for spine and orthopedic surgery and the only facility of its kind in North Texas.

In the fiscal year 2009, Methodist Health System:

- Treated **35,278** adult and pediatric inpatients
- Delivered **6,493** babies
- Performed **8,668** inpatient and **8,311** day surgeries
- Treated **165,750** trauma and emergency room patients
- Recorded **29,548** visits in the teaching clinics

We present our commitment to the people in our community in part through the number of activities and services we provide. The beautifully renovated Methodist Dallas Medical Center Golden Cross Academic Clinic trains medical residents in obstetrics and gynecology, internal medicine, and general surgery, while providing quality care for disadvantaged families. Other important programs include: Senior Access, which provides health-related services and information to more than 37,000 area seniors; Methodist's Mobile Mammography program, which provides early detection and treatment for breast cancer to underserved women and has screened almost 32,000 women since 2000; Methodist's Congregational Health Ministry, which provides health resources to churches throughout our community; and the Methodist Prostate Cancer Screening and Awareness Program, which provides education and early detection for prostate cancer for minority men. In March 2010 this program screened its 60,000th man since 2000, more than any other hospital-based program in the U.S. Methodist is also one of the founding members 30 years ago of CareFlite air and ground ambulance. Methodist annually exceeds the 5 percent charity care ratio required by the state for non-profit organizations. Our hospitals provided \$90.6 million in uncompensated charity care in 2009, for a total of 12.3 percent of net revenue.

An ever-present and central part of the architecture of our hospitals is the cross at each one that symbolizes the Christian compassion and concern that are the daily standard of service for Methodist Health System. Methodist laypersons are encouraged to become active participants in the programs and services provided by the hospitals through auxiliary activities, participation in the volunteer services programs, or through service as a Golden Cross Advocate. Every United

Methodist congregation is also urged to become an active participant in the Golden Cross Program by contributing one dollar per member annually. Together, with the North Texas Conference, Methodist Health System will continue to serve as a beacon of Christian caring throughout the region as we work daily to save and improve lives.

Stephen L. Mansfield, FACHE, Ph.D.
President and CEO

GOLDEN CROSS

“Golden Cross is a faith-based program of Methodist Health System and the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church. Its purpose is to provide health care to persons who cannot afford it.” □

Golden Cross Program Mission Statement, revised, November 2005

Background. For over 85 years Golden Cross has been a powerful ministry at Methodist Dallas Medical Center serving the entire North Texas Conference. Golden Cross brings together Methodist congregations, dedicated physicians, and caring individuals to provide medical care for those in need.

At its inception, founders of the Golden Cross ministry brought together the North Texas Conference and Methodist Dallas Medical Center in a partnership dedicated to the vision of providing free medical care. The mission of Golden Cross is to revolutionize the delivery of health care for the neediest members of the North Texas community. Guided by that original vision and mission, the Board of the Golden Cross Division of Methodist Health System Foundation is charged with governing and directing the Golden Cross ministry. The Golden Cross Board is comprised of dedicated men and women from Methodist congregations throughout the North Texas Conference. As the needs of the community have changed in recent years, so, too, has the Golden Cross ministry. Through resourceful initiatives such as the Golden Cross Academic Clinic of Methodist Dallas Medical Center, the program has served thousands of North Texas residents and will continue to serve thousands more.

Expansion of Benefits for North Texas Conference. In 2005 the Golden Cross Board reaffirmed the ministry’s mission and voted to modify the methods of addressing the changing needs of communities served by Golden Cross while broadening the reach of its ministry within the North Texas Conference. Recognizing that changes in government funding of healthcare for the poor and elderly would require change to ministry policy, the Board implemented new programs in order to more efficiently address the increasing crisis of the uninsured and underinsured.

MedAssist. To expand the reach of Golden Cross and better leverage available funds for its first new program the Board considered two major health challenges for uninsured residents in the North Texas Conference: high prescription drug prices and chronic disease management. Beginning in 2006, the unanimous recommendation of the Board was to allocate all available Golden Cross funds to the development of a prescription medication program. Called MedAssist, the program serves patients of the Golden Cross Academic Clinic of Methodist Dallas Medical Center. Through this innovative program, qualified patients receive medications at no cost. In addition, the program provides social services, nutrition services, and education programs to help patients remain well and active in the workplace and the community. When needed, short-term counseling services are provided to help patients learn better ways to cope with chronic illness. Over 2,604 patients have

received free services and medication through MedAssist since its inception. The program has had a very positive impact on the quality of life of each patient.

Congregational Nurses. The Golden Cross Board also voted to provide funding to the Golden Cross Academic Clinic for its Congregational Health Ministry which forms partnerships with churches within the North Texas Conference and other area churches in an effort to improve the physical and spiritual health of the community of faith. The Congregational Health Ministry provides guidance, shares resources, and assists church leaders in meeting congregational wellness needs.

Prenatal Program. In October 2009 an exciting new program was introduced. The Life Shines Bright Pregnancy Program provides comprehensive care and support to patients at risk for pre-term delivery. Patients are recruited for the Life Shines Bright Pregnancy Program through community outreach seminars held monthly at area churches, then referred to physicians through the Golden Cross Academic Clinic. High-risk patients from the Los Barrios Clinic are also eligible for the program. A bilingual nurse practitioner and prenatal health care educator administer the program.

Oversight. The Golden Cross Board reviews each program annually in order to determine highest and best use of available funds. The Board takes seriously its responsibility to continuously improve, as well as manage the sacred trust of donors. Golden Cross needs your support to realize its mission. Each church is encouraged to commit to or maintain its pledge of one dollar (\$1.00) per member per year. The goal and mission of Golden Cross is to grow and strengthen its ministries, so that the next 85 years will continue in the revolutionary spirit of its founders.

Call for More Information. To access these services, please call the Golden Cross Academic Clinic at 214-947-6700.

North Texas Conference Commitments. The following list includes churches in the North Texas Conference that contribute to Golden Cross. These 40 churches gave a total of \$45,534. Those marked with an asterisk (*) signify the churches which met the original goal of \$1 per member in 2009:

Dallas-Denton District

Button Memorial
Christ
First Carrollton
First Denton
First Irving *
Lovers Lane
Oak Lawn
Plymouth Park
Roanoke Fellowship
Schreiber Memorial
Trietsch Memorial
University Park *
Walnut Hill *

Dallas South District

Cockrell Hill *
Elmwood
First Dallas

Dallas-Northeast District

Axe Memorial *
First Frisco
First Garland
First Plano
First Richardson
Lake Highlands
Preston Hollow *
St. Andrew *

Paris-Sulphur Springs District

First Commerce
Lone Star *
Old Saltillo *
Salem-Kinser *
Sulphur Bluff
Tira *

First DeSoto *
 First Duncanville
 Highland Park *
 Kessler Park *
 Oak Cliff *
 Umphress Road *

Sherman-McKinney District

Price *
 Virginia Point *

Wichita Falls District

Alvord *
 Forestburg *

The call of our Lord to bring healing to the poor is profoundly answered through the Golden Cross ministry. Please join in helping to extend the Golden Cross ministry through your prayers and your support.

John M. Collins, Chairman

METHODIST MISSION HOME
San Antonio, Texas

We thank you, the North Texas Annual Conference, for your partnership in this ministry we call Methodist Mission Home. “Partnership” truly means serving our neighbors together as we are changing lives and reshaping futures for Jesus Christ. Working as a resource to your churches and congregations, MMH brings hope and joy to the children, youth and families we serve...transforming our world to the glory of God.

One by one, thousands have been welcomed faithfully by Methodist Mission Home. For 115 years we have sheltered and empowered God’s children, from the vulnerable and confused pregnant teen who wants a loving home for her unborn child, to the youth with disabilities seeking to learn how to make their own home in the world. With your help, our work has given God’s Children a Faith, a Family, a Future.

Quick Facts

Founded: 1895, San Antonio

Campus Headquarters: 6487 Whitby, San Antonio, TX 78240

Website: www.mmhome.org

2009 FY Budget: \$2.9 million

MMH Ministry

Today, the mission of Methodist Mission Home is to offer hope to individuals facing spiritually, emotionally and physically challenging circumstances, so they may lead enriched, rewarding and satisfying lives. Through professional guidance and compassionate support, teens and young women facing unplanned pregnancy and families considering adoption make mutually beneficial decisions. Through transitional education including life skills and vocational training, young adults with disabilities and those who are deaf develop confidence and competence to reach their personal level of independent living. MMH fulfills this mission through the following programs:

- **Adoption Services** has placed 5,735 children into loving homes through domestic, older child, and international adoptions. We provide counseling for birth parents and adoptive families throughout the adoption process. Our maternity services include campus housing for pregnant teens and young women considering adoption. Post-adoption

counseling is available for birth parents, adoptive families, and adoptive children. MMH provides education to teach teens and the professionals who work with at-risk youth about adoption.

- **The Southwest Center for Higher Independence (SCHI)** For many teens, graduation from high school means moving on to college. For students with multiple disabilities, college is not always the next step. For these young adults, ages 18 and older, SCHI is the next step. Established in 1974, SCHI was founded as a transitional education center for people who were deaf and hard of hearing. Today, our services have expanded to accommodate more diverse disabilities, including high functioning MR, autism, Aspergers, cerebral palsy, and learning disorders. SCHI has assisted hundreds of young adults with disabilities in learning the vocational and life skills to achieve their personal best.
- **The Genesis Cooperative** is a self-supporting collaboration of five nonprofit agencies on the MMH campus serving youth and young adults with disabilities, pregnant teens and young women, women recovering from substance abuse and their children, and adults who are deaf/blind.
-

How We Can Help YOU Serve Your Neighbors?

- Adoption counseling for birth parents
- Counseling for adoptive families considering domestic, international or older child adoptions
- Post Adoption Services – Search/Reunion, Medical Information
- Guidance in developing a Walk With Jesus (an Emmaus-like experience for adults with special needs)
- Transition planning for families and youth with special needs ages 16 and older
- Training for teens and professionals who work with at-risk teens on Parenting Alternatives

How YOU Can Help MMH Serve Our Neighbors

- Support our Annual Church Offering in your church by designating one Sunday to help promote our ministry. We provide brochures and envelopes at your request. Methodist Mission Home does not receive apportionments.
- Make a gift without writing a check. Remember Methodist Mission Home in your Will or Charitable Estate Plan. Contact Saren Spicer, Development & Planned Gifts Officer, for more information.
- Volunteer to become an MMH Ambassador to assist us with outreach in your church and community. Contact Elizabeth Sullivan, Development Coordinator, for more information.
- Pray for our ministry that we may continue Giving God's Children a Faith, a Family a Future.

Please accept our sincere appreciation to Bishop Bledsoe and the members of the North Texas Annual Conference for your continued generosity toward our ministry.

MMH Trustees from the North Texas Conference: Bill Avera, Dr. William Bryan, Rev. Tom Hudspeth, Rev. Katherine Lyle, Louise Taylor **Honorary Board:** Dr. Joan LaBarr
Advisory Board: Dr. Ron Henderson, Nancy Hunt, Ray Stephens

Jennifer Sample, Executive Director
David Kinder, Chair, Board of Trustees

MOUNT SEQUOYAH

We asked a group of pastors from across the Jurisdiction who were attending a February training event at Mount Sequoyah: “How can we best write a report that will motivate you to read it”?
Their reply: ☐ *use humor* ☐ *nothing* *and tell us more of the*

“GREAT MINISTRY GOING ON AT THE MOUNTAIN”

- Your entire **campus** has wireless access; a \$50k challenge grant from the SCJ Mission Council was matched to completely resurface the roadbeds across the campus; \$200,000 was invested through new endowment for Mount Sequoyah; hundreds of volunteers assist each year to continue to upgrade facilities and beautify the grounds.
- ***Small Church Leadership Institute*** is equipping clergy, laity, and conference staff to lead their small church congregation into the future. National known presenters.
- ***Addictions Response by the Church***: gives church staff and care-ministries resources to address the effects of addiction on families, congregational support relationships for intervention, treatment, transitional living and recovery.
- ***The Eremos Retreat for Methodist Pastors. Rate of \$30 per night, per room***, for a well deserved personal retreat, or a family, get-away at Mount Sequoyah.
- ***New Church Leadership Institute*** training pastors with knowledge and skills for new church starts across the nation and in other countries.
- ***Interim Ministers Training*** a three-phase program to educate and train ministers with general skills for serving churches as an interim minister.
- ***Caring for Creation*** an annual, national faith-based environmental and sustainability conference, with nationally recognized presenters, for faith-based environmental initiatives.
- ***UM Course of Study*** annual training and study to educate and spiritually form those entering the United Methodist ministry and those who serve UM congregations.

.....Just to name a few of the many events and ministries occurring each year

“MORE GREAT THINGS”

- **A budget balanced for 2009** during a very difficult economic year for all of us.
- Just fewer than **12,000 individuals** came to Mount Sequoyah. All 15 annual conferences in the South Central Jurisdiction, and several other conferences across the nation, sent laity and clergy for discipleship trainings and meetings; personal reflection and renewal.
- **Twenty two buildings were repaired and 3600 cubic yards of fallen timber removed** following the ice storm in early 2009.
- **New to Mount Sequoyah: guided personal spiritual retreat, spiritual healing and direction with an ordained clergy and spiritual director.**
- **New programs and training initiatives** are in development which will impact the future of our Church and will continue to place Mount Sequoyah as a vital and focused ministry for developing Methodist congregations in witness and in discipleship for Jesus Christ.

Watch our website www.mountsequoyah.org; Link to our **FACEBOOK**; or even better, place a **phone call, 1-800-760-8126** to ask questions and let us know where to send you a

NEWSLETTER or bulletin EMAIL Keep informed of the many dynamic training initiatives for leadership development and faithful discipleship.

Sheri and John Altland, Executive Directors

PERKINS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

On September 11, 2009, students, professors, administrators, alumni/ae, friends, benefactors, and special guests of Perkins School of Theology gathered on the campus of Southern Methodist University to dedicate the new Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Hall, and to celebrate the completion of renovations to Selecman Hall and Kirby Hall. After almost a century of service, decades of dreaming, and years of noble work, Perkins had accomplished one of the boldest undertakings in its history.

The process of building and renovation has been an overwhelming experience of grace, brought to expression through an immeasurable generosity on the part of those who shared in both the vision and its accomplishment. Beginning in 1911 with the creation by Methodist leaders in the South of two new institutions of higher learning—SMU and Emory—those who have been committed to this school and its mission to serve the church have continued steadfastly to ensure the fulfillment of that purpose. This latest endeavor has been no different.

So many have invested so much in this enormous undertaking that it is impossible to name them all. I would certainly express my deep gratitude to the North Texas Annual Conference, and the South Central Jurisdiction as a whole, from which have come strong, steady, supportive participation at so many levels—from finances to prayers, from inviting young adults to consider ordained ministry to partnering with us in training and preparation of those students for faithful leadership in Christian ministry.

The Perkins and Prothro families have brought a vision forward across the better part of a century, a vision for the role they could play in shaping society by helping education transform the world. Their legacy exists in physical facilities and philanthropic financial support throughout Southern Methodist University, and certainly at Perkins, but extends much further still. People with great resources and generous hearts give wonderful gifts. But people with vision see beyond what their resources can do, beyond what their generosity can accomplish, beyond what their noblest actions can achieve, to the larger purposes beneath and beyond all of these efforts. The Perkins and Prothro families have possessed such vision, and shared it amply with Perkins. In so doing, they have opened new horizons for the church by establishing a legacy of the sort that leads not backward, but forward, into a new future of theological education.

Highland Park United Methodist Church, led by their senior minister Mark Craig, has contributed more to the success of this venture than anyone could ever imagine receiving from a neighbor. The Texas Methodist Foundation and its president, Tom Locke, have been munificent in their support. Paul and Joanne White of Louisiana were among the earliest donors to this project, and for their generosity we are deeply grateful. Myriad other congregations, institutions, families, and individuals have partnered in this effort, making gifts of all sizes to further the mission of Perkins through these renovation and expansion projects. A series of plaques in the new Prothro Hall names more than 800 entities as having contributed funds—and the list continues to grow.

Members of the faculty and staff at Perkins provided invaluable wisdom, discernment, and guidance throughout this process. In the midst of great disruption, certain persons gave exceptional leadership to keep us on an even keel. Among them were Tracy Anne Allred, director of Student

Services; Janelle Hampton, building manager and registrar; Todd Rasberry, director of Development; Roberta Cox, director of Public Affairs; and Jim McMillin, the associate director of Bridwell Library, and chair of our Construction Committee.

With building construction and renovation completed, we are now poised to pursue with even greater focus certain strategic goals that are central to our work in the future. These goals are part of the University's larger objectives related to a \$750 million capital campaign launched in September 2008 in anticipation of the centennial of the school's founding in 1911. *SMU Unbridled: The Second Century Campaign* includes further enhancing the academic quality and reputation of the school through faculty endowments and other means; fostering an open, collaborative, diverse community, beginning with the further development of the Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions; strengthening scholarly research and creative achievement; enhancing student development and quality of life; and broadening global perspectives through continuing development of the center for Global Theological Education.

On a personal note, I continue to serve on our denomination's Judicial Council, and regard this role as both a high honor and profound responsibility. I also continue to serve as liaison between the Church and the University.

The building endeavors of the last several years and strategic goals of the present and future all serve to fulfill a singular missional purpose from which we cannot and will not waver: to prepare women and men for faithful leadership in Christian ministry. For your partnership in that mission through this historic season at Perkins, and in the many ways your partnership promises to support these future goals as we work together toward their fulfillment, we are grateful.

Grace and Peace,
William B. Lawrence, Dean
Professor of American Church History
www.smu.edu/perkins

Oklahoma City University
2501 North Blackwelder
Oklahoma City, OK 73106

ST. PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
www.spst.edu

Kansas City Campus
5123 East Truman Road
Kansas City, MO 64127

Saint Paul School of Theology is a seminary of the United Methodist Church that educates leaders to make disciples for Jesus Christ, renew the Church, and transform the world. We are one institution with two campuses, a free-standing seminary campus in Kansas City and a university partnership seminary on the campus of Oklahoma City University.

This academic year, 284 students from 41 states and 5 continents were enrolled in degree programs at Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City. Forty-one students were enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at Saint Paul at Oklahoma City University. The Course of Study School at Saint Paul served 290 students from 18 annual conferences.

Over 400 students and alums, current and emeritus faculty, and friends of the seminary gathered in September to celebrate the seminary's 50th Anniversary in Kansas City. The festivities were a time to celebrate the seminary's tradition and history, reunite in friendship, look toward the seminary's future, and share the seminary's story with the larger Kansas City Community.

The Order of St. Luke constructed a meditative labyrinth on the Kansas City Campus naming it in honor of Dr. Susan Sonnenday Vogel '82 DMin. Susan Sonnenday Vogel is the first woman Doctor

of Ministry graduate of Saint Paul and served in a number of roles including Associate Dean for Spiritual & Professional Formation during her 33 year tenure.

Two Doctor of Ministry tracks were established. The Doctor of Ministry track in Children and Poverty will begin June 2010 and a track in Global Health and Wholeness is slated for January 2011. Both tracks relate directly to the United Methodist Council of Bishops initiatives (the “Four Foci”) for the Church.

It was the second year for Laity School of Theology. Each Laity School Saturday Session was taught by Saint Paul faculty and presented in an accessible manner for persons with a variety of educational backgrounds. Participants could attend one session or all six. Topics included worship, Bible, ethics, church history, and theology. Laity School was offered in Kansas City, Missouri and various churches in Nebraska, Kansas, and Oklahoma.

It was the sixth year for the Saint Paul youTheology program. Lilly Endowment, Inc. renewed a grant for the program developed for Midwest youth to continue to explore their faith through worship, service, study, travel, and a mentoring relationship. The youTheology program culminates with a nine day Pan Methodist Pilgrimage to the East Coast where youTheologians see historic locations fundamental to the roots of Methodism.

Dr. L. Shannon Jung was installed into the Franklin and Louise Cole Chair for Town and Country Ministries in the fall. The chair was a celebration for the seminary and rural ministry. There was special recognition for the team of laity and clergy that worked for several years to establish the fully funded Town and Country Chair.

The trustees, faculty, staff, and students of Saint Paul thank you for your interest, prayers and support.

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

As SMU approaches the centennial of its founding in 1911 by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and its opening in 1915, the University continues to rise in national prominence. The past year has been marked by exciting developments. Highlights follow:

- SMU's total fall 2009 enrollment was 10,891, including 6,228 undergraduates, 3,544 graduate students and 1,119 professional (theology and law) students. The ethnic minority enrollment makes up 21 percent of the student body. The average SAT score of the first-year class has risen nearly 100 points in the past 10 years.
- *SMU Unbridled: The Second Century Campaign* was launched in September 2008. Gifts during the campaign's two-year quiet phase and first public year have exceeded \$416 million toward a goal of \$750 million. The campaign seeks endowment for student quality, faculty and academic excellence, and the campus experience. To date, the campaign has provided funds for 193 new endowed scholarships; 16 new endowed academic positions; 11 new endowed institutes, centers and other academic programs; support for two schools and one academic department; and 12 new or renovated facilities.
- The new Caruth Hall for the Lyle School of Engineering will open this spring. The school recently announced its new Hunter and Stephanie Hunt Institute for Engineering and Humanity, to address conditions of the global poor. A building to house the Annette Caldwell

Simmons School of Education and Human Development is under construction and scheduled to open in August. New year-round housing at SMU-in-Taos allowed the addition of fall semester classes in 2009 at the New Mexico campus, which has offered summer courses since 1973.

- Among several outstanding appointments, the Rev. Stephen Rankin, Ph.D. was named SMU's new chaplain and minister to the University. He came to SMU from Southwestern College in Kansas, where he was campus minister and professor of Religious Studies. Rankin is a clergy member of the Kansas West Annual Conference.
- David Meltzer, professor and chair of Anthropology in SMU's Dedman College, was elected a member of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences. Several students have won Fulbright, Truman and other national fellowships.
- Alan C. Lowe was named director of the George W. Bush Presidential Library, to be located at SMU. He previously was executive director of the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. James K. Glassman, undersecretary of state for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs in 2008, was named executive director of the George W. Bush Institute, to be part of the Bush Presidential Center, which is expected to open in 2013.
- The Bush Presidential Library is already making an impact at SMU. Political science and journalism professors have invited former President Bush to speak to their classes, groups of scholarship students have visited the temporary archives, and former First Lady Laura Bush has hosted an exchange between Iraqi women and SMU faculty.

News of Perkins School of Theology

- Perkins School of Theology began a significant new chapter in September 2009 when it dedicated the new Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Hall and renovated Kirby Hall and Sealeman Hall. The Perkins and Prothro families and their foundations provided the lead gift for the new building, continuing the tradition of Joe J. and Lois Perkins, for whom the school was named in 1945.
- C. Michael Hawn, professor of Church Music and director of the Master of Sacred Music Program at Perkins School of Theology, was honored as The United Methodist Church's 2008-09 University Scholar/Teacher of the Year.
- Pastors from Latin America traveled to Perkins last summer for theological and ministerial training through *Theology Beyond Borders*. Perkins is one of three United Methodist schools of theology offering the Course of Study School in Spanish. Pastors from Columbia, Argentina and Costa Rica received training supported by a new grant from The United Methodist Church's General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.
- Joerg Rieger was appointed to the newly endowed Wendland-Cook Professorship in Constructive Theology. A clergy member of the North Texas Annual Conference, Rieger has taught at Perkins for 15 years. The professorship was established by Barbara and Erroll Wendland and the Joe and Louise Cook Foundation. The Wendlands are from Temple, Texas, and Mrs. Wendland is a member of the Perkins Executive Board.

News of SMU Wesley Foundation

- Under the leadership of the Rev. Andy Roberts, a clergy member of the North Georgia Annual Conference, the SMU Wesley Foundation is one of the most active ministries on campus. "The Well," a weekly worship service in Perkins Chapel, features music, teaching, prayer and Holy Communion. Small group Bible studies, the heart of the SMU Wesley Foundation, foster fellowship and spiritual growth.

SMU treasures its Methodist heritage and maintains a particularly close relationship with Highland Park United Methodist Church and its senior minister, the Rev. Mark Craig. I enjoy serving as guest preacher at that church each fall. We ask your continued prayers and support as SMU moves forward in the coming year.

R. Gerald Turner, President
Southern Methodist University

TEXAS UNITED METHODIST COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

TUMCA students are preparing themselves for clergy and lay leadership roles in the church—and local congregations are invaluable partners in helping that to happen!

Because of the increased support of congregations across Texas in their payment of their TUMCA apportionment, a modest increase over last year in scholarship funds means that more students are able to attend one of our United Methodist schools in Texas.

One of our TUMCA scholarship recipients writes: "Thank you for all the Texas United Methodist College Association does for students like me who yearn for the blessing of attending a church-related college."

Our young people have expected their congregation to "be there for them" as they have made the journey of faith and life. Their church "has been there for them" at confirmation, struggles in relationships, discernment of vocation, and graduation. Through TUMCA, our young adults experience their church "being there for them" as they receive scholarship funds that help them to attend one of our United Methodist Universities.

Thank you! Your congregation's giving to TUMCA means that you are saying in some much needed tangible ways, "Your church is going to be there for you as you make your way to college."

Listed below are the students from the North Texas Conference who are receiving TUMCA scholarship funds:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Home Church</u>	<u>College/University</u>
Erica Coker	First UMC, Royse City	McMurry University
Blaine Willett	First UMC, Archer City	McMurry University
Meredith Alloway	Lake Highlands UMC, Dallas	Southern Methodist University
Kelsey Chriss	First UMC, Richardson	Southern Methodist University
Lauren Schick	First UMC, Rowlett	Southern Methodist University
Joe Johnson	Flower Mound UMC	Texas Wesleyan University

All praise and thanks to you for blessing your young adults with TUMCA gifts, so that they may be educated to bless the world with their gifts of astute minds and resolute hearts.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan E. Solomon, President
Texas United Methodist College Association

TEXAS METHODIST FOUNDATION

The Texas Methodist Foundation experienced significant growth during 2009, increasing our assets and further clarifying our vision for the most effective way to serve United Methodist individuals, churches, and institutions in Texas. We give thanks for our success, but not without awareness. We understand many of the ministry partners we serve continue to face challenges resulting from economic pressures and that during times of uncertainty, it is more important than ever for the Church to focus on mission and ministry. That makes our financial stability even more important: the more financially sound we are, the better able we are to achieve our mission “to empower the Church in the achievement of her God-appointed missions.”

We ended 2009 with \$365.4 million in assets under management. This increase of more than \$45 million over 2008 reflects substantial growth, but our promise to help the United Methodist community accomplish God’s dreams for ministry goes well beyond the balance sheet. We continually renew our commitment to promote the long-term health and vitality of the Church in Texas and use that as a standard for decision-making, whether considering a loan, investment, capital campaign, gift, or grant request. Above all, we see the mission and ministry we enable through our services as the core purpose of our work and service to God.

In addition to financial resources, churches must have strong leadership in order to thrive. Our TMF Institute for Clergy and Congregational Excellence continues to support and develop clergy leaders through peer learning groups. Pastors take newly-acquired skills and habits, and their experience of spiritual renewal and deep community back to their congregations to develop disciples who practice a Christian way of life together for the sake of the world.

The Texas Methodist Foundation, located in Austin, serves United Methodist individuals, churches and agencies within the five geographic annual conferences in Texas and the Rio Grande Conference of Texas and New Mexico. We appreciate the opportunity to report some of the ways we assisted United Methodists last year.

How can we help you bring God’s dreams for ministry to life?

We are pleased to report to you the assistance we provided in 2009:

Within the North Texas Annual Conference:

- Loans from the Foundation to churches in the North Texas Annual Conference totaled \$84.7 million.
- Churches and related agencies within the North Texas Annual Conference had \$42.8 million invested with the Foundation’s Methodist Loan Fund.

Throughout the state:

- As of December 31, 2009, total assets under management by the Foundation were approximately \$365.4 million.
- Methodist Loan Fund investments grew overall, including new Individual Fund accounts of \$7.3 million. Methodist Loan Fund investments support the Foundation's loan program which currently funds 449 loans to United Methodist churches and agencies. Our loan balance ended 2009 at \$306.4 million.
- The TMF Institute for Clergy and Congregational Excellence ministry (formerly the Clergy Leadership Initiative) supported 95 pastors from the Texas annual conferences participating in 10 Clergy Development Groups. The Institute also welcomed 32 District Superintendents from around the state and across the South Central Jurisdiction, and the 11 active Bishops serving in the South Central Jurisdiction who were involved in group processes. Senior pastors and laity from five congregations also participated in a 34-member Holy Conversations Community of Learning, focusing on spiritually-based strategic planning.
- During 2009, the Foundation funded grants in excess of \$770,000 including several from donor-advised funds. These grants benefited a variety of programs managed by local churches, community outreach centers, and conference ministries. The Foundation's Grants Ministry gives priority to programs that address the root causes of poverty as it affects children.
- The Foundation distributed \$923,549 from permanent endowments, predominantly to United Methodist causes in Texas.
- Our Stewardship staff consulted on 10 capital campaigns, resulting in pledges totaling more than \$2.7 million. They made more than 338 consultation visits to churches offering counsel and guidance in areas of specific need related to funding ministry. Stewardship staff also conducted 17 annual and year-round stewardship workshops in local churches and 38 district and conference level workshops.
- Our Development staff worked with more than 103 churches to help them initiate or revive Permanent Endowment Fund programs in 2009, and facilitated meetings of both endowment leaders and potential donors. Two new seminars were introduced by the Development staff: *Finding Your Treasures* and *Building a Philanthropic Cathedral for Your Soul*. These seminars focused on the roots of individual generosity and how one gives out of gratitude for God's gifts. Development staff also played a professional role in the 2009 Stewardship Gathering of the National Association of United Methodist Foundations and the 2009 Stewardship Summit of the Southwest Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church.

The following people residing in the North Texas Annual Conference serve as board members to the Texas Methodist Foundation in either an elected or advisory capacity:

Mr. James F. Adams
 Mrs. Linda Beltchev
 Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe
 Mrs. Mary Brooke Casad
 Mrs. Patricia M. Deal
 Mr. Robert W. Dupuy
 Mrs. Cheryl Haynes

Mr. Joseph W. Holmes
 Mr. Terry Kelley
 Rev. Katherine Glaze Lyle
 Dr. Clayton Oliphint
 Rev. Owen Ross
 Mrs. Kay Yeager

Tom Locke, President
 Texas Methodist Foundation

TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

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Things are bright at Texas Wesleyan University. After the fall of 2008 boasted the highest enrollment ever in Texas Wesleyan's 120-year history, fall 2009 surpassed all expectations: Over 3,300 students were enrolled last fall at Texas Wesleyan University! This is but one indication that the strategic planning and initiatives implemented by Wesleyan President, Dr. Hal Jeffcoat, are clearly becoming stronger throughout the life of this institution.

An area that went through restructuring is the arts and sciences. Last fall, we had two new deans join Texas Wesleyan. As a result of a new approach, Dr. Steve Daniell was hired as the new dean of the School of Arts & Letters, and Dr. Trevor Morris came on board as the dean of the new School of Natural and Social Sciences. Both of these individuals' background and vision will greatly enhance future growth in these two schools.

Another change was in the appointment of Joe Brown as Dean of Freshman Success and Dr. Katherine Prater as Dean of Wesleyan University College. In both of these positions, each brings their own gifts to help achieve a common objective: Texas Wesleyan will assist first-year students adjust to the rigors of college life and at the same time, acquire the essential skills needed for academic success and excellence.

There are several projects around campus worth noting. The Claudia Stepp Scene Shop, which broke ground last March, opened last fall. Construction began in January of this year on the Jack and Jo Willa Morton Fitness Center. This new fitness center will become a new centerpiece on the campus. It will also enrich and contribute to the overall wellness of students, faculty and staff. Last fall also saw the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new Wesleyan Bookstore. This event was celebrated with leaders from the community, city, and state. Our new bookstore also has important significance: It is the first development in the broader vision for rejuvenating the Rosedale corridor adjacent to the main campus. Finally, last fall welcomed a new mascot in the form of "Willie," the Wesleyan Ram. This new statue of our mascot sits prominently just outside the Student Center and it is one of several signs that our campus is full of life and excitement.

This year also marks the 20th anniversary of Texas Wesleyan's School of Law. As Fort Worth's only law school, Wesleyan's School of Law shines in two areas. Last fall it was reported that our law school has a pass rate for the bar exam at 93%. In addition, Wesleyan School of Law is one of only 31 ABA-accredited law schools that require students to complete 30 hours of *pro bono* legal service during their education here. To date, 1,256 students have logged more than 64,000 hours to the benefit of persons throughout the area.

But beyond all the statistical data, there is something else about Texas Wesleyan that is noteworthy. In the past two years, two students have benefited from what some might call Texas Wesleyan's "extravagant generosity." Jeremy Burnett was a former homeless young adult who struggled with addictions and other personal problems. Through a series of events, it was discovered that Jeremy was also a math whiz. After qualifying for financial aid, Jeremy enrolled at Texas Wesleyan and he is now working toward a degree in math and Spanish. Jeremy's presence, boisterous laughter and bright smile have become a fixture around campus. Another student, David Rai, found his way to Texas Wesleyan by way of tragedy. After the unexpected death of his father, David's future was unsure. His family had immigrated to this country from Nepal and he was afraid of what might happen next. With the assistance from a local United Methodist Church and the university, David

was able to enroll at Texas Wesleyan. In a recent article in Wesleyan's newspaper, *The Rambler*, David said, "This college has given me a second chance in life." In the midst of all the progress, academic success, growth, and strategic planning for the future, these two students are evidence that Texas Wesleyan University cares about its students. These are just two reasons why things are alive and well at Texas Wesleyan University, and they are reasons why I am grateful and honored to be a part of this campus community. Thanks to all who contribute to this institution of higher education that is truly an example of a Wesleyan tradition and spirit that unites "knowledge and vital piety."

Rev. Dr. Robert Kenji Flowers
University Chaplain