



wisconsin conference
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

REPORTS
OF
BOARDS AND AGENCIES
TO THE
2011 WISCONSIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Love Unconditionally
-2011-

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

INDEX OF BOARD AND AGENCY REPORTS

1.	Board of Camp and Retreat Ministries	2
2.	Board of Congregation and Circuit Development.	No Report Received
3.	Board of Church and Society	3
4.	Board of Global Ministries	4
5.	Board of Higher Education and Student Ministry.	10
6.	Board of Lay Ministry.	No Report Received
7.	Board of Ordained Ministry	12
8.	Joint Board of Pensions, Insurance and Equitable Compensation	15
9.	Board of Trustees	18
10.	Commission on Archives and History.	No Report Received
11.	Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.	No Report Received
12.	Commission on Status and Role of Women	No Report Received
13.	Commission on Religion and Race	No Report Received
14.	Ethnic Local Church Concerns Committee.	No Report Received
15.	Committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministry.	No Report Received
16.	Program and Arrangements Committee	No Report Received
17.	Conference Council on Youth Ministries	No Report Received
18.	Communications and Information Technology.	21
19.	Conference Episcopacy Committee	23
20.	Conference Personnel Committee.	24
21.	Council on Finance and Administration	25
22.	United Methodist Women	26
23.	United Methodist Men	No Report Received
24.	Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation	29
25.	Moving Director	No Report Received
26.	Conference Secretary	34
27.	Africa University.	36
28.	Boston University School of Theology.	37
29.	Candler School of Theology	39
30.	Drew Theological Seminary	41
31.	Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.	42
32.	North Central College.	43
33.	Wiley College	No Report Received
34.	Wisconsin Council of Churches	44
35.	Cedar Crest, Inc.	No Report Received
36.	Christian Community Homes & Services, Inc.	No Report Received
37.	Evergreen Retirement Community	No Report Received
38.	Harbor House Crisis Shelters	47
39.	Hillcrest Family Services	No Report Received
40.	Morrow Memorial Home	48
41.	Northcott Neighborhood House	No Report Received
42.	Parish Nurse Ministries	49
43.	Schmitt Woodland Hills	No Report Received
44.	Sheboygan Retirement Home and Beach Health Care Center	No Report Received
45.	United Methodist Children's Services.	52
46.	United Methodist Hospitals Ministry	53
47.	The Village at Manor Park	No Report Received

BOARD OF CAMP AND RETREAT MINISTRIES

2010 was a year of dreaming and planning for the Board of Camp and Retreat Ministries. With our purpose to “provide camps and retreat centers to enhance the mission of the Wisconsin Annual Conference” and our mission to “provide outdoor settings for Christian education and faith formation in Christian community,” the Board spent much time in discussion of the future of our programs and how to best meet the needs of the Annual Conference for outdoor Christian Education. We provide summer camp programs to support local church Christian education, and places for churches, as well as Boards and Agencies, to come to provide their own times of spiritual enrichment, education, support, visioning, and work for the common good.

The Conference Vision for 2010 – 2011 was to “Give Wholeheartedly,” by “creating budgeting and funding processes to support current and emerging mission and ministry.” The Board took this statement seriously, as well as to “assure adequate and appropriate resources to fully support ongoing Conference ministry and mission,” by developing a plan for continuance of a sound financial foundation for the camps by adding funds from the camp sales to already established endowment funds and by setting aside contingency funds. The Board also began plans for larger capital improvements at the camps, and set aside funds for smaller capital improvements.

The Focus Areas of the United Methodist Church are supported by the camps in many ways. We help to “develop principled spiritual leaders for the church and for the world” through Christian education, our international staff, mission studies at YoMiCa Camp, using a spiritual and values based curriculum, community building, and our Leaders-in-Training Camp. We “engage in ministry with the poor” through our camp scholarships. We “create new places for new people and revitalizing existing congregations” by providing places for family camps and retreats, as well as providing places for Conference or local congregational seminars/retreats/events. The Conference will be hearing more over the next year about a new youth retreat center being planned for Lake Lucerne Camp.

The Board knows from the evaluations of summer campers and guests throughout the year that camp is a special “place apart” that changes lives, deepens spiritual growth, and increases leadership skills. 99% of our youth and family campers rate us very good or good! 95% of our youth campers have learned more about the Bible. Some of our campers have said:

- Beautiful surroundings! Great leadership! Good price for all the wonderful experiences.
- I liked meeting new friends and seeing old ones.
- I liked all the activities we did.
- The worship was so cool I really felt like I could connect with God during it.
- My camper has a stronger faith and is able to reach out to those who need God’s hand in their life.
- My son strengthened his relationship with God and made life-long friends.
- My kids did not want to come home!
- I like everything about camp.

Our Site personnel during 2010 included: Chip Hutler at Lake Lucerne and Pine Lake, Laura Hutler at Pine Lake and Lake Lucerne, and Nick Coenen at Pine Lake.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

Visit the Camp and Retreat Ministries website at

www.WisconsinUMC.org/camps

Pages for Lake Lucerne and Pine Lake camps, as well as the camping catalog can be viewed.

Jeff Killey, Chairperson

Nancy M. Deaner, Camping and Retreat Ministries Coordinator

BOARD OF CONGREGATION AND CIRCUIT DEVELOPMENT

No Report Received

BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

The essential work of the Board includes:

- Creating plans and programs that challenge conferences and local church members toward personal, social and civic righteousness;
- Analyzing the social and justice issues that confront persons, communities, nations and the world; and
- Encouraging Christian lines of action that assist humankind to move toward a world where peace and justice are achieved.

The Board meets six times annually at the Annual Conference office. The Board is heavily dependent on the United Methodist Social Principles which were again adopted by the United Methodist General Conference in 2008 for guidance on the direction of United Methodist social justice ministries. The Board is further responsive to the Four Focus Areas of The United Methodist Church and the Vision of the Wisconsin Annual Conference.

At the 2011 Wisconsin Annual Conference session the Board is presenting 9 petitions to the 2012 General Conference encouraging Annual Conference support for petitioned language changes in the Book of Discipline concerning homosexuality. Two resolutions on social justice issues are also being presented to the Annual Conference. The first of these supports worker rights for Collective Bargaining and the second supports Health Care In Our Social Community.

At each Annual Conference session The Board hosts display tables providing information about Church and Society issues and Peace with Justice concerns. The available materials include copies of the UMC Social Principles and literature provided by the UMC General Board of Church and Society on social issues.

The Board has supported the attendance of a young Wisconsin United Methodist clergy person at the annual national training session on social justice ministries sponsored by the General Board of Church and Society earlier this year.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

Peace with Justice programs are funded by the annual Peace with Justice general church offerings held in Wisconsin UMC local churches. The monies received are divided between the state and national UMC agencies for support of such programs. Each year some of the funding has gone toward specific programs of the Wisconsin Council of Churches and other funding has been expended for peace with justice programs developed in local UMC churches or community agencies. Each local Wisconsin UMC church is encouraged to participate in the Peace with Justice Sunday offering and name a liaison person who relates the local church to the conference Peace with Justice ministry.

In January 2011 the Board cosponsored a conference with United Methodists for Social Action on the UMC Social Principles. Leadership was available from the General Board of Church and Society. In October 2011 the Board, with national leadership, is sponsoring two conference seminars on “Bullies, Victims, By Standers” directed toward Middle School and High School youth, parents, teachers, counselors and pastors.

Leigh M. Roberts, Chairperson

BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Purpose: Our purpose is to inspire, educate, recruit, train, inform and deploy persons and congregations for mission and ministry on the local, national and international levels.

Vision: Our vision is to involve every United Methodist and every UM congregation in at least one mission opportunity every year. The form of that involvement might vary from an educational opportunity to a financial contribution to direct, hands-on experience.

Mission: The mission of the Board of Global Ministries is to provide leadership, structure, and a channel within the Wisconsin Conference of the UMC for implementing our “Vision” and our “Purpose.” This may mean supporting others to be in mission on our behalf in Christ’s name; being informed about the local, national or global context for mission; working with other Christians in the name of Christ; or becoming directly involved in a mission opportunity.

The Board of Global Ministries celebrates the many avenues of mission within our conference. In 2011, two of our Health and Welfare agencies are observing anniversaries of their work within the community: Northcott Neighborhood House of Milwaukee (50 years) and Harbor House of Superior (10 years) commemorated these events with festivities and requests for additional donations to aid them as they continue their important work. Meanwhile National Volunteers in Mission (NVIM) marked 25 years of labor and fellowship throughout the United States with a special reunion at Pine Lake. In addition, as an indication that our ministry continues to expand, BGM welcomed Hillcrest Family Services as the newest (14th) member of its Health and Welfare ministries.

Each of these ministries, and many more that come under the BGM umbrella, provide opportunities for members of the Wisconsin Conference to serve our communities, our state, our nation and our world through our time, talents and financial support. From the simple acts of collecting soup labels and sharing gently used clothing or collecting pennies in “Noisy Cans” during worship to visiting hospitals, rehabbing buildings and spending

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

weeks in foreign country working with those who are hungry for food and education and wish to work with us to meet their own needs, we are able to give wholeheartedly.

In an effort to fulfill our purpose the Board of Global Ministries will be sponsoring a Four-Day Mission Event in October, 2011. Plans are underway to provide inspiration and education to all Wisconsin United Methodists as they hear from those who have seen what we can do when we work together. Guests from the General Board of Global Ministries and around the world will be in attendance to share their insights. Representatives from our partner East Angola have been invited to share their hopes for the partnership with us. All BGM committees and agencies will be represented through displays and individuals able to tell their stories of service.

As a Board we continue to struggle with the cuts that must be made when apportionments drop. Successful programs continue to reach new people and we do not want to see them disappear. Yet we know of new programs that also require our support if they are to succeed. As we work to achieve our vision, we are reminded that it is up to all of us to share what we have with those who need our help. We have explored possible ways of working with the United Methodist Foundation and others as we try to provide support in a new ways. It is up to the Board of Global Ministries to oversee the ministries and to make all of our members aware of them so that those in need may be served, and so that all of us may know the joy of serving others.

During 2010-2011, the Board worked to achieve four goals we had established. Our success has been mixed. The October, 2011 Mission Event is an outgrowth of our first goal: to be better advocates for the various agencies, trips, teams and partnerships. We have also been intentional in sharing our successes and achievements through various voices of the conference. Following the Mission Event our focus will be on providing a new Guide to Mission Giving for the new quadrennium and publicizing its availability online.

Regarding our second goal, we have begun to utilize and interpret the information received through our redesigned Application for Funding or Endorsement. We will make revisions to that form as we continue to ask agencies and other ministries to submit the form for inclusion in the 2012 Guide to Mission Giving.

Our third goal – to strengthen the link between the Board and the Disaster Response/ Recovery Team – will need to continue as a priority. We welcomed a new chairman in 2010, but unfortunately he stepped down in early 2011. In the midst of several tornadoes that touched down in Wisconsin we do have an interim director, but much work still needs to be done in this area.

We continue to hold one meeting per year via phone conference and had one of the participants in a Mission Motivation meeting participate via SKYPE from South America! Our goal will be to continue to utilize technology in an effort to minimize costs.

Gail Burgess, Chairperson

BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Ministries

Community Ministries in the Wisconsin Conference which in 2010-2011 received financial support through apportionments were the Hmong House of Good News in Milwaukee and The Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee. Community Ministries was established to assist local churches, cooperative ministries and community and faith-based organizations in developing and strengthening programs that bring peace and justice to their communities and in accompanying persons on their journeys toward social, economic, cultural and spiritual wholeness.

Conference Partnerships

Wisconsin Conference sponsored a gathering of representatives from other conferences which also are in partnership with either East or West Angola. The event resulted in information and idea sharing and will lead to further cooperation as we offer our financial support and services to that area. We have invited representatives from East Angola to our October Mission Event. Lamar Gibson is the chairman of this partnership. The other Conference Partnership is with Native American Ministries in Wisconsin.

Disaster Response Committee

As we look for someone to fill the position of chairman of this committee, we are very aware that it is a demanding job, one that requires time and dedication. We will be developing a meaningful position description and working to strengthen relationships between Disaster Response and various conference committees and programs. We also need district supervisors and trained volunteers.

Global Health Initiative

The Global AIDS Task Force is addressing a wide array of issues through the Black Health Coalition in Milwaukee. Currently the highest growth rate in AIDS is among seniors (ages 65-70+; the “Baby Boomers”) and African American Women.

Health and Welfare Ministries

The Board of Global Ministries developed an Application Form and requested that all agencies, whether they were receiving apportionment funds or not, submit an application for endorsement in 2010. Most Health and Welfare agencies were able to respond, although there were questions and concerns that arose. BGM will be revising the form as we learn exactly what information we need and how it can be used. As we review the forms we will also discuss ways to share the information with the Wisconsin Conference. Following are just a few of the bits of information gleaned from the applications submitted.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

Agency	Total Years Of Service	Number Of People Served*In 2009	Number Of Staff And Volunteers
Bellin Health Systems, Green Bay	Since 1908: 103 years	100,000 Patent Days; 11,000 surgeries	2,500+ paid staff
Cedar Crest, Janesville	Since 1962: 49 years	250 Residents	220 Paid Staff; 100 Volunteers
Christian Community Homes & Services, Hudson	Since 1981: 30 Years	Wintergreen: 92 Units; Pine Ridge: 38 Units; Osceola Project: Soon!	180 Paid Staff; 115 Volunteers
Evergreen Retirement Community, Oshkosh	Since 1967: 44 years	300+ on campus; 80 Home Care; 100+ community programs	310 employees; 50+ volunteers
Harbor House Crisis Shelters, Superior	Since 2001: 10 Years	720	Six full-time (FTE); 2 part-time; 120 volunteers
Hillcrest Family Services, Dubuque, IA	1896, 1924		
(Member WI Conf H&W since 2010)	5456	425 paid staff; 100's of volunteers	
Northcott Neighborhood House, Milwaukee	Since 1961: 40 years	10,170	150 paid staff; 70 volunteers
Parish Nurse Ministries	In 1999 the Wisconsin Parish Nurse Coalition was formed; soon the vision became one of introducing Parish Nursing within the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church. Their goal is to promote parish nursing so that every faith community has access to a parish nurse.		
Schmitt Woodland Hills, Richland Center	Since 1965: 46 years	200	130 paid staff; 100 volunteers
United Methodist Children's Services (UMCS), Milwaukee	1961, 1962 (49 years)	51,000	14 Full-Time (FTE); 136 volunteers
United Methodist Hospitals Ministry, Madison	1950's	4840	1 part-time chaplain; 9 persons on UMHM Chaplaincy Committee

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

No information submitted in 2010:

- Morrow Memorial Home, Sparta
- Sheboygan Senior Community
- Village at Manor Park, West Allis

David Green is chair of this committee. He established and continues to organize the Annual Bishop's Luncheon with Health and Welfare Ministries. His committee also oversees the design and distribution of the Golden Cross Offering envelopes which provide the opportunity for all local churches to support Health and Welfare ministries.

Mission Motivation

The Mission Motivation Committee has been involved in planning the October 2011 Mission Event and has primary responsibility for implementing it. This group also will be reviewing requests from state, national and international ministries wishing to be included in the Conference Guide to Mission Giving. Michael Abdedokun was named chair of this committee in 2011.

Volunteers in Mission

See the chart on the next page for information about VIM trips by Wisconsin United Methodists. The chart was prepared by Bruce Koch for the Board of Global Ministries.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION
WORK CAMP REPORT 2010: State and National VIM

Date	Name	Location	Donation (if any)	# of adult workers	# of Youth Workers	Hrs. of Labor	In Kind Worth = \$15.50 x Hrs Worked	Team Expenses	Work Camp Leader(s)
1/2- 1/10	Project Extend	Atlanta, GA	\$3,036	31	0	1116	\$17,298	\$8,344	Jeff Cupery, Bob Klingan
1/19-2/3	Camp Mekokiko	Hawaii	\$1,600	12	0	461	\$7,146	\$17,400	Jim and Pat Houwers
2/13-2/26	Central Care Mission	Orlando, FLA	\$2,600	26	0	1456	\$22,568	\$3,000	Tom Amdres, Terry Maschman
3/15-3/26	Mt. Sequoyah	Fayetteville, AR	\$5,300	60	0	2,880	\$44,640	\$12,295	V. and C. Ramsden, R and K Hutchinson
4/18-4/23	Camp Lucerne	Wautoma, WI	\$2,250	34	0	1190	\$18,445	\$1,500	Sr. Anne, Tom Phillips
5/9-5/14	Pine Lake Camp	Westfield, WI	\$3,695	32	1	1155	\$17,902	\$3,690	Carol Culbertson, Don Mavis
5/15	Chain Saw Training	Westfield, WI	\$420	12	0	84	\$1,302	\$260	Chuck Wedemeyer
6/20-6/26	Bad River Reservation	Odanah, WI	\$2,100	15	10	700	\$10,850	\$1,400	Margaret and Charles DeMaris
6/20-6/26	Red Cliff Reservation	Bayfield, WI	\$3,010	20	14	1071	\$16,600	\$1,240	Joan Harvey, Bruce Koch
7/31-8/8	Luccock Park Camp	Livingston, MT	\$7,000	78	5	2614	\$40,517	\$18,444	Angela CampbellPrior, Bob Klingan
8/2-8/6	UMCSTLProgram	Milwaukee, WI	\$2,000	20	17	800	\$12,400	\$976	Bruce Koch
8/15-8/20	Family Camp, Pine Lake	Westfield, WI	\$0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	Lora and Dan Landgraf
9/26- 10/1	Iowa Flood Repair	Oakville, IA	\$2,795	33	0	1079	\$16,729	\$2,836	Kathleen Schneider, Chuck Wedemeyer
10/3-10/8	Camp Lucerne	Wautoma, WI	\$3,000	44	0	1232	\$19,096	\$2,500	Marie Huff, John Draggis
9/26-9/30	Bad River Reservation	Odanah, WI		9	-	220	\$3,410	-	Jeff Cupery - Bishops trip
6/27-7/3		Houghton, MI	\$1,750	8	2		\$6,291	\$493	Sharon and Ron Smith
		Partial TOTALS	\$40,556	434	49	16058	\$255,194	\$74,377	

**BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND STUDENT MINISTRY
(BHESM)**

A. Introductory Comments

The Board of Higher Education and Student Ministry seeks to provide for “ministry beyond the local church” by supporting the ministry of United Methodist related campus ministries financially and by providing training opportunities for campus ministers. In addition, we seek to assist young women and men in the United Methodist Church who need financial assistance in obtaining a college degree. We oversee the work of the Wesley Foundations in our conference and hold them accountable to support their student ministries. We are also charged to hold the relationship of our conference with North Central and Wiley College. In all areas we are supporting efforts to reach out to college students and “to make disciples of Jesus Christ” and “spiritual leaders for the church and for the world” for those who journey in the mission field of higher education.

The main focus of our work is to support United Methodist related campus ministries to do their work of reaching college students and equipping them to start and/or grow in their discipleship of Jesus Christ. Discipling students leads to the transformation of a) the students’ lives, b) campus-life and lives of the students’ peers, c) their local church and circuit and ultimately d) the world to become more the way God wants it to be. We are pleased that in past years we have been an agency of our Conference that gave more financial support than most other protestant mainline denomination towards campus ministry and have indeed lived and loved beyond the expectation of some of our campus ministers. By having regular meetings with our campus ministers we hold each other accountable that our living, giving and loving will be directed towards transforming this world into a better place by making disciples of Jesus Christ.

B. Highlights and Accomplishments of the Past Year

- During the 2010 year, our Board used our apportioned dollars to grant eight campus ministries a total of \$ 84,000 including Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, Menomonie, Milwaukee, Ripon, River Falls, and Whitewater.
- Financially, the Board could not support North Central and Wiley College this year.
- We used UM student day offerings to award Merit Awards to students in Wisconsin. □The Board gathered with campus ministers for the purpose of networking, sharing ideas and talking about how the Board can best be of support to our campus ministries in Wisconsin.
- In addition to financial support our board has worked on the promotion and awareness of UM Student Day Offering.
- We have promoted and raised awareness of our campus ministries, scholarship programs and United Methodist schools. Our webpage provides access to information of scholarship possibilities, helpful links to campus ministries in Wisconsin and to UM schools. The webpage can be found by clicking “education” on our conferences web site (www.wisconsinumc.org) and choosing “higher ed & student ministry.”

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

- We worked towards encouraging congregations with inactive Wesley Foundations to re-launch viable student ministries in their communities and have seen wonderful success.
- We hosted a very well attended informational event about campus ministries at the 2010 Annual Conference in La Crosse.

C. How we relate to our the United Methodist Church's mission and the vision of the Wisconsin Conference

1. It is our desire to continue to provide the means of “making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world” on college campuses in order to encourage young men and women to “Live, Give, Love ... Beyond All Expectation.”
2. The same is true when more support is given toward UM Student Day and other scholarships and loans, since it furthers the chance to make disciples and live, give and love beyond all expectation. It is our privilege to support those in need as they seek to become better “disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”
3. Our conferences vision needs accountability! It is our responsibility to hold Wesley Foundations accountable to use their resources for the purposes they are meant for.
4. Transforming the world does not happen over night! We have to ensure long term solutions. Our board's role in this is to provide training for campus ministers to find more funding resources that ensure long term financial sustainability to be in the transformation business.
5. “Beyond all expectation” means also to go beyond the borders of our conference. While in times of decreasing financial resources it is tempting to hold on to them we feel called to hold our commitment towards these two out-of-state colleges.

D. How we relate to the four focus areas

Our group is actively involved in the first and second focus area. We are hosting free training events for our campus ministers and thus work towards developing leaders. In years when enough money was available to us we supported campus ministers AND students to go to larger student leadership training events. It is our desire for 2011 to continue this as enough funding is available. We are also involved in places like Oshkosh, Stevens Point and Eau Claire where there is potential for new and renewed campus ministry programs to emerge and have provided advisory support on how to start a campus ministry and hold the Wesley Foundation there accountable to support them. Most, if not all, campus ministry programs we support engage in ministry with the poor - some locally, some nationally, some internationally. Many campus ministries are great in organizing mission trips that are focusing on ministry with the poor and some even with improving health.

E. Plans for the Coming Year

1. Supporting United Methodist related campus ministries in Wisconsin by funding up to 20% of their needs and by providing opportunities for networking and continuing education for campus ministers.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

2. Intentionally promote UM Student Day offering with local churches, our Wisconsin Conference Merit Award and other UM student loans and scholarships. Reviewing and granting those awards, loans and scholarships.
3. To work with churches that hold Wesley Foundation funds to be accountable as true stewards of Jesus Christ in pursuing the ministries for which the funds were established. We are working in partnership with 4 UM local congregations and see wonderful progress in re-establishing student ministries.
4. Try to keep offering some funding to support Wiley College and North Central College.

Markus Wegenast, Chairperson, Board of Higher Education and Student Ministry

BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY

No Report Received

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

The Roles and Responsibilities of the Board of Ordained Ministry

The Board of Ordained Ministry is responsible for the recruitment, credentialing and nurture of the clergy of the Annual Conference. *The work of the Board is an integral part of the development of principled spiritual leaders for the church and the world.* The Board relates to everyone who experiences God's call to professional ministry in the Wisconsin Conference in order to help them clarify that call and understand the opportunities available within The United Methodist Church to respond to that call, and acts on behalf of the church to determine how the church can best affirm each person's call to ministry. These primary responsibilities are defined in the twenty-six specific tasks identified in ¶635.2 a through 635.2z of the 2008 Book of Discipline, as well as the responsibilities of the Registrar of the Board found in ¶635.3a through 635.3e of the 2008 Discipline.

United Methodist Christians are called to transform the world by making disciples of Jesus Christ. In Wisconsin we have said that we will do that by living, giving and loving beyond expectation. In order to turn that vision into reality, leaders are needed to show the way. The Board of Ordained Ministry identifies, recruits, credentials, and provides opportunities for the nurture and growth of clergy leadership for the Annual Conference.

Effective clergy leadership is one of the keys to equipping local churches for ministry. Working together with the District Committees on Ordained Ministry, which by Discipline are sub-committees of the Board, the Board of Ordained Ministry determines on behalf of the annual conference whether those who offer themselves in service as clergypersons meet the qualifications, ethical standards, and high expectations of The United Methodist Church for its clergy, so that the churches of the annual conference may have competent, effective, and skilled clergy leadership. The Board then makes its recommendations to the Clergy Session of the Annual Conference for their consideration.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

Highlights of the Past Year

The Board of Ordained Ministry meets twice each year at the Bishop Rader Retreat Center at Pine Lake Camp. The Board interviews candidates for Provisional and Associate Membership in February, and candidates for Full Membership and Ordination in November. Beginning in the fall of 2008 the Board changed its interview process. Candidates now come to Pine Lake overnight to meet with the Board over a two-day period. In addition to three formal interviews, board members get to know candidates informally over meals, in shared worship and communion, and in other unstructured settings. **This change has resulted in a significant improvement in the credentialing process.** One of the consequences of this change, however, is that the Board's meetings are lengthened, because it takes longer to interview each group of candidates, and candidates are at camp overnight. This change in the interview process has increased the cost of the Board's meetings. While the Board does everything it can to hold down costs, we believe that this improved interview process is a long-term investment in the future clergy leadership of the annual conference.

At any given moment the Board is caring for 150 to 200 individuals who are exploring a call to ministry, enrolled in the candidacy certification process, serving as Licensed Local Pastors, moving towards commissioning and Provisional Membership, serving as Provisional Members while moving towards ordination, or seeking to transfer their credentials into the Wisconsin Annual Conference from other Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church or other Christian denominations. In 2010, 26 people attended Inquiring Candidates Retreats, 19 persons became Certified Candidates for Ministry, 17 persons (including some who attended Inquiring Candidates Retreats in 2010) enrolled in the Candidacy Certification process, 10 persons were commissioned as Provisional Elders of the Annual Conference, and 3 persons were commissioned as Provisional Deacons of the Annual Conference. 6 persons were Ordained as Elders in the Wisconsin Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. 9 clergy persons transferred into the Wisconsin Annual Conference, while 2 persons transferred to other Annual Conferences. 20 clergy members of the Annual Conference retired, and 13 clergy members of the Annual Conference died.

In the course of shepherding people through all of these processes, thirty-four persons completed psychological assessments at North Central Ministry Development Center, and the Board conducted over 50 background checks on individuals seeking a clergy relationship with the annual conference. Both of these measures are required by The Book of Discipline.

There are currently 30 Provisional Members of the Annual Conference who are moving towards Ordination under the direct supervision of the Board of Ordained Ministry. During 2010 the Board established a new "Provisional Residency Program" for those provisional members of the conference who have completed all of their basic educational requirements. The Provisional Residency Program consists of a summer provisional members gathering/retreat, and two provisional residency seminars - held in October and May. One of these seminars focuses on the practice of ministry, while the other focuses on a theological topic. Participation in the provisional residency program is required by the Book of Discipline. Provisional Members are also expected to participate in a Provisional Mentoring group. There are six of these mentoring groups around the conference, which usually meet monthly.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

90 Licensed Local Pastors are supervised by the eight District Committees on Ordained Ministry, which are sub-committees of the Board. As we prepare for the 2011 Annual Conference Session, the Board has interviewed or will interview more than 15 individuals who have applied for Commissioning and Provisional Membership, Associate Membership, or Ordination and Full Membership.

During 2010 over 40 members of the eight District Committees on Ordained Ministry received training on their responsibilities. Resources have been provided to both clergy and lay members of the Annual Conference to assist them in identifying persons in their congregations who may be experiencing a call to ministry, and in the steps to take when someone comes to them indicating a desire to explore ministry in The United Methodist Church.

Through the Ministerial Education Fund 26 individuals received Seminary Scholarship assistance, and 23 Licensed Local Pastors received scholarship assistance for their required Course of Study Classes or Licensing School.

The Board consults with the cabinet when clergy from other Annual Conferences or denominations are being considered for transfer into the conference or appointment to serve Wisconsin United Methodist churches. Whenever clergy members of the Annual Conference request a change in their relationship (retirement, various kinds of leave, honorable location, etc.) with the Annual Conference or approval of an extension ministry setting, the Board of Ordained Ministry has a role in that process.

Each August the Board sponsors a two-day “New Clergy Orientation” program. Beginning in 2010 this program is now held at Pine Lake Camp. In 2010 about 20 clergy persons serving their first appointment in Wisconsin received orientation to the ministries of the Annual Conference and training in ethics and boundaries. The Board, Cabinet, Conference Staff, the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation, and other agencies share information about the work of the Annual Conference with persons who are serving their first appointment in Wisconsin or who are returning to parish ministry from leave or an extension ministry appointment. The retreat also includes intensive training in sexual ethics and the maintenance of proper boundaries.

The work of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the District Committees on Ordained Ministry requires thousands of hours of time each year on the part of the 34 Board members, the 70 District Committee members, and the 4 District Superintendents. These dedicated people willingly give of their time because they believe in the importance of the work of Clergy Leadership Development in the Annual Conference.

The Board of Ordained Ministry depends heavily upon the staff support provided by the Executive Secretary of the Board, who functions as the registrar and maintains the personnel records for the nearly 200 people who are under the care of the Board. He provides guidance for those who are entering ministry, which is an incredibly lengthy and complex process, as well as training for mentors, District Committees on Ordained Ministry, and District Superintendents. The Executive Secretary prepares materials submitted by candidates for commissioning and ordination for review by the Board, as well as the Board’s report to the Clergy Session (also known as “The Business of the Annual Conference.) He also conducts background investigations on all candidates for any clergy

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

position in the Wisconsin Conference, and is responsible for the preliminary evaluation of all psychological assessments for candidates.

Plans for the Coming Year

As we move through 2011 and into 2012, the Board of Ordained Ministry will be paying particular attention to the report of the Ministry Study Commission to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, as well as other legislative changes which are being proposed to the 2012 General Conference. These proposals have the potential for making significant, substantial changes to the ordering of ministry in The United Methodist Church, and could have a major impact on the work of the Board.

The Board has identified four ongoing challenges in its ministry:

- a. Recruiting high quality, talented young people (under age 35) into the ministry of The United Methodist Church
- b. Finding ways to reduce the financial costs/burdens that must be assumed by those who do respond to a call to enter United Methodist Ministry
- c. Streamlining the process of entering ministry while at the same time meeting all of the requirements of the Book of Discipline related to the candidacy/ordination process.
- d. Educating current clergy about the importance of continued growth in their knowledge and skills in order to improve the overall effectiveness of the clergy of the Annual Conference.

The Board's goal is to provide the congregations of the Wisconsin Annual Conference with the most qualified, competent and capable clergy leadership possible. As the Board guides candidates through the journey from fitness to readiness to effectiveness in ministry, we are always mindful that the people under our care will have a direct impact upon every United Methodist in Wisconsin for generations to come.

Richard Strait, Chairperson

JOINT BOARD OF PENSIONS, INSURANCE & EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

Introductory Comments

The Joint Board of Pensions, Insurance & Equitable Compensation (Joint Board) has administrative, fiduciary and stewardship responsibility for the following:

Pensions, death and disability benefits for 1) active and retired clergy under appointment to the Wisconsin Conference, and 2) active and retired laity employed by the Wisconsin Conference.

Group health insurance for 1) active and retired clergy under appointment to the Wisconsin Conference, 2) active and retired laity employed by the Wisconsin Conference, and 3) active and retired laity employed by Wisconsin United Methodist churches.

Equitable Compensation support to local churches to ensure that pastors under appointment are provided at least minimum salary compensation at churches that may need financial assistance.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

Highlights and Accomplishments of the Past Year

The Joint Board met all pension obligations of the Wisconsin Conference by paying the Pre-82 Pension Plan obligation at the rate approved by the Wisconsin Conference. Thirteen congregations were provided Equitable Compensation support. This amount is consistent with the number in the previous year and doubtless echoes the continuation of the economic downturn. The Joint Board continues our attempt to balance premium costs with health insurance benefits through our participation in HealthFlex, the United Methodist denomination's health insurance plan, to active clergy and lay personnel of the Wisconsin Conference. Over the past few years our participants have had to shoulder more of the cost of their medical care through increased deductibles and co-pays in order to reduce the total cost of health insurance. Our retirees, who are age 65 and older, continue to be insured through the HealthFlex Medicare supplemental health insurance plan.

When the West Wisconsin and East Wisconsin Conferences of the Methodist Church merged along with the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical United Brethren, the West Wisconsin Pension Trust Fund and the East Wisconsin Pension Trust Fund were established. The East Wisconsin Pension Trust is administered by a separate Board, and its audited financial statements are provided elsewhere in the Conference Yearbook and Journal. The West Wisconsin Pension Trust is administered by the Joint Board. Its assets are invested in a separate fund in the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation. Financial information for the West Wisconsin Pension Trust is as follows:

1/1/2010 beginning balance	\$377,213
Less benefits paid in 2010	(45,820)
Less administrative expenses	(2,408)
Plus earnings	5,824
Plus unrealized gain	20,760
12/31/2010 ending balance	\$355,569

As is customary, the Joint Board sponsored a Retirement Seminar for those clergy planning to retire in the current year.

The Task Force on Future Retiree Health Insurance Benefits made their report to the Joint Board in 2008. The task force used actuarial data to look at how to fund current and future retiree health insurance benefits and reduce a significant projected funding liability in this area. The task force recommended changes in the shared funding of these benefits based on the unfunded liability figure. The Annual Conference of 2008 approved the necessary changes related to these benefit. Our submitted budget to the Council on Finance and Administration for 2012 reflects the action of the Annual Conference and follows the plan approved by the Annual Conference. This amount will remain level into the future. You may recall that the 2011 budget reduced our submitted amount by \$100,000. We are glad that we're back on track to keep our funding level at the amount agreed upon by the Annual Conference in those 2008 changes.

The Joint Board has been diligently working through the Health Insurance Subcommittee to continue to focus on the wellness of our participants. As a result, we have continued to sponsor an incentive program through HealthFlex. We have continued in a walking fitness program through Virgin Health Miles. This program encourages all enrollees in the Conference active health insurance plan (HealthFlex) to participate in the walking program

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

by using a special pedometer. The participant then downloads his/her steps to a website in order to monitor his/her progress. HealthFlex financial incentives are provided to the participants dependent upon various levels achieved. In addition, we continue to highly recommend completion of the WebMD “HealthQuotient” assessment, a health assessment tool. “HealthQuotient” provides a personalized report and a prioritized list of health concerns and recommends actions to help design a wellness plan. There is no cost to the participant to take the “HealthQuotient” assessment. Last year 95% of our participants and spouses took the HealthQuotient. If our participants do not complete the HealthQuotient assessment between August 1 and September 30 this year their deductible will increase an additional \$250 for the year 2012. Research by HealthFlex shows that those who complete the assessment have fewer claims. Last year 317 of our active participants took advantage of the Pro-Check Screening blood draw at the Annual Conference session. This was almost three times more people than the previous year!

Plans for the Coming Year

Our Health Insurance subcommittee will continue to carefully monitor, with assistance from HealthFlex, what changes will be necessary as a result of the new Healthcare Reform Law. As of this report it is too soon to know all the ramifications of the law for our plans, but most of the significant changes will go into effect in 2014.

The Joint Board will continue our wellness initiative. Eligible enrollees will be strongly encouraged to once again complete the WebMD “HealthQuotient” assessment and also to complete an annual wellness exam. We are also sponsoring a Quest Diagnostics screening at the site of Annual Conference this year for our participants. Group rates with a significant discount are also offered for Weight Watchers participation for eligible enrollees.

We hope to continue our ongoing efforts of monitoring our rates within reasonable percentage increases while offering competitive benefit levels for our actives and retirees. We are, however, aware that this is becoming increasingly more difficult as the cost of health insurance increases at a rate higher than inflation. Our recent claims experience has not been favorable in the last few years and this also drives our renewal costs higher. The higher average age of our participants also increases our costs. We have looked at a more consumer driven model of health insurance through HealthFlex as an option for the future as well as a Market Exchange program for our Medicare Supplement participants.

The significant changes in the stock market and the general economy have continued to affect the holdings of the General Board of Pension & Health Benefits. Fortunately the market has recovered in the past year and has partially mitigated the previous decrease in the value of funds held by the General Board in the various pension plans. Therefore the additional funds the General Board indicated were necessary to recover from this once every seventy-year economic condition have now been reduced to a lesser amount. Thus we are happy to report that we did not increase the percentage charged to the local church for pension obligations this past year. We remain in constant communication with the General Board about this situation.

The Joint Board takes very seriously its fiduciary responsibility to act on behalf of all our participants and will continue to do so in the future.

Fran Deaner, Chairperson

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The responsibility of the Wisconsin Conference Board of Trustees is to oversee the use of conference-owned real and personal property, to review property and liability insurance, to manage some conference investments, and to participate in certain legal matters. The Book of Discipline, state statutes, and the Wisconsin Annual Conference rules direct the work of the Trustees.

Highlights and Accomplishments

United Methodist Conference Center, Sun Prairie

The United Methodist Conference Center is located at 750 Windsor Street, Sun Prairie. This building houses various office spaces including, but not limited to the Capital/Coulee regional offices, the Conference Treasurers office, the Episcopal office, the Camp and Retreat Ministries office, the Ministry and Outreach office as well as various administrative offices. The building also leases space to multiple tenants including the WI United Methodist Foundation. The office space that had been rented by the 2008 Flood Recovery Program has been vacated. The trustees continue to pursue new tenants to rent the current open office space.

The Trustees are keeping a close watch on the roof of the Conference Center. It is clear this roof will need to be replaced in the near future. The Trustees are also aware that the thermostat system within the Conference Center is severely dated and has some concerns which will not be able to be corrected, but rather will need to be replaced. The trustees are in the process of receiving bids for the replacement of the thermostat system.

Episcopal Residence

The Trustees have a liaison to the Episcopal Residence committee. This committee oversees the maintenance of the Episcopal residence and works for a quick resolution to any issues that arise.

Camps and Retreat Centers

The Board of Camp and Retreat Ministries stays in close contact with the trustees through a trustee's representative that attends the board meetings. The Trustees consider the items that are occurring at the camps and assist with issues that may arise.

Other Property

The Waldwick church closed in August of 2010. At that point the Trustees began to pursue options for selling the property. An auction was held to sell the property in December, 2010 however a fair price was not offered at that time. The Trustees have now listed the property with a realtor and as of early April the property remains for sale.

As of early April, the Paris Corners church in western Kenosha County continues to be listed for sale.

The Conference Trustees have been working closely with the Wesley Foundation at the University of Wisconsin-Madison following the sale of a portion of its property to the university. The Wesley Foundation has used a portion of the sale proceeds to renovate the foundation's building. The trustees had a representative from the board as part of the

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

renovation taskforce. The Trustees continue to work closely with the Wesley Foundation Board on the dissolution of the Wesley Foundation at UW-Madison that was approved by action during the 2010 Annual Conference session.

Conference-wide Insurance

Over the last year the Trustees have reviewed the current coverage provided under the conference-wide program insurance program with Church Mutual Insurance. In order to remain faithful to the congregations in WI the Trustees have accepted and reviewed bids from three insurance carriers. The premiums and level of coverage were reviewed from each of these carriers. Based on the extensive analysis and review that the Trustees participated in the decision was made to have Church Mutual continue to provide insurance coverage for the conference-wide program. The Trustees have also determined that insurance premiums and coverage needs will be evaluated once a quadrenium.

Investments

The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation holds investment accounts for the Trustees.

The Parsonage Fund came from the sale of conference staff and district superintendent parsonages. Earnings from the fund help to cover the costs of the annual housing allowances for the district superintendents and conference staff.

The invested bequest from Eva and Alice Stearns in the name of their father, William Stearns, is to provide loans to United Methodist students attending the University of Wisconsin.

The Conference Center Building Fund is an investment that is designated to be used for the upkeep and maintenance of the Conference Center in Sun Prairie. These funds are used for things such as the repair/replacement of the roof and the thermostat upgrades that need to be completed.

Amy Jameson Yackovich, president

COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

No Report Received - Second Year

COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN UNITY AND INTERRELIGIOUS CONCERNS

No Report Submitted - Second Year

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

No Report Received - Second Year

COMMISSION ON RELIGION & RACE

No Report Received

ETHNIC LOCAL CHURCH CONCERNS COMMITTEE

No Report Received

COMMITTEE ON HISPANIC/LATINO MINISTRY

No Report Received

PROGRAM AND ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

No Report Received

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

No Report Received

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The purpose of the Communications and Technology Committee is to advise and provide support for the Communications and Information Technology Office, whose primary responsibilities are to:

- Provide a connective link between the Conference staff and ministries, the churches, lay leaders and clergy, congregations, other agencies of the General Conference, and future disciples of The United Methodist Church, through an appropriate mix of communications tactics to best reach these audiences.
- Provide a source for information, news, ideas, joys and concerns, tools, training and more for Wisconsin United Methodist clergy, lay leaders and members.
- Encourage on-going dialogue among the different audiences and participation in conversations about topics and events of interest.
- Provide a primary point of access to Wisconsin United Methodists for persons/agencies on the General Conference level.
- Direct, administer and provide maintenance for the Conference's multi-level communications network. Provide technical support and consultation in conjunction with other conference agencies/boards/committees for our Annual Conference sessions and other Conference events, and integration of communication resources throughout the Annual Conference.
- Provide a primary point of access to the workings of the Wisconsin Conference UMC for both secular news and religious media, and other organizations.
- Provide multiple avenues of outreach to the wider Wisconsin community.

In 2010, we ensured the timely communication of the messages, inspiration, tools, and training that support the mission and vision:

- Continued efforts to ensure that Wisconsin Conference UMC communications are executed professionally and consistent in voice and message throughout all media.
- Evolved ongoing communications via the ENEWS e-blast publications, Reflections print newsletter, the website, YouTube and U-stream sites, PR and other publications.
- Created the video version of Soul Food to complement the written edition, and enable audiences to engage with the Bishop in a different format.
- Developed social media channels to enable greater dialogue with stakeholders and audiences within the Wisconsin Conference and beyond.
- Developed a variety of print, PowerPoint, and video tools for use by staff and churches as part of their ever-expanding communications "tool kit".
- Helped several boards and agencies upgrade and redefine their messaging and communication efforts, including their website presence and printed materials.
- Generated ongoing publicity for the Wisconsin Conference through United Methodist and other religious and secular media.
- Provided communications planning and training support for important initiatives such as RETHINK CHURCH.
- Continued to lead the 2008 Flood Recovery Program communications efforts to help homeowners in 30 counties of Wisconsin.
- Provided ongoing personal consultation and training for clergy and lay leaders.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

- Conducted internal website audit and developed plan for next version of UMC website, which will interact/relate to our e-blasts, social media, database, video and other tools, as well as increase utility, effectiveness, efficiency and impact, and reduce redundancies.
- Continued efforts to streamline equipment and servers and reduce external reliance on our website and email services.
- Ensured reliability of software, virus protection, and spam filtering, and backup solutions for network and websites.
- Maintained security of internal systems, including the safeguarding of all passwords, procedures and inventory.
- Met ongoing needs of Conference staff for email, internet connectivity, online conferencing and computers.
- Continued to provide audiovisual resources for Conference events.
- Continued efforts to recycle computers and provide reclaimed systems to churches and organizations.
- Continued testing emerging technologies, products, and services to maintain a state-of-the art communications and information technology (IT) system for the Conference.

To meet our mission for the greater ministry of The United Methodist Church, we have established many goals and strategies for 2011 and beyond. Many of these began in 2010 and are ongoing as we continue through 2012:

- Develop communication efforts that will support and integrate the 2011-2012 Love Unconditionally as well as Live, Give Love Beyond Expectations messaging on both a local and more global level; ensure this ongoing message is woven into all of the Wisconsin Conference's communications.
- Plan and implement an ongoing communications strategy with supporting tactics to promote our mission and vision, and provide a connective link with the Conference, clergy, lay leaders, congregations and potential disciples. Tactics will include, but are not limited to:
 - Website (with plans to upgrade)
 - ENEWS
 - Reflections newsletter and other direct mail
 - Printed literature
 - Soul Sharing blog and other social media
 - Public relations (with calendar of press releases to send to media outlet, both secular and non-secular)
 - Communication tools/materials for events such as banners, displays
 - Audio/visual presentations, YouTube and U-Stream sites
 - Face-to-face meetings

These efforts will all work together to ensure that we continually connect in a meaningful way with our churches and ministries, and provide them services, tools and information, and add value to their communities. A major focus of all efforts will be to ensure the voice of the Episcopal leadership can be heard within the Conference, denomination, the ecumenical and secular community, and the media.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

- Continue to promote several key events and initiatives for the Wisconsin Conference to ensure their success and support, including Annual Conference, Youth Conferences and Conventions, RETHINK CHURCH and Change the World 2011, Mission Day, East Angola partnership, World Service Fund, disaster relief efforts, workshop on bullying, as well as the numerous other ministries and missions for which we provide resources and funding.
- Continue to develop strategies to reach specific targets and needs, including a print and online newsletters; social media, such as blogs, Facebook and YouTube video; and an enhanced, user-friendly website.
- Continue to provide research and training as needed for UMC initiatives like Giving Enthusiastically, and RETHINK CHURCH.
- Develop and promote tools (both those created by the Wisconsin Conference and the general church boards and agencies) to help clergy and lay leaders in their ministry.
- Continue to provide Help Desk IT consulting for clergy and lay leaders. We will also continue to recycle computers when possible for use by churches and organizations.
- Maintain appropriate level of computer and IT infrastructure and support for Conference staff and regional offices. Determine best means to integrate list serves and database on an ongoing basis. Improve staff productivity and workplace satisfaction as well as streamline processes and reduce costs by continuing the standardizing of desktop equipment and software and upgrading/replacing necessary servers and systems. We will continue to communicate policies and procedures to ensure centralized purchasing of computers and software. We will also continue to stay abreast of emerging technologies and launch/invest in them as appropriate.

CONFERENCE EPISCOPACY COMMITTEE

The Episcopacy Committee is made up of clergy and lay leadership who work with Bishop Lee at least twice a year on the needs and issues of the annual conference. Primarily the membership are hearing from Bishop Lee her goals, expectations, and challenges and then also share with Bishop Lee what they are being told are responses, needs and challenges within the faith communities of Wisconsin Annual Conference. All perspectives are helpful for the conference leaders to create and then monitor success with goals that are set.

In the last year of each quadrennium, the Episcopacy Committee is required to work with the North Central Jurisdictional Committee on two surveys: one for the annual conference needs in an Episcopal leader and the second on the needs of the annual conference. Also included in the report to the North Central Jurisdictional Committee is demographic data on the conference.

Many people will be asked to participate in the upcoming survey for use in 2012.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Introductory Comments

The Conference Personnel Committee is responsible for establishing and implementing policies and procedures, salary scales and criteria for all Conference staff positions. The Committee provides oversight and delegation of the search process, employment and supervision of most conference staff positions other than District Superintendents. The committee works in consultation with the Bishop (for those positions she supervises), and with appropriate programmatic and administrative groups during a search process, and provides general oversight and coordination for those positions.

Highlights and Accomplishments

The Personnel Committee met four times this past year and held one conference call. The following transitions took place this year:

- Jane Daniels retired as Conference Benefits Officer on 10/1/10.
- Steven Zekoff was hired as Conference Benefits Officer, effective 10/1/10.
- Roberta Lewin left the position of Accounting Clerk for other employment on 10/8/10.
- Nicole Riege was hired as Accounting Clerk, effective 10/4/10.
- Katelin Hillbo was hired as Communications Administrative Assistant, effective 1/1/11.

We are grateful to these individuals for their service and their leadership in the life of this conference.

The committee provided oversight to and support for the staff of the Wisconsin Annual Conference as staff provided leadership to the conference in implementation of the Vision, “Live, Give, Love ... Beyond All Expectation, and the focus areas of The United Methodist Church.

The committee provided oversight and support to insure there is appropriate and sufficient staff to do the work of ministry and to coordinate lay/clergy leadership in its work through various boards and agencies.

Plans for the Coming Year

The committee will support the vision of the Annual Conference through oversight for appropriate staffing configurations and positions that address established priorities.

The committee will continue to provide input and feedback for proposed adjustments in staffing, and to regularly review all policies/procedures that are our responsibility and continue to monitor the budget.

The committee will periodically review its charter of primary roles/responsibilities and will work with key staff/ leaders to communicate the roles/functions for which Personnel is responsible and insure appropriate avenues exist for addressing specific personnel issues, particularly as new priorities emerge. The committee will work to provide oversight, support and resourcing needed to empower key staff to plan, lead and supervise within their areas of responsibility.

Chris Bethke, Chairperson

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Introductory comments:

The CF&A's purpose "shall be to develop, maintain and administer a comprehensive and coordinated plan of fiscal and administrative policies, procedures and management services for the Annual Conference". (Book of Discipline, paragraph 610)

Highlights and accomplishments of the year 2010:

First and foremost, CF&A would like to thank the following churches for going beyond all expectations to pay more than 100 percent of their 2010 apportionments, for paying their 2010 apportionments in full, or for moving toward full apportionment payment by paying a higher percentage of their apportionments in 2010 than in 2009:

(See list attached following the budget in the pre-conference workbook.)

CF&A's primary focus has been on reviewing, approving and monitoring the Annual Conference budget. This process includes

1. reviewing Plans for Ministry and Budget Proposals submitted by the Conference boards, agencies and committees;
2. reviewing recommendations regarding the budget from the Budget Review Group and the Cabinet;
3. discussing the Plans for Ministry and budget with the Conference boards, agencies and committees;
4. evaluating current apportionment receipts for the current year along with economic conditions affecting our local churches; and
5. using all of this input to propose a budget to the Annual Conference.

The process is designed to assure that the budget is aligned with the overall mission and plan for ministry of the Conference. CF&A meets periodically to review financial results against budget and to direct and approve the annual audit and to approve changes in administrative policy. CF&A also reviews financial operations of the Conference to assure adequate internal controls are in place and suggests ways to improve finances both from an efficiency and a control perspective.

As of December 31, 2010, the Wisconsin Annual Conference had indebtedness of \$241,947, incurred to fund improvements to the Sun Prairie Conference Center building.

For 2010, the Wisconsin Annual Conference paid in full the General Conference apportionments for the 21st consecutive year. In addition to apportionments, Wisconsin United Methodists gave over \$154,000 to the special Sunday offerings and another \$1,553,000 to Advances and other benevolent giving through the Conference.

Apportionment receipts in 2010 were \$624,690 less than budgeted. At the same time, expenses were also \$501,878 less than budgeted, resulting in an excess of expenses over revenues of \$122,812. This resulted in a reduction in our cash reserves, which at year end 2010 stood at \$474,765, which is \$181,400 below the Conference goal of having a cash reserve equal to 10% of the Annual Conference Budget.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

CFA wishes to thank all those churches that paid 100 percent or more of their apportionments and those churches that have made significant improvement toward 100 percent giving. We encourage those churches that did not achieve 100 percent payment or improvement in their apportionment giving to work hard at increasing their connectional giving.

Plans for the coming year:

Our most important task is to continue to monitor apportionment receipts and expenses to mitigate financial deficits and maintain a positive cash flow. We will continue to work with the Cabinet to increase apportionment giving.

In conjunction with the Communications office and the Discipleship Leadership Team, CF&A is working to better tell the story of the ministries of our Wisconsin Annual Conference.

We will continue to review various areas of financial operation to assure sound internal controls are in place.

We will continue to oversee the Conference Finance Office to assure that the financial duties of the Conference are carried out in an efficient and effective manner.

Mark Geisthardt, Chairperson

Lisa King, Director of Finance and Administration

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Our Purpose: The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose Purpose is to know God and to experience Freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand Concepts of Mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Highlights of 2010

Assembly was held in St. Louis, MO, April 30 to May 2, and Wisconsin Conference had 130 women in attendance. Conference UMW provided buses that came from three regions of the state, picking up women along the way. The worship and plenaries were held at the Edward Jones Dome, with exhibits and workshops at the America's Center next door. Bishop Lee joined us for the opening on Friday night. All Wisconsin women wore special pins with W-O-W on them in bright red letters and smaller print beneath identifying our group, "Women Of Wisconsin." Approximately 60 women represented Wisconsin in the Talent Show, singing a song of the same name, lyrics by Laura Pfeffer. The Assembly theme was "Faith – Hope- Love in Action."

In July, we held our Wisconsin **School Of Christian Mission** at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center in Stevens Point. Gloria Carter served as Dean and Tammy Martin as Assistant Dean. The studies were: *Joy to the World- Mission in the Age of Global Christianity*; *For the Love of God- John's Letters*; and *The Beauty and Courage of Sudan*. Drive-In Day was Monday, July 12, and a sampling of all three studies was offered. Four-Day School ran from Tuesday to Friday, July 13 -16. Several teens were present, doing special activities together, as well as, attending classes with the adults. For the first time,

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

Advanced Lay Speaker/Servant credit was offered for approved classes, and 25 women received certification. Two pastors also requested Continuing Education Units. As in the past, we offered YOMICA (Youth Mission Camp) at Pine Lake UMC the same week as SOCM, so that parents had a safe and interesting place to send their children while they themselves took classes.

On September 11, the **Third Bi-Lingual Celebration** (Spanish- English) was held at Wesley UMC in Kenosha. Led by Anita Lang, our Hispanic Language Coordinator, it was a spirit-filled event. Bishop Lee was the guest speaker, and Rev. Jorge Mayorga Solis provided simultaneous translation.

On October 23rd we held our **Conference Annual Gathering** at Black River Falls UMC, with an Evening of Enrichment the night before. The theme was “Let’s Get Together.” 230 people attended, including about 40 Hispanic women. Our guest speaker was Esmeralda Brown on staff with Women’s Division. Her area of expertise is caring for the environment, with special interest in climate change and injustices it may cause for marginal peoples. Fluent in Spanish, she spoke to our Hispanic members during a luncheon workshop. Other offerings were focus groups on Morrow Home for the elderly in Sparta and Harbor House for homeless women and families in Superior, plus the topics of Aging Gracefully, Multi-cultural Worship, and the Work of Language Coordinators. Books from our UMW reading list were on sale, and there were many displays to observe. Childcare was provided. During our business meeting, we elected new officers and approved a budget of \$350,000, plus \$131,000 more for Administration and Development of our UMW programs in Wisconsin. We used computer projection power point techniques to report “where our money goes” and to show proposed changes to our Standing Rules. The day ended with communion led by Rev. Kathy Jury and assisted by Bishop Lee, who offered the benediction.

We have a strong interest in developing better communications at all levels of membership-local, district, conference, and nationwide. To that end, we continue to produce our annual Yearbook which contains names and contact information for all local unit presidents, and district and conference officers, along with other pertinent information. We also have a website:

www.wisconsinumw.org

as well as a Facebook page (Wisconsin Conference UMW) and a group page on the national UMW internet site, UMWOnline (umwonline.net). We also continue to produce our Conference newsletter, Catch The Vision. It is published four times a year and is available both in hard copy and online.

We also have **specific goals** in the areas of Membership Nurture and Outreach, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth.

Regarding **Membership**, we make a concerted effort to be in touch with every unit each year through visits from district and conference officers. We have created a program “Get the Scoop,” that can be used to invite new women to local unit meetings, with an emphasis on appealing to younger women. Responding to a mandate from Women’s Division, we also have embarked upon a campaign to meet with every pastor in order to lift up the value of UMW and to encourage the reinstatement of units in churches that have let their units lapse. Most of these meetings have taken place at circuit gatherings. In addition,

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

we are seeking a Korean Language Coordinator to reach out to the women in our Korean congregations.

Our **Social Action Goals** cover local, national, and international issues. Specifically we plan to raise awareness of the problem of Human Trafficking and will be active in addressing Domestic Violence and Health Issues. Our Social Action Day, March 26, 2011, at Franksville UMC, had the focus of reducing infant mortality. We continue to promote the work of Harbor House in Superior, Hmong House of Good News, begun in 2008 by current conference officers, and Northcott Neighborhood House began 50 years ago after some Methodist Women saw the need while taking the census. Concern for Racial Justice led to the creation of a special program to be used in all units. It is based on the book, *Let's Talk About Race*, from the 2007 Reading Program, children's category. We also will send representatives to the National Seminar at Birmingham, AL, in August. The theme will focus on Reconciliation, person to person, ethnic group to ethnic group, wealthy to poor, people to environment, unions to employers, etc.

New this year are **Spiritual Growth Goals**. They are: to focus on God's commission, to include biblically based emphasis in all Leadership Development processes, and to incorporate language and images into worship that are inclusive and affirming. A key verse is 1 John 5:14.

UMW has agreed to join in the Wisconsin Annual Conference's **Partnership with East Angola**. Our intention is to become acquainted with the Methodist women of Angola, to learn from them and to offer mutual support.

We look forward to our **School of Christian Mission** at its new dates, August 2-5 for the Four Day School and August 6 for the Drive-In Day. It will be held at Stevens Point again. The studies will be *Joy to the World* (a repeat), *Haiti*, and *Coming Out on the Side of Grace: Forgiveness and Reconciliation*.

We also look forward to our Conference Annual Gathering at Black River Falls on October 21-22. Robert Harman, who wrote the book, *From Missions to Mission*, will be our guest speaker. We also will have a "Mission Bowl Parade" featuring units who are doing outstanding mission outreach products.

Our officers went through a process of naming disappointments and dreams regarding experiences with the organization of United Methodist Women. From that came this summary statement of our desire for UMW in Wisconsin. **United Methodist Women as an organization will be known church wide as the place that nurtures women in their spiritual journey and mission outreach above all other organizations.**

UNITED METHODIST MEN

No Report Received - Third Year

WISCONSIN UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION, INC.

A. *INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS*

The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation is an adjunct ministry of the Wisconsin Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. The Foundation seeks to provide specialized services to the Wisconsin United Methodist Congregations and Institutions, Laity and Clergy, and the ministries and missions of our Church.

1. **Accountability**

INVESTMENT: The Foundation provides options for church-related entities to pool their funds for the purpose of professionally managed investment. Our investment policies are designed specifically to serve the long-term investment strategies of United Methodist ministries, endowments, trustees' funds and other permanent funds. We seek to provide maximum benefits of investment growth and earnings while maintaining a conservative investment strategy and minimizing risk levels. In addition, our funds investment policy operates under the United Methodist Social Principles. Our primary asset allocation model (the Common Fund) now has a 33-year performance record with an annual average net return of 8.80%. The Common Fund net return for 2010 was 7.80%. At the end of 2010 funds under management at the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation totaled \$83,730,769.

During 2010 we provided investment services to the Minnesota United Methodist Foundation. We are grateful that we have an opportunity to provide this collegial service to our neighboring Foundation and believe this provides an ideal program of funds management designed for "church monies" with appropriate risk/return levels for a variety of situations and allows the Minnesota United Methodist Foundation to focus on growth and development of additional services.

PLANNED GIFTS: The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation provides an ongoing educational program available to all church-related groups at no charge. We offer charitable giving seminars and workshops, individual consultation with clergy, laity, and local church groups about charitable giving options and assistance in the technical aspects of completing charitable gifts. Our staff is continuously updated in the specialized areas of charitable giving, related tax matters and current trends. We work with other professionals such as lawyers, accountants, and financial planners to complete charitable gifts to the church and its related ministries. Upon request, we also provide counsel in the area of planned giving to local churches. To assist the Wisconsin Conference in charitable giving goals, we have established and operate a Charitable Gift Annuity Program that is certified by the State of Wisconsin. We also serve as Trustee for individually created Charitable Remainder Trusts. The Foundation has planned giving software to assist individuals in charitable gift planning. Through continuous promotion, education, and awareness, we now see significant gifts being received by Wisconsin United Methodist Churches and related institutions.

STEWARDSHIP: In August of 2010 members of the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation staff, Foundation board members, along with Dan Dick and Ric Olson from the Ministry and Outreach Staff of the annual conference led the third annual Stewardship Retreat at Pine Lake Camp. This event was again co-sponsored by the Board of Camp

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

and Retreat Ministries. We served a total of 41 participants -- a significant increase from the total of 22 participants in 2009. Our focus in 2010 continued to focus on inviting participants to develop a 3-year stewardship ministry plan for their congregation. The evaluations included an overwhelming request for an expanded version of the Stewardship Retreat in 2011, which we have agreed to provide.

In September, we co-sponsored seven identical stewardship seminars entitled, "Extravagant Generosity." The Rev. Dan R. Dick, Director of Connectional Ministries for the Wisconsin Annual Conference, served as our guest leader. Over 200 persons from over 80 churches attended these seminars held throughout the state. In addition, Foundation staff conducted seven stewardship consultations in individual local congregations facing financial difficulties.

These statistics indicate that the Foundation staff had over 120 face-to-face contacts with individual churches or charges in 2010. While 15 of these 120 churches or charges have participated in more than one Foundation ministry or program, there are at least 10% (12/120) that expressed interest in the programs and ministry of the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation for the first time.

Our staff is available to help organize, train and provide resources to Wills, Memorials and Estate Committees in the local church. We also provide guidance in the development of local church Endowment Funds, and encouragement to on-going program efforts at the local level. We meet with Church Councils, Trustees and Finance Committees to explain the investment options we provide local churches through our Common Fund and Fixed Income Fund. Increasingly we are working with cluster gatherings in Stewardship and Planned Giving educational programs.

In 2011 the Foundation will again be working with the Board of Camp and Retreat Ministries to sponsor a Stewardship Retreat for clergy and lay leaders at Pine Lake Camp August 17 through August 19, with a variety of registration options available to participants. The focus of this retreat will be developing a 3-5 year stewardship ministry plan for their congregations.

CLERGY: We provided our annual "Clergy Tax Seminar" for Wisconsin clergy, at no cost to the Conference. Also, each year at the New Clergy Orientation, we meet with newly appointed clergy serving the Wisconsin Conference to update them on Foundation services. We also provided funding for five clergy Study/Renewal Leaves totaling \$9,000.

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND GIFTS: The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation continues to invite applications and award grants throughout Wisconsin. In 2010 these grants and other gifts totaled \$136,775. We hope to encourage innovative and creative ministries, provide scholarship assistance, provide resources for United Methodist missions, and assist a variety of projects in Wisconsin churches.

In 2010 the Foundation was able to award 30 scholarships worth \$16,000 to promising young United Methodist college students and adults returning for additional education, or persons working towards vocations in church-related fields of ministry. The Foundation was also able to award scholarship grants to Wisconsin UM students attending seminary in preparation for service in the Wisconsin Conference.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

Through our Year-End Gifts program, \$438,841 was given to the Bishop's Relief Fund, Minister's Insurance Memorial Fund, Central Conference Pension Initiative, Board of Camp and Retreat Ministries projects and scholarship funds, UM Hospitals Ministry Fund, Licensed Local Pastor Endowment Fund, Scholars Award Program, WUMF Permanent Administration Fund, United Methodist Children's Services, Northcott Neighborhood House, Samaritan Fund, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), United Methodist Archives, and other ministries.

For the year 2010, we processed 73 stock gifts for a total of \$529,811. Of this total, \$466,095 was passed through to local churches and church ministries per the donor's instruction. Through our special arrangement with our broker, we are able to process gifts of appreciated stock for local churches at no cost, leaving higher net proceeds for the church.

2. Philosophy and Priorities

The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation wants to serve the "connectional church" and seeks to fulfill its underlying mission of teaching, resourcing, and serving throughout our Wisconsin Annual Conference. The Foundation is a totally self-funded ministry, continually increasing our level of services and grants to the life and ministry of the Wisconsin United Methodist Church. Through careful administration and planning, we strive to provide programming, resources and consultation to all United Methodist individuals and congregations in the state, regardless of their distance from our offices. We have an expanded conference room/display area at the Foundation office. In addition to displaying planned giving materials and brochures that are available through our offices, we also have a display of over 20 current financial "stewardship" programs and resources. This is intended to provide lay and clergy with a hands-on opportunity to review annual campaign programs, video and study materials, and other ideas for revitalizing stewardship in the congregation. A brochure summarizing each of these campaigns, ordering information and cost is also available through our office. We exist to serve the entire church!

As of December 31, 2010, our Church Mortgage Loan Program had 35 active loans for churches, including one for the Wisconsin Annual Conference. Loans total \$9.5 million and are often at better interest rates for the congregations, leaving more funds available for programs and other local church expenses. The corresponding Church Loan Pooled Fund is providing other congregations with enhanced investment return over our traditional Fixed Income Fund. Last year, 231 church accounts, and 20 Conference accounts took advantage of the enhanced return available with our Church Loan Pooled Fund. This is a wonderful example of churches assisting other churches.

The Foundation assisted Appleton: Emmanuel with their capital campaign for debt reduction from their elevator project and to raise funds for new doors, drapes, and windows. A PreCampaign Evaluation Study was held in October of 2010 as they look to make their building more accessible.

Charitable Gift Annuities, available through the Foundation to all Wisconsin United Methodists, continue to be the most popular way for donors to make a gift to the church. Donors establishing Charitable Gift Annuities receive an income payment for the remainder of their lifetime. For donors making "life income" gifts exceeding \$50,000, a Charitable Remainder Trust is still the most frequently used gift vehicle. We take seriously the need

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

for our staff to be current in the regulations and opportunities impacting the area of planned giving, for the benefit of our donors and the church.

3. Up Date Information

a. Total Investment Funds Under Management

The December 31, 2010 market value was \$83,730,769 compared to \$73,991,342 on December 31, 2009. Total earnings in 2010 amounted to \$1,154,502.

b. **Charitable Gift Annuities** – 117 accounts. Market Value as of 12/31/2010 was \$1,636,566.

c. **Charitable Remainder Unitrusts** – 18 accounts. Market Value as of 12/31/2010 was \$3,660,804.

d. Grant Awards

Thirty-six Grants awarded by the Foundation

Appleton: Zion Korean UMC Language School	\$1,500
Baraboo Ecumenical – Mission Gathering	\$2,500
Beaver Dam: Trinity UMC Women’s Outreach Ministry	\$3,500
Bloomington: Faith Alive Charge Family Church	\$1,500
Brillion: Faith UMC Counselor Outreach Project	\$2,600
Chetek UMC – Junior Youth Fellowship	\$4,350
Dodgeville UMC Stephen Ministries	\$2,700
Eagle UMC Youth Ministry Program	\$650
Fall River UMC New Worship Service	\$3,500
Green Bay: First UMC Reusable Tote bags	\$750
Jackson: Still Waters Making Disciples in the 21st Century	\$2,250
Kenosha: First UMC Youth and Young Adult Ministries	\$436
Lake Geneva: La Resurreccion Tutoring/Citizenship	\$2,500
Lake Geneva: Neighborhood Radio Program	\$950
Manitowoc: St. Paul’s UMC Rocking Chairs	\$1,200
Marion: First UMC Stepping Stones Middle School	\$1,500
Marion: First UMC Field of Praise	\$1,500
Menomonie: The Place Campus Ministry	\$2,200
Milwaukee Urban Joint Confirmation Program	\$3,000
Milwaukee: Luz a las Naciones Arts/Liturgical Dance	\$2,400
Mineral Point: Parish of the Hills UMC Bright Spots Radio	\$2,405
Neenah: First UMC Broadcasting Ministry	\$4,900
New Berlin: Our Lord’s Rotation Sunday School	\$2,605
Oak Creek: Stephen Ministries	\$2,700
Onalaska UMC Community Dinner	\$1,000
Racine: Trinity UMC Grief Support Ministry	\$2,000
Reedsburg UMC Hispanic Outreach	\$7,400
Rhinelander UMC Personal Essentials Pantry	\$1,000
Spooner/Lakeview UMCs Parish Nurse Ministry	\$1,520
St. Croix Falls UMC Chime Choir	\$2,125
Sun Prairie UMC Stephen Ministries	\$2,700
Superior: Faith UMC Parent’s Group	\$1,300

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

Superior: Faith UMC Produce/Prayer Garden	\$3,500
Sussex UMC Family Wellness Conference	\$1,200
UMW Hmong House of Good News	\$3,500
Whitefish Bay UMC Urban Family Bible Camp	\$600
Wisconsin Rapids UMC Shot of Grace	\$1,542
TOTAL	\$83,483

e. Report of Gifts to the Ministerial Pension Memorial Fund

The Market Value of the Ministerial Pension Memorial Fund as of 12/31/10 was \$991,247. In 2010, the Ministerial Pension Memorial Fund provided \$14,268 in earnings that are available to the Wisconsin Conference Board of Pensions. The total contributions in 2010 were \$4,756.

f. Report of Gifts to the Ministerial Insurance Memorial Fund

The Market Value of the Ministerial Insurance Memorial Fund as of 12/31/10 was \$146,328. In 2010, the Ministerial Insurance Memorial Fund provided \$1,981 in earnings. The total contributions in 2010 were \$16,548.

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF: REV. DEAN JORDAN

Family and Friends

GIFTS IN HONOR OF: REV. STAN STROSAHL

YEAR END GIFTS:

Charles Bauer-King
Darrell and Michelle Behnke
Wilmer Bloy
Hazel Brett-Sumwalt
Paul Foulke
Patrick and Kathryn Green
Rosemary Groves
David and Ann Harsh
Richard Hinkelman
Dave Johnson
Carolyn Jordan
Elaine Paulson
Chomingwen Pond
Philip and Elaine Pudleiner
David and Hope Warren
Estate of Ruth Tubbs Schultz
Family of Rev. I. Dean Jordan
Norstrant Endowment Fund
Retired Clergy Luncheon Offering
WUMF Sperbeck Memorial Fund

g. Foundation Staff

Our President:	Rev. William F. Helwig
Our Vice-President of Finance:	Tom Schaefer
Our Vice-President of Programs and Resources:	Rev. Jean E. Nicholas
Our Loan Officer:	Ellen LaWall
Our Capital Campaign Coordinator:	Lenore Geisthardt
Our Administrative Associate:	Karen Woods
Our Treasurer:	Mark E. Perschbacher

B. HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Continued growth in the number of Investment Fund accounts established by churches, church-related agencies, and individuals setting up charitable gifts for the church. The number of new accounts established in 2010 was 27. The dollar amount of additions to the Investment Funds was \$13,934,828!
2. The Foundation operating budget and program ministries were entirely self-supported in 2010.
3. The Foundation Church Mortgage Loan Program continues to serve the Conference. As of February 28, 2011, 231 church accounts and 35 Conference related accounts were designated to be available to provide low-cost first mortgages to qualified Wisconsin United Methodist Congregations. The Conference and these churches are now partners in mission with other congregations and investing in church growth as well as receiving higher investment returns.

Roanne Barnes, Chairman of the Board
William F. Helwig, President

MOVING DIRECTOR

No Report Received

CONFERENCE SECRETARY

Introductory Comments

The Office of the Conference Secretary is one of the “Conference Support Ministries.” As “the keeper of the record” the Conference Secretary indirectly supports the work of all other conference agencies, officers and staff by gathering information about their work, processing and disseminating that information to the members of the annual conference, recording the actions of the annual conference, and communicating that information to a variety of agencies, organizations, and of course the local churches of the conference. The conference secretary facilitates the flow of information among the various elements of the conference by providing contact information in the journal, and maintains a historical record that can be used in future years as a reference of previous conference actions. I also serve as a member of the Program and Arrangements Committee, and work with the other leaders of the Annual Conference to plan, organize, and facilitate the Annual Conference session.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

My work indirectly benefits all Wisconsin United Methodists by providing information that will enable the members of the Annual Conference to do their work, the boards and agencies of the Annual Conference to communicate about their work, and the clergy and staff of the Annual Conference to be in communication with one another.

Highlights and Challenges of the Past Year

I am pleased to report that preparation of the 2010 Wisconsin Conference Journal went much more smoothly in 2010 than it did in 2009. 2010 was also the first year that the Conference Journal was produced for general distribution only in electronic form. This change saved the annual conference about \$12,000 in printing and distribution costs compared to the prior year. The electronic version of the Journal was available for distribution and on the website in October, 2010. Printed copies of the Journal were produced for distribution to those General Church agencies that we are required by the Book of Discipline to provide a Journal to, and for use in conference offices. We will continue in 2011 to produce the Conference Journal for general distribution only in electronic form.

Much of my work as Conference Secretary in 2010 has been directed towards preparation for the election of delegates to the 2012 General and Jurisdictional Conferences. This election will take place at the 2011 Annual Conference Session. I have also assisted the Conference Rules Committee in reviewing certain sections of the Conference Rules as they worked to prepare the major revision in rules and policies which is being presented at the 2011 Annual Conference Session.

Plans for 2011 and 2012

1. 2011 is an election year in The United Methodist Church. We will be electing delegates to the 2012 General Conference and considering petitions to the General Conference related to changes in The Book of Discipline. This happens once every four years. The election of delegates and consideration of petitions require additional plenary time at the annual conference session. In addition to the usual materials which are prepared for annual conference, this year we have printed biographical sketches for those who have identified themselves as candidates for election as delegates to the General and/or Jurisdictional Conferences.
2. 2012 is the last year of the current quadrennium. According to our conference rules, lay members of the annual conference are elected by their charge for the entire quadrennium, and we must “equalize” the number of lay and clergy members of the annual conference prior to the beginning of the next quadrennium. In the summer of 2012 I will be calculating the number of lay members of the annual conference that each pastoral charge is entitled to elect for the 2013-2016 quadrennium, and communicating that to each pastor in time for the annual church conferences in the fall of 2012.

The following goals are ongoing each year:

- To keep the record of the proceedings of the Annual Conference, and to publish that record in the Annual Conference *Yearbook and Journal*.
- To facilitate the work of the Annual Conference Session through the publication of the *Pre-Conference Workbook*.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

- To improve the accuracy of the *Workbook* and the *Journal*, and to produce them in a format which makes them easy to read and use.
- To explore and implement, where appropriate, new methods of recording, storing and publishing the records of the Annual Conference.

It is a great privilege to serve as your Conference Secretary, and I thank you for the opportunity to do so.

Kevin Rice Myers, Conference Secretary

AFRICA UNIVERSITY: THRIVING IN ZIMBABWE

Africa University: Serving God. All the Time. Everywhere.

Support from United Methodists around the world has enabled Africa University to strongly emerge from Zimbabwe's recent economic and political crises.

"As we have endured Zimbabwe's national crisis, we have, indeed discovered not only what we are, but reinforced whose we are," says Dr. Fanuel Tagwira, vice chancellor. "We are preparing Africa's newest generation of leaders while proclaiming our faith and allegiance to Jesus Christ."

The University is preparing to celebrate its 20th anniversary of ministry and service to Africa in 2012.

The University offers its thanks to the 21 annual conferences that met 100 percent of their apportionments for the Africa University Fund. In 2010, United Methodists contributed nearly \$2.2 million to the Africa University Fund. That represents more than 86 percent of the \$2.5 million goal. The Fund supports general operating costs, such as faculty and staff salaries and upkeep of facilities.

While meeting apportionments is important, second mile giving to the University's endowment for student scholarships is vital. Our students have a great need for scholarship support.

Africa University graduated 349 students in June 2010, and opened the 2010-2011 school year with 1,200 students representing 25 African countries. Since opening in 1992, more than 3,500 students have earned bachelor and master's degrees. Africa University prepares leaders in theology, agriculture, business and social sciences, health sciences, and peace and justice.

Africa University's curriculum and support of the surrounding community reflects our biblical commitment to service and our Wesleyan heritage. Our graduates are prepared to serve Africa in ways that reflect the church's four areas of focus, ministering to the poor, combating diseases of poverty, creating and revitalizing congregations, and developing principled Christian leaders.

The 2010 graduating class included 39 recipients of the University's inaugural Master's Degree in intellectual property. They represented 15 African countries. Africa University is the first university in sub-Saharan Africa to offer this degree. It stresses the value of

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

protecting intellectual property for the people of Africa. It is one more example of the ethos of the University – preparing leaders who remain in Africa to serve Africa.

Another important aspect of the University is our commitment to gender diversity. Our student body is nearly evenly divided between females and males. That is a significant development in Africa – a positive sign for the expanding role of women across the continent.

Another positive sign is the commitment of African United Methodists to take an even more active role in supporting the University. African bishops broke ground in the 2010-2011 academic year on a new housing facility for staff – funded by annual conferences in Africa. This housing unit is expected to be ready for the opening of the 2011-2012 academic year in September.

Africa University is preparing to add additional cyber campuses. Student applications far outstrip our ability to educate students on our Old Mutare campus. That is why we are adding more locations to our on-line cyber courses. Our first virtual campus is located in Maputo, Mozambique. As we broaden our service to all of Africa, we are planning virtual campuses in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Côte d’Ivoire and Sierra Leone. A key to the success of these cyber campuses will be our new, expanded ability to reach the world through the Internet. We recently finished connecting with a new high speed, fiber optic cable system that links Zimbabwe with the world.

All of this is happening through the prayers and financial support of United Methodists around the world. Encourage your church to meet its Africa University Fund shared ministry obligation this year. Your support is part of The United Methodist Church’s response to God’s call to serve Africa. Your support helps to prepare Africa’s next generation of leaders. They will spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, improve health care and living conditions, expand business and commerce, and educate another generation of leaders in this rapidly changing region of the world.

James H. Salley, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Institutional Advancement

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Greetings from Boston University School of Theology, one of your United Methodist partners in mission! We thank you for your prayerful support of us through the past year, and will share some new developments in our School.

News flashes from the School!

- **New Faculty:** We welcomed three new faculty this year and they are already contributing mightily to the life of STH. *Dr. Walter Fluker* is the Martin Luther King, Jr. Professor of Ethical Leadership. He teaches exciting courses, consults with international organizations on ethical leadership, and leads the Howard Thurman Papers Project, now based at STH. *Dr. Christopher Evans* is Professor of the History of Christianity and Methodist Studies. He brings expertise in American Christianity and the history and theology of Wesleyan traditions. Besides, he is a great teacher. *Dr Courtney Goto* is Assistant Professor of Religious Education,

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

reviving the STH program in educational ministry with her distinctive interest in teaching and the arts. She has recently studied the artful ministry of her Japanese-American UMC congregation, especially its sanctuary art, worship, and Japanese garden.

- **New Curriculum:** The new curriculum – “Faith Engaging the World” – has arrived, and we are discovering the potential of this curriculum to prepare spiritually-centered, prophetic, intelligent, practical religious leaders who can contribute to renewing and transforming the church and the world. Not only are M.Div. and M.T.S. students benefitting from the new curriculum, but we have also launched our new one-year Master of Sacred Theology program for military chaplains, responding to their increasing needs to address issues of ethics, trauma, and conflict transformation.
- **Church Connections:** United Methodist Women will read two books authored or co-authored by our faculty in the UMW Mission Studies this summer: Dana Robert’s *Joy to the World!: Mission in the Age of Global Christianity* and Stephanie Hixon and Tom Porter’s *The Journey: Forgiveness, Restorative Justice and Reconciliation*. In addition, Bryan Stone and his students continue to initiate and support new church starts; several of our faculty and students have spoken or consulted with church boards and agencies; and our graduates are giving strong leadership in their home churches and conferences.
- **Global Connections:** Travel seminars have studied this year in Ephesus (modern Turkey) and Russia, and the School has collaborated with people in Korea, China, South Africa, Norway, and Australia. Dr. Thomas Thangaraj has been Visiting Professor in Global Christianity and Mission, teaching courses in Images of Christ and Christian Encounters with Hinduism. Professor Dana Robert, Truman Collins Professor of World Christianity and Mission, delivered the opening keynote address in the 100th anniversary of the Edinburgh World Missionary Conference and in the opening convocation of the 2010 Boston Conference: The Changing Contours of World Mission and Christianity. The Reverend Canon Ted Karpf, recently of the World Health Organization, has joined our team as Director of Development. He is already building new global connections that will challenge and stretch us!
- **Contextual Engagement:** The School received a grant of \$200,000 to support its LINC program – *Learning in a Nexus of Communities*. We continue to build partnerships with local churches and service agencies, as we contextualize theological education at STH. We are grateful to the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations for supporting these efforts.
- **Community Building:** Community life is buzzing with dynamic weekly worship, followed by a community meal, and with daily morning prayer. We have expanded our efforts to strengthen community and spiritual life with the addition of a Spiritual Life Coordinator, the Reverend Robin Olson, and the addition of a Coordinator of Communications and International Student Life, Philippa Mpunzwana.
- **Sustainability Charge:** We have charged ourselves to build toward greater sustainability, having implemented energy conserving practices, designed a green community center for our basement, and launched an intentional living community for some of our students in the “Green House.”

Still to Come!

- New faculty searches: We are presently searching for faculty in preaching, pastoral theology, and history of Christianity.
- People's History: The STH People's History Project continues, and we have had some wonderful oral history interviews with alums this year. Contact the Alumni Office if you are interested in sharing your story with us: (617) 353-2349.
- Lifelong Learning: Our work in lifelong learning has just begun, but we have begun collaborations with churches and other educational institutions to respond to the needs of local churches, clergy, and lay leaders. We welcome your ideas.
- Alumni Networking: We are decentralizing alumni activity to conferences and regions in order to facilitate the exchange of ideas, knowledge and collaborations. Jaclyn Jones is the point of contact for these efforts to stimulate the connection between alumni and Boston University School of Theology. Jaclyn is reached at sthalum@bu.edu.

We are abundantly grateful for our BU graduates and friends in your conference, and also for our church partners throughout the United Methodist connection. We continue to pray for you and we welcome your prayers for us. We are in this ministry together!

Gratefully,

Mary Elizabeth Moore, Dean, Boston University School of Theology

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Candler School of Theology prepares *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world. Our distinctive commitment to authentic discipleship and relevant ministry enables us to develop uniquely well-rounded leaders who are challenged academically, encouraged spiritually, and immersed in Christian service from the first day they arrive on campus.

As one of the 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church, Candler is grounded in the Christian faith and shaped by the Wesleyan tradition of evangelical piety, ecumenical openness, and social concern. As one of seven graduate professional schools of Emory University, Candler provides a rich context for learning and formation supported by the extensive resources of a top-tier research university. As a school located in the major metropolitan area of Atlanta, Georgia, Candler offers students a learning laboratory that reflects the highly diverse communities of our 21st century world. There is no better place for ministry preparation that addresses our major denominational priorities: developing leaders, starting and growing churches, ministry with the poor, and improving global health.

Candler's student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful. Our enrollment stands at 469, with 358 seeking the Master of Divinity, 67 the Master of Theological Studies, 16 the Master of Theology, 14 the Doctor of Theology, and 14 enrolled as Special, Non-Degree students. The total student population is 25% US ethnic minority, 9% international, and 52% women. Forty-six denominations are represented, with 52% of MDiv students being United Methodist. The median age of our entering class of MDiv students is 26, with 57% of total enrollment under thirty.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

To ensure that our students are prepared for leadership in an increasingly global context, Candler continues its emphasis on internationalizing the curriculum. This fall, Rev. Dr. Beauty Maenzanise, dean of the theology faculty at Africa University in Zimbabwe, joined us as the 2010-11 McDonald Chair in the Study of Jesus and Culture, and the Rev. Dr. Margot Kaessmann, former head of the 14 million-member Protestant church in Germany, joined us for a semester as visiting Theologian-in-Residence. This year, Candler has academic exchange partnerships with theology schools across five continents and nine countries, including many related to The United Methodist Church. In addition to our ongoing summer internship program with the Methodist Church in the Bahamas, Candler once again partnered with International Relief and Development, Inc., to send eight student interns as far as Cambodia and as near as Gulfport, Miss., to address a broad range of issues, including democracy and governance, HIV/AIDS, child poverty and mortality, and community development. Travel seminars in 2010-2011 include the Middle East Travel Seminar in May-June and World Methodist Evangelism Institute evangelism seminars to the Philippines, India, and Colombia.

A hallmark of the Candler MDiv experience, the two-year Contextual Education program shapes our students' pastoral identities by interweaving service at ministry sites and churches with academic analysis in the classroom and spiritual reflection in pastor-led small groups. In any given week, Candler deploys more than 250 ConEd students throughout the region to minister to people in congregations, hospitals, and social service agencies. This year, we will expand Candler Advantage, a program designed to pay rising third-year MDiv students for summer internships in congregations so they can concentrate fully on honing their pastoral skills beyond the first two years of ConEd.

Candler's Lifelong Learning events strengthen the church by providing opportunities for clergy and lay leaders to learn more about the practice of ministry. Fall Conference 2010 focused on conflict transformation; the spring event featured poet, author, and funeral director Tom Lynch along with Candler's own Tom Long, addressing "The Good Funeral." The 2011 Fall Conference highlights "The Art of Preaching in the 21st Century," with a chance to learn from some of the most respected names in preaching.

In addition to our Lifelong Learning events, Candler oversees the educational process of more than 900 people each year through the Course of Study regional school and our five extension schools in the Southeast.

Despite today's challenging economic climate, Candler remains committed to making theological education financially possible for our students. Although our operating budget essentially remained flat this year, we increased our total financial aid investment to over \$5 million. Eighty-three percent of eligible students received Candler-based financial aid, with the average award covering 76 percent of tuition. In March, we hosted our third annual Leadership Candler event, an all-expenses-paid discernment experience that draws together top prospective MDiv students to explore the richness of life and study at Candler as they are considered for 30 top scholarships. In addition, Candler won a grant from the Carpenter Foundation to offer financial management training to our students. The grant also sponsored the public lecture series, "Simple Enough?" to explore the relationship between financial and spiritual well-being. Featured speakers were popular United Methodist pastors and authors Adam Hamilton and Paul Escamilla.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

Our esteemed faculty continues to distinguish itself at the highest levels. Dr. Luke Johnson won the prestigious Grawemeyer award in religion, Dr. Carol Newsom received a Luce grant from the Association of Theological Schools, and Dr. Jacob Wright received a medal of honor from the Collège de France in Paris. In addition to their achievements in scholarship and teaching, faculty members continually demonstrate their dedication to the church through preaching and teaching engagements and service in parishes both local and across the country and world.

We celebrate the outstanding achievements of two of our United Methodist faculty as they retire this year: Dr. Russ Richey and Dr. Brooks Holifield. Both are highly regarded for their extraordinary work in their areas of expertise—the history of Methodism and American Christianity, respectively—and for their service to our denomination, both at the local and national levels.

Candler draws considerable vitality and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of *educating faithful and creative leaders for the church's ministries in the world* depends upon your support, gifts, and prayers. Thank you for the countless ways you strengthen this essential ministry in the life of our denomination. We invite you to visit us in person in Atlanta or online at www.candler.emory.edu to see firsthand how Candler prepares *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world.

Jan Love, Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics

DREW THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

My predecessor, Dean Maxine Beach, has said me that Drew University Theological School is “a special place” on more than one occasion. Since coming to Drew, I have begun to see how right she is. It is a welcoming, hospitable, and caring community. We do not pretend to be a perfect community but we strive hard to welcome all who come through our doors and care for the *shalom*, the well-being, of each individual and as well as the Common Good.

Drew is “a special place” because of the many ways we seek to equip and empower leaders for Christian ministry through the numerous programs we offer:

- M.Div., S.T.M., M.A., M.A.Min., D.Min., and Ph D.;
- Continuing Education opportunities for pastors and lay people;
- Internships through Communities of Shalom in Shalom zones world wide
- Partnership for Religious Education in Prisons program in a local men’s prison and women’s prison, where Drew students and inmates study and learn together;
- Certification in Spiritual Formation and Camp and Retreat;
- Cross-Cultural Courses in India, Turkey, El Salvador, Mexico, Taize, and Ghana;
- United Methodist Liaison and Deacon Liaison to assist students in their discernment.

In my first weeks, I have begun to visit churches and alumni in the vicinity. I believe very strongly that we can only do theological education *with* communities, both communities of faith and other kinds of communities that our alumni serve. In many ways, we owe a

debt to our churches and other agencies that work *with* us to train and form our students for leadership.

We take pride in having a faculty that is perhaps one of the most diverse in theological education with an almost equal number of women and men. Our student body is equally diverse. We take seriously our United Methodist identity. Drew is well positioned to be a leading progressive United Methodist seminary. I welcome ongoing dialogue as we work together to shape a vision in equipping the saints for ministry. Together we can make Christian disciples that transform the world.

The Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor of Hebrew Bible

GARRETT-EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The core purpose of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary is to know God in Christ and, through preparing spiritual leaders, to help others know God in Christ. We continue our deep and abiding commitment to prepare bold and articulate leaders who share the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

Last fall the seminary welcomed 122 new students, the largest entering class in twenty years. The average age of the diverse and highly qualified MDiv class is thirty-one. Garrett-Evangelical provides \$2 million in institutional financial aid to students each year.

Class of 1961 alumnus Dr. James H. Cone was the keynote speaker during the fall convocation. The event also celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the seminary's Center for the Church and the Black Experience.

To commemorate twenty-five years of leadership in spiritual formation, the seminary is raising \$2 million to endow the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation. The chair will assure the seminary remains at the forefront of developing and enhancing spiritual formation studies. Contributions will honor Bishop Job and assure the ongoing nurture of spiritual leaders for the Church and the world.

The Institute for Transformative Leaders and Communities develops programs for the continuous education and lifelong learning for leaders and communities. The Institute's MDiv *Plus*, the first of its kind, is a three-year executive education program in cooperation with Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management. It includes six seminars and a one-on-one coaching program. All clergy with an MDiv degree are eligible to participate.

The expanded Doctor of Ministry program offers four tracks: Congregational Leadership, African-American Congregational Leadership, Spiritual Direction, and Mission in the Contemporary United States. The DMin program also is a portal to the Association of Chicago Theological Schools (ACTS) DMin program in preaching.

Renovation of Loder and Lesemann Halls nears completion. Loder will feature a student center, student lounge, state-of-the-art classroom, kitchen and dining room, modern residence rooms, and guest suites. Lesemann will house the Stead Center for Ethics and Values, expanded library facilities, a conference room and other offices. Loder Hall will be LEED certified.

Garrett-Evangelical is welcoming several new faculty and staff:

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

- Dr. Anna Johnson, Visiting Assistant Professor of Reformation Church History
- Dr. Hendrik Pieterse, Associate Professor of Global Christianity and World Religions
- The Rev. Becky Eberhart, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management
- The Rev. Mary Ann Moman, Senior Advancement Specialist and Director of Course of Study
- The Rev. James Noseworthy, Senior Assistant to the President

Joining the seminary's faculty this summer are:

- Dr. Charles H. Cosgrove, Professor of Early Christian Literature
- Dr. Virginia A. Lee, Associate Professor of Christian Education

Garrett-Evangelical serves over 550 students in degree-related courses, certificate programs and our summer Course of Study School. We encourage you to visit our website, www.garrett.edu, and to visit us on campus. We are proud to serve the United Methodist Church, and we ask for your continuing prayers and support as we pursue our mission and our renewed vision.

Philip A. Amerson, President

NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE

A. *Introductory Comments*

As a comprehensive liberal arts college, related to the United Methodist Church, North Central is committed to effective teaching, small classes, and rigorous standards. The College is committed to an education program for the whole person — body, mind, and spirit — that has been part of the North Central College experience since the Evangelical Association founded the College 149 years ago. The College will be celebrating its Sesquicentennial on November 11, 2011.

1. **Accountability**

\$2,500 was received from the Wisconsin Annual Conference. 12 United Methodist students from the Wisconsin Conference received \$139,475 in institutional scholarship and grant aid.

2. **Philosophy and Priorities**

North Central College is a community of learners dedicated to preparing students to be informed, involved, principled and productive citizens and leaders over a lifetime.

3. **Highlights of 2010 at North Central College**

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT ranked North Central among top Midwest colleges for the 17th straight year and ranked the College as a “best value.” In the fall of 2010, a record number of first-year students, 583, brought the full-time degree seeking undergraduate enrollment to 2,423. 296 students are enrolled in graduate programs.

B. Highlights in Ministry and Service

1. Campus Life and Spiritual Opportunities

Chaplain Lynn Pries began his seventeenth year in ministry to North Central this year. Campus Ministry programs include: weekly worship services, Friday evening concerts, Bible studies, retreats, Gospel Choir, and the United Methodist Student Organization. 200 people attended the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast with guest speaker, Rev. Robert Harman '59. 425 persons attended the 23rd Annual Gospel Extravaganza.

2. Opening the Campus to the World

Service programs included: ten ongoing projects involving 500 students who volunteered more than 6,000 hours; and 75 students participated in seven weeklong service trips, including an Appalachian Service trip.

3. Developing Leaders for the Church

The Summer New Visions Company, composed of five students, directed a weeklong program in one church and led four weeks of camping programs. The New Beginnings Team, composed of six students, led VBS programs in eight churches. These ministries influenced six students to enroll as first-year students at NCC... Nine NCC United Methodist students attended the 2010 Student Forum at Shenandoah University.

C. Relationship to the Conference

A new initiative, the Albright-Wesley Society, was created to develop a closer relationship with United Methodist Churches, to encourage more United Methodist students to attend North College, and to provide funds for scholarships and leadership programs for United Methodist students.

We affirm our affiliation with the Wisconsin Conference and request continued support by sending us your students and financial support for scholarship aid.

Harold R. Wilde, President

WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

***We pray and work for the unity and renewal of the church
and the healing and reconciliation of the world.***

www.wichurches.org

Tracing its roots back to the early 1940's with an inter-denominational recreation ministry for young people, the Wisconsin Council of Churches (WCC) now encompasses 13 denominations with approximately 2,200 congregations and over one million church members statewide.

2010 Accomplishments

Equipping Leaders - The Council's signature educational event for clergy each summer is the Washington Island Forum, which in 2010 drew 140 pastors and lay leaders from

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

16 states representing 14 faith traditions to hear Forum Presenter Kenda Creasy Dean, Associate Professor of Youth, Church and Culture at Princeton Theological Seminary. Her theme, *Almost Christian: What the Faith of our Teenagers is Telling the American Church* focused on church's relationship with contemporary youth. The Council also hosts regional events throughout the year on a variety of timely topics to equip clergy and lay leaders for effective ministry.

Greening our Faith and our Communities - the Council continues to focus its advocacy efforts at the state and federal levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The WCC has also been a partner in the creation of *Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light*, which is affiliated with a national effort to educate congregations on how to be good stewards of the environment.

Beyond Survival: What is God's Future for the Small Church? - the Council sponsored workshops in Tomah and Shawano to equip rural congregations for effective ministry in their local communities.

Addressing the Root Causes of Hunger - the Council continues to advocate for just public policies that provide support for the unemployed and other vulnerable populations during these recessionary times.

Looking Ahead to 2011

Washington Island Forum - Dr. Marcus Borg, Canon Theologian at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland and internationally known writer and speaker will serve as the 2011 Washington Island Forum presenter on the theme *Speaking Christian: Reclaiming Christian Language* June 27-July 1. For more information about the Forum and all WCC educational events, go to www.wichurches.org/events.

Becoming Welcoming Communities - is a new project in collaboration with *WISDOM*, the church-based community organizing program in Wisconsin, and *Voces de la Frontera*, the largest immigrant rights group in our state. This one-year project is producing a congregational study guide on the history of immigration in Wisconsin and contemporary challenges faced by new immigrants.

People of Faith United For Justice - is our biennial advocacy day March 15th at the State Capitol co-sponsored by the WCC, *WISDOM*, the Lutheran Office for Public Policy-Wisconsin, Madison area Urban Ministry and the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee. Over 300 people will gather at Bethel Lutheran Church in Madison to discuss issues of common concern and then will meet with their legislators in the afternoon.

Scott D. Anderson, Executive Director

**HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCIES
RELATED TO
THE WISCONSIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Editor's Note: Health and Welfare Agencies related to the Wisconsin Annual Conference were asked to submit their reports to the Conference Secretary by April 15, 2011. Many of these agencies did NOT submit a report by the deadline, or by the time the reports were prepared for the Pre-Conference Resource Disk. Any reports that are received by the June 15, 2011 will be printed in the Conference Journal, and an updated version of this document will be posted on the Conference Website.

CEDAR CREST, INC.

A Dynamic Community for Senior Adults
Marion Wozniak, President/CEO
1702 S. River Road
Janesville, WI 53546

No Report Received

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY HOMES & SERVICES, INC.

1320 Wisconsin Street, Hudson, WI 54016
715-386-9303

Larry Parfitt, President - Board of Directors
Dan C. Goodier, Executive Director
Dan.Goodier@CCHudson.org
www.CCHudson.org

No Report Received

EVERGREEN RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Ken Arneson, President/CEO
1130 North Westfield Street
Oshkosh, WI 54902
(920) 233-2340
www.EvergreenOshkosh.com

No Report Received

HARBOR HOUSE CRISIS SHELTERS

A Ministry of Faith United Methodist Church

1531 Hughitt Ave., Superior, Wisconsin 54880 (715) 394-9608

info@harborhouseecs.org

www.harborhouseecs.org

Harbor House Crisis Shelters is *living, giving and loving beyond all expectation* through our mission to provide hospitable shelter, transitional living and services for homeless women and families. Our goal is to assist guests in attaining housing. Through our mission, we give others the opportunity to experience God's grace and love.

HHCS is the only one of its kind in Douglas County and serves the greater twin ports area. In 2010, HHCS provided shelter for 458 persons, providing over 12,000 shelter nights. Since opening in January 2001, we have served over 2,700 persons in seven bedrooms. Our Transitional Living Center served 53 people since 2008.

Some Highlights from 2010 are:

- We have been blessed by receiving enough donations and grants to pay for staffing, supplies, operational and programming expenses.
- Our priorities for case work continue to be: increase income; budgeting/credit reports; mental health/AODA referrals; other housing referrals; housing counseling; nutrition/parenting classes; and prevention of further incidences of homelessness.
- We continue with our "Children's Program" to assist children through crisis, anger, stress by providing life skill games, activities, parental hand-outs and off-site adventures.
- Host the sixth annual "Homeless Awareness Week," Nov. 13-20, 2009.
- We worked with Wildfire and many mission teams. We thank God and all those that have helped with projects. What a blessing!
- We have developed a "Life Skill" training program for our Transitional Living Center residents.
- We participated in a documentary, "I Believe You: A Faith Response to Domestic Violence." This was sponsored in part by the Women's Division of the United Methodist Church. The documentary aired on ABC affiliated stations in January and February 2011.

Goals for 2011 are:

- Celebrate Ten Years of Ministry through special offerings and events.
- Provide shelter for 400 persons and transitional living for 20.
- Network with United Methodist circuits and United Methodist women's groups to educate and promote HHCS.
- Develop more spiritual resources for participants in our programs.
- Continual visioning and planning for a third shelter building and/or second transitional living center.

My prayer is that our continued ministry will be a blessing and be blessed.

Rev. Barbara Certa-Werner, Executive Director

HILLCREST FAMILY SERVICES

Dubuque, IA

No Report Received - Second Year

MORROW MEMORIAL HOME

Sparta, Wisconsin

Live, Give, Love

The year 2010 was another excellent year in service to our Lord at Morrow Home Community.

Our Home continually experiences changes, yet many of our caregivers have not changed. All our key management individuals have remained the same this past year. These 12 people coordinate our focus of quality, Christian care. They lead our wonderful team of almost 230 caring, compassionate, and competent caregivers.

Along with our existing care services, 2010 was a year of major expansion. BridgePath, our new memory care and advanced assisted living project, began admitting residents in mid-January 2011. BridgePath is the finished product of a 3-year plan to complete our building "Circle of Care". We now offer senior living options from Independent with Services, to Assisted Living, to Advanced Assisted Living, to Memory Care Assisted Living, to Skilled Nursing. Our Young at Heart Child Care Center offers quality child care services to staff and community members. Morrow Meals in Motion, our home delivered meal program serves almost 50 home-bound seniors each weekday. Over the past two years, Mary Morrow's Attic, our thrift shop ministry, has donated over \$40,000 toward unbudgeted equipment needs.

The housing component of Morrow Home continues to be a growing focus of our care. All of our housing ministries were consistently over 95% full with waiting lists. Parkview Apartments consists of 22 units of one and two-bedroom apartments for independent senior housing. Homestead consists of 24 one-bedroom assisted living apartments. MaryCrest is our 24 one and two bedroom assisted living housing program.

Our 110-bed skilled nursing home also had a very positive year in providing quality care. We basked in the light of a State and Federal "perfect inspection" all year. Occupancy was consistently over 90% which is still above the Wisconsin average. Medicare accounted for almost 10% of our resident days.

Financially, Medicaid reimbursement, for our residents who have exhausted private funds, still lags behind our audited costs by over \$15 per day. We hope and pray the current Wisconsin state budget crisis will not affect the most vulnerable people – the oldest and the sickest – those in nursing homes such as Morrow Memorial Home.

The Morrow Home Foundation expensed over \$20,000 in educational scholarships, supplemental funding, and needed equipment. Again this past year our Golden Cross donations were designated toward uncompensated care. The Foundation's Christmas appeal was designated toward seating furniture and equipment which helps maintain skin integrity of our nursing home residents. Our Home is thankful to the Foundation for its willingness to further and continue the ministries of this Home.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

Morrow Memorial Home remains true to our mission of quality Christian care. We continually look toward meeting the needs of our present and future residents. Thank you for your support and prayers through the Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church. We thank the Lord for the blessings He showers upon our Home.

Michael Bonello, MPH, Executive Director

NORTHCOTT NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

2460 N. 6th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212
Ben Johnson, Chairperson
McArthur Weddle, Chief Executive Officer
weddlenh@aol.com
414-372-3770

No Report Received - Second Year

PARISH NURSE MINISTRIES

Parish nursing is a unique, specialized practice of professional nursing that focuses on the promotion of health within the context of the values, beliefs, and practices of a faith community, such as a church, synagogue, or mosque, and its mission and ministry to its members (families and individuals), and the community it serves. Parish Nursing is recognized as a calling to the health ministry of the United Methodist church.

Parish nurses serve in their local communities providing assistance and support when specific services are requested or needed. These services may include regular blood pressure screening at the church or in collaboration with a community agency, providing an opportunity for informal assessment and referral for appropriate evaluation and care when indicated. The parish nurse assists in obtaining or providing transportation when necessary for medical care or treatment. The nurse also assists families and individuals in interpreting, understanding and following through on medical/surgical interventions. Continuity of care and support is provided as the parish nurse communicates and works with other care givers including hospice and palliative care, recognizing individual physical and spiritual needs of patient and family in end of life situations.

The parish nurse is a resource person for the church and community writing regular newsletter articles, providing literature and hand-outs and creating bulletin boards and other displays for health education. Articles addressed are varied and my include issues such as Alzheimer's, diabetes, advance care planning and advance directives, cardiovascular disease, drug use and abuse, organ and tissue donation, breast, colon, prostate or other cancers and tick borne illnesses, as examples.

Parish nurses make home, hospital and nursing home visits providing emotional and spiritual support by their presence and prayers and bring the comfort of prayer shawls.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

In 2009, Parish Nurse Ministries became a sub committee of the Health and Welfare Ministry with a goal of identifying a parish nurse coordinator for each circuit within the conference. A web page was developed giving the history and mission of parish nursing, how to start a parish nurse program, a listing of available resources, list of conference parish nurses, information on scheduled seminars and workshops and a monthly newsletter article. Scholarships are available for seminars/workshops and also for nurses planning on pursuing certification in a parish nurse program and/or starting a parish nurse program at their church. Information on scholarships and applications may be directed to the Parish Nurse chair that can be found under the Health and Welfare Ministry web site.

The parish nurse sub committee continues to increase awareness and visibility of the position by participating in Annual Conference. Blood pressure screening has been provided for several years by parish nurses during the health screening process for clergy.

An educational display by parish nurses from throughout the conference has been a component of the display area. During the 2010 conference, the first annual Parish Nurse luncheon was held in LaCrosse with plans for the second luncheon to be held in Wisconsin Dells in June 2011.

Future goals of the Parish Nurse ministry are: writing an informational article for conference publication “Reflections”, increase awareness of educational opportunities and scholarships by increased use of the web sites, including the international parish nurse ministries web site, continue to promote a parish nurse coordinator in each circuit, establish a link to the parish nurse web site on E-news, elicit letters of support from pastors that have an active parish nurse ministry in their church, hold a Healing service to be led by Bishop Lee in 2012 and to continue to reach out to and receive input from more parish nurses within the conference.

Velma Hockenberry, Steering Committee Chair

SCHMITT WOODLAND HILLS, INC.

1400 West Seminary Street
Richland Center, WI 53581
Phone (608) 647-8931 FAX (608) 647-8050
Email: Schmitt@mwt.net
Website: www.schmittwoodlandhills.com
James B. Olson, Administrator

No Report Received

**SHEBOYGAN RETIREMENT HOME AND BEACH HEALTH
CARE CENTER, INC**

930 North 6th St.
Sheboygan, WI 53081
920-458-2137
920-458-5922 (FAX)
srh@retiresheboygan.com
www.retiresheboygan.com

No Report Received - Second Year

**UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S SERVICES OF
WISCONSIN, INC.**

Board of Directors President – Karen Tidwall

Executive Director – Perry G. Huyck

3940 West Lisbon Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53208-1868

Telephone: (414) 344-1818 Fax: (414) 344-2489 E-Mail: phumcs@execpc.com

United Methodist Children's Services 2010 in Review

With the new Washington Park Apartments fully occupied beginning in early February, United Methodist Children's Services (UMCS) is now home for 48 families. The transitional living program provides a goal based housing program with comprehensive social services for 18 single women and their children. UMCS Townhomes and Washington Park Apartments offer affordable housing for 30 families including ten families who come to us through the Milwaukee County Department of Behavioral Health.

Since mental health conditions are often a contributing factor in poverty, UMCS has a long history of working with individuals living with mental illness. With a direct relationship with Milwaukee County Behavioral Health, UMCS has made an intentional decision to insure that as we confront issues of poverty and homelessness we are also directly in ministry with families for whom mental illness is a major factor.

UMCS is building 14 more townhome units and a ten unit apartment building to be completed in 2012. Five of these units will also be designated for families referred through Milwaukee County Behavioral Health.

The family resource center is operating in its new and permanent location on the first floor of the Washington Park Apartment building. The food pantry is open three afternoons per week. When specialized food resources are available the pantry also operates an extra day specifically for families of Asian descent. The clothing and household items program is open on Thursdays. Families also have the opportunity to obtain these resources when they visit during food pantry hours. UMCS continues to distribute United States Department of Agriculture commodities to income eligible senior citizens, post-partum women, and children in the first year after they age out of the Women Infants and Children (WIC) program. In the family resource center UMCS served over 50,000 people in 2010.

Enrollment is up in the Growing Tree Children's Center as the city and state crack down on and close disreputable daycare programs in our neighborhood. The dedicated staff of teachers continues to offer a stimulating and loving environment for babies to pre-teens.

UMCS is increasingly involved in the efforts of our neighborhood partners to create a sustainable community. As the convening organization for the Washington Park Partners (WPP) UMCS has led an effort to identify the priorities for the residents, businesses and organizations in the neighborhood and develop strategies to meet those priorities.

Financial reality

With the cuts in apportionment support over the last four years along with drops in individual donor giving during a difficult economic period our yearly revenue is down

\$100,000. While it sounds noble to be doing more with less, the reality is that we have only one social worker when we critically need two. Many of the residents and neighbors with whom we are in ministry need more intense social service support that can be stretched over one social workers time. We do not have adequate janitorial or maintenance staff to meet the needs of our growing facilities. While one sympathetic supporter suggested that we might need to cut back our level of care to adjust to the current economic reality, we know that the only way to be faithful in the ministry to which we are called is to seek new revenue streams while calling upon our historic source of support, The United Methodist Church and individual United Methodists, to find creative new ways to give generously through apportionment and direct giving.

Cindy Thompson, Development Director

UNITED METHODIST HOSPITALS MINISTRY

What is this ministry? This ministry is an approved **ADVANCE** of the Annual Conference and funding is solicited from congregations and individuals as well as through the Health & Welfare Committee of the Conference Board of Global Ministries.

The United Methodist Hospitals Ministry provides a part time (0.5 f.t.e.) chaplain who visits United Methodists hospitalized in the Madison hospitals. The chaplain visits those who come from a distance (beyond the immediate Madison area) and provides a connectional link with the local congregations and pastors. The chaplain communicates with the person's pastor when appropriate and becomes a ministry presence when the pastor is not able to visit because of distance or timeliness.

A chaplaincy committee of lay and clergy persons oversees the work of the chaplain, sets goals and compensation, and assists in fund raising. This ministry is regularly communicated to congregations throughout the Wisconsin Conference by the work of the chaplain and chaplaincy committee through personal appearances and contacts, informational mailing updates and at Annual Conference.

What is the history of this ministry and major accomplishments in recent years?

This ministry began some time in the 1950's when the part time Methodist Hospital Chaplain of Madison visited Methodists in the other hospitals on behalf of the Methodist Church. In the late 1960's when the Methodist Hospital chaplain became full time at the hospital, this ministry was picked up by one or two congregations in Madison who affirmed the need to provide a healing ministry within the area hospitals. It has evolved from parish pastors providing care, to a volunteer chaplain and finally to a paid part time chaplain early in the 1980's and became what it is today an Annual Conference **ADVANCE** ministry program through the Health & Welfare Committee and the Board of Global Ministries. It continues to be a viable ministry today as persons hospitalized are sicker, stays are shorter and parish pastors are stretched for adequate time to visit parishioners in the distant Madison hospitals. It has provided spiritual care and comfort to many United Methodists hospitalized and has strengthened (sometimes re-established) the connections with local pastors and churches.

2011 Wisconsin Conference Reports

The challenge remains high each year to provide the funding to continue to salary this part time chaplaincy. The program is primarily dependent upon giving from churches and individuals. Some funds are also contributed to this mission **ADVANCE** from Golden Cross and BGM Funding through Conference apportionment giving.

In 2010, the chaplain and chaplaincy committee produced an informational DVD of the UMHM and premiered it at Annual Conference. It was sent to each pastoral charge to be used as an educational and mission option for church support of the ministry.

In September, 2010 our chaplain for 16 years Rev. Fid Sailor resigned due to health concerns. The immediate goal was to recruit, hire and orient a chaplain to step into the ministry.

Our new chaplain is hired - Rev. Jane Follmer Zekoff

Rev. Jane Follmer Zekoff was hired and began this UMHM chaplaincy in October receiving an appointment to this Extension Ministry by Bishop Linda Lee. Her skills and experience as a pastor and her specialized training for the chaplaincy has allowed her to step right into this ministry bringing comfort to many as they receive their health care in Madison hospitals.

This ministry is primarily pastoral and is a supportive, healing ministry focused upon those United Methodists hospitalized in Madison's 3 major hospitals...Meriter, St. Marys and University Hospitals. Chaplain Jane's presence supports the person's faith in the midst of their health care as well as fostering the connections with their pastor and home church. Our chaplain finds that many people have become disconnected from the church for a variety of reasons. Often, the chaplain has the opportunity to assist persons re-establish those connections. Through conversation, encouragement and personal connections to local pastors, former parishioners have found new support and care from the Church and pastor back home.

UM Hospitals Ministry's goals are . . .

1. To visit United Methodists who live beyond the immediate Madison area and are hospitalized in Madison hospitals (Meriter, St. Marys and University Hospitals).
2. To communicate with the patient's pastor and church when appropriate for continuity of ministry, support and appropriate follow-up when patient returns home.
3. To communicate the mission of the United Methodist Hospitals Ministry to pastors, church leaders and members throughout the Wisconsin Conference and to solicit the prayers of healing and financial support for the program.
4. To continue to develop, and inform pastors, church members and individuals of the long term program financial goals and to solicit giving through the United Methodist Hospitals Ministry's Endowment Fund administered through the Wisconsin Conference Foundation. With the use of the UMHM DVD, new means of communication will be explored such as through the Conference Website and District/Circuit information channels for further publicize the chaplaincy program and ministry.

For More Information . . .

Please contact **Chaplain Jane Follmer Zekoff** regarding visitation of persons from your church who are hospitalized in one of Madison hospitals. **Phone: 608-772-1704** Jane's home address is **W8212 Stockbridge Court, Lake Mills, WI 53551** She can also be contacted by e-mail: MadisonHospitalsChaplain@wisconsinumc.org

The **Chairperson of the UMHM Chaplaincy Committee** is **Rev. Bob Eagle**. He can be contacted for further information about the ministry and the work of its chaplaincy committee.

Phone: **608-835-9330** or by e-mail: suebobeagle@yahoo.com

THE VILLAGE AT MANOR PARK

The Village at Manor Park has not submitted a report to the Wisconsin Annual Conference since 2002.