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A. ACTION FOLLOWING THE 2012 SESSION

1) Items for Action - These Items for Action required further work to implement them following the adjournment of the 2012 session.

Petitions:

Ethnic Local Church Concerns petitioned the conference to continue the ELCC special asking until the fund reaches \$750,000 (an increase necessitated by the increased number of ethnic churches.) This was implemented by the Conference Treasurer and the asking continues to appear in the budget.

Another petition asked for the development of a curriculum on faith and science for the use of the local church. The Board of Church and Society was charged with implementing this petition and has begun the work. Quoting from the Board's report in this workbook, "The board has tasked the Rev. Richard Randolph with beginning this work. Initial steps have been made and a preview of a lesson plan will be shared at the Board luncheon this year. It is our hope that this work will be continued as an emphasis by the Great Plains Annual Conference."

A final petition asked for the discontinuance of the "Commissioned Lay Speaker" certification. This petition was submitted and has been implemented by the Kansas East Conference Committee on Lay Speaking Ministries.

2) Leadership Action Team Report

Approved Capital Campaign Expenditures:

These Memos of Understanding were approved for distributions of funds from the Bridges to the Future account, pending confirmation from the Conference Treasurer that adequate funds have been received:

- \$45,000 to New Church Development for Nueva Vida Ministry in Holton, Topeka District (approved October 13, 2012)
- \$12,5000 to New Church Development for Living Water new church start, Kansas City District (approved October 13, 2012)
- \$27,500 to New Church Development for support of Director of Hispanic Ministries (approved October 13, 2012)
- \$50,000 to New Church Development for Palabra de Esperanza Ministry, Kansas City District (approved October 13, 2012)
- \$12,500 to New Church Development for LifeBridge new church start, Kansas City District (approved October 13, 2012)
- \$5,000 to support of Center for Small Membership Churches, Kansas Area (approved October 13, 2012)
- 9. \$13,151 to support of Transition into Ministry program, Kansas Area (approved October 13, 2012)
- \$2,106.59 to United Methodist Campus Ministry at Emporia State University for capital improvements (approved October 13, 2012)
- \$9,500 to United Methodist Campus Ministry at Pittsburg State University for sidewalk replacement (approved March 2, 2013)

Urban Ministry Grants:

Funds from the sale of closed urban churches were being held to be used to benefit urban ministries, so a task force from the Leadership Team was formed to write a strategic plan for the use of these funds and any accumulated in the future. That was done and in the fall of 2012, current churches in the conference's urban areas of Johnson, Wyandotte and Shawnee counties were invited to submit applications for grants from this fund. In December 2012, the Leadership Team by email vote approved the grant proposals from Olathe Grace UMC, Trinity UMC of KCK, and Topeka First UMC.

B. CONFERENCE REPORTS

Board of Church and Society

Kurt Cooper, Chairperson

Our Vision . . . Local congregations involved with and actively engaging issues of peace and justice in society.

Our Mission . . . To work toward God's kingdom by advocating for peace and justice in society.

Our work as a board for the past conference year began at our Kansas East Conference Board of Church and Society luncheon at Annual Conference. The theme for the 2012 luncheon was "Raising Justice Issues in the Local Church." The luncheon featured a panel consisting of the Rev. Frank Dorsey, Rev. Larry Keller and Jeanette Grenz.

The KEC Board of Church and Society supported a petition from the Rev. Frank Dorsey entitled "Local Church Education: Faith and Science." The petition called for the Conference Board of Church and Society to develop an educational program on faith and science for the local church and to report to the 2013 Annual Conference as to the content and methodology of the study with recommendations for implementation. The board has tasked the Rev. Richard Randolph with beginning this work. Initial steps have been made and a preview of a lesson plan will be shared at the Board luncheon this year. It is our hope that this work will be continued as an emphasis by the Great Plains Annual Conference.

9.

Rev. Kurt Cooper was selected to serve on the General Board of Church and Society at the South Central Jurisdictional Conference 2012. Kurt currently serves on the Education and Leadership Formation, Human Welfare and the Native American Ministries subcommittees of GBCS. In addition, Kurt is representing GBCS on the Global AIDS Fund.

The KEC BCS awarded several "Peace with Justice" grants during the last conference year. These grants are made possible by the "Peace with Justice" general church offering taken each May.

1. A grant was made to Rev. Hyun Jung Choi and Rev. Patrick McLaughlin to attend the Young Clergy Formation Event at the GBCS.
2. A grant was made to Rev. Kurt Cooper to attend the Community Organizing Event at GBCS.
3. A grant was made to Rev. Kathy Williams to help her attend the Direct Action Research Training (DART) in relation to the Topeka JUMP program.
4. A grant was made to the Rev. Marcee Binder to attend 2013 Conference of the National Association of Ecumenical and Interreligious Staff.

The KEC BCS was represented on the Great Plains Dream Team for Mission

and Justice. The Board supports the work of this team, especially in the area of asking for both a mission and a justice staff person in the Great Plains Annual Conference.

The KEC BCS continues to relate to the Committee on Native American Ministries, the Kansas Coalition for the Abolition of the Death Penalty, the Legislative Event for Advocacy and Faith, and Kansas Ecumenical Ministries.

The theme of our 2013 Annual Conference luncheon will be “Local Church Education: Faith and Science”. Rev. Richard Randolph will lead us through a sample lesson of the proposed curriculum.

Board of Discipleship

Melinda Harwood, Chairperson

2013 is a year of transition as the Kansas East Conference Board of Discipleship seeks to help local churches move forward as we consolidation three conferences, Kansas East, Kansas West and Nebraska into one: The Great Plains Conference. We have prayed for and supported the work of the Transition Team.

The Board of Discipleship continues to make resources for “Guest Quest” being shared from the Kansas West Conference available to all Kansas East Churches.

9. Guest Quest is a person-to-person approach for reaching and receiving the nominal Christian and unchurched people into the United Methodist Church. It is an evangelism tool first written in the 1970s by Bishop Scott Jones for the North Texas Conference. It has been updated into a workbook. It is an easy to follow plan and outline which can be implemented or adapted to any size or context of church. Guest Quest is a useable model for inviting, nurturing and growing people to follow Christ. Training for “Guest Quest” is provided by the Board of Discipleship for a church before they begin and as they continue. A video series for the training will also be available in summer of 2013. Look for “Guest Quest” on Facebook.

The Board of Discipleship continues to award Scholarships to lay people seeking Christian Education.

The Board of Discipleship continues to honor excellence in evangelism with the Harry Denman Evangelism Award at Annual Conference.

Board of Global Ministries

Sue Luttrell, Chairperson

The Kansas East Conference Board of Global Ministries has shown God’s love to many both locally and nationally, as well as internationally. The job of the Board of Global Ministries is to connect the global mission work of the General Board of Global Ministries and the KEC to the local churches and to involve the local churches in this work of the Body of Christ. KEC Board of Global Ministries

administers and distributes a number of mission-oriented funds.

We distribute monies from the Bishop's Round-Up for Hunger to three areas: Mexico – Give Ye Them To Eat, Good Samaritan; Haiti Student Scholarships; and KEC wide Hunger agencies. We support the VIM Teams with scholarships and program grants. Our two Star-Thrower calls this past year were to Susanna Wesley Elementary School, Anapra, Mexico, and Coalfield Ministries, Gary, West Virginia. The Church and Community Worker from our conference, Dee Ann Heptas, has been assigned to the Coalfield Ministries. This year we are supporting two of our members to attend the Ecumenical Advocacy Days in Washington, D. C., Rev. Diana Chapel, Ogden Friendship House, and Marcee Binder, Local Pastor at Angola and Valeda UMC. We also supported the Wings of Caring Ministry in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Committees and programs that relate to the Board of Global Ministries include: Bishop's Round-Up for Hunger, VIM/Disaster Response, Kansas Health and Wellness, and Haiti Task Force

Secretary of Global Ministries

Camille Sutton

Last year in 2012 our Kansas East Conference total donations to the General Board of Global Ministries and the Advance amounted to \$329,365.51. This was up from the offerings given in 2011 by \$15,803.42. Good work! The Advance is our United Methodist way to give and know that every dollar will be going to the intended project. One Great Hour of Sharing supports our Administrative costs. Supporting Special Sundays is vital. Every penny helps.

We are called to focus on the Great Commission that Jesus gave us in Matthew 28:18-20: And Jesus came and spoke to them (and us) saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

I went to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma for training this last year, which was a great blessing. The programs I visited there were excellent. I also visited the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Office, which was very informative. This will be my last year as your Conference Secretary, so please remember to be in prayer for the new person, whether we continue to be divided into our three conferences as Conference Secretaries or have one individual for the Great Plains Conference. We in Kansas East had the joy of sending a new person into the mission field from our Conference last year. Her name is Dee Ann Heptas and I'm sure we will be hearing wonderful things about the work she is doing here in the US as a Church and Community Worker She is serving in the coal fields of West Virginia. Other missionaries we currently support are Cynthia Ceballos in Panama; Terry

Henderson at “Give Ye Them to Eat,” in Mexico, Carolyn (Dee Dee) Heffner at McCurdy School in New Mexico; Frido Kinkolenge in Liberia, Africa (he visited us at Annual Conference last year and was very inspiring), Nan McCurdy in Nicaragua; Sandra Kaye Raasch in Honduras; Michelle Ozier, Mission Intern formerly serving in Mizak, Haiti; Hector Sanchez as Director of “La Mission La Esperanza in Emporia, KS; Helen Sheperd in missions/health care in Mongolia; and Mark and Rebecca Smallwood, teachers at Red Bird Mission School in Beverly, Kentucky. We had a missionary visiting in Flint Hills District that I heard about second hand. Be sure and let your Conference Secretary know if you have missionaries coming. It is the Conference Secretary’s responsibility to help with their itinerary. No missionaries are scheduled to visit this year.

As you know, we at Kansas East have a Covenant Relationship with Haiti. Many VIM teams have been to Haiti from Kansas East and we continue to support the people of Haiti through several different programs. Other donation emphases were for Japan and other International Disaster Response, Aids Orphans in Africa, Heifer International, Nothing But Nets and the list goes on. Surely we are doing the work of the Lord around the world. During 2011 offerings for the US Disaster Response the US church as a whole gave \$1,858,277.00 and for the spring storms \$5,707,638.00. We are a giving church.

9. Thanks for all you do in prayer and action to further the work of our Lord and Savior around the world. When you keep your lamps lit, Jesus’ light is shining! God bless you all. Thank you for my time as Conference Secretary of Global Ministries for Kansas East Conference.

Conference Advance Specials Report (see Items for Conference Action)

Board of Pensions and Health Benefits Tammy Shepherd, Chairperson **Board Governance**

Members of the Board of Pension and Health Benefits elected the following officers for 2012-13: Tammy Shepherd, chair; Dotson Bradbury, vice-chair; and, Patricia Caruthers, secretary.

The Board consists of eight laity, one retired clergy member and three active clergy members. Ex-officio members include the Conference Treasurer, the Conference Benefits Officer, Carol Fusaro, CFA Representative, Jan Todd, and Cabinet Rep, Rev. Kay Scarbrough.

The Board has an Investment Committee for the purpose of advising the Board regarding the investment of funds in the Conference’s Discretionary Fund Account.

It remains the desire of the Board to continue using the resources of the General Board’s Investment Committee for the investment of our discretionary account

and it is our opinion that the Multiple Asset Fund offered the greatest potential for conservation of principle and reasonable growth within the guidelines of our investment policy statement.

Health Insurance

We continue offering Cigna for active members in 2013, again with no increase in rates to the local churches from 2012. Although premiums increased in 2011 and 2012, the Board used reserve funds to absorb most of the premium increase that occurred. In five years, local churches have only had a \$50 per month increase!

Much of this success is due to our broker consultant, Lockton, who assists in obtaining bids from various insurance carriers, negotiating the premiums, assisting with implementation, and providing other value-added services related to health insurance.

Retiree health insurance remains with Humana and had no premium increase in 2012 or 2013.

The Cigna plan features a pre-tax Health Savings Account with a high-deductible to encourage consumers to shop around and use their benefit dollars more carefully. Using reserve funds, the Board funded \$600 into each single participant's Health Savings Account and \$900 in each family participant's Health Savings Account in January so that participants would have some funds available immediately. Another \$600 is funded throughout the year by local church direct-bill premiums.

As in the past, to encourage clergy participation in a "wellness program", each full-time clergy, upon showing evidence of an annual physical examination by a doctor, will receive one month's waiver of his/her clergy contribution. The cost of this benefit is borne by the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits. It is also suggested that each clergy person remember take his/her recommended vacation time to encourage wholeness of the body, spirit and mind.

Life Insurance

We continue to offer affordable voluntary life insurance. This benefit is available to any clergy or lay staff member who works at least 30 hours per week. 55 people elected this benefit in 2012. The benefit can be portable when employees terminate.

Short Term and Long Term Disability Insurance for Lay Employees

During 2012, we jointly purchased short-term and long-term disability benefits for lay Conference employees in Kansas East and Kansas West using Board reserve funds. Previously lay employees had no disability benefits.

Short Term Disability Insurance for Clergy

Prior to July 1, 2012, when a pastor had a medical leave, the local churches paid

the full salary of the pastor for up to 6 months until incapacity leave applies, and also paid interim clergy as well. Although this happened infrequently, it was a significant hardship for a local church when it happened. Bids from insurance companies for clergy were cost prohibitive, while the local churches, not the clergy, bear the cost of the disability.

Effective July 1, 2012, the Board will reimburse a local church for the cost of interim pastoral services when a full-time or part-time (half-time or more) clergy is unable to perform the duties of their appointment due to a documented medical disability exceeding 30 days. The local church continues to pay the full salary of the appointed individual.

This short-term disability benefit was used once through March.

Retirement Benefits

9. Prior to 2008, the Conference had enjoyed an over-funded position in the Pre-82 Pension Plan, and those additional funds were used to reduce the overall cost of pension benefits to local churches in 2008. However, the 2008 economic downturn significantly eroded the over-funded position in the Pre-82 pension plan, so no excess funds were available to fund the 2009 or 2010 retirement contributions. The retirement funding in excess of those paid by the local churches in this Conference were made from Board reserve funds in both years.

The Pre-82 fund balance has improved, therefore, the Pre-82 excess was used to fund the 2011 and 2012 retirement contributions in excess of those paid by the local churches in this Conference. We plan to do the same in 2013, as long as the Pre-82 fund funding is not reduced below 120%.

In 2013, the percentage of compensation billed to local churches was unchanged from the rates that have been in place since 2010. The 2013 retirement contributions in excess of those paid by local churches will be funded first from the Pre-82 fund, and then out of the Board's General Reserve Fund if needed.

	2012	2013
CPP death & disability	3%	3%
CRSP defined contributions	3%	3%
CRSP defined benefit	6%	6%
Total	12%	12%

The General Board of Pensions has given conferences a 3 year "holiday" on CPP premiums that began in 2011 which is saving our Conference approximately \$300,000 per year. The Board funded the pension, death and disability premiums of Conference employees in 2012 which was about \$170,000.

Other Board Activities

The Board sponsored one clergy seminar, providing up-to-date information in regards to pension benefits, social security benefits, financial planning, health and wellness. These educational opportunities have been well attended and appreciated.

The Board leased two of the Oil & Gas mineral rights in Oklahoma. Funds received are invested in the Oil & Gas reserve fund.

The Board received and approved one request for assistance through March.

The Board maintains written guidelines for emergency grants:

The Board will receive requests from active and retired clergy, surviving spouses, and local clergy.

An individual may receive one grant in any given year.

A grant will not be approved if a previous grant has been given for the same emergency.

Requests for grants need to be verified by the individual's District Superintendent.

Grants are limited to a maximum of \$3,000 per year.

Each grant will be reviewed on an individual basis and will be based on merit and need.

The Board received no Farmer Fund Grant requests and no requests for incapacity leave through March.

9.

Board of Trustees

Neil Gately, Chairperson

Camping Ministry Team

Paul Wolf, Chairperson

In Franklin County, Kansas, a little camp lodge shaped like an arrowhead sits tucked away at the end of a gravel road, nestled in a wood, just to the east of a prairie grass pasture and points north. True north. It is part of a dream that transformed tragedy to promise, loss to blessing, grief to hope. Prayed for, sacrificed for, sweated and toiled for these many years, the gift of land that was given to the Kansas Conference of the Methodist Church on April 15, 1958, by the parents and grandparents of Barbara Ellen Funk after her death in a car-train wreck three years before, was built upon the dream that it would become a Christian Camp in the Methodist tradition and bless many children and families.

That dream has not only come true, it is growing, developing, emerging and expanding every year--touching more lives, healing more hearts, inspiring more campers, raising up more leaders, serving more churches, and changing more lives in the name and in the Spirit of the Risen Christ--and now, grown to an expansive 650 acres, as the Camping and Retreat Center of the Kansas East Conference, Camp Chippewa is poised and ready to join five other conference camping and retreat centers in serving the mission, ministry and people in the new Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church. Praise God!

Here are some updates from Jessica Thompson, our Conference Camp Director: things that have happened, are happening, or will be happening at Camp Chippewa:

Bridges to the Future Projects Completed (All projects included)

- Middle Cabin renovated to include new staff lounge and more adult friendly facilities
- Site House Renovations, including apartment addition for Site Director
- Zero entrance added to pool to allow for all abilities to use equally
- Pool area renovated
- New exit added to main road for better flow of traffic
- Main road widened and reinforced
- Service roads fixed for emergency vehicle access
- North and South Cabin Renovated
- Asbury Lodge Renovated and made completely handicap accessible

2012 Facts (By the Numbers...)

- 32 different camps offered
- 555 total number of participants
- 48 volunteers throughout the summer
- \$12,120 raised in Annual Appeal
- \$10,468 raised in other donations

9.

Goals of Camp 2013

- Every camper walks away with a new skill
- Every camper, staff member, and volunteer walks away with a new way to look at their faith journey
- Every camper, staff member, and volunteer has the opportunity to be a spiritual leader

NEW!

- Additional worship area developed in memory of Denise Kaff
- Community garden planted with opportunities for campers to help with the process
- New natural pasture management system developed
- Daily program schedule reformatted, producing better quality programming and allowing opportunities for campers to help select daily activities
- Young Adult Ministry developed for summer staff

Beyond Summer Camp - Map for the Journey

- Established lasting relationships and connections in the local community, local university, and members of The United Methodist Church
- Partnerships with organizations in the local community to allow more youth and adults access to Camp Chippewa throughout the year. Organizations include: Big Brothers & Big Sisters, Communities in Schools, COF (Coffey – Osage - Franklin), Ottawa Public Library, Kansas Department of Wildlife

and Tourism, and many more!

- Partnership with Ottawa University to provide quality environmental education program at camp during off season in future
- Continued commitment to our special needs programs and retreats

Camp Chippewa, Kansas East Conference, and the new Great Plains Conference remain committed to the Eight Vital Reasons at the heart of United Methodist Camp and Retreat Ministries as we:

1. CONTINUE TO LIVE OUT OUR WESLEYAN HERITAGE
2. DEVELOP CHRISTIAN SPIRITUAL LEADERS
3. PROVIDE INTENTIONAL PLACES APART TO CONNECT WITH GOD
4. EXTEND GENUINE CHRISTIAN HOSPITALITY AND COMMUNITY
5. NURTURE FAITH AND DISCIPLESHIP
6. DIRECTLY COLLABORATE WITH UM CHURCHES AND AGENCIES
7. TEACH CREATION CARE AND APPRECIATION
8. EQUIP GUESTS AND GUEST GROUPS TO DO LOVE AND JUSTICE

The arrow-shaped structure I mentioned at the outset of this report is Coldsmith Lodge. It is an historic, rustic campsite at the heart of Chippewa's legacy and lore, and it faces true north--the compass point for hikers and campers. True North - the Pole Star, has guided the journeys of armies and navies, human migration and exploration for millennia. At Chippewa the Pole Star is Jesus Christ, and all that we do is centered upon serving, honoring, glorifying, and sharing the Good News God revealed to us in him.

9.

To you, the wonderful souls of the Kansas East Conference--Thank you for all the years you've blessed children, youth, young adults, community groups, service organizations, churches, special needs camps, and even prisoner's families as, with your support, we've ministered the Gospel of Christ to a river of souls in the beauty of God's Creation. With your continued prayers, work teams, retreats, camps, district events, conference events, and financial support, Camp Chippewa's amazing team will rise to meet the dawning challenge of The Great Plains as the Journey continues--thanks be to God!

Respectfully submitted,

ADDENDA: A Litany of Names in the Life of Camp Chippewa

This year, 2013, is a milestone in our conference, an ending and a beginning; it is the right time to name some of the past and present saints in the life of Camp Chippewa, to thank God for their vision, energy, effort and time spent supporting this sacred place:

Bishop Scott J. Jones, (and his predecessors), our Five District Superintendents, (and their predecessors), and the strategic support of the Kansas East Conference Board of Trustees

The Munsee Nation & its leaders

Standing Bear Drum Group Don & Jay Henderson Jim McKenney Jeff Blackman	Larry Wiliford Howard Sudduth Jessica Thompson Phyllis Garrett	Annette Zorn Wren Ann McKinnen Jenna Merriman Robert & Susan Hirsch
Olin "Doc" and Maxine Wollen Earl Miller Beth Miller Dr. L.B. Sharp	Sharon Howell Mrs. Walter Crawford Joyce Wilson James Nabors Al Pope	Jim Schmitz Larry Buss Howard Johnson Sue Steanson Roger Noah Morgan Whitaker Smith
Gordon W. Coldsmith Leon Hayen Guy & Ruth Briscoe Gene Taylor Bill Hurtig	Robert Kendall Stan Hughes Ed Hubbard Peggy Riley Denise Kaff Neil Heidrick	Randy Quinn Mariah Quinn Caroline Bigham Pauline Clugston Brenda Davids
Max & Dee Friesen Harold Cunard Alan & Kathy Baumgartner Harvey & Nancy Fasse	Bill & Leona Winter Toby Toburen Charles & Wini Munson Alan Unruh	Bishop Scott Jones Gary Beach Evelyn Fisher Julie Baldwin
9. Pat Cook LeRoy Foreman Beverly McCurdy Peachez Joles Gloria Young	Hiram Browning Joe Black Anne McCurdy Kirk Stephen Dawson Blaze Blazina	Linda Hopwood Gayla Anderson J.R. Glenn
Susan Montgomery Francis Stockton Larry Bowyer Brenda Davids Dale Lewis	Rob Hedges Jerry Grabher Dave Smerchek Janie Weeks	Lonnie Bailey Roger Dressler Dale Fooshee Chief Jan English Steve & Mary Jane Shewmake
Clancy & Becky Moore Chuck Shaffer Sean Atchley Kathleen Whitmore James Rickner	CONAM Eduardo Bousson Karen Jeffcoat	

...and some gentle equine friends who've carried our children, our youth, our young adults and our not-so-young adults through the years--

War Horse, Buck, Goldie, Shiloh, Bingo, Skeeter, Pepper, Kiowa, Apache, Shannon, Lady, Babe, Red Wing, Blondie, Princess, Big Red, Prince, Hollywood Star, Honey, Ann, Silver, Beaver, Comanche, Seven Up, Bubble Up, Pepper, Sugar, Dancer, Baby Doll, Cowboy, Cody, Trixy, Jack, Tanner, Brandy, Chance, Milli, Cotton, Freckles, Champ, Daisy, Honey, Sky, Gunner, Jigger and Buddy

May the pastures they graze ever be filled with sweet grass, cool shade, abundant light, and loving care.

Campus Ministries (also see area campus ministries report in Section D)

Baker University

Ira L. DeSpain, Minister to the University

It's been another productive year of relational and incarnational ministry. The task of our campus ministry is to meet students where they are and be available as a resource for spiritual growth. Campus ministry is an integral part of the life and fabric of the university. Weekly chapel services are held each Thursday in Osborne Memorial Chapel. By university practice, no classes are held during chapel to allow students who wish to attend to do so. This also witnesses to the long-standing affiliation of Baker as a proud institution of higher learning, related to the United Methodist Church. In that spirit, we strive for the Wesleyan union of knowledge and vital piety.

9.

The ministry work at Baker is highly ecumenical. About 25% of our students are Roman Catholic. The local priest in Baldwin City celebrates Catholic mass in Osborne Chapel on our campus each Tuesday. He also attends Thursday Chapel and has developed some great relationships of ministry here as a partner in faith. A variety of Bible Study activities occur across the campus. For the 20th year, we sponsored an alternative spring break community service trip. We partner with other campus organizations to collect food, relate to St. Jude's Children's hospital, the Susan G. Komen breast cancer research, Children's Miracle Network, and agencies that assist in assisting victims of domestic violence.

In November 2012, the University Senate of the United Methodist Church made its accreditation visit and Baker University was granted a complete 10 year accreditation extension.

Emporia State University

Kurt Cooper, Campus Minister

Our Vision . . . to be in ministry with the university community.

Our Mission . . . to engage the university with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The 2012-2013 school year has been an exciting time to be in ministry on

campus. At United Methodist Campus Ministry at Emporia State University our ministry continues to focus on worship, fellowship, study, service, leadership, and residential life. Each of these areas offers unique opportunities for ministry with students and the university community.

Worship: A weekly worship gathering called “relevant” meets on Thursday nights in the chapel at Emporia First United Methodist Church. “relevant” is best described as a student centered worship gathering where are encouraged to not only be present, but to take on an active role in worship leadership. The weekly “relevant” gathering is at the core of the work we do with students at Emporia State University.

Fellowship: Each Monday night students gather for a weekly fellowship meal. The meal is provided most weeks by an area church or ministry. This is a great time for students to gather, to share in fellowship and to build a safe and caring community. In addition to the weekly meal a variety of fellowship activities are offered each semester.

9. **Study:** Each week students have the opportunity to participate in Bible study or topical studies related to the Christian faith. This past year students have had the opportunity to use the “Tex Mix” curriculum featuring Tex Sample. In addition, there is an ongoing college aged Sunday school class at Emporia First United Methodist Church that is led by the campus ministry staff.

Service: Students have continued to work this past year on a community garden on the property behind the campus ministry center. This has been the primary focus of student service efforts this past year.

Leadership: Over the past year two students have served as Student Associates at the UMCM center. Kajsa Mullenix and Sarah Roemer have provided excellent leadership. They help with weekly ministry tasks and meet every other week with the campus minister to discuss responsibilities. In addition, several other students are involved in weekly music leadership at “relevant.” This past fall six students attended the “Imagine What’s Next” conference in Saint Louis Missouri sponsored by the United Methodist Student Movement. For spring break ten students went on a study tour of the Civil Rights Movement.

Residential Life: The UMCM center at ESU is a residential center. This past year four students have called the UMCM center home. Ethan Francis, Angela Moore, Gannon Kendrick and Hannah Lynch have lived in the UMCM center during the 2012-2013 school year. Students have weekly house duties and a monthly house meeting with the campus minister. The resident life program is designed so that students can continue to shape their faith during college by choosing to live in a Christ-centered community.

Our ministry on campus would not happen were it not for the support of the Mis-

sion and Ministry giving of the Kansas East Conference. Continued thanks is given to all who have supported the Bridges to the Future capital campaign for Kansas United Methodists. UMCM at ESU continues to reap the benefits of this wonderful campaign!

K-State Wesley

Mike Toluba, Campus Minister

God continues to do amazing things through K-State Wesley! God is using our ministry to connect new young adults with Wesley on a regular basis. God has empowered a very devoted student leadership team, which currently includes three ministry interns. Chelesa Shrack and Lori Patton, both graduates of Kansas State University, are our outreach and discipleship interns respectively. Chelsea Willems, a junior at Kansas State University, is our mission intern. All of our interns have poured much time, energy, and love into our campus ministry this year.

With years of hard work and the generosity of many people, all major renovations including the main kitchen at our campus ministry center have been completed. We believe our United Methodist campus ministry at Kansas State University is poised for making a huge impact for God's kingdom on campus and around our community for many years to come.

Our campus ministry revolves around the commitments of community, worship, and discipleship. Community happens at K-State Wesley through our residential community, Sunday night meals, small groups, social gatherings, and simply being together on campus, at Wesley, and around Manhattan. Worship at Wesley happens weekly on Tuesday and Sunday nights. During the Fall 2012 semester, 147 different students/ young adults attended at least one worship gathering and our weekly average is 80 people. Discipleship happens at Wesley through our small groups, teaching in worship, mission experiences, and service in our community. We believe Jesus is calling K-State Wesley to be people who are devoted to studying scripture, praying together, living in community, serving the world, and sharing the Gospel with people.

The Fall 2012 semester has especially been a banner semester for missions at K-State Wesley. We have added at least one monthly mission/service opportunity for college students. In September, the emphasis was our ongoing after school ministry at the Ogden Friendship House. The October focus was baking cookies and delivering cookies to Emergency Workers in Manhattan and Change the World Sunday with Manhattan FUMC. In November, students helped with the cleanup following the College Ave. UMC rummage sale and packed shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. During December, our students sang Christmas carols for patients at Mercy Hospital and participated in the Adopt-A-Family effort with the Flint Hills Breadbasket. Plus, we are very excited about our Spring Mission Trip to Dallas, Texas in May 2013.

Thank you for your continued love and support of K-State Wesley. We appreciate

your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness so very much. My prayer is that God will use our campus ministry for His kingdom in mighty ways at Kansas State University, in our community, throughout Kansas, and around the world!

Pittsburg State Campus Ministry

Josh Gooding, Campus Minister

Greetings from Gorilla Wesley, your United Methodist campus ministry at Pittsburg State University! It is our hope to provide students – both those who have been involved in United Methodist congregations and programs in the past and those who are new to our tradition – with opportunities for spiritual growth through worship, study, service and fellowship. Our goal is to help prepare these students to become leaders in their congregations and the conference.

This year has been one of continued growth for our ministry. Both Pastor Joohyung Kim, who graciously ministers to our Korean population as well by leading a Friday night worship experience in Korean, and myself still are fairly new here, but we each are working to connect with new people and engage them in spiritual growth. This year, we have begun to work more intentionally to bridge the two portions of our ministry.

9. We also have continued to benefit from the funds raised through the Bridges to the Future campaign, which have allowed us to transform our facility into a space that is better set up for student residents. The fruit of that work is that we have six residents, from both the English and Korean-speaking portions of our ministry, who will be living with us in Christian community for the 2013-2014 academic year. Each resident brings a particular passion and set of gifts that we hope will allow her or him to be a fantastic student leader in our ministry and help expand our reach as well.

Additionally, this year, we brought five students to St. Louis to participate in the Imagine What's Next conference hosted by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, which really got them excited the difference they could make on our campus. We also travelled to Mountain T.O.P. in Tennessee with five students for a spring break mission trip. The trip had not yet taken place at the time this report was due.

As we look toward next year, we at Gorilla Wesley are excited about the opportunities we will have to invite, nurture, equip and send forth a new generation of disciples of Jesus Christ. We welcome your prayers as we continue to seek both spiritual and numerical growth.

Washburn University

Eduardo Bousson, Campus Minister

Ichtus @ Washburn University - This year has been outstanding. Our ministry at Washburn University has continued to expand. We are establishing our presence on campus in positive ways. Students and staff trust us and see in us a different type of Christian. We are succeeding in our mission of "loving God and letting

God's love be known."

We continue our program based on the four functions of church: worship, discipleship, fellowship, and service. Our worship services are "ancient-future" in a very intimate atmosphere. Every week we sing, pray, share the word, and celebrate communion. Our attendance has improved 50% over the last year.

Our discipleship has continued with weekly studies. We have studied from the universal letters in the New Testament, making connections with daily life. We have also read and discussed books like "Blue Like Jazz," understanding our faith better from the life experiences of others. In November we took a group of students to "NEXT," an event promoted by the Board of Discipleship. There, students worshipped, listened, and learned new ways in which they can be of a greater impact in their community.

Our fellowship is continuing to grow in strength. On Sunday nights we gather for a shared meal. Most of the time it is provided by churches from the Topeka district. This time we just "hang out" making new connections and strengthening existing ones.

One of the most significant connections we had made this year has been with other groups on campus. We had made a natural connection with the advocacy group TWLOHA (To Write Love on Her Arms) finding common ground in different issues. We have also made connections with office of Student Life co-sponsoring with them different activities that promote dialogue on campus. We host as well a poetry workshop for students every other week.

This year we have began as well a second Saturday "Day of service." This day we focus on a particular agency in town and volunteer there. It has been a transformative experience. We have been at the Humane Society and Food Pantry. Out of these experiences we are praying and discerning if God wants us to open a food pantry for students next year!

As part of our reaching out into the community we are also hosting a multi-church youth group in Topeka. They use our facility twice a month. We also host an Emmaus reunion group. On Easter Sunday we hold a community Sunrise Service. Last year we had over 40 in attendance.

I am grateful for the support that the United Methodist churches in Kansas have given us through their gifts; in the shape of apportionments and pledges to Bridges to the Future, presence, prayers, and witness. I believe that together we are shaping the Church that will continue to love the world for Christ.

University of Kansas - WesleyKU

WesleyKU has continued to steadily grow over the past year. During the Fall of

Kara Eidson, Campus Minister

2012, we averaged over 30 students per week in worship. In Spring of 2012, we moved worship to the Burge Union on campus out of necessity. This has been good move for the ministry as it allows us closer proximity to Daisy Hill, where the bulk of freshman on KU's campus live. We also find set-up and take-down to be a much smoother process than it was when we met in the Kansas Union.

In 2012 we traveled to Heifer Ranch in Perryville, Arkansas, during Spring Break with a team of 10. The team worked maintenance on the ranch, in the gardens and greenhouse, and worked with the livestock on the ranch—learning a lot about where food comes from and about working for justice and food distribution around the world. In 2013 we traveled to Wichita during Spring Break with a team of 17. Wichita has been ranked as one of the top-five worst cities in the country for human trafficking; when the WesleyKU students learned this, they immediately wanted to do something to help. We worked with several organizations that rescue and rehabilitate young women from this injustice, including Carpenter Place and 24-7 Ministry. We also spent a day working at The Oz, the only homeless shelter for minors in Wichita. We spent time learning about human trafficking in this country and around the world, and about what steps anyone can take to help end the modern day slave trade.

9. The students and campus minister tabled during Hawk Week at the beginning of the Fall semester, and distributed over 90 care packages to freshman/first-semester students during the first two weeks of school. The leadership team and campus minister “chalked” on campus, (writing on campus sidewalks with sidewalk chalk,) to advertise at least every other week during the first several months of school. The students and campus minister also passed out lemonade or hot chocolate—depending on the weather—several times throughout the year.

WesleyKU sent out over 100 letters to United Methodist youth directors and pastors throughout the state of Kansas, attempting to get contact info for incoming freshmen—and thereby contact them before they ever set foot on campus. A list of over 75 students was compiled in this manner; this effective means of outreach will be repeated once more during the upcoming spring for the 2013-14 school year. We continue to encourage pastors and youth directors in our local congregations to send us information for incoming freshmen from their congregations that they know are headed to KU.

During the 2012-13 school year, the students participated in Disciple III Bible Study, lead by the campus minister. A total of 15 students participated in the group during a significant portion of the Bible study. Movie Night continued during Fall 2012, but was put on hold due to lack of consistent attendance for the Spring 2013 semester.

For single-time events, we have made “Senior Night” an annual event—which included dinner for everyone in attendance and a “Senior Roast”—which was re-

ally more of an opportunity for students to share fond memories of the graduating seniors. It was an amazing event to see how God had worked through the lives and relationships of our five graduates over the last several years. We also have had Seder Meals on the past three Maundy Thursdays that the students found extremely meaningful. Another popular event is the annual gingerbread house build during the last scheduled “worship” of the fall semester—a fun way to provide the students with some wholesome stress-relief as they prepare for the Fall Semester Final Exams.

God continues to be at work in the ministry of WesleyKU and we are blessed to see God working through us at the University of Kansas. We are truly blessed to be “a light on the hill!” We look forward to what the next year will bring!

Commission on Diversity and Advocacy

Gina Gile, Chairperson

The Commission is a merger of The Commission on Religion and Race, The Commission the Status and Role of Women and the Affirmative Action Committee.

The Commission on Diversity and Advocacy is about connecting and empowering all of God’s children in living out the Gospels call to truly become the body of Christ that we may authentically invite, nurture, equip, and send forth disciples of Jesus Christ. In living out the Kansas East Conference vision of equipping people and churches to be spiritually alive and growing and to live into the gospel call of loving others as Christ loved us the commission’s work this year included the following:

9.

In the spirit of our Commission’s work we offered the event COME CELEBRATE! On August 4, 2012 at Lawrence: First UMC – West Campus. Through this event our commission was able to fulfill its charge of carrying out the responsibilities of several committees mandated by the General Conference and The United Methodist Book of Discipline to monitor diversity and inclusiveness in the church. Those committees are General Commission on Status and Role of Women, General Commission on Religion and Race Affirmative Action - #3373, 2008 Book of Resolutions. Our scripture focus for the day was “God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? [Micah 6:8, NRSV]”

The COME CELEBRATE event was an incredible day of joining together for singing, dancing, eating, learning, and connecting as we highlighted and celebrated the many United Methodist Church ministries working to promote diversity and advocacy. A variety of foods with an ethnic flare included Indian tacos from Lawrence Indian United Methodist Church, Korean Kimichi and Bulgogi from Emporia Korean Methodist Vision church, and BBQ from Asbury – Mount Olive UMC. Diverse gifts of dance were shared by Meghan Phadke and students from

Emporia Korean Methodist Vision. Diverse musicians included the choir from Asbury – Mount Olive UMC, D.D. Etchieson Indian Methodist Choir, and soloist Kimi Elizabeth Yokoyama. Doug and Verieta Myers offered blessings of the food in many native languages.

The highlight of COME CELEBRATE was special Guest Speakers Rev. Lorenza Smith and Rev. Delores Williamston. Rev. Smith shared about her new appointment to “do nothing.” In her appointment she is an advocate for the poor and marginalized. She did this by selling her car, her house and most of her possessions, taking a leave of absence and a self-imposed vow of poverty and beginning life on the streets. Her goal: to learn the plight of the homeless by living among them. Rev. Williamston shared her closing sermon, “Come to the Table of Grace” incorporating Alice Walker’s short story, “The Welcome Table.” The day ended with Holy Communion in which a variety of breads were offered.

9. We continue our goals of implementing a new vision of “Facing the Future: Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural Appointments in a Global Church” resources offered by GCORR and GBHEM. The overall goal is to bring together bishops and cabinet members, annual conference boards of ordained ministry members, pastors presently serving CR/CC appointments and those anticipating CR/CC appointments and local church leaders (i.e. lay leaders, SPRC, church councils) to discuss ways to resource and train leaders, create communities and help identify and address racism, sexism, and cultural bias experienced in cross-racial/cross-cultural appointments. Our CODA representatives came back from the training with information that will be incorporated into future conference work in the area of CR / CC appointments.

CODA encourages churches in the KEC to utilize the DVD “Ouch! Your Silence Hurts” in an ever changing culture to one with more diversity. In a powerful and compelling way the DVD motivates bystanders to use their voice to speak up for respect on behalf of someone else. Learning objectives include understanding the high cost of silent collusion, exploring the power of the bystander to make a difference, and inspiring passive bystanders to use their voice as active allies. CODA encourages churches to view the DVD and begin the dialogue around false stereotyping and remaining silent when we witness it.

The Vital Ministry of Monitoring for inclusiveness and full participation of women and ethnic persons is conducted each year at the annual conference sessions. A representative from CODA attended COSROW monitoring training offered in March 2013 and held in Nashville, TN. The training offered fresh and new ideas in monitoring and methods to increase awareness of the existence and manifestations of racism and gender bias, and to work toward inclusion and full participation of all persons in areas of leadership within the church regardless of their gender or ethnicity.

Commission for New Church Development

Kim Dominic, Chair

Jesus challenges us to share the love of God with all persons everywhere and to thus build up the Body of Christ we know as the church. “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...” (Matthew 28:19a, NIV). Our goal is that every church in the Kansas East Conference be engaged in supporting new churches, through prayer and resourcing.

The mission of CNCD continues to be to establish new United Methodist Churches by: 1. Utilizing the best available demographics and discernment to select new church locations; 2. Identifying, training, and assessing potential new church start pastors; 3. Identifying and training potential parenting and multi-site churches; and 4. Providing resources to support new church starts in acquiring space in which to worship, including up to 8 acres of land for a building site.

CNCD has three strategic priorities for locating new churches: 1) where the overall population is growing, 2) where the UMC does not reach very well a particular segment of the population, such as Hispanic/Latino people; and 3) where UM churches have closed in the past, but where population numbers are sufficient to plant a new church that can become self-sustaining.

In the past year, our work continued with several existing church plants. We celebrate them:

LifeBridge, in west Shawnee (Johnson County, KS), launched on October 4, 2009, and now consistently averages over 146 in Sunday worship, with a peak attendance in 2012 of 275. The congregation is unique, having almost exclusively young adults with children. They had 20 new members join the church by profession of faith; and had 75 children attend vacation bible school this last year. Enthusiastic leadership at LifeBridge includes a worship leader that has been a great fit for the Church; and they are developing a video campaign for stewardship. Finances have remained steady for the past year. Planted by Mitch Reece, LifeBridge is currently meeting in a Seven Day Adventist church on Monticello Road, and has access to the building only on Sunday (and rarely with special events during the week). The church needs a place that it can use seven days a week, and is currently looking at some prospects for more permanent church location. CNCD is working with them in that search.

In early 2012, the church plant formerly called Mision Restauración changed its name to Mision Palabra de Esperanza (Word of Hope). Church planter Cruz Guerra is putting together a comprehensive ministry of spiritual and social outreach at Metropolitan Avenue UMC in the Argentine district of Kansas City, Kansas by building small groups that form the nucleus of the new Spanish-speaking congregation. Having begun every Sunday worship in late 2012, they have been averaging about 20 people at their services; 35 if they all come. The church is currently working on a sign to promote their ministry and is looking at starting a Sunday school; they currently have 12 kids and 2 youth.

Living Water is being planted at 115th and Leavenworth Road in western Wyandotte County and uses the building formerly occupied by Stephen's UMC. Over 6,000 new jobs are slated for the area near the Kansas Speedway, Sporting KC Soccer Stadium, and the Legends Shopping Center at I-435 and I-70. The church is located less than 2 miles from the Legends, in the heart of fast-growing residential developments. Mic McGuire is the church planter. Living Water started every Sunday worship in December, 2009, and now averages 140 people in worship. Offerings have increased and the pledges have improved dramatically; \$130,000 was pledged for 2013. Weekly Bible study and children's and youth activities show growth. Living Water is making great progress toward becoming a self-sustaining congregation. The congregation recognizes the blessing of the building they have received, and they marvel at the possibilities for the property to allow Living Water "pay it forward" for years to come.

9. About eight years ago, FirstLight launched in Gardner. Today, the congregation averages about 200 in worship. FirstLight chartered as a United Methodist Church in September, 2010. Early in 2012 it was determined that the 22 acres of property that the Commission on New Church Development was holding for FirstLight in northwest Gardner, did not suit the needs of the church as well as another available piece of land central within the community would. The growth of the community to the northwest has not occurred as was previously anticipated, but has developed more to the south and east of downtown. The decision was made to purchase different property just off 56 Highway. Planted by Steven Blair, FirstLight is now being led by its second pastor, Brad Wheeler. 2012 has had many positives happening at Firstlight: a confirmation class; a new Youth Director; a Children's Ministry; 15 Baptisms; 31 new members received, and a capital campaign for a building program. In 2013 they are looking at starting a Sunday school and having a second service during the week.

On December 4, 2011, UM Church of the Resurrection opened its permanent West Campus location at K-7 and K-10 in Olathe. Over 1600 people attended the opening, and Rez West now averages 750 in worship. The church is moving ahead to select a building committee focused on revisiting the Master Plan and proceeding with design work for a Children's Wing.

In 2009, Nueva Vida at Holton Evangel UMC began an outreach ministry with Spanish speaking people in Jackson, Brown, and Nemaha counties. Begun as the Latino Community Center of Holton, with space for family and community gatherings and outreach programs, such as ESL and other classes, the worshipping community has welcomed their Latino brothers and sisters into the church. The Nueva Vida model is: One Congregations Two Languages and their Core Value: Grow Closer to Jesus Christ. In July, 2012, Hector Sanchez was appointed as Associate Pastor to carry on this ministry which has been embraced by many of the Evangel parishioners whose ancestors went through some of the same experiences when they became citizens.

Similarly, Pittsburg 1st UMC has welcomed a Korean congregation. The Korean service has been happening for about two years with worshipers coming from as far away as Joplin, Missouri to attend the Korean service. The Commission on New Church Development looks forward to continued work this fledgling group.

It is very exciting for all of us to be a part of what is happening around new church development in the Kansas East Conference. We celebrate the enthusiasm and commitment of our CNCD members, who have done a lot of hard work in the past year and made some very tough decisions in a collegial atmosphere. Together with Kansas West, we have exceeded our goal of ten new starts in the Kansas Area by the end of 2012. We are confident that new church development will continue to be a top priority when we become the Great Plains Annual Conference and look forward to joining together with our counterparts in Kansas West and Nebraska to continue pressing forward in this good work. Your support and that of your local church through prayer and contributions to the Bridges to the Future Capital Campaign have been vital elements in the past, and our hope and prayer is that you will continue to support our efforts in reaching new persons for Christ for the transformation of the world.

Committee on Hispanic Ministries (HOLA) Javier Rios, Chairperson

Committee on Native American Ministries Julienne Judd, Chairperson

Conference Council on Youth Ministries Brenda Davids, director
 he Conference Council on Youth Ministry lives a vision that remains extremely vital in today’s world. The council reaches out to the youth of the Kansas East Conference by providing opportunities for spiritual growth, service to others, leadership development, growing awareness of social issues, empowerment, and creative Christian venues where faith, fun, and fellowship come together.

Spiritual Life Retreat (January 25-26, 2013) – With Camp Chippewa as the venue, high school youth 9th-12th grades are invited to participate. This year was based on I Corinthians 12:18-19. Total youth and adult participation: 20

Institute (June 17-23 and July 15-21, 2012) – Designed for youth completing 8th through 12th grades, participants spent 7 days together at each session. Practicing spiritual formation, learning to live as a Christian community, using discipleship skills, and developing creative worships enriched these sessions. The 2012 theme was “Ordinary People, Extraordinary Power.” Total youth and adult participation: June – 127; July – 148

CCYM Leadership Retreat (July 26-27, 2012) – This summer CCYM session

begins the planning process for the next year's youth programming. Leadership skills are taught and practiced as event details begin to take shape. Total youth and adult participation: 29

Worlds and Oceans of Fun (July 30, 2012) – All conference youth and any adults working with youth are invited to a fun day at Worlds and Oceans of Fun each summer. Besides rides and Christian fellowship, a lunch is enjoyed. Total youth and adult participation: 133

Christians in Action (October 6, 2012) – This event for mid-high and high school students was held at Chanute: First United Methodist Church from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hands-on work projects emphasized service to others as the group reached out to the community. The theme was "Carry Each Other's Burdens." Total youth and adult participation: 85

Bishop's Round-up for Hunger Lock-in and Work Day (November 16-27, 2012) – For mid-high and high school youth, the event was held at Lawrence: First UMC West Campus on Friday evening and transitioned to the Douglas County Fairgrounds on Saturday where youth unloaded supplies from vehicles bringing items, loaded vehicles taking items to Round-up grant recipient locations, ran errands to help the process, and lead the worship experience. Total youth and adult participation: 125

Mid-High Confirmation Retreat (March 2-3, 2013) – Mid-high youth and local church confirmation classes traveled to Camp Chippewa. Curriculum was based upon the Apostles' Creed, including memorizing it and sharing meanings for us in today's world. Total youth and adult participation: 49

Spring Break Study Trip (March 13-20, 2013) – Open to high school sophomore, juniors, and seniors, participants learned about social action and explored challenges related to migrants/migration. Christian learning opportunities were held in New York City (Board of Global Ministries) and Washington, D.C. (Board of Church and Society). Sightseeing was also part of the trip itinerary. Total youth and adult participation: 23

Ethnic Local Church Concerns Committee

Human Resources Council

Mary Brooks, Chairperson

Human Resources Council had as its goal working on plans for facilitating a round table discussion where brainstorming and collaboration can take place around multiple areas of leadership development. We were hopeful that forum could take place last fall. As we started contacting the persons who needed to be included, we found that most of them were involved in various teams working

on leadership development for the new Great Plains Conference. After consultation with Evelyn Fisher, she and I decided that pursuing this project at this time was not a good use of anyone's time, since there are multiple groups working on leadership development for the new annual conference. In light of this, it appeared to Evelyn and me that Human Resources Council had come to the end of its usefulness and will no doubt be replaced by some other structure in the new annual conference. Thus, this is the last report from Human Resources Council. My thanks to all who have participated and I will look forward to working with you in other venues in the Great Plains Annual Conference.

Personnel Committee

Kathleen Whitmore, Chairperson

United Methodist Men

David Toler, President

United Methodist Women

Charlotte Morrow, President

The theme for Kansas East Conference United Methodist women this year is "Carry Each Other's Burdens" focusing on mentorship and mission outreach. United Methodist Women have lifted the load for women, children and youth for many generations. This past year the KECUMW made great strides in carrying the burden for others. We raised 93.8% of our pledge to mission which was an increase over 2011's giving. We also gave over \$366,000 in total giving to both designated and undesignated giving. Out of that total, \$2880 was in the form of Pennies for Missions. During the past three years a total of over \$6400 dollars has been given in pennies. Our goal for 2013 is to keep those pledges and pennies rolling in for missions.

Mission outreach is the hallmark of United Methodist Women. In 2012 your local and district groups supported local food banks; provided meals for homeless and unemployed; donated food for backpack programs; sewed hundreds of pillowcases; provided summer food programs for children at risk; assembled flood kits and birthing kits for UMCOR; tutored school children; knitted prayer shawls, baby blankets and baby caps; contributed to domestic violence shelters; supported efforts to stop Human Trafficking through education; supported organizations working with women and girls suffering from the effects of Trafficking. The KECUMW also took up the challenge of providing washable feminine products for girls living in third world areas. This project will help young women attend school without monthly absenteeism. The women, children and youth of Kansas as well as those around the world are benefitting from our local and international mission outreach. This outreach is second mile giving above and beyond a UMW member's pledge to UMW missions.

Mentoring involves education. Inviting a son, daughter, grandchild or friend to

join us for LEAF (Legislative Event for Advocacy in Faith) held each February and for Mission each summer, is just one way UMW is taking on an active form of mentorship. The KECUMW sponsors young pastors and laywomen who wish to attend national educational forums. This spring KECUMW sponsored Marcee Binder as she attended a training program on Poverty.

A special steering team composed of representatives from Kansas West, Kansas East and Nebraska United Methodist Women have been meeting since November 2012 to plan the Great Plains United Methodist Women organization. Information about the new conference is available on the kecumw.org website under announcements.

The website (kecumw.org) is a vital tool for all Kansas East Conference United Methodist Women. The 40th KECUMW directory is now available exclusively on line. A password is needed to open the directory. Directions are given for obtaining the password. This format for the directory allowed our conference to “Go Green” and save some “greenbacks” in the process. Please check frequently under the announcement section for updates. KECUMW continues to Carry Each Other’s Burdens.

- 9. Volunteers in Mission and Disaster Response** Steve Burnett, Chair
- The VIM / Disaster Response ministry has had another busy year. We have continued the recovery operations in Reading, Kansas following the EF-3 tornado that struck the town on May 21, 2011 and the EF-2 tornado that struck Harveyville, Kansas on February 28, 2012.

The disaster response ministry was on site in Reading the day after the tornado, and continues to work on recovery. We facilitated the organization of the Reading Long Term Recovery Committee (RLTRC) that brought together fourteen organizations with resources to assist with the recovery and trained the case managers who worked with the survivors to identify needs. The members of the RLTRC allocated \$373,392.00 for the recovery efforts that were used to purchase materials and replace furniture and appliances lost in the tornado.

The Lyon County COAD registered unaffiliated volunteers in the first few days and logged 9,000 volunteer hours valued at \$163,170.00*. The Kansas East Disaster Response accepted the responsibility of coordinating all volunteers at the request of the Lyon County Emergency Manager and the RLTRC. We coordinated 12,304.5 volunteer hours valued at \$223,080.58*. The RLTRC members volunteered 1,134 hours valued at 20,559.42*. This brings the total volunteer hours to 22,438.5 valued at \$406,810.00*.

The RLTRC assisted 91 families with their recovery by providing direct service with a total value of \$780,202.00****.

The Kansas East Disaster Response allocated \$48,310.92 for purchase of building materials. This brings the total direct impact of the Kansas East Conference Disaster Response to the Reading Tornado to \$291,698.57**.

KEC Disaster Response was on site in Harveyville the day after the tornado and is still involved in the recovery. We facilitated the organization of the Harveyville Area Rebuilding Team (HART) as the long-term recovery organization bringing together thirteen organizations with resources for the recovery. HART was responsible for coordinating the volunteers and logged a total of 17,591 volunteer hours valued at \$318,924.83*. We also trained the case managers who worked with the survivors to identify needs.

United Methodist teams accounted for 1,040 volunteer hours valued at \$18,855.20*. The KEC Disaster Response allocated \$15,446.71 to purchase materials bringing the total value of assistance from the UMC to \$34,301.91***.

*Volunteer hours value calculated using the Independent Sector rate of \$18.13 per hour for volunteers.

** Includes all funds allocated by KEC Disaster Response and all volunteer hours organized and coordinated by KEC Disaster Response for the Reading Tornado Recovery.

*** Includes all funds allocated by KEC Disaster Response and all volunteer hours coordinated by KEC Disaster Response for the Harveyville Tornado Recovery.

**** Includes all funds allocated by the Reading Long Term Recovery Committee and all volunteer labor coordinated by the RLTRC members.

Disaster response personnel conducted four Early Response Team trainings and two Basic Disaster Response trainings in 2012. Six members attended the four-day South Central Jurisdiction Disaster Response Academy at Mount Sequoyah.

The Kansas East Conference Volunteer In Mission program had 90 teams from 48 different churches respond on Domestic missions in 2012. These teams traveled to Kansas locations such as: Kansas City, Iola, Reading, Harveyville, Manhattan, Madison, McPherson, Liberal, Effingham, Chanute, and Wichita. The missions varied from Tornado recovery, to Change the world clean-up, to roof replacement and painting, to building wheelchair ramps, to youth works projects and working in food pantries.

Other Domestic mission teams traveled to locations such as: Bayou La Batre and Butler, AL; St Louis, Springfield, Branson, and Joplin, MO; Window Rock, AZ; Perkins, Tahlequah and Tulsa, OK; Perryville, AR;

Baldwin, LA; Bozeman & Livingston, MT; Flossmoor and Centralia, IL; Louisville, Martin County, Frakes, and Chavies, KY; Memphis, Copperhill, and Mountain Top, TN; Minneapolis and St Paul, MN; Mabank and El Paso, TX; New York City; Ocean View, DE; San Francisco, CA; Denver, CO; Omaha and Lincoln, NE; Espanola, NM; McLaughlin, SD; and Detroit, MI. These teams performed missions ranging from tornado recovery, to evangelism, to maintenance at Heifer International Ranch, to working at the Sager-Brown Depot, to building a park, to building Habitat for Humanity homes, to Youth Works projects and food banks, to Appalachian and Henderson Settlement projects, Urban ministries and building wheelchair ramps.

There were 31 VIM teams that traveled on International missions in 2012. These teams worked on mission projects in Guatemala, Nicaragua, South Africa, Malawi, Rwanda, Mexico, Haiti, Jamaica, and Honduras. Projects ranged from construction to medical teams; to Outreach and IT projects; to providing Bible School and economic empowerment training.

All these things were made possible by our volunteers, who donated their time, money, and energy to be Christ's hands and feet for transforming the world and making disciples for Jesus Christ.

9.

Young Adult Ministries

C. DISTRICT REPORTS

Five Rivers District Leadership Team

Flint Hills District Leadership Team

Kansas City District Board Of Discipleship Gary W. Roellchen: Chair
The Kansas City Board of Discipleship met in the past year to plan events that would realize some of the re-visioning goals that we had set in 2011. Primarily, we worked on planning two district-wide events that would train disciples for ministry in their local churches, and provide information about excellence in ministry as it is currently being practiced in the Kansas City District.

The first event that we planned was our Leadership Training Workshops. These workshops were offered to help newly elected laypersons understand the re-

sponsibilities of the committees they were elected to in their local congregations. Those currently serving on committees were also invited to attend. Workshops offered included, Administrative Council, Staff Parish, Finance Committee, Board of Trustees, Evangelism and Outreach, Hospitality, and Disaster Response. The workshops we planned in 2012 were held on February 23, 2013 at KC Trinity UMC.

The second event we began to plan was “A Harvest Of Ministries: Best Practice of Ministry in the Kansas City District.” This event will take place in October, 2013. It will feature booths from participating churches which highlight what individual congregations believe are their finest ministries in the communities they serve. Those attending “A Harvest Of Ministries” will be able to hear success stories and pick up information about ministries that might work well in their communities. We hope to promote excellence in ministry that may be shared with anyone interested from any congregation.

As always, we would like to thank the Kansas City District and the Kansas East Annual Conference for all of the support we have been shown in 2012. We would also like to thank everyone who helped us plan our events, and those who volunteered to serve at our workshops. We look forward the activities we already have scheduled and are excited for our work in the future.

Parsons District Council on Ministries

Topeka District Leadership Team

D. KANSAS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commission on Archives and History Charles L. Danforth, Chairperson
 As part of our work with the Kansas East Annual Conference, the Commission seeks to fulfill the mission of the conference to connect and empower people and churches in living out the Gospel's call to invite, nurture, equip, and send forth disciples of Jesus Christ. One of the ways that we fulfill this is with our annual workshop. We had scheduled our annual history workshop on November 3 of last year. Due to low enrollment, however, we had to cancel the history workshop. We are hoping to attempt our workshop again this year. We also hope to possibly plan this workshop with the Nebraska Commission.

The commission closely followed the discussions and actions surrounding the creation of a new annual conference. The 2012 Jurisdictional Conference voted to create the Great Plains Annual Conference. With that, the Kansas Area Commission has been in touch with the Nebraska Archives and History Commission via telephone and email about becoming one Commission for the Great Plains Conference. As discussions proceeded, we decided to hold a couple of face to face meetings at both the Kansas and Nebraska archives. This would give us the ability to see our facilities and discuss our ministries. We decided that it was best to have our first face to face meeting on March 12 at the Nebraska archives.

9. The Nebraska archives are located at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln. There will be a second meeting at Baker University in Baldwin City, Kansas.

As part of the new conference, we will fulfill the Disciplinary requirements of the Archives and History Commission. We will preserve and make accessible historical records of the Great Plains Conference congregations and institutions. While the name may change and the commission reorganize, we will seek to continue serving the church by actively participating and educating congregations in reporting, recording and presenting the history of our ministry.

Committee on Episcopacy Dee J. Williamston
 Bishop Scott Jameson Jones continues to move forward as the assigned bishop of the new Great Plains Area (Kansas and Nebraska) after presiding as the bishop of the Kansas Area for eight years.

On Saturday, September 29, 2012, we celebrated Bishop Jones's assignment with worship and reception at St. Marks United Methodist Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. Bishop Jones is excited about the opportunities that lie ahead of us as the Kansas East, Kansas West, and Nebraska Conferences come together into the Great Plains Conference on January 1, 2014. We are pleased that his leadership and vision will guide and strengthen our ministries for (at least) another four years.

The Bishop and our whole area were saddened by the death of his administrative assistant Susan Steuber on June 3, 2012. Her life was remembered at the memorial service of the Kansas East Conference. Leslie Ann Browning, the interim administrative assistant since March 2012, was named as the ongoing administrative assistant in June 2012, and she is a wonderful team member.

The Episcopacy Committees of Kansas and Nebraska met after the installation service for Bishop Jones on September 29, 2012, in Lincoln. Three members were selected to serve as chairperson for each conference: Rev. Brad Kirk for Kansas West (also Great Plains Area chair), Marilyn Moore for Nebraska and Rev. Dee J. Williamston for Kansas East.

The Episcopacy Committee has formed two task groups. One is working on identifying tools and resources to evaluate current and future episcopal leadership needs for the Great Plains Area/Conference. Marilyn Moore is convening this group. The other is focusing on the current needs of the episcopal residence in Wichita, Kansas; later conversation will take place about the location of the episcopal residence for the future. Rev. Kent Rogers is convening this group.

The Great Plains Area of The United Methodist Church expresses many thanks to Bishop Jones and Mary Lou Reece for their continued commitment and leadership to our area and the newly forming conference.

9.

Episcopal Residence Committee

Brad Kirk, Chair

The Area Episcopal Residence Committee is happy to report that in 2012 the upstairs air conditioning unit was replaced at the Episcopal Residence in Wichita. Additionally, a large amount of landscaping was done around the home. Bishop and Mary Lou also have access to an apartment in Lincoln, NE which has been a great asset during this time of transition. The cost of the Lincoln apartment has been partially paid by funds from the sale of the former Episcopal Residence in Lincoln and also through a reimbursement agreement with GCFA. The plans are to keep the Lincoln apartment for another year to aid our Bishop in his work.

Health and Wellness Committee

Susan Harvey & John McCabe, Co-Chairs

Development of resources for use in local congregations to improve health and wellness was the principal activity of the Committee in 2012-2013. A DVD entitled Clergy Health: Our Ministry Together was developed by the Committee and provides a three-part learning opportunity especially designed for Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committees. The sessions create awareness of the unique issues clergy face in maintaining and improving their well-being—physical, emotional, social, financial and spiritual. Discussion questions help each local group apply the material directly to its situation and experiences. Almost 400 copies of the DVD have been distributed to local congregations and district superintendents.

Free DVDs are available from the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund, and additional information about the DVD and the subject of clergy health are available at www.healthierclergy.org. Bulletin inserts on various health and wellness topics were prepared by the Committee and are available for downloading on the Kansas East Conference website at <http://kansaseast.org/pages/detail/1360> or the Kansas West Conference website at <http://www.kswestumc.org/pages/detail/1374>.

The Committee continues to encourage local congregations, as part of their normal nominating processes, to designate a health liaison. This local congregational representative will be the contact point for the committee in providing resources and promotion of health and wellness activities, including those offered by the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund. A web-based training was offered last fall for health liaisons and a recording of that training can be accessed on the Health Ministry Fund's website: www.healthfund.org/liaison. A job description and additional materials for new health liaisons can also be provided by contacting the Health Ministry Fund office.

9. Kansas United Methodist clergy are encouraged to participate in the annual Clergy Wellness Program. The 2012 version attracted 18 clergy (there were unfilled slots!). The 2013 clergy retreat portion of this Program will be held in Wichita on September 24th and 25th. Preceding the retreat, clergy complete an on-line health assessment and their regular annual physical, as well as specific blood work. Participants interact with spiritual counselors, financial advisors, physicians, physical therapists, dieticians, and wellness coaches during the retreat. A wellness plan is developed and on-going follow-up is provided through group and individual wellness coaching sessions. There is no charge for this opportunity of self-care valued at approximately \$2000. Interested clergy, including local pastors—full or part time, provisional members or retirees, should contact Susan Harvey at susan_harvey@cox.net for more information. The registration form and testimonials from prior participants can be viewed at www.clergywellness.org. The 2013 offering may be the final opportunity to participate.

The Kanaska Walking Challenge conducted in mid- 2012 drew 210 participants to a physical and spiritual pilgrimage, with the transition to the Great Plains Conference as the centerpiece of the participants' prayers. This Walking Challenge was facilitated through the technological capabilities of the annual conference website. Devotional guides were provided to participants and are available for congregations undertaking local walking challenges.

The Committee is engaged in contemplating its role in the new Conference structure and looks forward to additional opportunities in the coming year to be a catalyst for health and wellness for the conference and local congregations.

United Methodist Campus Ministry in Kansas Rev. Jim Reed, Interim Chair

Those of us with a commitment to the church's engagement with higher education like to point out that John Wesley was a campus minister. What happened at Christchurch and Lincoln College at Oxford actually birthed the Methodist movement. Your United Methodist Campus Ministry in Kansas Board has sought to uphold that legacy through the stewardship of the resources provided by the Kansas West and Kansas East Conferences.

I wonder what John Wesley is saying if he knows in his heavenly Methodist group of enthusiasts that his name is attached to a group of gorillas, that is of the Pittsburg State type. Campus Minister Josh Gooding writes: "The future looks bright for Gorilla Wesley, our United Methodist campus ministry at Pittsburg State University. Thanks to facility upgrades made possible through the Bridges to the Future campaign, we will have 6-7 student leaders living in an intercultural Christian community as we seek to reach out to new people, grow as disciples of Jesus Christ, and share Christ's love through local service."

Fort Hays Campus Minister Steve Johnson reports that the United Methodist Campus Ministry at Fort Hays State University on most weeks had nearly 100 students attend one of five Bible studies, two game night socials, a mission project with Kindergarten-2nd graders, or the community meal. Hays UMC provided them with sorely needed new tables and chairs for upstairs and coordinated an extreme makeover deep cleaning event.

Then there is Emporia State where the UMCM continues to focus on worship, study, service, fellowship, leadership and resident life. This past year ESU students at the United Methodist Student Movement Conference NEXT and Campus Minister Kurt Cooper lead a group of ten students on a study tour of the Civil Rights Movement over spring break. Kurt also reports that attendance at the ESU weekly student-centered worship service continues to experience growth.

Campus Ministry at Washburn University continues to impact this municipal university with the love of Jesus Christ. Pastor Eduardo Bousson states that students participated in the biennial UMMSM national event NEXT in St. Louis. They began monthly service projects in Topeka, and became a SAFEZone ally on campus. Washburn grows in worship and study as it extends its reach on campus.

Meanwhile, back in Manhattan, Campus Minister Mike Toluba indicates that the United Methodist campus ministry at K-State Wesley continues its growth. At K-State there is a community of 100 young adults, two worship services, many small groups, monthly mission projects, a spring mission trip to the inner city of Dallas, Texas. A new kitchen facility makes for great fellowship around the table. There are 35 students living in the residential community.

And on Mt. Oread, WesleyKU continues its search for property and the ministry is expanding in programming and numbers. Kara Eidson, campus pastor reports an average of 25 in worship for the 2012 year, 19 students participate in two mission trips, and 10 students have completed Disciple Bible Study. (Wesley, whose group was called "Bible Moths, is smiling). God continues work through WesleyKU on the hill in Lawrence!

Christopher Eshelman has been our campus minister at Wichita State. Developing ministries for a commuter campus has always been a challenge. Christopher has helped the Kansas Area UCMC Board in looking at various options that are available through local churches. The ECM Office remains at the Rhatigan Student Center and Pastor Eshelman has been leading a contemplative prayer group and regularly meeting with students.

2013 will bring many changes, not the least of which is the transition to the Great Plains Conference. The Kansas Area commitment to campus ministry will find new avenues of expression as we join together with the folks in Nebraska. However we organize, we pray God's blessings on our efforts and we hope to make John Wesley proud.

9. Great Plains United Methodist Rural Advocates Russell Fincham, President The Great Plains United Methodist Rural Advocate (GPUMRA) organization, formerly the United Methodist Rural Fellowship (UMRF), is remaking itself as our three conferences are. Already representatives from Nebraska have been elected to and installed onto the Executive Committee. In the last year we have had a visioning conference at which Bishop Jones was one of those addressing the fifty some present from Kansas and Nebraska. We were delighted that Mrs. Jones attended for a period as well. Out of the visioning effort grew many excellent ideas as how the organization might be an advocate for rural and small membership churches.

Out of those ideas, three were selected to focus on first. They were (1) To connect churches that wished to develop a sister relationship with another congregation from a different part of our new conference. This would initially be between congregations that were represented at the conference thereby serving as models for additional congregations. (2) A committee was established to develop community and cooperation among churches and pastors. (3) A committee was established for identifying and development of resources specific to smaller membership churches. In addition to these three areas of new focus, the By-laws have been rewritten and that new document is being presented to membership for their prayerful consideration.

As you may be noticing, there has been a real shift in the new GPUMRA from fellowship to Advocacy. This shift is reflected in the new proposed By-laws as

well. If approved, among other things, an Advisory Council will be established. This council will consist of one elected person from each district. This person will report to the Executive Board concerns and successes of small membership churches in her/his district. This person will also be responsible for relating in what ways GPUMRA might be an asset to their church in ministry. As you can see, a much more efficient two way communication will be established. An annual gathering of the District Advisory Council members will provide additional opportunity for the district representatives to share news from their corner of the Great Plains Conference and hear from others, listen to an informative speaker brought in to support and challenge, and of course, share in a meaningful worship event together.

This past year a \$1,000 grant was awarded to the Baldwin City UMC for ministry reaching into the community. Grants have been made available for Kansas East and Kansas West small membership churches again this year.

E. REPORTS FROM RELATED INSTITUTIONS

Aldersgate Village/United Methodist Homes

Jerry C. Ney, CEO

Aldersgate Village has 385 total living units and features 180 maintenance-free, independent living cottages, garden homes and apartments; private, assisted living apartments; and skilled nursing care rooms. The community is set on a 175-acre campus at 7220 SW Asbury Drive in Topeka, Kansas.

9.

Aldersgate Village continued its mission of providing a comprehensive continuum of quality care to elderly Kansans in a faith-based setting during 2012, despite facing one of the most difficult economic times in recent years. Having to endure massive reductions in government funding over the past several years has made Aldersgate's continued progress even more impressive. Operations have been streamlined and continue to employ industry best practices throughout. While it has been a significant organizational challenge, Aldersgate has positioned itself as a clinical leader in the region with major hospitals and continues to build and develop its core strength - service.

Major Accomplishments for 2012

In 2012, a new service line rose to fruition at Aldersgate Village – sub-acute care. Through the Recovery Center, which opened in May, Aldersgate has quickly gained recognition as the premier state-of-the-art physical rehabilitation center in Northeast Kansas. This center is geared for patients who are leaving the hospital but who are not yet ready to return home. The Recovery Center offers private suites, customized therapies, a physician-led interdisciplinary team and revolutionary technology like the anti-gravity treadmill with technology developed by NASA. Aldersgate is extremely proud of this facility, the team leading it and the services available. Aldersgate looks forward to growing and enhancing this ser-

vice in 2013 and beyond.

In addition to offering new services in 2012, Aldersgate implemented a system which significantly improved resident care. The electronic medication administration record system (EMAR) involves enhanced technology, including barcoding of medication. Since implementation, communication with physicians and pharmacies has improved, medication errors have been reduced and nursing resources are better allocated. All of this has created more time for staff to provide direct care to residents!

These core strengths, as well as our extended programs, are provided with a foundation of Christian principles. Aldersgate provides a vital service to residents and staff through Pastoral Care, which is led by Rev. Dennis Matthews. Through his service, not only do residents enjoy worship services and Bible studies, they also have access to counseling and spiritual guidance on a number of life issues.

Aldersgate remains grateful for Bishop Scott Jones' continued support and involvement in fundraising efforts for the organization. Aldersgate also thanks Topeka district superintendent, Rev. Kay Scarbrough, and her predecessor, Rev. Evelyn Fisher, who is now with the Kansas West Conference, for their involvement with the Aldersgate Board of Trustees in 2012.

9.

Aldersgate remains very appreciative to the churches of the Kansas East Conference for their continued support of our charitable care program, the Good Samaritan Fund. In 2012, Aldersgate Village provided \$465,000 in direct charitable care. In addition to charitable care, Aldersgate Village provides services under Medicaid for which the reimbursement provides no margin. This amounted to more than \$3,657,000 in care for the most vulnerable population – the poor and elderly.

Aldersgate has been blessed with the collective talent, expertise and ambition needed to be one of the finest retirement communities in the region. We are confident that by harnessing our talented leaders and enhancing our core strengths, we will realize an even more promising and exciting year in 2013.

Baker University

Patricia N. Long, President

Baker University celebrated its 155 th anniversary in February. Since 1858, the University has been committed to providing quality education for the next generation in the United Methodist tradition. The Values Statement of the University includes these words:

- Student learning and academic excellence. We provide quality learning environments promoting intellectual, professional and personal development resulting in lifelong learning.
- Critical thinking, inquiry and freedom of expression. We challenge all partici-

pants to think critically using open inquiry and freedom of expression.

- Integrating learning with faith and values. We expect all participants to be open to questions of faith and values as part of intellectual inquiry in the United Methodist tradition. In particular, we expect personal and professional responsibility that is based on high standards of ethical conduct.
- Connections. We promote a community of belonging and Baker family connections, which result in lifelong associations.
- Inclusiveness. We embrace diversity of community, thought and expression.
- Service to the community. We address the civic, social, health and environmental needs of our global community.

Of note this year was the transformation and re-opening of our science facility – now called the Ivan L. Boyd Center for Collaborative Science Education which includes Mulvane Hall, the Ross and Christine Hartley Hall and the Baker Greenhouse. The project totaled \$11.3 million. With the wonderful assistance of generous alumni and donor, the building project has been paid in full.

With the completion of the Boyd Center, the University is preparing to undertake a complete renovation of Harter Student Union. With a generous gift of over \$1 million from Baker University Trustee Susanne Teel, the first phase of the project will begin this summer. The first phase will include upgrades to the first floor area housing the Allen Dining Room and Wildcat Café.

At the February Trustee Meeting, I announced my plans to retire in June 2014. The purpose of the early announcement is to ensure significant time for the University to conduct a presidential search and have the future president named by December 2013 and ready to take over the leadership on July 1, 2014. The eight years that I will have served the University have been the most beloved and blessed part of my career in higher education. The next several months will include my continued commitment to raise funding for the Union renovations with the hope of complete funding being in place and completion of the project by June 2014.

Another exciting event of the 2012-13 school year was the very positive outcome to the 10 year accreditation visit from the University Senate of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Baker received a 10 year accreditation extension from our denomination.

We are proud of the many scholar-athletes who attend the University. This past year, 56 of our students were named as Scholar Athletes by the NAIA.

We have valued our partnership with the Kansas Area and the Kansas East Annual Conference and we now look forward to our new partnership with the Great Plains Annual Conference.

Forest Park Conference and Retreat Center

Max Klamm

Mission: The mission of Forest Park Retreat Center is to serve God's people through Christian hospitality in a nature setting.

2012 Vital Statistics:

1. 4,342 people served (not camper/days) [an increase – 4,090 LY]
2. 101 days retreat center in use [a decrease – 119 LY]
3. 48 different groups used Forest Park [an increase – 38 LY]

2012 Activities:

- Board of Trustees hired a new Facilities Manager, Loren Bacon, part-time, to work specifically on the grounds & buildings upkeep.
- Board of Trustees hired a new Resident Manager, Norm Crawford, part-time, to work specifically on the customer service, administration & keeping the facilities clean and prepared for campers use.
- Resident Manager House - updated while empty; re-plumbed bathroom, structurally rebuilt floor under bathroom, replaced toilet, refinished cabinets in bathroom, new top & facets on vanity, repainted bathroom, new flooring in kitchen & bathroom, fireplace removed from dining room, popcorn ceiling scraped in dining room, walls & ceiling patched & painted in dining room, stove & refrigerator replaced, cleaned carpet in living room, all mini-blinds replaced with new.
- 9. • Provided the "Science is a Blast" program by Phil "Doc Gizmo" Arnold, the founder & Chief Scientist for The Doc Gizmo Science Theatre in October, our second year. We targeted local elementary schools, especially 3 and 4 rd th grade for school science testing requirements. Two sessions were made available. Over 500 student participants this year!
- Cabin 51 roof reframed & shingled (bathrooms next to Tabernacle)
- Workday spent on playground equipment; taking off parts that were outdated & making the area more safe for use.
- Upgraded many of the buildings doors & windows & grounds for vandalism prevention.
- Tore down building 5, small shed near Dining Hall. Saved siding for future use.
- Upgraded cabins 39 & 44 with insulation, ceilings & walls; now available with heat & A/C year-round.
- Upgraded cabin 46 (block cabin) with two rooms & now available with heat & A/C.
- Finished Women's bathroom remodel in Hickory Hall.

Expenses

Note: Buildings & Grounds number is unusually high due to fact insurance payment for roofing job was not paid until after first of the year. The contractor was having difficulty with repair on sheet metal roof on one of the cabins & didn't ask for payment until they completed that cabin as the last of all of the cabins they had done for us.

Financial Reports include:

1. Income/Expense Statement (Profit & Loss Comparison Statement)
2. Balance Sheet
3. 2013/2014 Budget

A copy of the Forest Park Conference & Retreat Center financial reports is available on request.

United Methodist Foundation Steven P. Childs, President/Executive Director
INVESTMENTS

The Foundation's investment program is designed to assist churches and church-related agencies in investing for short term and longer term needs. The Foundation offers investment funds that are invested in accordance with the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church, as well as other investment funds. The total gross value of all assets owned by the Foundation and funds managed by the Foundation as of December 31, 2012 is \$43,981,753, which is the highest value of assets managed by the Foundation in its history.

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND

The Foundation administers a Church Development Loan Fund, providing funds for capital improvements and operating expenses for local United Methodist Churches, annual conferences and related agencies. Application forms for these loans are available at the Foundation's office or on the Foundation's website at www.kaumf.org. The Foundation has made loans for \$16,586,577 to 79 churches and related agencies since the inception of the loan fund in 1996. Funds for this loan program are obtained from Certificates of Participation, which are investments made by persons who are members of or participating in a local United Methodist Church, and by local churches and agencies themselves. The Certificates are currently offered for one and two year maturities, and pay an interest rate higher than the prevailing Certificate of Deposit Rates at area financial institutions. Application forms and disclosure statements are available from the Foundation's office or on the Foundation's website. Certificates of Deposit total \$6,524,489 as of December 31, 2012. Additional funds are always needed, as loan requests consistently exceed the amount of funds on hand to loan to eligible borrowers.

PLANNED GIVING WORKSHOPS

The Foundation conducts workshops in churches on estate planning for individuals, including wills, revocable trusts, durable powers of attorney for health care and for asset management in the event of disability, and tax planning. An emphasis of the workshops is to encourage gifts to churches and church agencies through bequests in wills and revocable trusts, life income trusts, charitable gift annuities, life insurance, pension plans, life estate gifts or other forms of gifts to support the ongoing and future ministries of the donor's church and/or related

church agencies. The Foundation will also provide individual estate planning consultation at no cost by John Griffin, J.D. and Steve Childs, J.D. There is no charge to churches for planned giving workshops.

STEWARDSHIP SERVICES

The Foundation continues to expand its stewardship services to United Methodist Churches by providing educational workshops and individual church consultation on stewardship issues by Lee Sankey, Director of Stewardship Services for the Foundation. The Foundation's focus on stewardship is currently in four areas:

Annual Commitment Programs, by assisting churches to understand their need to have an annual commitment program, and helping churches implement a selected annual commitment program;

Capital Campaigns, by serving as campaign consultants on a fee basis for church capital campaigns;

Financial Management Courses for individuals through Good \$ense Life Curriculum by providing leader training for the Freed Up Financial series for churches, and by training individuals to be Good \$ense Budget Counselors for churches or clusters of churches. The Foundation can also assist churches with other financial management courses that are available to churches;

9. Stewardship consulting, by being available to churches to explore the theology and function of Christian stewardship in a local church setting, and helping churches organize themselves for year round stewardship.

As members of a congregation grow in their understanding of transformational giving through these workshops and consultations, churches can create cultures of generosity where all avenues of giving reinforce one another as they are used to answer God's call for their congregation.

ENDOWMENT FUNDSERVICES

More and more churches are establishing endowment funds to support their ongoing ministries, help fund new ministries and to ensure that these ministries will exist in future years. The Foundation can assist churches in drafting the endowment fund's organizational charter, and establishing the investment policies, administration policies and marketing for the endowment. Assistance in the ongoing work and development of the local church endowment fund is also provided by the Foundation's staff. An endowment fund does not replace regularly budgeted items in a church's operating budget, but seeks to develop funds for ministries that allow for spending over, above and beyond the regular budget needs of churches.

The Foundation provides its endowment fund services free of charge for churches. The Foundation's primary role is to work as a consultant with endowment fund committees of churches as they create the necessary organizational documents and policy statements for new endowment funds, and as they continue to grow the assets in these funds.

TRUSTS

The Foundation serves as Trustee of various charitable trusts and split interest trusts for individuals. The split interest trusts can provide income to a donor for their life, and then to their church and/or other charitable organizations on the death of the donor as determined by the donor.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

The Foundation does issue annuities that provide income to the donor for life, and then upon their death the remaining assets are paid to their church and/or other charitable organizations. There are great tax advantages in charitable gift annuities to help increase income to annuitants as well as charitable deductions for income tax purposes.

LOCAL CHURCH AUDITS

The Foundation's Chief Financial Officer, Michele Ellis, is a CPA, and will provide the annual audit statements as required by The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church for local churches at a negotiated fee.

United Methodist Health Ministry Fund

Kim Moore, President

In 2012, the Health Ministry Fund completed 26 years of service. From a corpus of \$30 million, this endowed fund has grown to approximately \$55 million and awarded more than \$60 million in funds to support health ministry throughout Kansas. Since 2009, we have focused our health improvement efforts on three issues: the emotional and behavioral health of young children, the nutrition and physical activity of young children, and the continuing problems of access to primary health care. In addition, we maintain strong programming offerings related to congregational and clergy health.

9.

One grant of \$25,000 was made to the Kansas East Conference to convert the Kansas East Conference's Safe and Sacred Spaces program to an online registration, training and certification program for Kansas East and Kansas West Conferences, with an ongoing goal of having a national reciprocal program. The conversion occurred and participants are being processed electronically.

Sixteen Kansas East churches completed or maintained their Healthy Congregations Covenant certified teams and received \$1000 stipends. Those congregations are Basehor; Bonner Springs; Emporia First; Emporia Grace; Fredonia; Hiawatha First; Kansas City Living Water; Lawrence First; Lenexa; Louisburg; Ottawa First; Richter; Overland Park St. Mark's; Tecumseh; Topeka Highland Park; and Wamego. Five other Kansas East congregations received \$100 stipends recognizing their continued training or reporting on ministries: Hepler, Howard, Randolph, Stark, and Topeka Countryside. You can learn more about how your church can participate in Healthy Congregations as well as the health ministries of these and other congregations through our website at www.healthfund.org/churches.

Four different approaches to issues of young children's nutrition and physical activity were funded. An initiative called High Five for Mom and Baby is engaging hospitals to implement five proven practices to improve rates of breastfeeding. Hospitals can sign up for on-site training, technical assistance and scholarship support for staff lactation training. New training opportunities for all types of child care providers on the incorporation of physical activity, good nutrition, safety, and oral health into their regular programs will be offered statewide through Child Care Aware, based in Salina. Our third effort is to support community efforts in Topeka and Junction City to reduce fetal infant mortality through community review panels focusing on systemic issues leading to high infant mortality. Community coalitions to work on young children's healthy lifestyles have been funded in nine Kansas communities including Coffeyville and Lawrence.

Our work in primary care access has a three-fold focus: rural health system viability, information about the Affordable Care Act and advocacy on Medicaid expansion and other key health policy issues. In 2013, we anticipate announcing a competitive opportunity for frontier communities with critical access hospitals to participate in a three-year project implementing changes in their local health systems to focus on essential services and appropriate infrastructure. Information about the Affordable Care Act in Kansas has been developed in an eight-part series prepared by the Kansas Health Institute (www.khi.org) with our funding support. We anticipate sponsoring additional learning opportunities for various audiences on that law during 2013.

9.

Grants continue to support Kansas advocacy by Kansas Action for Children, Kansas Center for Economic Growth, Oral Health Kansas and the Kansas Health Consumer Coalition.

To prepare a workforce more ready to deal with the complex issues of young children's emotional and behavioral health, the Health Ministry Fund provides ongoing support to Kansas Association for Infant Mental Health. That organization offers different levels of training and mentoring for child care workers, social workers, early education specialists and other mental health professionals on working with young children and their families. This experience culminates in "endorsements" recognizing the preparation of persons to deal with these specialized issues.

In addition to our projects directly reaching local congregations, we hope that United Methodists will make their communities, professionals, family and friends aware of all the resources provided through various organizations with funding from our foundation. Success of our efforts always depends on the participation of Kansans.

We have appreciated the hospitality of the Kansas East Conference and the relationships with Kansas East churches, communities and leaders. We look forward to continuing those relationships within the new Great Plains Conference.

United Methodist Youthville Matt Johnson, Manager of Church Relations
United Methodist Youthville received notice from the Department for Children and Families, formerly known as SRS, that services involving reintegration, case management and adoption for the Wichita region will be transferred to St. Francis Community Services (SFCS). Youthville will no longer provide these specific services effective July 1, 2013. This notice was a shock to the Youthville staff and many others.

United Methodist Youthville, however, is not ending its services to youth and children. Youthville will continue to be an institutional ministry of the Kansas Area United Methodist Church. The agency will provide services to more than 700 children and youth across Kansas through the Dodge City campus, a secure-care facility in Newton, the counseling services in Wichita, Dodge City and Concordia and the foster-care program across the state.

Kansas East United Methodist Churches have stood with Youthville since the agency's beginning in 1927. Thank you for your faithful giving through the Kansas East Conference advanced special and other offerings. Your gifts will continue to serve the needs of children and youth. Please make a special effort to pray for the Youthville leadership team and board in the days ahead.

Youthville provides volunteer opportunities, on-site tours, mentoring with our kids, gift-in-kind collections, cash offerings, conducting a worship service on a campus (Newton or Dodge City), speakers for your church/ group to help the churches of the East Conference to fulfill their mission to connect and empower people and churches in living out the Gospel's call to invite, nurture, equip, and send forth disciples of Jesus Christ.

Youthville is looking to establish a Youthville Ambassador at every church in the Kansas East Conference. A Youthville Ambassador is a liaison between Youthville and their church. This person is passionate about Youthville – many are the mission committee leader or UMW president or pastor or a lay person. Currently, 36 churches have an assigned Ambassador. If you would like more information about how your church can get involved with Youthville, please call Matt Johnson, Director of Church Operations, 316.529.9215 or email: mjohnson@youthville.org.

F. REPORTS FROM INSTITUTIONS IN OUR JURISDICTION

Lydia Patterson Institute

Socorro Brito de Anda, President

In the late 1800's a Methodist woman named Lydia Patterson answered God's call to ministry with the children of immigrant families crossing the US-Mexico border and settling in South El Paso, Texas. In October, 1913, the Methodist Church opened the doors of a school in memory of this woman, Lydia Patterson Institute.

In 2013, one hundred years later, we celebrate the thousands of lives that have been touched and changed through the love of Christ and the vision of one Methodist lay woman. We rejoice in the celebration of 100 years of educating thousands of students, forming leaders for the church, breaking the cycle of poverty in countless families, and bringing Jesus Christ to generations of young men and women. Numerous activities are planned in celebration of Lydia Patterson's 100 Anniversary throughout the year, but the most thankful celebration is that of proudly claiming the definition of a true ministry of the United Methodist Church.

9. In the last few years, Lydia Patterson has seen the pain in the faces of students caught in the rage of drug wars, murder, and instability in their home town. Lydia Patterson has served as their safe haven in a world of violence. By the grace of God, this past year has begun to see a more peaceful neighboring city of Juarez, Mexico. In a U.S. report, Juarez has dropped from being the most dangerous city in the world to number 19 in a list of 50. El Paso, on the other hand, has once more been rated as the 3rd safest city in the country.

As a result, our enrollment is back up to 430 students with a goal of 500 for the next school year. Parents are regaining their confidence, and many are returning to work. The need to continue to help these families more than ever is evident. The number of scholarship students increased three-fold. We are grateful to the number of churches and friends that have stepped up and supported us with scholarship funds and apportionments for continued operations.

Last May, we graduated 81 students, all of which are in college today. The graduating class received \$1.3 million in scholarships from United Methodist colleges and universities. Ninety-five percent of our graduating students are going to college.

In 1913, when Mr. Patterson gave \$75,000 to the Methodist church to build Lydia Patterson, he asked that boys be trained to lead the Hispanic churches springing up along the Rio Grande. The school opened its Ministerial Program. Many of the pastors leading churches in the Rio Grande Conference received their training here, including an Episcopal bishop. Today, Lydia Patterson trains young men and women through its Student Lay Ministry Program. Students serve in intern-

ships in local churches while at Lydia Patterson and while attending college. Many have chosen to pursue their calling by moving on to seminary.

Lydia Patterson is looking forward to its second 100 years. In preparation, it is engaged in a capital campaign to renovate its campus and equip it with the latest state of the art technology. Classrooms are being renovated. Student services will be enriched with a new media and research center and computer and science labs. New dining and fine arts facilities will be built, including a new chapel where students will be able to worship together.

The board of trustees has pledged its total commitment to the campaign. One-hundred percent of the faculty and staff have pledged to the campaign and students, alumni and parents are equally committed. The El Paso community has joined the South Central Jurisdiction and will be remembered as the creators of the legacy of the second one hundred years of “La Lydia.”

Our appreciation goes out to every member of this conference, the bishop and all those who join us to prepare for the next 100 years and to continue to make a difference as we change lives and form disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Mount Sequoyah Conference and Retreat Center

Lamar Pettus, Interim Executive Director

“Renewal” is the new mantra on the Mountain! Just as the United Methodist Church is taking its rightful place in the worldwide awakening of the Body of Christ, so too is the Mount Sequoyah Conference and Retreat Center.

The year 2012 marked the inaugural year for our transition from a facility that simply emphasizes Christian hospitality to a Premier United Methodist Conference and Resort Center that provides Relevant Training and Networking for United Methodist clergy and laity, 21st century Functionality and Amenities in event and lodging facilities, a Captivating Environment with walking trails and botanical gardens, and Purposeful Ownership driving honor and esteem for our institution.

As we embrace God’s Purpose for Mount Sequoyah in the 21st century, we continue to seek, welcome and gather visitors and guests from every generation, race, gender and religion. On the Mountain our guests enjoy an environment where they are both functionally and spiritually connected with God and nature. They come to Mount Sequoyah for lodging, business meetings, educational events, family reunions, weddings, recreation and spiritual growth. The 13,000 guests we served in our United Methodist Environment in 2012 included College Students, United Methodists, Corporate Leaders, Veterans, University Parents, Bikers, Educators and Families. Every guest, without exception, is sur-

rounded by the icons and spiritual disciplines of our faith and with the hospitality we extend, they are introduced to United Methodist practices and principles, most notably John Wesley's three simple rules... Do No Harm. Do Good. Stay in Love With God.

Mount Sequoyah Center ended the year with a substantial net income for the first time since 2006 and we want to thank the Kansas East Conference for the part you are playing in our success. In addition to the apportionments you offered, United Methodist utilization of the facilities provided \$170,000 of our \$1.5M revenue in 2012 with over \$14,000 coming directly from the Kansas Conferences from such groups as The Young Christian Singers from FUMC Leavenworth, Church of the Resurrection, and the Wichita VIM. We send a special thank you to your Young Christian Singers who provided an unplanned performance for the Mount Sequoyah neighbors during their stay. It was wonderful to watch our neighbors voluntarily interrupt their evening walks to take a seat in our outdoor chapel and listen to your youth witness to them through skit and song. Finally, the state of Kansas provided another \$3,000 from 15 individuals who chose to stay at Mount Sequoyah during their personal travels. And that's not all. The Kansas Conferences are also providing us with tremendous leadership and council from Mrs. Mary Brooks, Mr. Doug Foss, Rev. Julienne Judd, and Bishop Scott Jones who are active, contributing members of the Mount Sequoyah Board of Trustees.

9. Thank you, Kansas Conferences.

As we renew our Mountain and transform it into the Premier United Methodist Conference and Resort Center that is our future, your continued engagement will validate the strength of our established presence today and ensure the promise of a powerful future for the United Methodist Church in God's plan for the transformation of the world.

Perkins School of Theology

William B. Lawrence, Dean

Perkins received positive evaluations from all three of our accrediting bodies during the past year: The Association of Theological Schools, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and University Senate of The United Methodist Church.

New faculty and staff members are strengthening our mission of preparing women and men for faithful leadership in Christian ministry. D. Max Whitfield was named Bishop in Residence for 2012-2016 while Dr. Brad R. Braxton joined our faculty as Lois Craddock Perkins Professor of Homiletics and Dr. James Kang Hoon Lee joined our faculty as assistant professor of the History of Early Christianity. Dr. Arlene Sánchez Walsh, associate professor in the Graduate School of Theology at Azusa Pacific University, was 2012-2013 visiting professor. Dr. Mark W. Stamm, Christian Worship, and Dr. Rebekah Miles, Ethics and Practical Theology, were promoted to full professor. Rev. Connie Nelson was selected as director of Public Affairs and Alumni Relations, and Dr. Rebecca Frank Bruff

became director of our Center for Religious Leadership. Dr. Ruben Habito, professor of World Religions and Spirituality, was named Interim Coordinator of the Spiritual Formation and Spiritual Direction programs, an administrative transition shifting these important responsibilities to a highly qualified full-time faculty member. Searches for new faculty members in the fields of History of Christianity and Christian Theology have resulted in candidates with exceptional promise, and we anticipate filling those positions for the start of the 2013-2014 academic year.

Our 2012 entering class has a median age of 29 – the first time in nearly a decade that the median age has been under 30. Among all Perkins students, more than two-thirds are United Methodist and more than one-third are persons of color. The Doctor of Ministry program continues to grow with new cohorts of students from southern Asia taking classes in Singapore and in Dallas. Our Ph.D. program, one of only two highly rated doctoral programs among the 15 at SMU, includes two Latino Ph.D. students supported through a grant from the Luce Foundation to Perkins' Center for the Study of Latino/a Christianity and Religions.

To be sure, Perkins is not immune from the challenges of declining revenues and enrollment faced by schools of theology and seminaries across the United States. However, we are blessed with gifted faculty and staff members, inspiring students, beautiful facilities, and vibrant ministries. We thank our many colleagues, friends, and alumni/ae across the connection for continuing generous support, including referrals of prospective students.

9.

Saint Paul School of Theology

Dr. Myron McCoy, President

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

During the 2012-2013 academic year, 196 students from 12 annual conferences and 9 countries were enrolled in degree programs at Saint Paul School of Theology on both campuses. The Course of Study School at Saint Paul served 236 students at the Kansas City, Missouri, Springfield, Missouri, and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma locations.

In November 2012, the Saint Paul School of Theology Board of Trustees voted to enter into an Agreement for Building Occupancy and Commitment to Collaborate between Saint Paul School of Theology/Kansas City and the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection. The agreement concluded a period of study and represents the seminary's vision to create a nationally recognized, vibrant, innovative locus of theological education aimed at preparing leaders for congregations and faith communities in the changing culture and emerging field of mission. It

seeks to provide learning in the practice of ministry for both clergy and laity that is characterized by excellence. The Kansas City campus will move to Leawood, KS in the fall of 2013. The Oklahoma campus will remain at Oklahoma City University.

Saint Paul at OCU began its 5th year in September. Two new faculty members have been added in Oklahoma. Bishop Steven Charleston was appointed as Visiting Professor of Native American Ministries, a position funded by a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation. Dr. Stan Basler, DMin '00, joined the faculty in January 2013 as Visiting Professor of Restorative Justice and Prison Ministry.

Twenty-four master's degree students and three doctoral students graduated from the Kansas City campus in May 2012. Six master of divinity students graduated at the 2nd Commencement Convocation in Oklahoma in August 2012. The first graduates of the Seminary Lite program in Oklahoma also received certificates.

The 3rd Saint Paul Korean Doctor of Ministry cohort began this winter. This program is a partnership with Hyupsung University in Seoul, Korea.

9. Saint Paul School of Theology will host A Seminary Celebration: Looking Back, Looking Forward on April 25-26, 2013 on its Kansas City Truman Road Campus. The event will celebrate the past, present, and future of the seminary. Activities will include a retirement luncheon honoring Dr. Sondra Matthaei MRE '69, the installation of Dr. Harold Washington as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean, the Cleaver Lecture on Justice featuring Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow*, a prayer breakfast, and closing worship service in Kresge Chapel.

The class of 1963 will be the 50 year honor class at the 52nd Commencement Convocation on May 17 for the Kansas City campus. Dr. Sondra Matthaei '69, retiring Professor of Christian Religious Education, will be the speaker. UMC Arkansas Bishop Gary Mueller will speak at the 3rd Commencement for the Oklahoma City campus.

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

Southern Methodist University

R. Gerald Turner, President

This is an exciting time at SMU, as the University celebrates the centennial of its founding in 1911 by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and its opening in 1915. Highlights of recent and current developments follow:

- SMU's total fall 2012 enrollment was 10,893, including 6,249 undergraduates and 4,644 graduate students. Ethnic minority students made up 24.7 percent of total enrollment and 27 percent of undergraduate enrollment. A record number of

1,282 international students came from 89 foreign countries.

- SMU consistently ranks in the top one-fourth of the “best national universities” in U.S. News & World Report rankings. In the 2013 report, SMU ranks 58 among 280 national universities, an increase of four points from the previous year.
- SMU’s external awards for research and sponsored projects have increased significantly. During 2011-12, SMU received \$22.4 million for research and sponsored projects throughout the U.S. and worldwide on six continents.
- SMU Unbridled: The Second Century Campaign, launched in 2008, is the largest fund-raising effort in the University’s history, with a goal of \$750 million. At campaign midpoint in 2012, gifts totaling \$664.8 million are providing funds for 231 scholarships; 23 endowed academic positions; 17 academic program endowments, including support for two schools and one academic department; and 16 new or renovated facilities.
- SMU’s Residential Commons Complex, currently under construction, includes five new residence halls and a dining facility. Completion in 2014 will enable SMU to implement a residency requirement for sophomores along with first-year students. The halls will include classrooms and faculty accommodations.
- A new general education curriculum for undergraduates, implemented in fall 2012, is designed to prepare students for the demands of an increasingly interconnected global society, with emphasis on ethics and engaged learning programs. Undergraduate students participate in scholarly research, civic engagement, professional internships and creative activity related to education goals.
- The George W. Bush Presidential Center, opening at SMU in April 2013, consists of the Library, Museum and independent Institute. The Center will be a valuable source of research materials and is already sponsoring programs for scholars, students and visitors. Current Bush Institute programming includes a leadership development program for Egyptian women.
- Thomas B. Fomby, professor of economics in Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences, and Marcia K. Armstrong, associate dean for master’s programs in Cox School of Business, have been elected to the Economic Advisory Committee of the United Methodist General Council on Finance and Administration.

SMU treasures its Methodist heritage, and we ask for your continued prayers and support.

G. REPORTS FROM INSTITUTIONS BEYOND THE JURISDICTION

Africa University

James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement
In 2012, twenty-seven annual conferences invested in Africa University at the level of 100% of their general church asking for the Africa University Fund (AUF). Other annual conferences increased their support and the overall effort pushed giving to the AUF to a new record of 93.35%. The generosity of local congregations is a tremendous blessing to Africa University. The students, faculty and staff rely on the church's ongoing investment, through the AUF, to provide for the day-to-day and operational expenses of the institution. The university is deeply grateful to the Kansas East Conference for investing 85% of its asking to the AUF. However, the conference fell short of a 100% investment in the AUF by \$3,847, an amount that is equivalent to tuition and basic fees for one student for a year.

Your support for the AUF has been increasing steadily, from 78% in 2010 to 85% in 2012. We urge you to set a 100% investment in the AUF as your goal for the Kansas East Conference in 2013. Encourage your local congregations to give generously this year because demand for an Africa University education is growing.

9.

More than 1,200 qualified applicants sought admission in August 2012. The university had space for only about 400 freshmen. Currently, women account for 52% of the total enrollment, which stands at 1,386 students. In addition, 25 African nations are represented in the student body.

Scholarships and financial aid grants are vital to access. More than 90% of the students at Africa University need assistance—scholarships, financial aid grants and work study—in order to pay their tuition and other fees. For the vast majority, a direct or endowed scholarship award made possible by your generosity is their only means of attending university.

Throughout 2012, the 20th anniversary celebrations highlighted the crucial role that Africa University is already playing in the life of our global church. The Rev. Dr. Laishi Bwalya, for example, is superintendent of the Zambia Provisional Conference and a member of the Connectional Table of The United Methodist Church for 2013-2016. Across Africa, more than 4,700 graduates are helping to eradicate hunger, poverty, disease, conflict and hopelessness.

For its third decade of ministry, Africa University is focusing on accessibility and impact. Increasing the availability of scholarships for students and developing on-line distance learning programs are the university's highest priorities as it seeks to equip more Africans to change lives and transform communities.

In supporting the AUF, the Kansas East Conference helps to keep the lights on and ensure that Africa University has dedicated faculty to inspire, train and nurture a generation of new leaders. Your gifts provide scholarships for needy students, vital teaching resources and a great learning environment.

We thank you for believing in, praying for and investing in Africa University. Help us to continue making disciples of Jesus Christ who uplift communities and grow the church. Thank you for your investment in the “School of Dreams.” Africa University : Changing Africa: Learning here. Living here. Leading here. Serving God. All the time. Everywhere.

Boston University School of Theology

Mary Elizabeth Moore

Dear Friends of BU School of Theology,

What a Year! I am dazzled by the achievements of our faculty, students and staff here at Boston University School of Theology in 2012. This has been a year of deep reflection as we underwent the BU Academic Program Review and the United Methodist University Senate Review. Both reviews went very well and revealed vital strength in our faculty, students, and administrative staff. This has been a year for celebration – our largest ever incoming class, excellence in teaching and learning, and a vibrant community life.

Some highlights from the previous year were:

- Reaching into the greater community through service days, “vocations vacation,” seminary singers tour to Florida, and contextual internships.
- Building up intentional living communities for students: Theology House, Green House, and Mason Terrace.
- Enhancing spiritual life through weekly worship, reading retreats, winter retreat, daily morning prayer, and small groups.
- Creating a “greener” school with: 26 green offices, Carbon Rally Challenge, expanding programs for composting and recycling, and now a 2013 renovation to create a green community center.
- Hosting Lowell Lecture Series on “Restoring Civil Discourse,” featuring Dr. Virginia Sapiro, Bishop Melvin Talbert, Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, and Chief Justice Barbara Smith (Chickasaw Nation).
- Traveling with seminar groups to Ephesus (Turkey) and to Israel and Palestine.
- Advancing communication through a new website, the launching of STH Connect, and production of webinars and video resources.

This has been a year for strengthening master’s education and reviewing doctoral programs. It has also been a year for deepening relations with faith communities, service agencies, and global research initiatives, as we seek to intensify STH’s contributions to our fragile world.

Thank you for being a friend of Boston University! We welcome your stories, sug-

gestions, and support for us. STH is on a mission, and we especially covet your prayers for our people and our work. We are praying for you!

Candler School of Theology

Jan Love, Dean

Candler School of Theology prepares real people to make a real difference in the real world. Our 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. 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 metropolitan area of Atlanta, Candler offers a learning environment 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.

9. Candler's student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful. Our enrollment stands at 478, with 365 seeking the Master of Divinity, 50 the Master of Theological Studies, 30 the Master of Theology, 18 the Doctor of Theology, and 15 enrolled as Special, Non-Degree students. The student population is 32 percent U.S. ethnic minority, 10 percent international, and 50 percent women. Half of MDiv students are United Methodist, with forty-three denominations represented in all programs. The median age of our entering class of MDiv students is 27, with 58 percent under thirty.

Candler remains steadfastly committed to making theological education financially feasible, dedicating nearly \$5 million to financial aid. Eighty percent of eligible students received Candler-based financial aid, with the average award covering 66 percent of tuition.

Construction preparations for the second phase of the Candler's new building got underway at the end of 2012 thanks to an extraordinary gift of \$15 million from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation. The new building, which will house Pitts Theology Library, community space, additional classrooms and offices, group study areas, and the Wesley Teaching Chapel, will be completed in late spring of 2014 in time for Candler's Centennial Celebration. Candler's phase one building was named in memory of Rita Anne Rollins, the first grandchild of the foundation's namesake, in honor of its generous financial gift.

Candler had an excellent presence at the 2012 General Conference in Tampa. In addition to my attendance, Associate Dean Anne Burkholder took a class of 20 students so they could learn firsthand about United Methodist governance. Assistant Dean Mathew Pinson and Dr. Alice Rogers attended as delegates, and the Candler Singers, directed by Barbara Day Miller, performed at the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry reception and the plenary session.

We continue to emphasize preparing our students for leadership in an increasingly global context, and now offer 19 academic exchanges with theology schools across five continents and 15 countries, including many related to The United Methodist Church. In addition to our ongoing summer internship program with the Methodist Church in the Bahamas, this year's travel seminars included the Middle East and World Methodist Evangelism Institute evangelism seminars to Zimbabwe, Peru, and Israel.

Our public events supported our commitment to strengthen the church by offering opportunities for clergy and lay people to hear fresh, new voices. Last fall we hosted Christian activist and bestselling author Shane Claiborne for two major addresses, "Jesus for President" and "Resurrecting Church," with nearly 1,000 in attendance. Our Spring Conference, "The Singing Church," gathered experts to lead an exploration of the best practices and emerging trends of congregational song.

Candler draws considerable strength 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 advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. Visit us in person in Atlanta or online at candler.emory.edu to see firsthand how Candler prepares real people to make a real difference in the real world.

Drew University School of Theology

The Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, Ph.D., Dean Drew Theological School, deeply rooted in its United Methodist heritage, is a place that empowers its students to conceive and implement dynamic ministries. Drew offers the MDiv, MA, MAM, STM, DMin, and PhD degrees, as well as certifications in Camp and Retreat Ministry, and Spiritual Formation. Academically rigorous and spiritually engaging, Drew develops religious leadership prepared for these ever-changing times.

Drew welcomes people of all faiths, but we are particularly interested in building up the United Methodist ethos that is part of our historic Wesleyan heritage. Drew offers 100% tuition scholarships to all United Methodists who meet all admissions requirements and have a 3.2 undergraduate GPA or higher.

In June 2012, I was pleased to welcome to Drew's campus representatives from 8 of the 13 United Methodist seminaries, staff members from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, one Bishop, and representatives from three annual conferences. We hosted the first annual conference on Theological Education and Clergy Health co-sponsored by the Center for Clergy and Congregational Health and Wholeness at Drew and the Center for Health of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. This three-day conference addressed issues of the current poor state of clergy health in relationship to Theological Education in order to begin to understand the impact of seminaries on students' health.

It was also my pleasure to host the September 2012 Theological Conference at Drew entitled, The Future of Christian Spirituality and Interreligious Interaction in honor of Dr. Pyun, Sun Hwan. Over the course of the three days, an array of speakers from the U.S., Korea, and other countries engaged attendees and one another on topics such as "Interreligious Dialogue Versus Interreligious Theology," "The Future of Comparative Theology," and "Interreligious Theology, Liberation, and the Church."

It was also a great pleasure to welcome alumni/ae back to campus for the Tipple Vosburgh lectures in the fall. This year's topic was "Faith, Race, and Politics" which provided opportunities to hear the voices and visions of activists, scholars, and church leaders responding to this unique and timely dilemma.

9.

Creative, cutting-edge, inclusive, multi-cultural, social justice ministry is part of the legacy of Drew, and I am proud to be associated with it! Below are just a few other ministries that make me proud to be associated with Drew.

Building up the United Methodist Connection

I have enjoyed meeting Bishops and many Boards of Ordained Ministry to convey our desire at Drew to be a resource to the entire denomination. I am particularly pleased that Drew is hosting a January Term class taught by UM Bishops. This past January, Bishop Peggy Johnson of the Eastern PA and Peninsula Delaware Conference, taught a class entitled, Topics in Pastoral Care: Disabilities and the Church. Her class led worship recently in chapel and shared just how important this course was in forming a compassionate, inclusive and prophetic vision for the church. In January of 2014, Bishop Jane Middleton will teach a class on Ministry and Health.

United Methodist Liaison at Drew

The Rev. Jeff Markay continues to work with our UM students by introducing them to the leaders and resources within our denomination. He helps them navigate the process toward commissioning and ordination as well as with issues of discernment. We have monthly UM Lunches to meet with bishops, and leaders of the general agencies, conferences and connection.

United Methodist Deacon Liaison at Drew

We are also grateful to have the Rev. Susan Worrell as the Deacon Liaison on campus who shares resources and wisdom with those hearing a call to the Ministry of the Deacon in the UMC.

Bishop in Residence: Bishop Ernest Lyght

It was with great joy and excitement that I announced the appointment of Retired Bishop Ernest S. Lyght as the Bishop-in-Residence at the Theological School beginning March 1, 2013. I anticipate this appointment to continue until 2015. In this position, Bishop Lyght will teach and mentor students and be a presence on campus.

National Shalom Ministry of the UMC

Communities of Shalom, now in its 6th year at Drew, completed its curricular redevelopment of ShalomZone Training, which is now available through a cadre of certified national and regional trainers under the leadership of national director, the Rev. Dr. Michael Christensen.

Center for Clergy and Congregational Health and Wholeness

In October 2012 Dean Ginny Samuel made a presentation to members of the AUMTS (Deans and Presidents of the 13 United Methodist Seminaries) about the state of clergy health. She was accompanied by a staff person from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, Anne Borish, and together they invited AUMTS members to participate in the longitudinal study. While there was a unanimous support for this study, thus far Drew and Duke Divinity School are the two participating seminaries. We expect that more seminaries will join the study in the coming years. This collaborative effort will support efforts to make needed changes in the structures and programs of an MDiv degree to encourage and support students' attention to their own health and well being.

In February we launched the Seminary to Ministry longitudinal study in partnership with the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. This study will track MDiv students during their time in seminary and for the first five years in ministry. Results of the survey will be helpful to faculty in its revision of the MDiv curriculum as it informs them about the realities of student health and well being while they are at Drew.

We at Drew look forward to working with the good and faithful people of the UMC as we forge deeper friendships in the shared ministry of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. For more information about Drew, please visit us at: PERLINK "<http://www.drew.edu>

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary Philip A. Amerson, President

In 2013, Garrett-Evangelical celebrates 160 years of creating skilled, bold, and articulate leaders for the church, the academy, and the world. We remain committed to our core purpose: to know God in Christ and, through preparing spiritual leaders, help others know God in Christ.

Garrett-Evangelical is the result of the interweaving of three institutions:

- Garrett Biblical Institute, the first Methodist seminary in the Midwest, was established in 1853 by largely the same church people who founded Northwestern University.
- Chicago Training School, established in 1885, was an important force for women in ministry and for developing service agencies throughout Chicago. Chicago Training School merged with Garrett Biblical Institute in 1934.
- Evangelical Theological Seminary, located in Naperville and founded as a seminary of the Evangelical Church (later the Evangelical United Brethren) in 1873, joined with Garrett Theological Seminary in 1974 to form Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

Last fall the seminary welcomed 107 new students, raising total fall enrollment to 390—the third consecutive year of increase. The average age of the entering Master of Divinity student is 31. Fifty-one percent are women. The ethnic/racial profile is 52% white; 20% black; 5% Asian; 3% Hispanic/Latino. Thirteen percent of the students are international.

9.

More than 30 religious traditions, four continents, 12 countries and 32 states are represented in the student body. Two hundred twenty-four students are United Methodist. Thirty-four additional students come from other Pan-Methodist denominations. Currently 4 students from the Kansas Conference are enrolled in the various degree programs at the seminary.

Garrett-Evangelical's commitment to making seminary education affordable is reflected in the awarding of more than \$2 million in institutional financial aid to students each year. The seminary has created the Linked in Ministry Scholarship program. This 100 percent scholarship is awarded to the first student admitted to Garrett-Evangelical from his/her United Methodist annual conference who maintains a 3.3 GPA or above and who is a registered candidate for UMC ministry. In January,

Garrett-Evangelical completed a successful campaign to fund the Rueben P. Job Endowed Chair in Spiritual Formation. One of the first chairs in spiritual formation among Protestant seminaries, the award is named in honor of Garrett-Evangelical's distinguished alumnus Rueben P. Job, retired bishop of The United Methodist Church. The position is a legacy to Bishop Job's lifelong work and will ensure that Garrett-Evangelical continues to prepare well-formed spiritual leaders for many generations.

Garrett-Evangelical has long been at the forefront of Protestant seminaries in this area. The seminary proposed the curriculum structure for United Methodist certification in spiritual formation, formally adopted by the denomination in 2000. Since then, Garrett-Evangelical has adopted a specialized master of arts degree in spiritual formation and evangelism as well as a Doctor of Ministry in Spiritual Direction.

Funds now are being received to permanently endow the Rueben Job Institute in Spiritual Formation. Information about the Institute can be found at <<http://ruebenjobinstitute.org>>.

Dr. Dwight Judy, Professor Emeritus of Spiritual Formation, retired at the end of 2012. He continues to serve the seminary and church through his work as Director of the Institute.

Several initiatives to support clergy and lay education are under way. During the spring semester, fifteen academic classes were offered in an online format, some with a continuing education option. During the next several months, new programs—online, on campus, and in congregational settings will begin.

Plus is a first-of-its-kind cooperative executive education program of Garrett-Evangelical and Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. The two-year leadership certification program for seminary graduates and other professionals in ministry includes eight days of seminars led by experts in non-profit leadership.

Intersection is an innovative continuing education opportunity incorporating readings, online presentations by seminary faculty, and reflection on contemporary issues of life and ministry, providing an intersection of academic studies with the concern for practical ministry. Topics range from theology, biblical interpretation, and church history to ethics and the church in society. Continuing education credit is available. Additional information is available at <http://www.garrett.edu/intersection>.

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

Garrett-Evangelical serves over 550 students in degree-related courses, certificate programs and the summer Course of Study School. We encourage you to visit our website, www.garrett.edu, and to visit us on campus. We are grateful to serve The United Methodist Church and the church at large.

United Theological Seminary

Wendy J. Deichmann, President

Is God calling you or someone you know to the ministry of Jesus Christ? If so, we invite you to explore how United can assist you in fulfilling God's purposes for your life and how you can help others in this journey. Come and check us out in person or online at www.united.edu!

United is one of the fastest growing, accredited seminaries in North America. Why are Christian disciples and leaders signing up for our traditional and online programs? They are doing so because United is committed to teaching the Bible and the historic Christian faith, cultivating spiritual formation for personal and social holiness, and renewing the Church for the mission of Jesus Christ in the world. What could be more important or exciting?

In addition to expanding our service in the Midwestern US, United will continue to enhance its use of technology to deliver theological education in under-served regions in North America and beyond. United's hybrid/online UMC FLEX Master of Divinity degree was designed specifically to meet the requirements of the UMC for ordination and it is accessible anywhere with good Internet service. Our hybrid/online UM Course of Study is expanding each semester, along with UM Certification offerings.

9. What's new at United? Three new professors joined our excellent team of faculty in 2012 and a search is underway for yet another. United and Aldersgate Renewal Ministries have developed a new partnership, and we have piloted a new certification program focused upon ministries with persons with disabilities. Each year, United's doctoral program adds new mentors and focus groups for advanced ministry study. Please let us know if you have questions about how we can best assist you or, if you would like to help make it possible for an American or international student to study at United.

Enrollment at United continues to grow, and we invite you to call or visit soon! For more information, please contact admissions@united.edu. Thank you for your prayers, partnership, service and support in the ministry of Jesus Christ!