

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation is to **support** the ministries of the Nebraska Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church through the **development** of gifts and the **stewardship** of resources entrusted to the Foundation in support of God's work.

### Nebraska United Methodist Foundation

## 2003 Annual Report

If you ever took a physics class, you may remember the inevitable law of "for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction." Opposite is a point of reference, much like "when one door closes, another one opens" or "in giving, we receive."

The amazing phenomenon existing between the Foundation and the Nebraska Annual Conference is that we take this most basic law of physics to an exponential level – "for every act of giving, there is an even greater reaction."

For every church that establishes a single investment or endowment fund, that church and its members receive multiple years of benefit from the foresight of those who made the fund possible.

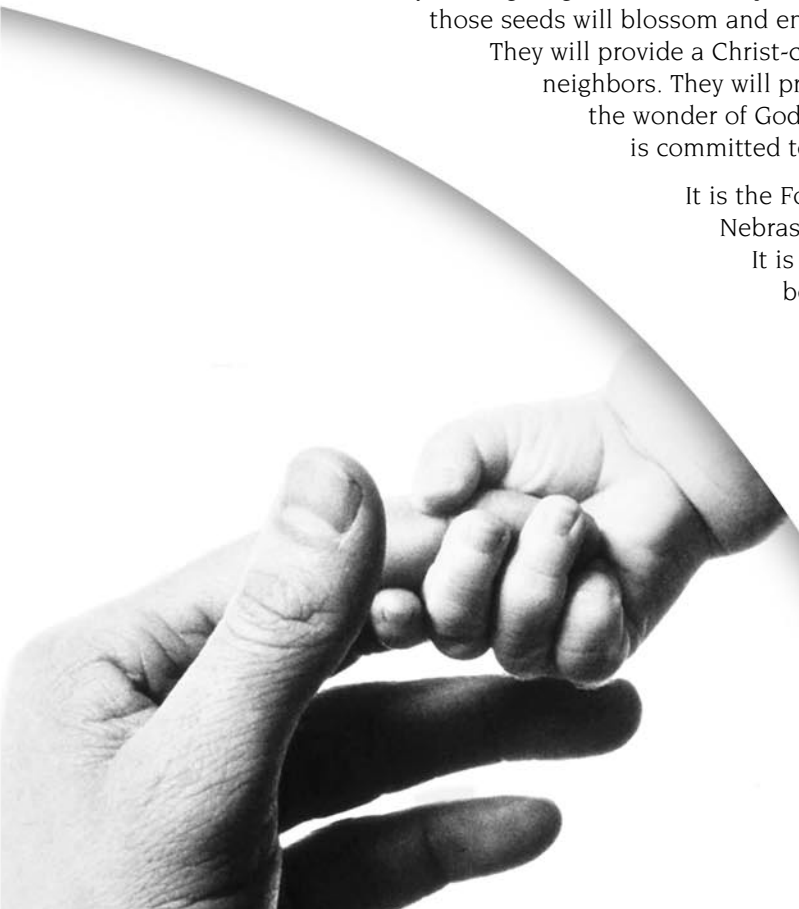
For every donor who creates a scholarship fund, seminary students in the subsequent years receive financial aid for their spiritual journey to becoming pastors in the Nebraska Annual Conference and touching the lives of their future congregations.

For every individual who funds a charitable gift annuity, that person receives tax and income benefits while ensuring the future of his or her church, favorite Conference ministry or charity, and the eventual benefit of others.

In 2003, the Foundation paid out distributions to churches and agencies of just over \$297,000. We provided financial support to seminary students of almost \$17,000 in scholarship funds. More than \$70,000 was distributed in the form of donor-advised grants. Life income distributions to donors exceeded \$120,000.

Every act of giving and stewardship is a seed that will grow for years to come. While growing, those seeds will blossom and energize new and existing congregations and ministries. They will provide a Christ-centered environment for our families, friends, and neighbors. They will provide a greater reaction, in which we can experience the wonder of God's love, than that of the initial action. The Foundation is committed to this purpose.

It is the Foundation's mission to support the ministries of the Nebraska Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. It is our passion to see Conference members' dreams become reality. It is our honor and pleasure to be your partner in ministry.



## Here Today, Gone Tomorrow

There's a common misperception that "foundation" and "endowment fund" are synonymous with "a deep, dark hole where you see your money go in, but you never see it come out."

The true purpose of an endowment fund is a resting point for funds, and a foundation's purpose is to direct those monies from the endowment fund to the programs and ministries they have been designated to support. In fact, distributing grants is a significant part of the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation's mission.

In 2001, the Foundation established the "**Gifts From the Heart**" Endowment Fund with the intent to:

1. Provide an opportunity for churches and individuals to ensure the future of the programs and ministries of the Nebraska Annual Conference, and
2. Help ease financial strain and provide funding for programs that would otherwise be unattainable.

"**Gifts From the Heart**" gives members of our Conference the opportunity to make their dreams a reality and leave a legacy that will benefit others for years to come. Five endowment needs were initially identified as high-priority:

- Missions
- Youth & Camping
- Pastoral Education & Support
- Extension (Congregational Development)
- Greatest Needs (unrestricted use)

Donors to "**Gifts From the Heart**" can choose to have their gifts benefit one or any combination of the five endowments listed above. Gifts can be single or multiple, of any size, and either lifetime or estate gifts. A pledge of \$5,000 or more, payable over a five-year period or less, qualifies donors for the "Five Hearts Society." Gifts of \$25,000 or more (made at one time or in regular, periodic installments) will provide support in the donors' names.

Donors at the "Five Hearts Society" or named gift level through 2003 are:

- Dr. Alva H. Clark, *Omaha*
- Shirley F. Crump, *Omaha*
- Kim & Tom Dinsdale, *Grand Island*
- Randy Fleming, *Springfield*
- Rev. Leonard F. Hartwig, *Lincoln*
- Jim & Elda Heller, *Lincoln*
- Dr. Marvin Koelling, *Kearney*
- Alice Kruse, *Blair*
- Mary E. Moore, *Tekamah*
- Dwight & Bette Trumble, *Springfield*
- Keith & Retha Wycoff, *Lexington*

To schedule a visit to discuss gifting options and opportunities, please contact our office.

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"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

- Margaret Mead

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“Nor height, nor depth,  
nor any other creature,  
shall be able to separate  
us from the love of  
God which is in Christ  
Jesus our Lord.”  
- Romans 8:39

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## **Partnering In Passion**

To say that Dr. Alva H. Clark keeps up on United Methodism is putting it mildly. To say he has an interest in the Nebraska Annual Conference is an understatement.

After serving one year in Opolis, Kansas, and three years in Blanca, Colorado, Dr. Clark began ministering in the Nebraska Annual Conference in 1939 at the Palisade United Methodist Church. He also served at Chappell, Beatrice, and Omaha St. Paul before retiring in 1982. “Retirement” for Dr. Clark meant serving as the executive director of the Methodist Hospital Foundation in Omaha for 10 years, followed by his current position for the last 12 years as the assistant to the president of that Foundation.

If 43 years as a pastor in the Nebraska Annual Conference wasn’t enough of a commitment, Dr. Clark also served as chair on many of the Conference Councils. He played a significant part in the merging of the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation and the Extension Foundation in 1998, and he’s currently completing his third term as a Foundation board member.

Dr. Clark’s experience as a pastor, his success with the Methodist Hospital Foundation, his service on the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation’s board, and his passion for the Nebraska Annual Conference are what prompted him to establish two charitable gift annuities and the “Alva Clark Development Fund” at the Foundation. “The future and programs of the Conference are so important to me – that’s my motivation,” Dr. Clark says.

Dr. Clark also credits the laity who served with him over his career. “I’ve received inspiration from lay people who had a greater vision than I grew up with,” he says. “The attitude of giving above and beyond tithing exists within Nebraska. The Nebraska United Methodist Foundation is a resource for permanent funds for churches to ensure the future of their programs. It’s my hope that churches, lay people, and congregation members can catch the vision and see the benefits of working through the Foundation.”

The Foundation works to help churches, ministries, and individuals turn their dreams into reality. Dr. Clark sums it up perfectly when he says, “It’s a privilege to open the door to let people do what they enjoy doing with their money.”

It’s been the Foundation’s privilege to have Dr. Clark serve on our board, share our mission, and be our partner in ministry.

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## **The Foundation and Conference Share the Same Vision**

In executing its mission, the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation shares the same vision as the Nebraska Annual Conference: ensuring the development, growth, and success of the Conference’s churches and related ministries.

It’s every church’s goal to flourish its congregation, ministries, and position within its community. Members desire to have their church touch their lives and the lives of others.

The Foundation’s goal is to help churches and Conference agencies achieve and secure their goals through its investment program, planned giving services, and estate planning services.

The Foundation’s **“Gifts From the Heart” Endowment Fund** is one example of the Foundation working with the Conference for the benefit of our churches and ministries. The Foundation and the Nebraska Annual Conference serve the same constituents, and we share the same vision. As such, we share in the successes of our churches, ministries, and their members.

We want to see strong, thriving, community-centered United Methodist churches and agencies throughout Nebraska. We want to see you, our partners in ministry, grow and share in all that God has to give.

## 2003 In Review

**Scholarship Funds** distributed by the Foundation to seminary and undergraduate students during 2003 totaled \$16,948.

New scholarship funds created during the year included:

- The Aurora United Methodist Church Raymond Christenson Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Aurora United Methodist Church Bill Kropp Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Cowles United Methodist Church Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Ogallala United Methodist Church Scholarship Fund
- The Ogallala United Methodist Church Dowling Scholarship Fund
- The Parnham-McMurtry Scholarship Fund

**Grants** distributed by the Foundation during 2003 totaled \$70,450.

New named endowment funds created during the year included:

- The Janice & Gale Allen Endowment Fund
- The Samuel & Viola McClung Endowment Fund

**Gifts and Deposits** into the Foundation's Investment Services Funds totaled \$813,773. The Foundation now manages investment funds of \$10,789,600 in 272 accounts on behalf of Conference churches and agencies.

**Distributions** to churches and agencies during 2003 totaled \$297,012.

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“Giving is one of the most selfish things you can do because it makes you feel so good.”  
- Mary Jo Misner

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## Services, Education, and Key Components of the Foundation's Mission and Operating Expenses

The Foundation's mission of supporting the churches and ministries of the Nebraska Annual Conference through the **development of gifts** and the **stewardship of assets** is exemplified by the services provided and the majority of the Foundation's operating budget dedicated to these services.

During 2003, the cost to provide **services and educational programs** to our Conference “partners in ministry” was **\$132,212**. Services and programs provided included:

- Gift planning seminars
- Gift planning with individuals
- Endowment fund development
- Investment services, presentations, and reviews
- Stewardship sermons
- Programs for church groups
- Stewardship calls on individuals and churches
- Correspondence and communication relative to services provided
- Related salaries, travel, and miscellaneous expenses

**Administrative expenditures** for 2003 totaled **\$100,492**. These expenses included:

- Accounting
- Data management
- Funds management
- Printing
- Office rent
- Utilities
- Insurance
- Audit and legal fees
- Correspondence and communication relative to services provided
- Related salaries, travel, and miscellaneous expenses

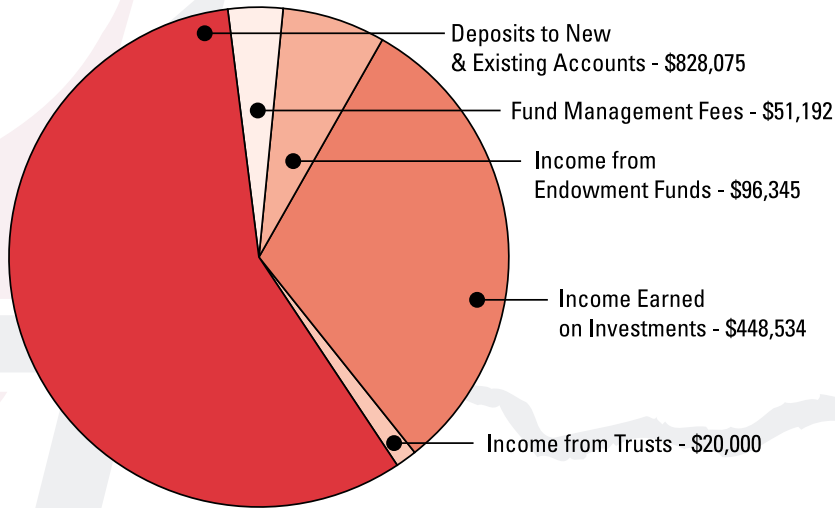
**Total expenditures** for 2003 were **\$232,704**, or **\$2.58** per Conference member. Assets managed by the Foundation increased by **9.6%** during the year to \$12,911,608, or **\$143.19** per Conference member (the January 1, 1997, average per Conference member was \$26.46).

For the seventh consecutive year, the Foundation's operating expenditures were less than the amount budgeted. Also for the seventh consecutive year, the Foundation operated free of financial support from the Conference.

# 2003 Financial Information

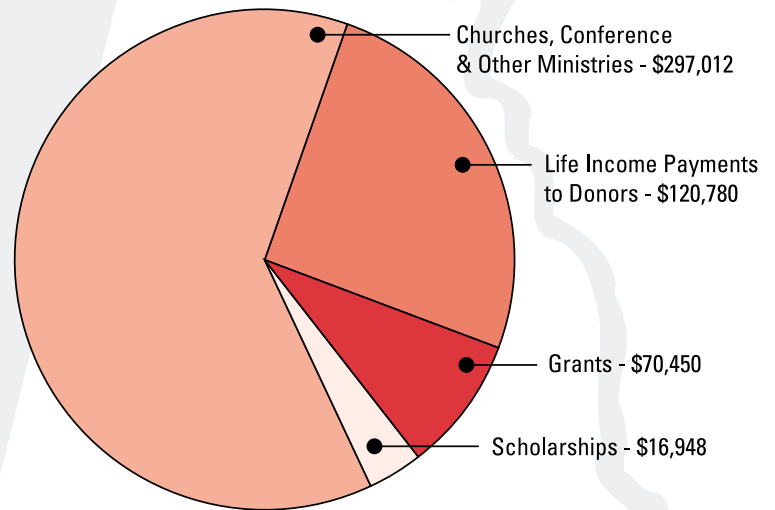
## Income Received

During Year 2003 - \$1,444,146



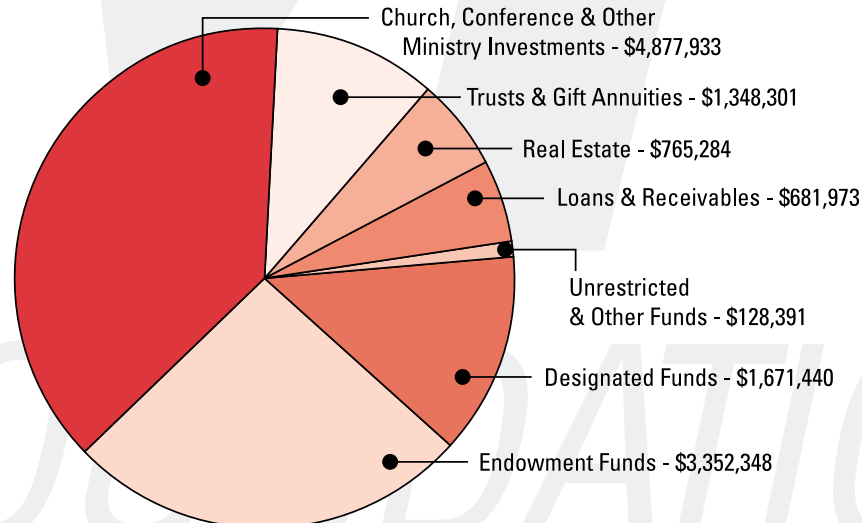
## Funds Distributed

During Year 2003 - \$505,190



## Assets Held by the Foundation

on 12/31/03 - \$12,825,670



\*Figures compiled prior to year 2003 audit.

## 2003 Board of Directors & Administration

### **Elected Members**

Jan Einspahr, Norfolk – *Chair*  
Kim Dinsdale, Grand Island – *Vice Chair*  
Mary George, Kearney – *Secretary*  
Rev. Rosalie Anderson, Lincoln  
Mel Andrews, Albion  
Dr. Alva Clark, Omaha  
Jim Cook, Lincoln  
Rev. William Deahl, Jr., South Sioux City

Bob Dickinson, Gretna  
Lynn Flaming, Elsie  
Doug Friedli, Nebraska City  
Ed Loutzenheiser, Hastings  
Sharon Martin, Riverdale  
Dave Pankonin, Louisville  
Rev. Bill Ritter, Columbus  
Dwight Trumble, Springfield

### **Appointed Representatives**

Steve Voigt, Kearney - *Board of Trustees*  
Gene Crump, Lincoln - *Board of Laity & Discipleship*  
Joyce Solomon, Merna - *Board of Mission Outreach*  
Rodney Conser, Omaha - *Congregational Development Committee*  
Jeri Winkelmann, Omaha - *Conference Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services*  
Rev. Casey Karges, Lincoln - *Conference Director of Connectional Ministries*

### **Foundation Staff**

Sarah DeLong - *Foundation Assistant*  
Jim Heller - *Executive Director*  
Rosanne McClarnon - *Financial Administrator*

### **Bishop**

Rhymes H. Moncure, Jr.

### **Investment Managers & Banking Relationship**

Union Bank & Trust Co.

### **Certified Public Accountants**

Strain, Slattery, Barkley & Co., P.C.

### **Legal Counsel**

M. Douglas Deitchler  
Baylor, Evnen, Curtiss, Grit & Witt



### **Nebraska United Methodist Foundation**

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