



PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

April 2007 Volume 7, Issue 1

Message From The Executive Director

The Foundation's mission describes our work and our purpose: to help churches, ministries, and individuals ensure the future of God's presence and work in the Nebraska Annual Conference.

It is what we do today that impacts what is accomplished tomorrow...it is what we do today that lays out the road to our future.

In 2006, the Foundation achieved milestones that will influence the direction our Conference will take in years to come. These milestones reflect the vision and planning of donors and investors that is so critical to the future of our Conference.

As milestones are achieved, the Foundation will continue to strive to reach new ones. We will continue to encourage, facilitate, and be good stewards of the gifts that will provide a firm foundation upon which churches and ministries of the Conference can grow, both now and in the years to come.

In the Foundation's work on behalf of Conference churches and ministries, milestones achieved today create the opportunity for new milestones to be achieved tomorrow.

By partnering with you, we will continue to reach new heights and touch additional lives.

2006 Year In Review

Below is a recap of the Foundation's results for calendar year 2006. More information will be made available in our Annual Report due out in May.

- As of December 31, 2006, total assets under ownership and management by the



JIM HELLER
Executive Director

Foundation were \$20.3 million, a 17.2% increase from \$17.4 million at the beginning of the year.

- At year end, assets held by the Foundation averaged \$245 for every member of the Conference, a \$34 increase from 2005.

- Grants to Conference ministries grew by 37% to \$62,688, seminary scholarships grew by 14% to \$30,073, and other distributions totaled \$747,643.

- Funds owned by churches and managed by the Foundation grew by 25% to \$9.5 million at year end.

- Gifts and deposits received from donors and churches totaled \$2.4 million.

- The socially-responsible Balanced and Long-Term Growth Funds available to all

Conference churches and agencies provided a 10.3% average net rate of return.

- Operating expenses averaged \$3.37 per Conference member, while asset growth and distributions for ministries and programs totaled \$42 per member.

- For the tenth consecutive year, the Foundation operated free of Conference financial support.

For a copy of the Foundation's 2006 Annual Report, please contact the Foundation.

*The mission of the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation is to **support** the ministries of the local church and 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.*

Helping Yourself - Helping Others

Charitable Gift Annuities through the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation provide a way for church members to earn exceptional income, be eligible for substantial tax benefits, and feel the joy of knowing that their act of stewardship will make a positive impact

on the future of their church, their community, and the world. Some annuitants have high net worth and large estates, but most have average, or even below average, income. In every instance, they want to use their money to do good deeds for others.

A sampling of current rates and benefits for a gift annuity created with \$10,000 follows:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Payout Rate</u>	<u>Annual Payment</u>	<u>Tax-Free Portion</u>	<u>Charitable Deduction</u>	<u>Effective Return Rate*</u>
65	6.0%	\$600	\$304	\$3,949	7.78%
70	6.5%	\$650	\$360	\$4,277	8.62%
75	7.1%	\$710	\$428	\$4,688	9.66%
80	8.0%	\$800	\$522	\$5,101	11.16%
85	9.5%	\$950	\$675	\$5,404	13.59%
90	11.3%	\$1,130	\$850	\$5,833	16.54%

**This rate represents an equivalent, fully taxable yield if in the 25% income tax bracket. Actual numbers may be slightly different, depending on discount rates at the time of the annuity's creation.*

Gift Annuities are issued in any amount of \$5,000 or more. If you, or anyone you know, could benefit from income and tax benefits provided by a gift annuity, and would like to have your church or

other ministry benefit from your gift following your lifetime, please do not hesitate to contact the Foundation for more information. We welcome the opportunity to visit with you.

Quotes From The Board Of Directors

“The Foundation provides wonderful opportunities for individuals and churches of our Conference.”

- Ed Loutzenheiser, Board Member

“The United Methodist Foundation provides a vehicle for individuals and churches to accomplish goals of the Church beyond what individuals alone can do.”

- Dwight Trumble, Secretary



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Annual Conference Pre-Session Seminar

GROWING CHRISTIAN GIVERS AND FUNDING MINISTRY IN A NEW MILLENNIUM

On Tuesday, June 5, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, the Foundation is sponsoring a pre-session that promises to be one of the top financial seminars to be presented at the Conference level.

The seminar, **Growing Christian Givers and Funding Ministry in a New Millennium**, is being presented by the Texas Methodist Foundation, the foremost United Methodist authority in the areas of stewardship development and capital campaign planning.

J. David McCaskill, Senior Vice President of Church Loans and James K. Varner, Vice President of Stewardship Services will offer insight and expertise into:

- Why funding ministry in 2007 is a challenge for churches
- Why just asking for money does not work
- What effective churches are doing in stewardship education to create a culture of generosity
- How can a capital campaign transform a congregation
- Does year-round stewardship emphasis really work
- Questions to ask before building new ministry facilities
- Planning for debt in a building project

We strongly encourage attendance by pastors, churches, and ministries considering building projects and/or capital cam-

paigns; members of District Committees on Location and Building; and members of stewardship and finance committees.

Registration is required, and the cost is \$10 per person. All registrants, whether attending Annual Conference or not, are to be included where space is provided on the registration form that is in the Annual Conference registration packet.

Please plan to take advantage of this pre-Conference educational opportunity, and share this information with non-Conference attendees who have responsibility over these areas in your church.

For additional information on program details or registration, please contact the Foundation.

Foundation Establishes New Seminary Scholarship



Rev. Dr. Alva Clark

Every spring marks the beginning of the Foundation's scholarship season. Applicants pursuing advanced degrees in the United Methodist ministry are encouraged to apply for the financial aid made possible by the foresight and generosity of donors.

This spring, the Foundation is pleased to announce a new scholarship honoring Rev. Dr. Alva Clark. **The Alva Clark Seminary Scholarship** is available to seminary students attending Iliff School of Theology. This marks the sixth seminary scholarship administered by the Foundation.

Rev. Dr. Clark, who currently resides in Omaha, is a graduate of Iliff, a long-time pastor in the Nebraska Annual Conference, a member of the Foundation Board of Directors, and a proponent of the Foundation's work on behalf of the churches and ministries of the Conference.

It is our great pleasure to be able to establish this scholarship in Rev. Dr. Clark's name.

For more information on scholarship amounts, requirements, and application materials, please visit www.numf.org, or contact Sarah DeLong at the Foundation Office at 402-323-8841, 877-495-5545 opt. 3, or sdelong@numf.org.

In addition to *The Alva Clark Seminary Scholarship*, the Foundation will begin accepting applications May 1 for the following scholarships:

- *The Cowles United Methodist Church Memorial Scholarship*
- *The Alice Kruse Ministerial Scholarship*
- *The Baldwin F. & Amy L. Kruse Trust*
- *The Sylvia Miller Memorial Scholarship*
- *The Albert R. Murdoch Ministerial Scholarship*

The application deadline is June 30, 2007, except for *The Baldwin F. & Amy L. Kruse Trust*, which is May 31, 2007.

In addition to the scholarships listed above, the Foundation administers *The Andrew & Nevabelle Howe Scholarship Fund* with the assistance of the Central District Superintendent's Office. Preference is given to students from the Central District. Subsequent consideration is given to applicants of the other five Foundation scholarships.



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To learn more about Charitable Gift Annuities, Investment Services for churches, Scholarships, or other Foundation services, please contact us at 402-323-8844 or 877-495-5545, info@numf.org, www.numf.org, or complete and return this form. Your gift in support of the Foundation's work is appreciated.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Church: _____ Church Phone: _____

I/we would like more information about: _____

Please: Call E-mail Send Information Schedule a visit
 A gift to help support the Foundation's work is enclosed.

**Mail to: The Nebraska United Methodist Foundation
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