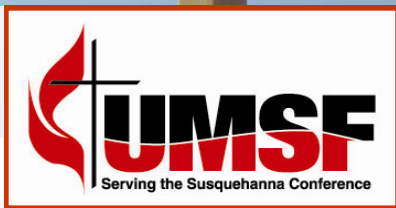


A Communication of The United Methodist Stewardship Foundation

A Christian *Perspective*

July, 2010

Celebrating more than 15 years as a foundation



A STEWARD'S PRAYER

Father, throughout this day help me to remember that a very real portion of your Kingdom has been placed in my keeping. Therefore, teach me to love you:

With all my heart—giving back to the most unlovable and difficult

With all my soul—seeking fresh ways in which your divine power may surge through me

With all my strength—that my hands may work the works of God who sent me

With all my mind—thinking your thoughts moment to moment, making each expenditure significant, always placing you first.
(Adapted from "A Steward's Prayer" by M. Applegarth)

Serving God and the Church

by promoting

Christian Stewardship

in the effective management

of all gifts to the glory of

Jesus Christ.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Founded in 1993 by the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church, The United Methodist Stewardship Foundation of Central Pennsylvania has been serving the local churches and church-related organizations in Central Pennsylvania with quality, professional Investment Management and Stewardship Development Services.

Now we are entering a new phase of our own development! In close connection with the new Susquehanna Conference, we have changed our name to "The United Methodist Stewardship Foundation." Our e-mail addresses have also changed; our main address is now sfcpa@susumc.org. Our web site remains www.umstewardship.org, and our physical location is still 303 Mulberry Drive in Mechanicsburg at the Conference Center. Our telephone numbers also remain the same; our primary number is 717-766-7343 or 800-272-0113. Most importantly, we still offer the same quality services to support and build your ministry.

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We are excited to offer you some very special events this fall! As part of our support ministry, we regularly bring you educational opportunities in the areas of Clergy Tax and Compensation and Capital Campaigns. This year, in a joint effort with Connectional Ministries of the new Susquehanna Conference, we are offering a Stewardship Academy. Led by national leaders, Rev. Dr. Wayne C. Barrett, CFP and Rev. David S. Bell, the Academy is an intensive examination of church stewardship involving three, two-day events extending over a full year of study and involvement. All sessions of the Academy will be held at Country Cupboard in Lewisburg. Dates are October 8 and 9, 2010; April 8 and 9, 2011; and October 7 and 8, 2011. Registration is \$195 for all sessions due September 30, 2010.

The third event of its kind this year—"Are Your Facilities Ready for the 21st Century?" planned in cooperation with Hogg Construction Company of York is scheduled October 12, 2010 at Charlton United Methodist Church in Harrisburg. Registration is required, but there is no fee.

The Clergy Tax and Compensation Conference, led by Rev. Dr. Wayne C. Barrett, is scheduled October 7, 2010 at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Enola. Registration is \$50 due September 30, 2010.

For schedules, highlights, leaders' biographies, registration and more information about all these events, visit us at www.umstewardship.org.

STEPPING UP... THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



Right now, we're feverishly working on an education event to help you determine if and when your church is ready for a Capital Campaign. In the meantime, here are the major steps you'll need to "climb:"

- Identify a clear mission-driven need.
- Build consensus around that need.
- Seek advice of your District Superintendent.
- Hold a charge conference to approve the capital project concept.
- Hire a campaign consultant.
- Organize volunteer staff.
- Engage professionals to illuminate concepts and solutions.
- Conduct a planning study.
- Finalize project details such as architectural plans and funding goals.
- Submit plans to the district building committee.
- Secure financial commitments from leaders.
- Solicit major donors.
- Plan events and produce campaign materials.
- Launch public phase of campaign.
- Collect campaign pledges.
- Thank donors and celebrate victory.
- Implement the project.

I JUST DON'T GET IT.

Can somebody please tell me what an endowment fund is, and why my church should be bothered with one? **Yes! We can help with that.**

An endowment fund is initiated by gifts or bequests donated with the stipulation that the money be invested and the principal amount of the donation remain intact in perpetuity with interest made available to support a particular non-profit organization.

Once an endowment fund is established, The Stewardship Foundation will help promote giving to the Fund. You may designate your gift for a specific use through your will or when you make your gift.

If you do not designate the use of your gift, the governing body of the beneficiary organization usually decides how it will be used.

INVESTING THE ENDOWMENT FUND

Endowment Funds entrusted to The United Methodist Stewardship Foundation will be invested in accordance with *The United Methodist Social Principles*. An Investment Agreement is signed by the donors who initiate the Fund, and The Stewardship Foundation.

PNC Wealth Advisors and Institutional Investments Group serves as Investment Consultant for The Stewardship Foundation. In addition, our Investment Management Committee meets regularly. Our Board receives quarterly in-depth performance reports from PNC and closely monitors all investment activity.

MARKETING YOUR ENDOWMENT

Define Your Vision What is the plural of endowment fund? Endowment Program - and the most successful ones execute long-range plans, well-communicated and understood. Tell the story of your mission and ministry through personal testimony, newsletters, videos, e-mail and web sites.

Get Your Leaders on Board First, educate your leaders. Meet with trustees, finance committee and church council. Work with small groups to help build excitement and support. People who understand the vision will help you keep it alive.

Communicate Regularly remind people what the endowment can do for them and the church. Endowment giving should be part of your overall stewardship emphasis. Communicate your message through every means possible. Talk about planned giving from the pulpit, and at gatherings. Use pew cards and all forms of communication.

Educate Clearly explain the benefits of planned giving and dispel any myths. Schedule at least one educational workshop a year. Estate and end-of-life planning are essential elements of financial planning. Let people know why it is important to have a will. Call us for a complete list of our educational services. **800-272-0113**

Challenge Your Donors If you want to inspire prospective donors, look to the Bible. The story of the widow's mite and the parable of the talents teach us to give sacrificially and make the most of our resources. John Wesley's sermons on "*The Use of Money*" and "*The Good Steward*" offer excellent insight into our tradition of giving. **The theology of stewardship is based on the concept that all we have comes from God. Stewardship is about giving back to God in response to His grace in our lives.**

Make it Easy to Give The number one reason people don't leave a bequest or other planned gift to the church is that they are never asked. Use cards, brochures or envelopes in the pew to make it easy to give.

Celebrate ! Let the congregation know how the endowment program is doing. When new gifts come in, thank donors publicly, but respect the privacy of those who prefer to remain anonymous. Report on the growth of your endowment program. Plan an event honoring donors, publish an annual report or host an annual recognition event. Invite anyone who has set up a planned gift for the church.