

INCREASE YOUR INCOME

A Charitable Gift Annuity with the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation may help you increase your annual spendable cash, cut your current income taxes, and make a significant gift to your favorite United Methodist institution and/or congregation. The annuity rate is determined by your age at the time you create your gift annuity.

Here is a sampling of current rates and benefits for a single life gift annuity created with \$10,000 cash:

Age	Payout Rate	Annual Income	Tax-free Portion	Charitable Deduction	Effective Return Rate *
60	5.5%	\$ 550	\$371	\$1,008	7.1%
65	5.7%	\$ 570	\$400	\$1,988	7.7%
70	6.1%	\$ 610	\$447	\$2,848	8.5%
75	6.7%	\$ 670	\$511	\$3,616	9.7%
80	7.6%	\$ 760	\$558	\$4,518	11.3%
85	8.9%	\$ 890	\$733	\$4,943	13.6%
90	10.5%	\$1,050	\$880	\$5,602	16.64%

* This rate represents an equivalent, fully taxable yield in the 28% bracket calculated with the Applicable Federal Rate for February 2009. Actual numbers may be slightly different, depending on federal discount rates at the time of the annuity's creation.

Note: These rates are recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities. Rates for a two-life gift annuity are lower and are available upon request.



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The CORNERSTONE
...helping United Methodists build for the future

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The Gift of Annuities



Nancy VanDevender established a Deferred Gift Annuity to supplement income during her retirement years and to benefit a Methodist ministry after her lifetime.

distributions begin at a date more than a year from the date of the gift being made. Donors may choose to begin receiving their distributions after they have retired from the workforce.

Both annuities with the foundation provide support to the donor's designated ministry after the donor, or donors in the case of a two-life annuity, have passed away.

"I was concerned about income in later years," said Nancy VanDevender, who has a deferred gift annuity with the Foundation. "I also wanted to support (Methodist) ministry."

You don't need to wait for retirement to receive your distributions, but you may choose to do so with a deferred gift annuity like Nancy's.

Nancy and her husband Pace are self-employed after retiring from successful careers. Nancy notes that when she reaches 70 years of age, her annuity income will begin to supplement her retirement income.

"I enjoy the tax advantage now while I still have income," she said, adding, "later the annuity distribution will be income. In the current investment environment, the guarantee (distribution rate) is very satisfactory."

The distribution rate for these annuities does not change due to fluctuations in the economy. The donor always receives the same amount, based on the rate agreed when a contract is made with the Foundation. The size of the donor's distribution monthly, quarterly or annually is determined by the amount the donor gives and the donor's projected

life expectancy. Generally, the more mature the donor, the higher the distribution rate. The rate of distribution is set when the donor establishes the annuity agreement using the recommended rates of the American Council on Gift Annuities.

Distribution payments are not lowered or raised because of fluctuating interest rates or the national economy.

The Rev. Dr. Paul Duerksen and his wife Beverly have a deferred charitable gift annuity.

"At one time in our life back in the 90s," Dr. Duerksen said, "we had a little extra savings. We wanted to use it for the long-term to do some good and to help others after we were gone."

"We read about gift annuities from one of the Foundation brochures. That looked like the best way to go."

The Duerksens benefitted from the tax deduction the year they made the gift.

"We believe the New Mexico Methodist Foundation does a good and careful job with investing all the gifts that are given to it," Dr. Duerksen added.

LEAD TRUSTS: A Special Way to Lead

A Charitable Lead Trust provides unique features for those who love their family and love the work of Jesus Christ in the world. It allows donors to make a gift either while they are living or through their estate; it allows for distributions for selected ministries to be taken according to their wishes for a designated period of time; and it allows for the remainder in the trust to be directed to family members and other loved ones.

Economic conditions and political issues may make this a perfect time for the establishment of a Lead Trust. Earnings on assets are down, a very low federal rate currently allows for higher tax benefits for this type of gift, and there is a likelihood of the restoration of an estate tax.

In May 1995, T. J. Sivley of Artesia, N.M., established a Lead Trust and designated emergency and missional ministries of the New Mexico Conference to be among the recipients of annual distributions. Through the years that the trust was in place, the Conference Board of Global Ministries received and distributed more than \$147,000 in grants to numerous ministries of local churches throughout the conference. After the 10-year "life" of the trust, the assets reverted to the designated individuals or entities that had been selected by Mr. Sivley.

The Charitable Lead Trust allows donors to care for both their family and their church and its ministries. We invite you to investigate the possibilities with the Foundation.



www.nmcmfi.org www.nmcmfigift.org/

2009 IRA Minimum Distribution Waived

The equities market decline in 2008 prompted Congress to waive the required minimum distribution for individuals for the 2009 tax year who have an IRA, 401(k) and 403(b) plans. The waiver applies to 2009 only.

The waiver is aimed at helping IRA holders to build up their retirement plans and safeguard their retirement savings during the economic crisis. Ways and Means Committee Chairman Charles Rangel, (D-N.Y.), indicated "This relief will help workers and seniors safeguard their retirement savings during the economic crisis."

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Notes from the
Executive Director
Sanford Coon

**REMEMBERING THE
GIFT OF CHARITY**

As a child growing up in the church, there was essentially one English translation of the Bible. It was not until 1953 that the Revised Standard Version was published, and I have to admit that it brought an enormously different perspective on the texts that had been shrouded in ancient mystery of the language of the King James Version. It was in later years that I came to embrace some of the beauty of the King James translation, but by then I had been introduced to meanings of verses that had previously been obscured because I knew not the language.

One of the losses in the many more contemporary scholarly translations that began with the Revised Standard Version has been the translation of the Greek word, *agape*, in the closing verse of what we have come to identify as the thirteenth chapter of Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. Remember the old translation: "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity?"

I certainly don't claim to be a scholar of the ancient languages of Biblical times or a Pauline scholar that can coalesce and compare the hundreds of verses attributed to the apostle Paul in our New Testament. I'm willing to go along with the scholars who make the shift in translating the word as "love" rather than "charity."

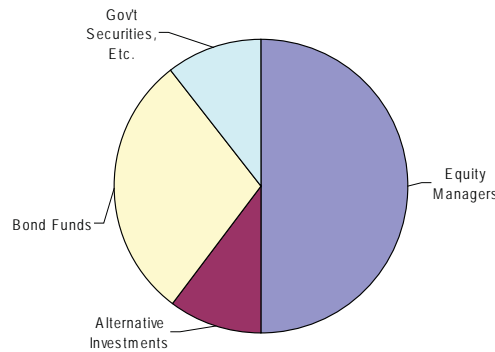
However, I miss charity! It seems to me that "love" can be detached, removed, and idle. On the other hand, charity is an active, dynamic word. I can't have charity and do nothing. Charity requires action and engagement on my part.

Our focus in this issue of Cornerstone is on charity, and particularly Charitable Gift Annuities. They are a marvelous tool approved by our Internal Revenue Service that allows one or two individuals to express their charity. Through a Charitable Gift Annuity, an individual or couple may use a portion of the assets that God has provided in order to benefit ministry in the Name of Jesus Christ and receive an income from that gift for the remainder of life. A donor can be charitable through such an annuity both to others and to oneself. The value of the Charitable Gift Annuities being managed by the Conference Foundation as of the end of 2008 was almost \$1.5 million. One day, those funds will be directed into ministries in local churches and institutions throughout our Conference and around our globe. In the meantime, we send regular annuity checks to scores of individuals and couples. In fact, those distributions totaled well over \$142,000 in 2008 alone.

It seems to me that the Charitable Gift Annuity is the unique expression of Paul's phrase, because it brings together faith, hope, and charity in a remarkable way. What a sensible, lasting, and simple way to transform the gifts of God into the gifts of loving ministry to change lives for generations to come!

ASSET ALLOCATION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2008

INVESTMENTS	AMOUNT	PERCENT
Equity Manager	\$ 14,636,807	50%
Alternative Investments	\$ 2,963,325	10%
Bond Funds	\$ 8,487,171	29%
Gov't Securities, Cash, Loans Receivable & Accruals	\$ 3,117,087	11%
TOTAL FUND VALUE 12/31/08	\$ 29,204,390	100.00%



GROWTH OF THE FOUNDATION 1982-2008

Year	31-Dec unit value	Annual Return	Total Ave. Since 1982	Total Assets Under Management
1982	-	15.81%	15.81%	
1983	-	12.96%	14.39%	
1984	10.00	10.88%	13.22%	2,231,504
1985	11.22	12.19%	12.96%	2,579,415
1986	11.94	6.39%	11.65%	2,870,533
1987	11.83	-0.93%	9.55%	2,930,491
1988	12.63	6.81%	9.16%	3,147,168
1989	15.22	20.52%	10.58%	3,677,872
1990	15.34	0.77%	9.49%	3,777,323
1991	20.73	35.10%	12.05%	5,430,245
1992	22.22	7.21%	11.61%	6,982,838
1993	23.88	7.47%	11.27%	8,473,748
1994	23.78	-0.42%	10.37%	9,066,429
1995	29.80	25.33%	11.44%	10,552,671
1996	35.57	19.36%	11.96%	12,824,165
1997	42.20	18.63%	12.38%	15,872,893
1998	47.97	13.67%	12.46%	18,350,116
1999	56.10	16.95%	12.71%	22,094,570
2000	55.26	-1.5%	11.96%	22,396,962
2001	53.32	-3.52%	11.18%	27,194,525
2002	48.41	-9.20%	10.21%	25,360,197
2003	58.63	21.11%	10.71%	31,458,026
2004	63.54	8.38%	10.61%	33,520,267
2005	67.34	5.98%	10.41%	33,819,171
2006	74.15	10.11%	10.40%	37,427,790
2007	80.66	8.78%	10.34%	40,846,043
2008	58.43	-27.57%	8.94%	29,687,521

Finance Committee Training

Contact the Foundation to schedule training at your church.
800/678-8786
505/255-8786
jennifer@nmcdfi.org
marilyn@nmcdfi.org

Monthly account statements are available online by request to Molly Emkes at molly@nmcdfi.org, 800-678-8786 or 505-255-8786, ext. 114



Shared Table Ministry at El Pueblo UMC, Taos, N.M.



Bishop Max Whitfield Local Pastor Scholarship first recipient Rev. Lourdes Calderon

So Many Ways to Give

From birth to late in life and beyond, supporting ministry can be done in a variety of methods at any stage of life. The Foundation can help you get started. For the Albuquerque office, call 255-8786 or 505-255-8786 and toll-free at 800/678-8786. Call 866-866-701-8191 for the Las Cruces office or visit online at www.nmcdfi.org.

Rev. Sanford Coon and Marilyn Large can help you learn the best form of giving for you. Giving methods include annuities that generate income for life, using life insurance, wills and bequests to benefit church and ministries, and establishing endowments.

Charitable giving can also include supporting ministerial education through establishing or adding to existing scholarship endowments. Ensuring United Methodist quality clergy in the future is enhanced by many endowments including the recently established Legacy Scholarship for Ministerial Education and the Bishop Max Whitfield Local Pastors' Scholarship. Helping people in the Taos, N.M., area who need food and basic necessities is the Shared Table ministry. A fund with the Foundation helps sustain this worthy ministry.

Families, churches or groups can make a difference by establishing a Donor Advised Fund. A DAF is distributed with input from the donors on an annual basis. The DAF is a great way for families with children to learn about stewardship.



Kuntz Family Josephine and Thomas Bender Donor Advised Fund



Rev. B.C. and Nancy Lou Goodwin, Legacy Scholarship for Ministerial Education Funding donor



Member of the National Association of United Methodist Foundations

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I am interested in receiving further information about:

- Gift Annuities
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- Lea Trusts
- Donor Advised Funds
- Establishing an Endowment for:
 - My Church
 - A Specific Ministry

Advantage of Giving Appreciated Stock (Securities) and Property

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Please send the Wills and Trust Planning Guide

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