

## 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	5.7%	\$ 570	\$286	\$3,078	7.5%
65	6.0%	\$ 600	\$323	\$3,527	8.1%
70	6.5%	\$ 650	\$380	\$3,927	9.0%
75	7.1%	\$ 710	\$447	\$4,410	10.1%
80	8.0%	\$ 800	\$538	\$4,885	11.7%
85	9.5%	\$ 950	\$690	\$5,237	14.3%
90	11.3%	\$1,130	\$857	\$5,709	17.5%

\* This rate represents an equivalent, fully taxable yield in the 28% bracket calculated with the Applicable Federal Rate for February 2007. 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

The New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation Newsletter

Vol. 6, No. 1



Marilyn Large

### I'm Planning--How About You?

Just before Christmas, my middle son got married. It was a wonderful celebration that we had been planning for over a year. What are you planning in your life? Planning on taking a trip to the Holy Land, Europe, to your child or grandchild's graduation or birthday? Because of passport laws, it is almost impossible to take a "quick trip" out of the country. Clearly, we take the time to plan the most important parts of our lives.

need tax deductions or an income stream, there is a planned giving instrument that will work for you and your church.

What part of your church's ministries do you love to support? Would you love to support that ministry beyond your lifetime? If your answer is yes, a planned gift can work for you. How do I start? A phone call to 1-800-678-8786 (ext. 120) can connect you to the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation, and we can set up a time to visit with you about your dream, and your plans!

We look forward to hearing from you.

Marilyn Large

## ABOUT YOUR FOUNDATION

### Board Highlight

Richard Wallace  
Treasurer



Richard Wallace

Rich has been a member of the Foundation Board of Directors since 2003 and currently serves as Treasurer. As a member of Asbury United Methodist Church in Albuquerque, he has served as member and chair of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, member of the Finance Committee, leader of the Youth Puppet Ministry, and Sunday School teacher for adult and mid-high classes.

Rich served in several capacities with the Kirtland Federal Credit Union as member of the Board of Directors, Assistant Vice President for Training and Quality, and Senior Vice President and Chief Operations Officer. He also served as Training Manager for Bank of America. During his tenure in the United States Air Force, he managed a \$53 million operating budget and a long-range budget of \$10 billion for an Air Force

Command. He also managed 24 buildings and was the public relations and media liaison as well as unit historian. He is currently working as a trainer for the U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. State Department.

Rich holds a BA in Business Finance from Texas A&M and an MS in Business Management from Troy State University.

Rich is a native of Corpus Christi, Texas. He and his wife, Marsha, have lived in Albuquerque during several intervals, this time since 1989. Marsha is a substitute teacher with the Albuquerque Public Schools. Rich and Marsha have three children: Jennifer, Sarah, and Patrick.

### Some Ways the Foundation Can Assist in Ministry ...

**Methodists Helping Methodists.** The Foundation provides consultation and projection of safe debt and provides a loan program to support growth and development of the churches and institutions located within the New Mexico Conference.

**Donor Contacts.** The Foundation consults with individual donors interested in planned gifts (visit [www.nmcmfigift.org](http://www.nmcmfigift.org)).

Planned Giving is one of those phrases that gets tossed around churches and other non-profit organizations. Exactly what does planned giving mean? Planned Giving means taking the time to plan a gift to your church, the symphony, or some other organization important to you. Such gifts can come either from your current assets or from your estate. Even though people tell me that they don't have an estate big enough from which to make a planned gift, it is surprising what happens when we begin to add up life insurance, property, investments, savings, etc. Most of us have much more than we imagine! What could happen if we made a plan to give a percentage of our estate to our church or direct a specific dollar amount to our church?

One thing that won't happen if we make a gift from our estate is that our children will suffer because of that decision. After all, they are still receiving the balance of the estate. What can happen can be amazing! Use your imagination. What if your church had a permanent fund that paid out a percentage of income each year to support: building maintenance, children's ministries, camp scholarship, choir and music programs, or your favorite mission project? These are among the many things that a planned gift can do. There are far more possibilities for planned gifts than I can begin to write about in a single newsletter. Because there are so many, the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation can help you find the one that best meets your needs. Whether you

### The New Mexico Conference Hosts Good Sense Training

**Good Sense** is a Scripture-based training and biblical resource for changing hearts and lives in the area of finances. It provides tools to develop skills and help control personal finances so the finances don't end up controlling the person. It provides training in biblical financial principles and guidance to prioritize financial goals, develop a personalized spending plan, identify action steps to reduce expenses, reduce debt, and much more!

The **Good Sense** training is being offered to clergy and clergy spouses in preparation for providing the training to all congregations in the Conference. Upcoming clergy & clergy spouse sessions are as follows:

**March 16-17, 2007** (Sacramento Methodist Assembly)  
**April 27-28, 2007** (in El Paso Area)  
**May 18-19, 2007** (in Albuquerque)

Training will be made available for laity following the above clergy & clergy spouse training. Bishop Whitfield encourages members of all congregations to attend the training when it becomes available, so watch for the offering of **Good Sense** in your church.

**Foundation Officers and Board Members**

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**How Are We Doing in Training Our Children in Principles of Stewardship?**

One of the many services the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation provides is stewardship training for churches. It is a concern that in this valuable process there may be an important element that is possibly overlooked—a special initiative to train children in biblical stewardship. If you haven't thought of this, perhaps the following ideas will produce "seed" for your harvest in this ministry to your own children, grandchildren, and/or the children in your congregation.

- Provide children with stories about giving and receiving, about helping others with the resources one has, about responding to people in need, and similar themes that teach the practice of stewardship. Ask questions that invite the children to wonder about the story. Stories help children understand the love and activity of God. Stories describe ways in which God's people can respond with gifts that have first come from God. Imagination and tantalizing depictions are keys. The purpose is to interpret stewardship not as giving to the church but fundamentally as a recognition that God is the source of all that we have and that all that we have belongs to God. Stories of service, sacrifice, and compassion teach values, provide a stabilizing context for life, and elicit lively responses. This is especially fertile during periods of stewardship emphasis, such as your annual stewardship campaign or a capital stewardship campaign.
- Children learn through observation. For example, what does a child learn when the offering plate reaches him or her and most of the adults in front have not made a gift? Adults may understand that they have mailed a check to the church at the beginning of the month, but the child sees only that many, if not most, of the adults give nothing. Consider giving part of your offering during the worship service as an example for the children.
- Help children experience joy and pleasure in giving. Through their gifts they are not "giving up" anything; rather they are responding to God's love.
- When allowance, gifts, or earnings are received, it can be quickly divided among savings, a tithe of 10% to God, and the balance for expenditure on self, family, and friends. If it is to be effective, learning to manage resources in a materialistic culture must occur with children in their homes. Parents should keep in mind that we model stewardship without saying a word.

Children are not only the future of the church, they are its present! Adults have much to teach children in their spiritual growth and maturation as disciples of Jesus Christ. Conversely, children have much to teach adults in their openness to the wonders of God's creation and the movement of the Holy Spirit in individual, familial, and congregational lives. Children can be teachers as well as learners about being good stewards of God's gifts to us.

**"Children are a heritage from the Lord, and the fruit of the womb is a gift." Psalm 127:4**

If you or your church would like assistance in planning stewardship with children, please contact the Foundation office (505-255-8786 or 800-678-8786) or complete and return the tear-off response card.

*A Note from Executive Director, Rev. Sanford Coon*



**The Joy of Year-round Stewardship**

Christian stewardship is not a program. Nor is stewardship just a fall campaign to underwrite the church's budget. It's certainly not the appeal to give more because the church needs it. Even though stewardship is most often equated with

money, fundamentally it has more to do with our relationship with God! Faith and money are inextricably connected!

Concern about stewardship may arise over money, but its Christian grounding expands it into all aspects of our lives as we seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

- ◆ Stewardship is putting faith into action.
- ◆ Stewardship is the demonstration of our love.
- ◆ Stewardship is the responsible, loving, accountable management of life.
- ◆ Stewardship is how we invest and expend our time, talent, and treasure.
- ◆ Stewardship is **everything** we do, after we say, "I believe."

At the beginning of a new year, it is timely to plan and initiate a multi-faceted stewardship program that will span the coming months. Such a plan begins in prayer, is designed in prayer, and is sustained in prayer. Every effort in stewardship is a point where we would do well to engage the apostle Paul's bidding to pray without ceasing! A good strategy that is faithfully implemented will bring a congregation to an even stronger starting point next year, and the next.

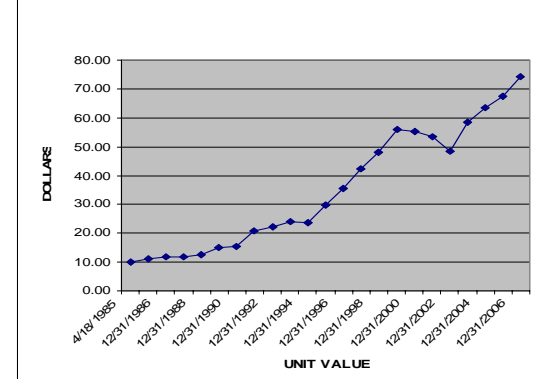
Part of the ministry of the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation is to provide assistance to congregations that want to develop year-round stewardship programs and experience the benefits of the growth not just of income, but also of individual disciples.

Stewardship begins when God is put first. Stewardship is both our gift from God and our response to God. When people of the church become excited about the mission and ministry of the church, they want to be involved. Stewardship teaches that all we have and all we are is a gift from God.

We are stewards of God's gifts during our lifetime. The gifts we have been given - time, talent, and money - are to be used for God's purpose. One role of the church is to guide individuals to discern the mission for our lives and the use of all our resources in accomplishing God's purpose for our lives.

*Sanford Coon*

**NMCMFI Changes in Unit Values (4/12/85-12/31/06)**



Special thanks to Molly Emkes, Executive Assistant, for providing these statistics for our edification.

**OUR MISSION**

**The New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation, Inc. enlarges and develops the financial resources available to churches, institutions and agencies in the New Mexico Annual Conference in order to carry out their missions and ministries.**

**We do this by:**

- ◆ Maintaining faithfulness to God's covenant and openness to God's guidance;
- ◆ Providing opportunities for people to expand ministries during their lifetimes and to continue ministry beyond their lifetimes;
- ◆ Being the provider of choice for socially responsible investment management and expertise;
- ◆ Stimulating awareness of biblical teachings and Wesleyan theological perspectives on faith and money;
- ◆ Providing counsel for safe debt management and providing affordable loans;
- ◆ Giving grants for selected ministry projects;
- ◆ Raising financial resources through spiritual growth and commitment in capital stewardship programs;
- ◆ Providing leadership to enable faithful use and management of God's resources.

**Following are some ways the NM Conference Methodist Foundation is Making a Difference in Christian Ministry.**

- ◆ Assisting churches with stewardship planning
- ◆ Providing estate planning resources
- ◆ Offering Planned Giving presentations for churches
- ◆ Continuing support for endowment funds, annuities, and donors
- ◆ Providing professional counsel for capital stewardship programs

Dear Sanford: I am interested in receiving further information about the following:

Making a Will  Estate Planning  Donor Advised Funds

Establishing an Endowment for:  My Church  A Specific Ministry

Gift Annuities  Charitable Remainder Trusts

Advantage of Giving Appreciated Stock (Securities) and Property

I am interested in receiving the free eNewsletter, "GiftLegacy"

I request assistance in planning stewardship with children

I wish to receive **The Cornerstone** Newsletter

Please send information on the IRA Rollover

I have a request:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_



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