



Funding Ministry & Mission Outreach

*Going the
M.I.L.E.*

2024

PNW

The Pacific Northwest Conference



of The United Methodist Church



Funding Ministry *and* Mission Outreach

Produced by the Office of Connectional Ministries
in cooperation with the Treasurer's Office.

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website – <https://pnwumc.org/digital-downloads>.

Print copies of this booklet may be obtained
for a small fee by contacting the Office of
Connectional Ministries.

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To order a 2023 Conference Journal,
contact the Conference Office or visit our
website at pnwumc.org



The screenshot shows the PNW Conference website. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Events, Ministries, Communications, About Us, Resources, and social media icons. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image with the text "USING A.I. TOOLS IN THE CHURCH WITH JASON MOORE" and a call to action "Learn More & RSVP for Free Training on Nov. 6". To the right of the banner is a "Quick Links" section with links to the Bishop's Blog, Charge Conference Forms, Digital Downloads, COVID-19 Recommendations, Events Calendar, Find a Church, GNW Area News Blog, and Staff Listing. Below the banner is a section titled "About the Pacific Northwest Conference" with a brief description of the conference and a link to "Learn more". Further down is a section titled "Inspiring Stories and News" with a "See More" button. This section contains three articles: "2023 Pacific Northwest Annual Conference Sessions Report", "Over a decade of hope: Kirkland's Lake Washington UMC celebrates Safe Parking Program's milestone", and "M.I.L.E. – 2023 Annual Conference Sermons by Cedrick D. Bridgeforth". At the bottom of the website is a footer with icons and links for Digital Downloads, Newsletter Sign-Up, Events Calendar, GNW News Blog, and Find a Church.

Ways to Connect!

www.pnwumc.org

The GNW News Blog	greaterpnw.org/news
Facebook	facebook.com/pnwumc
X/Twitter	@pnwumc
YouTube	youtube.com/pnwac
Instagram	@pnwumc
Vimeo	vimeo.com/greaterpnw



Our Vision, Task and Structure

The Pacific Northwest (PNW) Conference of The United Methodist Church is called to be a community, diverse and united in God's saving love, sent out in vital life-giving ministry for and with Jesus Christ.

The strategy of the PNW Annual Conference is to fulfill the purpose and move toward our vision, the Annual Conference will provide lay and clergy transformational leadership for vital ministry.

The primary task of the Conference is calling, credentialing, equipping, sending forth, and nurturing lay and clergy transformational leaders.

Additional important functions of the PNW Conference are; strategizing for new ministry development and congregational redevelopment, connecting for ministry beyond the local church, and providing support services.

Welcome

All of us in The Pacific Northwest Conference, work together to answer Christ's call to minister with people in our neighborhoods, our conference, and around the world. Wherever the needs are great, United Methodists are there, lending a hand and making a difference with their gifts of time, energy and financial resources.

It is hoped, that with this booklet, we can better understand "the connectionalism" of The United Methodist Church as represented by apportionments and lived out through our many shared ministries together in the conference, across the Greater Northwest Area, and around the world.

About this booklet

This booklet isn't just for pastors or those concerned about finances ...it's for everyone in your congregation! You may want to use this book as a tool to educate yourself and others in your church about the financial commitments of our United Methodist Church and the work we do together.

- Copy excerpts and include in your congregation's newsletter; or post on a bulletin board. (Feel free to copy any part of this book.)
- Use information in mission moments in your congregation. Or pick a part of this book and make a presentation on it to your church school, class or gathering.
- Refer to this booklet in membership and confirmation classes.
- Share the information in this booklet in annual finance campaigns.

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Bishop Cedrick D. Bridgeforth has called United Methodists across the Greater Northwest Area to follow Jesus' challenge in the story of the Good Samaritan to "go and do likewise." As people of faith, committed to the love of Christ in our various communities, we are encouraged to go the M.I.L.E.

Ministry that Matters

Church can become a verb by committing to ministry that matters — working within our communities to address underlying needs in areas such as housing, climate, hunger and health. This is what Bishop Cedrick calls our "window work."

Itineration & Location

In order to lead our ministries to effectively work within our communities, we must ordain, appoint and assign clergy leaders to the right ministry setting with the right resources in place to effect change.

Lay Ministry Enhancement

Laity are already a critical resource in our congregations and ministry settings, but there is a need to equip and empower laity to be a more active voice in our churches and communities we serve.

Eliminating Racism

As people of faith, we need to renew our efforts to eliminate the racism that is pervasive not only in society, but within our congregations, ministry settings and the institution of the church in general.

In direct and indirect ways, the apportionment dollars and other gifts given at the local church level fund work intersecting with each of these M.I.L.E. priorities. As you review this document, where you see these priorities at work and where can they be developed further?



Conference Budgets

Each year the Annual Conference adopts its financial program, represented by each of five Conference budgets. These budgets are comprehensive, covering every aspect of finances - from pension and medical benefits to the support of Africa University. The following pages will give you valuable details about all these budgets.

Let's begin with the basics.

Three Steps to a Conference Budget

1. Overview & Initial Budget

All recipients of 2024 budget money were asked to submit their plans for 2024 in early 2023. The World Service and Conference Benevolence budget requests were reviewed by the Connectional Table and a recommendation was forwarded to the Council on Finance and Administration. The Council and representatives of the Connectional Table received requests for the Ministerial Support and Administration budget. At the conclusion of the process, the Council on Finance and Administration adopted the final budget to put before the Annual Conference Sessions.

2. Legislative Committee Review

During Annual Conference Sessions, the Legislative Committee on Property and Finance is responsible for reviewing the budget presented by the Council on Finance and Administration. After careful review, the Committee then refers the budget in its final form to the Annual Conference body for its action.

3. Annual Conference Vote

The Annual Conference body reviews and adopts budgets for the coming year. Once adopted, these budgets are distributed to each local church as apportionments for the coming year.



How high can a budget go?

Conference budgets are limited by a Conference Rule known as the "Budget Ceiling Rule". With this rule, budgets cannot exceed a certain percentage increase per year. A more thorough explanation of this rule is found in the Conference Journal {as Conference Rule VII, Sec. 3, (g)}.

You can access a copy of the Journal from your pastor, lay member, or church office. Or, visit www.pnwumc.org and click on "resources", then "downloads", then "Annual Conference Journal."

What is Shared Ministry?

We share in ministry by paying "a portion meant for others" in order to extend the reach of the local church to global ministry. John Wesley, the founder of United Methodism believed that when churches combine their resources, the hand of the Church reaches further. As a result, more people are introduced to and changed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This shared ministry is the mechanism that enables us to extend our reach beyond our local communities and into the world. As each church gives their portion, it is combined with every other church's portion, and together, United Methodists make a difference in the world.

How is this shared ministry calculated?

After Annual Conference adopts the budgets for the Conference, the budgets are divided among each local church in the Conference, using a specific formula designed by the Annual Conference. This formula is referred to as the "grade point". A grade point is established in two steps.

- ***Establish grade point based on operating expenses of each church***

A grade point decimal number is established for each church, based on that church's actual operating expenses, (excluding apportionment payments, capital improvements and benevolences), for the most current two years as reported and recorded in the Statistical Tables in the Journal. For example, 2024 figures are based on base data taken from 2021 and 2022. (Refer to the column on the next page for a detailed account of what goes into the grade point number.)

- ***Multiply grade point by each of five conference budgets***

Each church's grade point is then multiplied by each of the five Conference budgets. This is each church's share of the budget, for shared ministry. (Refer to the official notice your church received to see this in action. Notices are mailed each September).

What happens to the money we send?

Churches pay shared ministry in equal monthly installments and send them to the Conference Treasurer's Office. (Refer to the Conference Journal: Conference Rule VII, Sec. 5 (a) and (b) for details). The money received by the Conference Treasurer is then distributed monthly to each board and agency on a pro-rated share of that income. Other funds are transmitted regularly by the Conference Treasurer to the designated projects. All special offerings and benevolence gifts are also sent to the Conference Treasurer for disbursement. Once each year, the Treasurer's books are audited by a regional CPA firm. The Treasurer also makes a full report to the Annual Conference which is printed in the Conference Journal.

Payment in full of shared ministry is the first benevolent responsibility of the local church.

The United Methodist *Book of Discipline* states that each church setting is to pay its portion of the World Service Fund and conference benevolences (§ 247.14). This follows on the requirement to pay the "Pension and Benefit" and "Ministerial Support and Administration" portions to cover, among other things, bishop's salary, district superintendent's salary, camp insurance, and past pension for pastors (§ 622).

It is assumed that every United Methodist church will assume the financial support of the Church's global ministry, and will, indeed, pay all shared ministry costs in full.

Why your church's giving matters



The United Methodist Church is not just one church, nor a Conference full of churches. The United Methodist Church is a global church.

The Church's ministry reaches people who have never heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our ministry helps feed people who are starving, helps rebuild homes lost in disasters, and gives hope to children who have none. The ministry of The United Methodist Church is in action every day, changing lives in the world for the good and helping others know Christ.

This mechanism provides a way so that churches of all sizes can be active partners in mission around the world.

How much money stays in our local church?

Percentages vary with each church, but the majority of your money does stay in your church, supporting your local ministry. Based on recent data, 0.85¢ of each dollar stays in local congregations. The remaining is distributed within The Pacific Northwest Annual Conference and the General Agencies of The United Methodist Church.

Figuring grade points

Each year, a letter is mailed to every church with necessary login instructions for the church person doing the data entry as well as communicating the deadline of Feb. 20th of every year, Conference Rule IV, Sec. 2 (a).

The following lines on Table II are used in the calculation for shared ministry and the grade point decimal number for each church.

Local Church Expenditures

- **Deacons & Diaconal Ministers Compensation**
- **Other Staff Compensation**
- **Current Expenses for Program**
- **Other Current Operating Expenses**

Forward Step qualifying expenditures included in this category are excluded from Grade Point Base expenditures.

Clergy Support

- **Pastor (and Associate) Plan Compensation**
- **Utilities & Furnishing Allowance**
- **Housing Allowance**
- **Professional Expenses**
- **Other Cash Allowance**

The process is as follows. The above referenced lines for all local churches are added together to arrive at the total expense for all local churches in these areas. Then the expense in these areas for each local church is divided by the total for all churches and a decimal number is the result. All the decimal numbers of all the local churches equals 1.000. This process uses data that is always a two-year average of expenses for both the total of all churches and each individual church, and is always two years behind.

The 2024 shared ministry and grade points have been calculated using data from the 2021 and 2022 annual reports completed and submitted to the Treasurer's Office.



A Closer Look at the Conference Budget

***Six funds make up the Conference budget for 2024.
The following pages describe each in greater detail.***

1. Pension and Benefit Fund

Pension and Benefit Fund

\$0

Conference Board of Pensions budget offers a health subsidy for retired pastors, spouses and surviving spouses, health subsidy for pastors on medical leave, pension grants to former pastors/surviving pastors not vested in the pension plan, health support to eligible full-time clergy and churches, board of pension meeting expenses, salary/benefits for the Conference Benefits Officer, 1/4 time support for conference treasurer's office staff (2) and contract to provide financial planning for clergy. The Pensions and Benefit Fund has been self-sufficient for the past several years.

TOTAL

Pension and Benefit Fund: \$0

2. Ministerial Support and Administration Fund

Following is a detailed account of this fund's specific distribution.

District Superintendents' Fund

\$590,000

This portion provides for each of the district superintendents' salaries, utilities allowances, accountable professional expenses and related fringe benefits, continuing education, housing allowances and other miscellaneous costs. (Details of this budget are in the Pre-Conference Handbook and Journal.)

Episcopal Fund

\$188,706

An apportionment from the General Conference, this fund is distributed to each Annual Conference based on 2.40% of the cash salaries paid to ministers and associates. It pays salaries, housing, office and travel expenses for active bishops, pensions for retired bishops and aid for widows and children of deceased bishops within the entire denomination.

Equitable Compensation Fund

\$35,000

This assures that each full-time minister receives the minimum compensation as set by the Annual Conference (\$49,012 in 2024). It includes the applicable Clergy Retirement Security Plan pension costs. Budget reduction reflects a transferring of some of this budget to Mission Aid salary in order to move toward more strategic use of salary assistance for congregational development and missional purposes.

Mission Aid Salary

\$100,000

This provides for salary support for pastors of new churches and mission churches in our Conference. The fund is administered by the Conference Board of Congregational Development, cooperatively with the Cabinet and the Commission on Equitable Compensation. This salary aid helps provide "Mission" churches a full-time pastor. It is the policy of the Board of Congregational Development to attempt to continually decrease this support to the churches as they become self-supporting. For the actual distribution of this money in 2022, see the 2023 Conference Journal - Reports of the Treasurer.

2. Ministerial Support and Administration Fund

Continued

General Administration Fund	\$55,890
Our Conference share of the general administration of our entire Church includes costs of General Conference, General Council on Finance and Administration, Archives and History, and other administrative agencies.	
Interdenominational Cooperation Fund	\$2,092
This, too, is an apportionment from the General Conference for our ecumenical support of the National and World Council of Churches and Consultation on Church Union. Includes funding for Pan Methodist Council, previously funded by General Administration Fund.	
Jurisdictional Administration Fund	\$30,000
This apportionment covers the costs of the Western Jurisdictional Conference. This Conference elects and assigns bishops, elects certain representatives to general boards and develops jurisdictional programs.	
Area Expense Fund	\$35,000
This fund is administered by our Bishop for carrying on the work of the church in our Conference. It includes providing office support, in addition to that provided by the Episcopal Fund, as well as a limited amount for program.	
Moving Expense Assistance	\$50,000
This portion provides a moving subsidy for each local church (charge) receiving a new pastor, for up to \$1,600 to cover or assist with costs of each intra-conference move (Rule XI, Sec. 2(a)). Also, is used to assist seminary students coming here for appointment, based on one-way mileage from seminary to appointment, up to \$4,400. Ministers transferring in are reimbursed up to the seminary students' limit with provision for the Cabinet to authorize up to 150% of the limit (Rule XI, Sec. 2 (c)). Also, provides up to \$1,600 for those retiring, or on Medical Leave, or surviving spouses of active ministers per Conference Rule XI, Sec. 2(b). Also covers the moving costs for ethnic clergy recruited to serve in our conference.	
Council on Finance and Administration	\$250
Covers the costs of all Council meetings.	
AC Session Travel	\$2,500
Defrays travel, costs of lay and ministerial members at Annual Conference, including Extension Ministers and Retired Ministers.	
Conference Treasurer's Office	\$435,000
Covers all operational costs of the Treasurer's Office, including salaries for the Treasurer and three full-time employees, equipment, audit, office rent, supplies and expenses. The office of the Conference Treasurer serves all boards and agencies of the Conference, including Office of Connectional Ministries, Pensions, Global Missions, Congregational Development, Trustees, Camping Board of Stewards, as well as the Annual Conference itself.	
District Service Center	\$155,000
Used for the expenses of maintaining and operating the District Service Center and funds for all district programs. These funds cover the operation of the District Service Center which supports the five District Superintendents. The DSC provides administrative support to the district, the district committee on ministry, and program support.	



Annual Conference Session

\$75,000

Provides for the expenses of the Annual Conference Sessions, including resource persons, worship expenses, printing and online communications, facilities, equipment rentals, pages, child care, technology support, and similar expenses.

Ordained Ministry

\$22,000

Covers costs for meetings, testing and other administrative expenses for guiding candidates into the ministry, as well as Counseling and Career Assessment.

Board of Trustees

\$15,000

Legal fees, and Directors and Officers' Liability Insurance for Conference Trustees and District Superintendents, meeting expenses, and utility expenses for the Conference Center.

Cabinet Special Needs Fund

\$10,000

Provides funds for Cabinet discretionary use and legal expenses incurred for clergy-related personnel matters.

Episcopal Residence

\$8,000

This represents our Conference's share of the cost of providing housing for our Bishop as required by the 2016 General Conference.

Camp Support

\$75,000

This covers maintenance expenses and fire & liability insurance premiums at four Conference-related camp sites: Lazy F, Indianola, Ocean Park and Twinlow.

Recruitment of Clergy Leadership

\$5,000

Provides for District Superintendent travel, interpretative materials and expenses incurred to bring in potential clergy for appointment.

Ministerial Support Fund

\$165,643

To provide for the deficit created by churches unable or unwilling to faithfully pay their apportionments. Plan for payment at 93.0% in 2024.

Journal Expense

\$1,200

Covers the cost of printing and mailing the Conference Journal, Pre-Conference Handbook, and expenses of the statistician and secretary. Journal preparation is done by Conference Office Staff.

TOTAL

**Ministerial Support &
Administration: \$2,366,331**

3. World Service and Conference Benevolences Fund

This fund pays for General Church agency work and Conference programs.

World Service \$470,679

This portion represents our Conference share of the national and worldwide ministry of The United Methodist Church as received on apportionment from the General Church. The money is used according to the budget in the box below:

How World Service Dollars Go to Work in 2024

Receipts are allocated to General Church agencies:	
Fixed Charges (Paid in Full)	
Interpretation Resources	\$2,169
The Connectional Table	\$41,102
General Council on Finance and Administration	\$11,168
TOTAL Fixed Charges	\$54,439
On Ratio (Paid on Ratio as Received)	
Board of Church and Society	\$16,695
Board of Discipleship	\$52,944
Board of Global Ministries	\$168,651
Board of Higher Education & Ministry	\$40,796
Central Conference Theological Fund	\$15,148
Young Clergy	\$10,531
Commission on United Methodist Men	\$2,237
United Methodist Communications	\$108,534
Contingency Reserve	\$703
TOTAL on Ratio	\$416,240
GRAND TOTAL WORLD SERVICE:	\$470,679



Staff from the PNW Office of Connectional Ministries often come alongside local church ministries, organizing, connecting, working through challenges and celebrating successes. Pictured above are members of Centro Palabra Viviente Inglesia Metodista Unida and Hispanic/Latinx leaders from across the GNW Area gathered in Everett, WA to organize and celebrate the dedication of a new building.



Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth visits Lake Washington United Methodist Church in August of 2023 as they celebrate over 10 years of their Safe Parking Program.



Office of Connectional Minsitries staff members on location in Juneau, Alaska, work with local church members to support the Installation Service for Bishop Bridgeforth in May of 2022.

Conf. Benevolence Support Fund	\$204,429	be used for pastoral support, start-up expenses, and/or capital development.
To provide for the deficit created by churches unable or unwilling to fully pay their shared ministry portions. Anticipated payment rate 89% in 2024.		
Ethnic Ministries	\$52,600	Hispanic Ministries \$24,300
This item provides support for local church outreach to ethnic communities, development of ethnic fellowships and congregations, leadership development for ethnic lay and clergy, and training to support the goal of becoming an inclusive church.		To provide funds for Ministry within the Hispanic population of the PNW Conference.
Faith Action Network	\$13,770	Global Mission Development \$43,350
The Conference is one of 10 denominational members in the state-wide Faith Action Network. The Association is one channel through which the Conference gives expression to its ecumenical commitment, and is the place where it joins other religious institutions for common undertaking in ministry.		Provides for mission education and cultivation. Also provides funds for health and welfare, hunger concerns, immigration, disaster relief, Cooperative School of Mission, Volunteers in Mission scholarships and mission saturation events.
New Cong. Development	\$65,000	Ministry in Higher Education \$80,933
Funds are used to resource new church starts and redevelopment opportunities. These resources may also		This budget provides funding for Campus Ministries, Local Church Student Ministries, and Wesley Foundations at four-year universities. In addition, campus minister development and student leadership programs are funded.

Office of Connectional Ministries

\$850,000

Connectional Ministries are a broad-based group of ministries that assist clergy and laity in fulfilling the core values of our church. The fundamental root word in the name Office of Connectional Ministries (OCM) is "connect." The OCM connects conference members for effective and faithful ministry.

A good part of this fund provides resources for meetings, travel and training for most boards and agencies of the conference. Beyond meetings and events, this fund also provides program resources and salaries for Conference staff tasked with providing support and leadership for the connection.

This budget enables PNW Conference and Greater Northwest Area-wide communications through the GNW and PNW websites, social media platforms, News Digest, and other publications. It also includes information management and implementing technology in ministry. Additionally, the Regional Media Center handles the purchasing of copyright licenses and lending of media resources to local churches.

Since discipleship happens primarily at the local church level, a significant amount of time and financial resources are dedicated by the staff of the Office of Connectional Ministries to "bridge the gap" between the various levels of church structure; moving the church from a traditional hierarchical structure to one that is more collaborative, while equipping and supporting local churches in their mission.

Perhaps the most time-consuming and important work of the Office of Connectional Ministries is planning and implementing the detailed work of each year's Annual Conference Session and ensuring that the decisions are implemented. The logistics of preparing and hosting the conference session are extensive; included is the development of the pre-conference handbook, registration of hundreds of participants, and maintaining open lines of communication with leaders and planners of conference sessions. There is also significant follow-up work that is done to prepare the Journal. This historic and important publication includes printed and digital summaries from conference sessions and the appointments of clergy.

Given the size of our church structure and diversity of its employees and members, connecting and coordinating the work among the various levels is what this office is tasked with.



Staff members of the PNW Office of Connectional Ministries and Treasurer's Office recently gathered at Ocean Shores UMC.

Currently, The Office of Connectional Ministries is comprised of 8 employees:	Additional staff work across the Greater Northwest to foster innovation, inclusion and collaboration.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Executive Director of Connectional Ministries▪ Director of Communications▪ Director of Hispanic/Latino Ministries▪ Program Associate for Young People's Ministries▪ Transitional Ministry Developer▪ Admin. Assistant for Connectional Ministries▪ Regional Media Center Manager▪ Media Center Assistant and Print Room Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Exec. Director for Innovation and Vitality▪ Executive Administrative Assistant▪ Director, Circle of Indigenous Ministries▪ Missional Strategist, Housing Ministries
	The Office of Connectional Ministries also shares resources and collaborates closely with:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Assistant for Connectional Ministries▪ Executive Director, Camping & Retreat Ministries

TOTAL

World Service & Conference Benevolences:
\$2,044,289

4. Ministerial Education and Black College Fund

This fund includes two funds apportioned by the General Conference.

Ministerial Education Fund	\$158,973
This is an apportionment from the General Church for supporting our United Methodist seminaries and ministerial education. One-fourth of the amount received is retained by our Conference for use by the Board of Ordained Ministry for scholarships to seminary students, continuing education support and other educational programs for clergy and deacons. The other three-fourths provides support for operating costs of the United Methodist theological schools and development of a program for ministerial enlistment.	
Black College Fund	\$63,413
This, too, is an apportionment from the General Church to support our eleven United Methodist Black Colleges. Funds will be used for current budgets and capital improvements.	

TOTAL	Ministerial Education and Black College Fund: \$222,386
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5. Africa University Fund

Africa University	\$14,192
This item is an apportionment from the General Church to provide \$10,000,000 funding over the quadrennium to continue the support of a United Methodist related university in Zimbabwe. In addition to this apportionment, World Service Special (designated) gifts will be sought to fund the other half of the need - \$10 million for an endowment fund.	

TOTAL	Africa University Fund: \$14,192
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Six Other Ways to Be in Mission

In addition to our shared ministry, there are five additional ways that individuals, groups and congregations can be involved in mission beyond the local church. These include (1) Special Offerings, (2) Covenant Relationships with Missionaries, (3) Conference and (4) General Church Advance Specials, (5) Volunteers in Mission, and (6) Cooperative Mission u.

1. Special Offerings

The 2016 General Conference designated six special church-wide Sundays with offerings to be observed in each United Methodist church. (Book of Discipline, ¶1263). Our annual conference has designated additional Conference Designated Offerings.

Church-wide Special Offerings

Human Relations Day

January 14, 2024

The Human Relations Day offering supports social justice and outreach ministries that empower all God's children to realize their full potential as human beings in relationship with one another. Administered by Global Ministries in collaboration with the General Board of Church and Society, this fund helps encourage that potential through multiethnic ministries and countless other projects across the United Methodist connection.

UMCOR Sunday

March 10, 2024

The UMCOR Sunday offering underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need, ensuring we can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable.

Native American Ministries Sunday

April 14, 2024

The Native American Ministries offering bolsters the work of ministries in annual conferences throughout the United States. These ministries exist in rural and urban settings, including reservation and other community settings. The Native American Ministries offering also provides scholarships for Native Americans studying at United Methodist

schools of theology and empowers congregations to find culturally appropriate ways to minister to their communities through Christ's love.

Peace with Justice Sunday

May 26, 2024

United Methodists celebrate Peace with Justice Sunday on the First Sunday after Pentecost. Peace with Justice Sunday enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs. The special offering benefits peace with justice ministries in the annual conference and through the General Board of Church and Society.

World Communion Sunday

October 6, 2024

The World Communion Sunday offering provides scholarships and leadership development opportunities for international students and U.S. racial-ethnic students who are pursuing advanced degrees. Gifts not only make an impact in the lives of individual students, but also the religious, social and civic communities in which they lead and serve.

UM Student Day

November 24, 2024

UM Student Day calls the Church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge. The offering supports UM scholarships and the UM Student Loan Fund.

Conference Designated Offerings

Camp Sunday

February 2024 (any Sunday)

Supports Camping Ministries in the Annual Conference for the development of new camping programs.

Golden Cross Sunday

May 12, 2024

Supports a health and welfare ministries project selected by the Conference. Up to 50% may be designated by the local church for a health and welfare ministry of their choice.

Christian Education Sunday

September 15, 2024

Directly supports the Christian Education work within the PNW, providing financial assistance for training church school leaders.

AIDS Ministries

December 1, 2024

Of this offering, 90% is designated for the purposes of education and support for local churches seeking to develop ministries for persons with AIDS; 10% is designated for support of AIDS ministries through the general church.

2. Covenant Relationships with Missionaries

Photos courtesy of the GBGM website.
For more info, visit umcmmission.org

There are over 300 Global Ministries missionaries serving in over 60 countries that are available for support through a Covenant Relationship. Individuals and churches can partner with a missionary and provide financial, spiritual, and emotional support.

Your church can begin a Covenant Relationship by establishing a financial goal of \$5 per member of your church per year. Individuals can Covenant with a missionary for \$500 per year. This partnership is much more than a financial commitment. It is a dynamic relationship where the church and missionary pray for one another and communicate regularly. When you Covenant with one missionary, you are supporting the entire United Methodist missionary community on their behalf and in their name.

The local church and the supported missionary agree to communicate regularly (at least three times per year), to uphold each other in prayer, and to meet face to face during

the missionary's visits to Pacific Northwest. The missionary keeps the congregation informed about ongoing ministries, needs, progress, and interesting stories from his or her place of assignment.

Youth and young adult groups are invited to covenant with a Global Mission Fellow for \$5 per member per year. This will allow youth and young adults to understand the value and importance of young adults in mission and have them visit their group.

Contact Marilyn Sanchez-Reid to find out more. Be sure to send your contribution through the Conference Treasurer for Advance Credit, noting the name and code of the missionary, ideally by the end of October each year. Using the Covenant Relationship Form, mail original to GBGM and a copy to Marilyn Reid, 15026 40th Ave. W Bldg.14-203, Lynnwood, WA 98087.

Joy Eva Bohol

Country: Switzerland
Advance #3021829
email: jbohola@umcmmission.org

Joy Eva A. Bohol serves as Region Migration Specialist. She is a former mission intern, and was commissioned to her present work in October 2015.

Joy Eva was a mission advocate for the Young Adult Mission Service of the agency. Mission advocates promote and interpret missionary service as a vocational choice for young adults, including the Global Mission Fellows program that places persons between the ages of 20 and 30 for two-year terms of service in justice ministries. Global Mission Fellows is part of Generation Transformation, a comprehensive approach to young adult mission service.

Joy Eva also encouraged congregations, districts, and annual conferences to join in covenant support for young adult missionaries. She was based for one year in the New York City and for a second year in Seoul, where she promoted and recruited for Generation Transformation.

Joy Eva was a mission intern—the intern program was a forerunner to Global Mission Fellows—with the Centro Popular para América Latina de Comunicación (CEPALC) in Bogotá, Colombia. CEPALC was set up in 1978 to help the desperately poor of Colombia use communications resources to support their claims to human rights and justice.



Joy Eva—her name is short for “Joyful Evangelist”—is from Cebu City in the Philippines, where she is a member of the Labangon First United Methodist Church. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication, major in Journalism, from the University of the Philippines. Her mother is clergy. Joy Eva has worked for an online newspaper, served as national president of The UM Youth Fellowship in the Philippines, been a team member for Discipleship Resources in the Philippines, and worked as an Emmaus Walk

community coordinator. She has taken part in mission trips within and outside the Philippines.

Luke 4:17–20, the passage about Jesus engaging with the people in the synagogue, exerted a strong influence upon her as a young person, “When Jesus read Isaiah’s scroll, ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,’ it resonated with me that God’s calling to serve God’s people in fighting for social justice, struggling with those in the margins, and being in solidarity with the oppressed, is for everyone—wherever you are in the world. God’s mission is for everyone from everywhere to everywhere. Jesus knew exactly what his purpose was. We should, too, and live out Jesus’ Mission Statement as found in Luke 4.”

She has known for years that she would enter mission as a vocation, and she hopes that the United Methodist Church in the Philippines will soon launch a “domestic mission program for passionate young people.”

Helen de Leon Camarce

Country: Cambodia
Advance #13953Z
email: hcamarce@umcmmission.org

Helen de Leon Camarce is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church currently serving as treasurer of the agency's Cambodia and Southeast Asia Missions.

The Cambodia Mission, which is inter-Methodist, and the United Methodist Southeast Asia Mission are fast growing. As of August 2011, there were more than 400 congregations in the four countries. Each involves missionaries and expanding church development, including outreach and building projects. The growth is projected to continue well into the future, necessitating a regional treasurer to provide leadership in fund management and to equip local Methodists to assume financial responsibilities.

Helen provides support services for the missionary communities, local church partners, episcopal leaders, an expanding number of clergy, and denominational interests.

Prior to her current assignment, Helen was Global Ministries' regional mission auditor for Asia, and earlier served for 10 years as the agency's area financial executive based in the Philippines.



A native of Malate, Manila in the Philippines, Helen earned a bachelor of science degree in commerce from the Technological Institute of the Philippines, also in Manila. She worked in exporting and in the travel industry before going to work for the church.

Believing in good stewardship and good management of church resources, Helen says, "A good Christian must learn to manage God's blessings by being transparent, honest, and always with a thankful heart. I know that monies coming

from our sisters and brothers are hard earned, and I want to make our programs and agencies aware of such."

Helen serves with various agencies within the Philippine Central Conference, including those concerned with finance and administration, education and communications, indigenous peoples, social services, and mission. She was treasurer of the Women's Society of Christian Service and ex-officio member of the Philippine Conference Coordinating Council, which is the decision-making body.

Helen is a member of the Parañaque Central UMC in Parañaque City, Philippines. She is married to Benjamin N. Camarce, and they have three children and one adopted nephew. Helen's mother is a member of the Freeport UMC.

Kutela Katembo

Country: Angola
Advance #3022031
email: kkatembo@umcmmission.org

Kutela Katembo is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, serving as an agriculturist at Quessua Mission in the East Angola Annual Conference. He was commissioned in late 2014.

Quessua Mission, a historical center of Methodism in Angola, was almost totally destroyed in the three decades of civil war that finally ended in 2002. The facility, which includes a church, a school, dormitories, and a farm, is still recovering. Quessua aims to produce enough food to feed its students and community. Kutela Katembo also works with the annual conference in evolving a sustainable agriculture policy that can help to overcome hunger and poverty in the region.

Kutela is from Lubumbashi in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he is a member of the Salem Parish United Methodist Church in the South Congo-Zambia Annual



Conference. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Africa University in Mutare, Zimbabwe in 2002. He has worked for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) in food security projects and as an agricultural trainer and consultant. He has also been a farm manager.

Growing up in the church, Kutela took part in the United Methodist Youth Fellowship and his church's social service outreach.

He studies at Africa University in part on a scholarship from Global Ministries and came to count himself as "being part of the church in its great mission diversity worldwide."

"My call to mission," he says, "basically is to serve God through my knowledge and experience by serving others who may need help in Christ-like humility. The church has been a good servant to me so I need to be a good servant with my qualifications in Christ-like humility."

He and his wife Kutela Fatuma Olangi have five children together.

Natallia Manyeza

Country: Sierra Leone
Advance #3022590
email: nmanyeza@umcmmission.org

The Rev. Natallia Manyeza is a United Methodist missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries serving as a lecturer at the United Methodist University. She is based in Freetown, Sierra Leone.



Rev. Manyeza has spent her career investing in those around her. She has a broad scope of experience in academia, serving in administration, counseling and teaching. She built on these skills during her years as a teacher, pastor and chaplain.

She has spent time in Sierra Leone getting to know the culture and the needs of the community as her husband is serving in mission there. She is particularly passionate about human rights issues. She welcomes the opportunity to journey with adult students as they pursue more just societies.

Sierra Leone is a developing country with a post-conflict population of more than 7.8 million. The need for social and formal training in peace and reconciliation is becoming a major issue for dialogue and development. Key concerns are the disregard for human rights and abuse of power.

Rev. Manyeza will serve as lecturer at the School of Theology, focusing on Human Rights and Good Governance, as well as Gender in Development Studies. She will guide the evolution of policies and disciplines for the university within those key areas.

Born in Wedza, Zimbabwe, Rev. Manyeza and her family went to a Roman Catholic church. As a young adult, she began to question her family's involvement in "traditional" beliefs and activities. In 1989, Rev. Manyeza accepted Christ and was baptized. "For the first time," she said, "I bought a Bible and began to attend church services regularly." She participated in Bible study and prayer group sessions. "My faith," she said, "started growing from that time."

Ten years later, Rev. Manyeza felt called to pastoral ministry. At first, she resisted, but the Holy Spirit persisted.

Today, she nurtures her relationship with Christ by "reading and meditating on the Word of God, engaging in prayer and fasting, and attending prayer meetings and church services. I serve Him through ministering to others, by preaching and teaching the Word and by doing pastoral work. I now trust my God and have developed a total dependency on him," she said.

She traces her call to missionary service to her childhood. As an 8-year-old, Rev.

Manyeza was inspired by Roman Catholic missionary nuns who provided medication, food, clothing and toys to the less-privileged in her community. "Their support," she said, "changed the lives of many, particularly the children. These nuns serving people unrelated to them ignited in me a desire and passion to serve other people. The desire was strengthened when I had contact with yet another group of nuns and priests who built and supported St Paul's Musami Mission center where I did my teaching practice at the age of 20.

"I was further exposed to the great works of missionaries," Rev. Manyeza continued, "when my family moved to work at Old Mutare United Methodist Church Mission Center which was started and developed by missionaries. I also witnessed missionaries teaching at Africa University. Closer to home, my husband became a missionary with Global Ministries in 2008. Together, with his partners, he changed the face of Old Mutare Hospital and the quality of health care provided."

Prior to her present assignment, Rev. Manyeza taught in Zimbabwe government and United Methodist high schools (1986-2003) and served as a pastor and chaplain (2004-05) and (2012-15), at Old Mutare United Methodist Mission Center and as a United Methodist pastor in charge at Penhalonga Circuit of The United Methodist Church (2009-11) and Odzi Circuit of The United Methodist Church (2016)

Rev. Manyeza and her husband, Paul Tendai, are the parents of Rutendo Ennert (Manyeza) Chatsama; Tenda Paul Manyeza; Tapiwanashe Moreblessing Manyeza; and Nyashadzashe Brighton Manyeza. Paul Tendai has served as a missionary with Global Ministries since 2008.

Gaston Nkulu Ntambo

Country: Congo
Advance #14177Z
email: gastontambo@yahoo.com

Gaston Nkulu Ntambo is a missionary with the Board of Global Ministries assigned to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Based in Luena, Gaston serves as a pilot and mechanic with the Wings of the Morning Aviation Ministry in the North Katanga Conference.

The aviation ministry provides transportation in hard-to-reach areas of Africa, especially in emergency situations. Reflecting on his work, Gaston says, "I believe God is using me as a tool to reach out and save lives." He recalls that he once flew unknowingly into a war zone in an attempt to save lives. "As a miracle, the highest officer in that village on that day happened to also be my



uncle," he reports. "Out of nowhere, he suddenly introduced himself to me for the first time."

A native of Kamina, DRC, Gaston earned associate degrees in accounting and piloting from Davis College in Toledo, OH. He received a mechanic's certificate from the Michigan Institute of Aeronautics in Detroit.

Prior to his commissioning as a GBGM missionary, Gaston worked six years as a Wings of the Morning pilot. He previously served as an assistant and secretary with the United Methodist Church in Lumbumbashi, DRC.

Gaston is married to Jeanne Kabove Ntambo, also a GBGM missionary. They have five children: Andy Nkulu, Lorree Nkulu, Gabriel Kahenga, Noah Kabove, and Eileen. Gaston's father is Bishop Ntambo Nkulu of the North Katanga Conference. Gaston is a member of a local UMC in Luena.

Katherine Parker

Country: Nepal
Advance #15187Z
email: kparker@umcmmission.org

Katherine Parker is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries, working in community development in Nepal. She serves as a Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) Advisor with the United Mission to Nepal (UMN). The ecumenical ministry of UMN has a vision of "fullness of life for all in a transformed Nepali society." United Methodists have been part of UMN since it was founded in 1954.

Katherine's work in Nepal involves the development of frameworks for reflection in an action-reflection process of community transformation. The UMN work in community transformation is in five areas: education, health, peacebuilding, good governance and sustainable livelihoods. Katherine has found joy in:

- Adolescent empowerment, including sexual reproductive health and rights, mental health, and menstrual hygiene;
- Dignity for migrant workers; and
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH).

Katherine was previously based in one of UMN's field offices in western Nepal and now works in participatory research across the organization from a base in Kathmandu, where she is also a part of the UMN leadership team.

Katherine is passionate about the process of linking values to action. She believes in telling the stories of our lives and exploring the stories of our faith. These enable us to



articulate our shared values and engage in collective action across cultural and other divisive barriers. Together we can progress towards a world where every person can live to his or her fullest potential.

In Nepal since 2013, Katherine formerly served in Cambodia with the Community Health and Agricultural Development program of the Methodist Mission there. She has been a missionary since 2007. Out of college in 2000, she became a mission intern for three years with the

Asian Rural Institute in Japan and Practical Farmers of Iowa.

Native to California, Katherine comes from a family with deep roots in United Methodism on the U.S. West Coast. From a young age, Katherine saw the church as a community of faith where we are spiritually fed so that we can serve in the world. She is the fifth generation in her family to serve through the United Methodist connection.

Katherine attended Harvey Mudd College in Claremont, CA, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. Her M.S. degree, also in biology, was from California State University in Sacramento. Her graduate thesis was on bacterial contamination of drinking water in rural Ghana.

Katherine's home church is Mt. Tamalpais UMC in Mill Valley, CA. She has been involved in the life of the church in many capacities, including as part of the California-Nevada Annual Conference delegation to General Conference, the Conference Board of Church and Society, and a District Council on Ministries. She has been a part of United Methodist Women and an organizer of mission trips. In high school, she served as director of a church bell choir.

Joy Prim

Country: Hong Kong
Advance #3021344
email: jprim@umcmmission.org

Deaconess Joy Prim is a United Methodist missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries serving as a welfare case officer for migrant domestic workers. She is based at the Mission for Migrant Workers at St. John's Cathedral in Hong Kong, SAR (special administrative region of the People's Republic of China).

Joy gained valuable experience for her current task as a mission intern with MFMW.

Founded in 1981, Mission for Migrant Workers remains committed to supporting migrant workers in crisis, empowering them to regain dignity and encouraging recognition of them as an integral part of multicultural and inclusive Hong Kong, SAR, society. In many families, both parents must work to afford the high cost of living. Migrant workers are in great demand to provide child care and manage households as well as to care for older adults.

In Hong Kong, SAR, migrant workers remain one of the most vulnerable groups, left out of many social protections. The Mission for Migrant Workers has seen an increase in migrant workers seeking their services.

As a charitable institution, MFMW depends on volunteers to implement many programs. As a missionary, Joy provides stability and continuity to the mission's social justice work.

"My faith journey," she said, "has been influenced and led by the United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) purpose, growing up with a mother and grandmother who were both members and my choice to become a UWF member at 12 years old. I could recite the purpose before I could read chapter books. The foundation they laid for caring for issues of women, youth and children in our local communities and around the world sparked my yearning for mission work."



In college, Joy was selected to be part of the College/University Consultative Board of the former Women's Division, where she gained greater knowledge and appreciation of United Methodist global mission work through its "from everywhere to everywhere" practices, she said.

Joy was inspired to apply for the Mission Intern Program, a forerunner to Global Mission Fellows. "When I let myself learn about the migrant communities

and share my own reflections," she said, "the more I was feeling at home and realizing that I was called to do this as my vocation." For her domestic placement, Joy served with the Filipino Migrant Center in Long Beach, California. She helped to empower many through education and handling cases on labor issues, immigration and human trafficking.

After her mission internship, she provided direct services and advocacy to address human rights issues in California and beyond. She assisted Filipino migrant workers and volunteered with the California-Pacific Annual Conference Justice and Compassion EMT, as well as the International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines.

Born in Statesville, North Carolina, Joy grew up in western North Carolina. She most recently lived in Los Angeles. She is a member of West LA United Methodist Church, part of the California-Pacific Conference. She was welcomed into the order of Deaconess and Home Missioner in 2020 and consecrated as a deaconess in May 2022.

Joy cherishes "God moments," she said, "where I feel connected to my understandings of the early church that weren't so much about liturgies and formalities but about building community, finding ways to support each other and living our faith in action."

Douglas Williams

Country: Argentina
Advance #3022122
email: dwilliams@umcmmission.org

The Rev. Douglas E. Williams is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, serving as pastor and Volunteer-In-Mission promoter of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Argentina, based in Buenos Aires. He was commissioned in 2015.



Doug recalls, but he attended enough to be baptized at age 16 in a Baptist congregation. He experienced a call to ministry while on a mission trip to Haiti during his college years and enrolled in seminary after college graduation. He transitioned to The United Methodist Church and served as a pastor for 21 years. He says that the faith communities he has served have been concerned with innovative ministries, including a coffee house, ecumenical food pantry, and a preschool.

The Argentine church has 100 congregations spread across the country. Doug is pastor of the Mendoza and San Juan churches, chaplain at Alberto Schweitzer School, and assists with the hosting of VIM teams, mostly from the United States.

Doug, who was born in Virginia, is an elder of the Iowa Annual Conference and immediately prior to his missionary service was lead pastor of the Coralville United Methodist Church and an adjunct professor at Kirkwood Community College, Iowa City, Iowa. Earlier, he pastored churches in the Iowa and Tennessee Annual Conferences. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri, and a Master of Divinity degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Missouri, and a Doctor of Ministry degree from University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa.

"I grew up loving Jesus but not going to church much,"

Mission trips—both as participant and organizer—have played major roles in his ministry, including service in Mexico, Guatemala, Haiti, Native American reservations, and tornado and hurricane cleanup in the United States. A major rebuilding project at the Coralville church made it impossible for him to take part in mission trips for a number of years. God implanted in him a call to mission during that period. "In that absence," he says, "I recognized that God was growing a deep longing to serve outside of the country....God seemed to be saying, 'Now is the time.'"

On the challenge of mission, he states: "Our world is becoming a global community and God wells up in me the desire to be part of seeing God's peace expand and renewal take place. There are so many challenges that face us and time and time again God reveals in every challenge an opportunity for growth and healing."

Doug has two adult children, Samantha and Jonathan.

Deirdre Zimmerman

Country: Nepal
Advance #131712
email: markz@wlink.com.np

Deirdre Zimmerman is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church – in partnership with the Church Missionary Society of Ireland – serving with her husband, Dr. Mark Zimmerman, in Kathmandu, Nepal.



A nutritionist and dietitian by training, Deirdre was first assigned to work for United Mission to Nepal's Nutrition Programme, which addresses the problem of malnutrition in women and children through community-based projects, provision of training, development of nutrition resources and research & advocacy. After a break while their sons, Zachary and Benjamin, were young, Deirdre has since worked as advisor to Nutrition Promotion and Consultancy Service (NPCS),

an organization which was born out of the previous Nutrition Programme.

Deirdre is also assigned to work as a dietitian at Patan Hospital, a busy teaching hospital in Kathmandu where her husband works as professor and doctor. After 3 years working in a consulting role, the hospital has now hired local staff whom Deirdre is leading in the establishment of a full-service dietetic department.

Of her work Deirdre shares, "I see this as involvement in God's work to restore full

life and to provide for all the needs of all people: nutrition and health (in all its facets) being essential for people to achieve their God-given potential."

In addition to her formal role, Deirdre understands her assignment as a 'ministry of presence.' "I hope my presence in Nepal as a United Methodist missionary can encourage the local Nepali church that the universal

Continued on next page...

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church stands in solidarity with them (a minority faith in a Hindu country), and that I may be a channel for bringing some of the experiences and gifts of the Nepal church into American and Irish churches."

A native of Ireland, Deirdre earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Nutrition and Dietetics in 1993 from Trinity College/Dublin Institute of Technology.

She earned certification in tropical community medicine and health in 1996 from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, and in 1999 was certified in the management of food and nutrition programs by the International Agricultural Centre in the Netherlands. From 1993-1995 Deirdre was a clinical dietitian at Birmingham England Heartlands Hospital where she later worked as a senior paediatric dietitian.

Having spent their entire childhood in Nepal, Deirdre and Mark's two sons are now studying in the US.

Mark Zimmerman

Country: Nepal
Advance #10908Z
email: markz@wlink.com.np

Dr. Mark Zimmerman is a United Methodist missionary assigned to work along side his wife Deirdre Zimmerman, in Kathmandu, Nepal, a predominantly Hindu country in the Himalayan region of Asia.

A medical doctor specializing in internal medicine, Mark has been working in Nepal since 1986. He initially began as a clinical doctor and later became medical director of Patan Hospital (1998-2005). When that hospital ceased being a mission hospital, he became founding director of the Nick Simons Institute (NSI) (2006-16), a charitable organization supporting government health care workers across remote regions of Nepal. Since August 2016, Mark has returned to work as senior consultant and professor in Patan Hospital, which has grown into a government medical school, the Patan Academy of Health Sciences. In addition to patient care responsibilities, he teaches medical students and is involved in establishing a training program for internal medicine specialists.

"Returning to walk the halls and wards of Patan Hospital is like rediscovering a first love. After 18 years mostly in administration, I'm delighted to be back fulltime taking care of patients – listening to their stories, touching their sick bodies, walking with them over uneven ground. I've also formed immediate, close bonds with the young medical students, who deepen my understanding of the privilege of being a physician. What I wrote thirty years ago on first entering Patan Hospital still applies today: 'This work is a wonderful chance for Jesus' love to flow through me to others. Your prayers will bless the many whom I meet.'"

During the summer of 1980, Mark worked as a medical student in a hospital in The Gambia, West Africa, and that experience stimulated his interest in overseas medicine. After completing his internal medicine training in 1986, he worked for two years as a doctor in Nepal, supported by funds from the United Methodist Women. This experience led Mark in 1990 to become a long-term Global Ministries missionary.

A native of Warminster, PA, Dr. Zimmerman holds a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University and an M.D. from Dartmouth Medical School. He did his residency in Internal Medicine at Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, NY.



2. Cont. - Global Mission Fellows

The Global Mission Fellows program takes young adults ages 20–30 out of their home environments and places them in new contexts for mission experience and service. The program has a strong emphasis on faith and justice. Global Mission Fellows become active parts of their new local communities. They connect the church in mission across cultural and geographical boundaries. They grow in personal and social holiness and become strong young leaders, working to build just communities in a peaceful world. Global Mission Fellows in the U.S. work through geographic or organizational affiliates.

Reagan Lyn Page

United States: Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
Missionary Code: 3022698
email: rpage@umcmmission.org

Reagan Lyn Page is an international Global Mission Fellow with the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries, engaged in a two-year term of service.

The Global Mission Fellows program takes young adults ages 20–30 out of their home environments and places them in new contexts for mission experience and service. The program has a strong emphasis on faith and justice. Global Mission Fellows become active parts of their new local communities. They connect the church in mission across cultural and geographical boundaries. They grow in personal and social holiness and become strong young leaders working to build just communities in a peaceful world.

Reagan is a member and volunteer of the United Methodist Wesley Foundation at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, related to the Oklahoma Annual Conference. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in political science and a Bachelor of Arts degree in global studies from OSU.

"I grew up attending my church's youth group every Wednesday," Reagan said, "but like many children, I did not entirely understand my faith. I began having one-on-one meetings with my pastor the last two years of high school, talking about social justice, the state of the world and what could be done about it. I grew in my faith, and he encouraged me to pursue ministry, but I was unsure. Either way, I wanted to find a good church community in college."

When Reagan arrived at college, she had a difficult time matching her beliefs with a church. At the beginning of sophomore year, a friend invited her to the Wesley Foundation. "I knew I had found my place," she said. "The love for people of all walks of life, plus the interest in



justice and how the church should be involved in this, spoke to me in a way no other church in town had."

She enjoyed attending weekly, but hadn't gotten to know the pastor, James, very well. Then she heard his sermon focusing on the injustices in the prison system of Mozambique. "When I went home that night," Reagan said, "I couldn't stop thinking about it. I read some research articles and scheduled a one-on-one with him to talk about social justice

issues around the world and to give him a book I thought he should read. After talking about my passions and how I wanted to help, James recommended Global Mission Fellows as another route I could pursue. I started my application."

Already planning to work in international development, Reagan was trying to figure out the first step. "I knew I wanted to get my master's," she said, "but I wanted to explore the world and help other people first. The call of ministry finally made sense to me. After years of encouragement, it came full circle with the realization that for me, showing God's love through the service of those in need was the ministry to which I was called."

Reagan brings rich experiences to her new role as a Global Mission Fellow. Throughout college, she assisted three professors with data collection, statistical analysis and writing. She also was the regional president of Silver Wings, a service club affiliated with the Air Force that addresses a variety of issues. She helped to lead chapters in multiple states. Through Silver Wings, she honed her skills in community development, organization, public speaking and fundraising, as well as her love for service.



MISSIONARY COVENANT RELATIONSHIP



GLOBAL MINISTRIES
The United Methodist Church

The Advance Covenant Relationship Form

Type of Covenant Relationship: (check one)

Church (\$2,500 or \$5/member) Individual (\$500) Other (\$5/member, e.g., Youth Group, Campus Ministry)

Total Commitment Amount Per Year: \$ _____ (required)

Length of Covenant Relationship commitment: 3 years 1 year Indefinite

Beginning: _____ Ending: _____
Month / Year Month / Year

NOTE: It is only necessary to renew your acceptance form at the end of your commitment.

Missionary: _____ Advance #: _____

Please indicate missionary previously supported (if different): _____

Please note that while your covenant is with the missionary above, your gift will support the entire missionary community.

Contact Information:

Name of Church/Individual/Group/Organization (to receive credit):

Address: _____
Street City State Postal Code

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Church Information: (if applicable)

Name:

Pastor: _____ Annual Conference: _____ District: _____

Contact Person: (if applicable)

Name:

Address: _____
Street City State Postal Code

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

• Send form to: The Advance, General Board of Global Ministries, 458 Ponce de Leon Avenue NE, Atlanta, GA 30308

Tel: 404-460-7945, Fax: 404-942-4241, Email: covenant@umcmmission.org

• For church credit, send financial support to your conference treasurer or to the Advance GCFA. For individual/group/organization credit, send gifts directly to Advance GCFA. Please clearly designate the missionary's Advance number. Mail gifts to:

Send a copy of this form to your Conference
Secretary of Global Ministries:

Marilyn Reid
15026 40th Ave. W Bldg. 14-203
Lynnwood, WA 98087
marilynsreid21@gmail.com

Advance GCFA
PO Box 9068
New York, NY 10087-9068

www.umcmmission.org/covenantrelationships



The Advance
Advancing hope in Christ's name

The Advance is a part of the General
Board of Global Ministries

3. Conference Advance Specials

These projects are approved as Pacific Northwest Conference Advance Specials. They are reviewed annually by Conference Global Ministries for consistency with the highest mission priorities of the Conference. Contributions should be sent to the Conference Treasurer, earmarked for "Conference Advance Special (project name & #)." *Questions? Contact Conference Secretary of Global Ministries, Marilyn Reid at marilynreid21@yahoo.com.*



During Talk Time, students of Tacoma Community House engage in conversation to help improve their English-speaking skills.

Tacoma Community House

Advance #302

Tacoma Community House (TCH) - a National Mission Institution of The United Methodist Church was founded by deaconesses in 1910. TCH is a gateway for helping immigrants, refugees and low-wage earners realize their potential and transform their futures through four core programs: Education, Employment, Immigration and Advocacy. Annually TCH provides services to more than 3,600 adults and youth from the U.S. and over 90 countries through its mission: "Tacoma Community House creates opportunities for immigrants and other community members in the Puget Sound region through comprehensive services focused on self-sufficiency, inclusion and advocacy."

TCH provides services through four core programs:

- 1. Education:** The education department offers a range of successful literacy and language programs, including English as a Second Language (ESL), Adult Basic Education (ABE: reading, writing, and math), computer classes, Read2Me (1st - 3rd grade reading/ tutoring), GED preparation.
- 2. Employment:** Employment services help job seekers successfully enter the work force through employment assistance and job training. Currently TCH supports clients with job preparation and job placement services, access to educational and career related technologies and internships.
- 3. Immigration services:** Immigration specialists work one-on-one with individuals to provide technical assistance for completing immigration forms, citizenship classes, preparation and coaching for the citizenship interview, opportunity to apply for citizenship through TCH's Board of Immigration Appeals Accredited Immigration Specialists and legal permanent residency renewals.
- 4. Client Advocacy:** Victims of crime are served through comprehensive case management focused on returning clients and their families to safety.



(Left) Middle schoolers float along the Mighty Yakima, a Lazy F tradition. (Right) Young people show group spirit at Twinlow Camp.

PNW Camp & Retreat Ministries

Camp Indianola: Advance #341

Twinlow Camp: Advance #343

Lazy F Camp: Advance #344

Ocean Park Camp: Advance #345

Our Pacific Northwest Camp and Retreat Ministries provide places apart and unique programs for our United Methodist youth and families, as well as the larger community.

Increasingly, we see our four camps as tools that local churches can utilize to aid in their local missions and outreach. Our beautiful and unique camp settings provide opportunities that enhance the life of the congregation.

These opportunities include summer camp for youth, year-round programs for youth and adults, retreat resources, and leadership development opportunities through volunteerism, summer internships, and special programs.

The Camping Board of Stewards is dedicated to assuring a high quality camp experience for all and works to maintain the health of our camping program for many generations to come. Conference advance special gifts are vital for our future success as we strive to meet the needs of our constituency and improve our facilities on an ongoing basis.

PNW Conf. Disaster Relief/Early Response

Advance #352

PO Box 13650 • Des Moines, WA 98198

The mission of PNW Disaster Response is to provide a caring Christian presence in the aftermath of a disaster.

The Conference Disaster Response Coordinator (C-DRC) oversees the mission, is a part of the Conference Board of Global Missions and is the conference's representative to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

As an active part of the Disaster Response mission, UMCOR-trained Early Response Team members respond to natural disasters within the PNW Conference and beyond providing relief efforts for disaster survivors. The C-DRC ensures that PNW Disaster Response donations reaches those persons impacted by disaster.

Donations to Advance #352 are tracked and accounted for through the PNW Conference Treasurer.



PNW Early Response Team taking a break from serving a Fort Gibson, Oklahoma family after a major 2019 flood event.

Atlantic Street Center

Advance #301

Atlantic Street Center (ASC) is a National Mission Institution of The United Methodist Church. It was founded by the Deaconesses of the Methodist Church in 1910 as a settlement house for Italian immigrants. It has been a refuge for Seattle children, youth, and families ever since. The mission of ASC is to help families and communities raise healthy, successful children and youth. ASC serves over 3,000 children, youth, and low-income families each year, primarily in Seattle's central and southeast neighborhoods.



Alaska Conference Support

Advance #336

The Pacific Northwest Conference has a special relationship with our sibling conference to the north which is reflected in this Conference Advance.



Gifts to this Conference Advance help to support the connectional ministries of The United Methodist Church in Alaska and our awareness of the unique challenges of being in ministry in the largest, geographically speaking, conference in the United State.

Central Washington Justice for Our Neighbors

Advance #339

Justice for Our Neighbors advocates for immigration laws that are just, humane and righteous.



- We are compassionate and trustworthy. We create a welcoming atmosphere for JFON clients.
- We value high-quality immigration legal services provided by affiliated attorneys.
- We provide opportunities for meaningful interaction between staff, volunteers and their immigrant neighbors.
- We welcome all clients and volunteers, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, ideology, gender, or sexual orientation.
- We care about improving our nation's immigration policies and our communities' relationships with immigrants.
- We value our network model to serve more immigrants in need through learning from each other, leveraging our strengths and becoming more productive through shared information and resources.

11 Other Ways You Can Get Involved

1. Identify projects and/or missionaries to support.
2. Donate time, say a prayer, or create a non-financial way to support the missionary or project to supplement your financial gift.
3. Include banners and other promotion on your website and newsletters.
4. Insert a flier into your church bulletin and integrate stories of Advance projects and missionaries into meetings or sermons leading up to #GivingTuesday.
5. Take time for a mission moment during worship.
6. Give children boxes to collect money and get them excited about the project/missionary they support.
7. Raise awareness about UMC #GivingTuesday through your annual conference social media networks.
8. Take a "selfless selfie" holding a sign with a UMC #GivingTuesday graphic that says, "On UMC #GivingTuesday, I'm giving light, giving love, and giving life. Please join me by supporting [insert project/missionary name] at umcmmission.org/give" Post these selfless selfies on social media.
9. Post a graphic from the resource page and encourage people to upload a selfless selfie using one of the graphics.
10. Ask friends and family to make an early Christmas gift in your honor to your favorite Advance project or missionary project on #GivingTuesday. Or make a gift in honor of those on your Christmas list.
11. Send an e-mail to your community network asking for support for The Advance on #GivingTuesday.

4. Support the Advance



What is The Advance?

The Advance is an accountable, designated giving arm of The United Methodist Church. The Advance invites contributors to designate support for projects related to the General Board of Global Ministries. Individuals, local churches, organizations, districts and conference may donate to The Advance. One hundred percent of every gift to The Advance goes to the project selected by the giver.

Fast Facts About The Advance

- Administrative costs are paid for by the apportionments of United Methodist churches. One great Hour of Sharing covers UMCOR's administrative costs.
- All Advance projects are related to annual conferences, central conferences, partner churches or interfaith organizations. They are screened by the General Board of Global Ministries and authorized by The Advance Committee.
- The Advance tracks each gift and ensures that gifts reach their intended recipients.
- You may track gifts online at www.umcmmission.org/gift-tracking.
- Support appeals for emergency relief responding to disasters through The Advance. These are designated "UMCOR Advance," followed by the project number.

Contact The Advance (advance@umcmmission.org) office for information and promotional ideas or to share experiences.

Ways to Give Through The Advance

- **Through the Offering Plate:** Writing a check or giving cash designated for an Advance project remains a popular way to contribute. Make checks payable to your local church, but put the name and number The Advance project in the memo line. Local church treasurers forward Advance money to the annual conference, which passes it on to the General Council on Finance and Administration, the denominational finance office. This process guarantees that congregations receive credit for the gifts.
- **Giving online:** Using your credit card, make gifts online through the website – <https://advance.umcmmission.org/>. You can note your local church for credit purposes.
- **By Phone:** Call 888-252-6174.
- **By Mail:** Make checks payable to Advance GCFA. Write the name of the ministry and The Advance project number on the check. Send to Global Ministries/ UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068.
- **Planned Gifts:** Planned and estate gifts can be coordinated with the planned giving officer. Call 888-252-6174.

How can I participate in The Advance?

Visit the General Board of Global Ministries website – <https://advance.umcmmission.org/> – to browse projects and donate online.

How can I obtain The Advance promotional resources?

United Methodist clergy and lay persons can download free resources and videos on the Resource UMC website – <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/umcgiving>.

About UMC #GivingTuesday - #IGiveUMC

As a passionate disciple of Jesus Christ, your participation is vital to living out God's mission through The United Methodist Church. Every day you are giving light, giving love, and giving to a world in need through your prayers, presence, gifts, and service.

You are invited to come together with thousands of United Methodists to support the work of Advance projects and missionaries on UMC #GivingTuesday. The United Methodist effort is known alternatively as #GiveUMC

The Advance remains committed to sustaining a strong foundation that allows projects and missionaries to build relationships and empower their ministries. In the past, we were fortunate to offer matching funds to motivate giving. This year, while matching funds will not be available, we remain confident that generous supporters will continue their commitment to vital ministry.

We have witnessed your ability to utilize The Advance to change your communities positively. To keep this momentum going, The Advance continues to allocate 100% of all giving to the designated project and missionary.

We would love to hear about creative ways that you are raising awareness and funds for mission — especially what you are planning for UMC #GivingTuesday. Thank you for your passion as we live out God's mission together. Should you have any questions about UMC #GivingTuesday, please contact donationhelp@umcmmission.org.

Editor's note: Giving Tuesday is scheduled for December 2 in 2024.



About the Amazing Connectional Work of UMCOR

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is a prominent worldwide emergency relief organization. A nonprofit agency of The United Methodist Church, UMCOR reaches worldwide to provide relief in five core areas: Hunger, Health, Refugees, Emergencies, and Relief Supplies. Since 1940 UMCOR has served people in almost 100 countries around the world. *The organization is designed such that 100% of all donations are channeled directly to the earmarked project or relief effort.*

Therefore, UMCOR does very little advertising and is not as well known as other relief organizations like the Red Cross or Catholic Charities.

When UMCOR was first formed, the mission was, "to provide relief in disaster areas, aiding refugees and confronting the challenge of world hunger and poverty." Today the agency's mission has changed very little. According to the United Methodist Book of Discipline, UMCOR's current responsibility is

"To provide immediate relief of acute human need and to respond to the suffering of persons in the world caused by natural, ecological, political turmoil, and civil disaster."

In an effort to streamline relief efforts around the world UMCOR has developed five core areas of relief: Hunger, Health, Refugees, Emergencies, and Relief Supplies. Each area of relief consists of many projects in different distressed areas of the world.

100% with



UMCOR

United Methodist Committee on Relief

100% of each gift reaches the mission or ministry of your choice.



5. Volunteers in Mission

UMVIM is connection: *It's about people, not projects!*



Volunteers in Mission: *Christian Love in Action*

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission is a part of the Mission Volunteers program area of the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church.

The understanding that 'we are called' and 'we are sent' is the foundation of our faith.....We are called, wherever we are in the world, to love all of God's creation and to demonstrate that love with action. Through Volunteers in Mission every person in the church has the opportunity

to serve. Using what God has given us in service of others, we have 'life-transforming' experiences.

What UMVIM offers is the CONNECTION. It is the connection with other UMVIM teams and individuals who have answered the call to mission. It is the connection with people and places through out the world, who have asked for help. UMVIM also offers a structure and training for teams to go to beyond their neighborhood and serve God.

Interim Conference VIM Coordinator

Rev. Joanne Coleman Campbell - jecolecamp@gmail.com

What does the Volunteer in Mission Program do?

The UMVIM Program in the PNW Conference serves as a networking center coordinating those who are interested in serving the Lord by being a part of a Volunteer in Mission or Disaster Response Team. The VIM program:

- Trains volunteers for mission teams; trains local churches as Sending or Hosting Teams, trains leadership
- Connects members of the church with people of the world to develop relationships for service in God
- Coordinates UMVIM teams serving outside, coming into, and working within the Conference,
- Provides resources on missions efforts within the conference and to mission teams going out

Where can I go and what can I do?

UMVIM offers mission experiences within the Conference, throughout the United States, and around the world. Projects are listed on the UMVIM Western Jurisdiction website at: www.umvimwj.com. UMVIM Projects include:

- Construction
- Medical and dental service
- Disaster Teams: Early Response and Long Term Recovery
- Teaching and tutoring
- Outreach ministries to people who are homeless, poor, disadvantaged or orphans
- Assisting with programs for children and youth
- Providing support to new churches or ministries

Who can participate?

People of all ages are welcome as Volunteers in Mission with all types of skills. Volunteers can serve for a day, a week, a month or even years.

How can I be a part of the UMVIM experience?

- Tell us where you are going. Contact the coordinator whenever you take a team as we want to know who's going where and doing what.
- Become a VIM Team Leader or receive training to be a serving, sending, or a hosting Team Leader.
- Get Team Insurance. It provides the coverage you need to be safe and secure on any trip.
- Send us your photos & stories. Let the church celebrate with you and encourage others to volunteer.
- Contribute to the Conference Advance for Disaster Response Teams and equipment

VIM Focus for 2024 & beyond:

Rebuilding of homes and lives after recent natural disasters (wildfires/flooding) in the PNW continues to be a focus for the VIM Teams, as will rebuilding following natural disasters across the country. Teams with various types of skills are needed. Contact the UMVIM Coordinator for more information.

6. Attending Mission u

Each year, United Women in Faith members and other United Methodist clergy and laypersons prepare for faithful living and action by engaging in transformative educational experiences at Mission u events. These events are centered around Mission u curricula that are designed to motivate, inform, and enrich our commitment to global ministry.

Mission u is an annual mission education opportunity for the Pacific Northwest Conference. In 2024, Mission u will be hosted at Wesley United Methodist Church in Yakima, WA, for three days of learning and fellowship. Wesley UMC is the location of choice because of its size, its hospitality, and that its central location for participants arriving from northern Idaho and all of Washington State.

Save the dates of July 25-27, 2024 and keep an eye on our website for more information - <https://www.pnwumc.org/uwfaith/>.

Planners expect to reserve a block of rooms; children and youth are welcome to join, and an age-appropriate curriculum will be provided.

Plan to attend this Spirit-filled gathering. Leaders are working to identify opportunities for home hospitality where some may stay in the home of members of the congregation while participating at Mission u.

For Mission u, United Women in Faith develops three justice-focused Biblical curricula for adults, youth, and children, all on a common theme. In 2024, our theme is *The Kin-dom Is Among You: Drawing Closer to God and One Another*.

The curriculum for this year's study is entitled: "Welcome Home," by Neomi Fletcher, with Contributors Parker Roberts and Sandra Williamson. The book is available for purchase

through the United Women in Faith website - uwfaith.org/events/mission-u/. This link opens to the order page for the Adult curriculum book, as well as those for Youth and Children.

The United Women in Faith reading list has been compiled for 2024. So many of our members are dedicated readers. Here is a link to the Reading Program Catalog for 2024 - <https://uwfaithresources.org/prodDetail.cfm?productID=10846>.

Remember, you can go back five years to compile your report of books read for the year. Some used United Women in Faith books will be available for purchase at Mission u.

Plan to come to Mission u this year. Bring your children or grandchildren along for a great weekend.

Questions? Email Sophia Agtarap, Mission u Dean, at sophieagtarap@gmail.com or Jan Catrell Mission u Asst. Dean at jcatrell@yahoo.com.



— JULY 25-27, 2024 —

THE KIN-DOM IS AMONG YOU

DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER

Come! Let's explore together the heart of Jesus' good news and what fresh vision it offers us as we seek to be in mission today. Children, youth, and adults are welcome!

Yakima Wesley UMC

14 N 48th Ave.
Yakima, WA 98908

Learn more: pnwumc.org/uwfaith



United Women in Faith





Other Ministries & Resources

The following pages contain additional ministries and resources – training and networking opportunities, events, resourcing and scholarships – offered to support local churches as they work to call and equip disciples of all ages.



Lay Servant Ministries

Growing in your faith through learning and service

Laity have always served in significant leadership roles in the Methodist Church. John Wesley relied on laity to lead classes and preach the Word in England. In the American colonies, most Methodist leaders were laity. Today, we recognize the essential role of laity in leading The United Methodist Church into the future.

Lay Servant Ministries is one of the significant lay leadership development programs available within the United Methodist connection. Through this system of equipping and empowering, lay servants can grow as disciples of Jesus Christ who then go and make other disciples. Lay Servant ministries can be a significant component of any discipleship system, providing training in Hospitality, Offering Christ, Purpose, and Engagement.

Training opportunities for laity

All laity are invited and encouraged to participate in Lay Servant Ministry courses. We recommend the "Basic Course in Lay Servant Ministry" as a great place to start. This course is also required as a first step for anyone seeking certification as a lay servant, lay speaker, or lay minister. The Basic Course is offered at various times during the year: watch for announcements about upcoming classes on our PNW website (www.pnwumc.org) or in the PNW News Digest.

Certifications for laity through Lay Servant Ministries

Laity interested in formalized training and certification for their ministry roles may consider certification through Lay Servant Ministries. There are four different certifications available. A person may seek to become a Certified Lay Servant, a Certified Lay Speaker, a Certified Lay Minister, or a Hispanic Lay Missioner.

For more information on our certified lay ministry programs, please visit our website at pnwumc.org/ministries/lsm.

Conference Special Emphasis



(Also known as Hope for the Children of Africa)

www.pnwumc.org/hfca

A Brief History

The United Methodist bishops of Africa initiated the Hope for the Children of Africa program in 1998. The Pacific Northwest Conference was partnered with the South Congo Episcopal Area of The United Methodist Church. The United Methodists of The Pacific Northwest Conference established two orphanages in 2012 as part of the partnership.

The two Jamaa Letu (Our Family in Swahili) orphanages house children in a safe and Christian environment from infancy to completion of secondary school, one for up to 60 girls and one for boys. New buildings for the boys were completed in 2012. Since the completion of construction, the PNW Conference has continued to support the operating costs of the orphanages. This support comes solely from donations, which are received in the following ways:

Child and Youth Sponsorships

Individuals, local churches, and church groups are invited to sponsor a child (or more than one). All sizes of sponsorships are welcome. However, the suggested amount is \$493 annually (many round up to \$500). Sponsorships help cover food, medicine, school fees, clothing, and Orphanage operations costs. Multiple sponsorships for each child are needed to support their costs fully.

Most of the financial support for the two orphanages comes from churches and individuals in The PNW Conference. Local support in Lubumbashi is growing each year.

University Scholarships

When the residents complete their secondary education, funding is provided for their university or vocational training at about \$4000/ year, including all costs. Multiple sponsorships of the suggested \$500 are needed for each young adult. A system is in place to administer the scholarships in the US

and the Congo. In 2017, Microsoft included the Jamaa Letu Educational Fund in its list of approved organizations for matching funds. Donations by Microsoft Employees to this fund are matched dollar for dollar.

Jars for Jamaa Letu

Each Spring, local churches are encouraged to receive a 'Jars' offering before the Annual Conference. Individuals are invited to fill a 'Jar' and bring it to their church in time for the funds to be collected at the annual conference session. Attractive labels for the 'Jars' are available from our website, pnwumc.org/hfca.

Christmas and other celebrations

If you are searching for a gift for someone who has everything, why not donate to Hope for the Children of Africa in their name? An attractive gift card is available on our website. Donate in honor of the recipient, then print a card to give to them. Gift cards are available for special occasions, such as birthdays, anniversaries, or Mother's Day, and can be personalized before printing. The gift cards and posters for Christmas and special occasions are on the website.

How to Give

Information about sponsoring a child/teen or for scholarships for a college student is available on the website pnwumc.org/hfca.

Donations may be sent through your local church marked as 'Jamaa Letu Orphanages' or 'Hope for the Children of Africa.' Please designate whether the funds are for sponsorship of children, college scholarships, general support of the orphanages, public support for the task force's work, or another special designation.

Donations may also be sent directly to the conference office. Identify donations as being for HFCA and the particular designation.

For information about the orphanages and the ministry of Jamaa Letu Orphanages (JLO) and Hope for the Children of Africa (HFCA), visit the website atpnwumc.org/hfca and Facebook at Hope for the Children of Africa. The email address is jamaaletu@gmail.com.





United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith

Our Vision

Turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world.







Our Mission

United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities.

Our Local Purpose

To be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

We believe love in action can change the world.

-  We have opportunities for membership within our local churches and individual membership "all access" to help women connect with other women around areas of justice, soul care, and spiritual growth.
-  Through our partnership with Faith Action Network, Legislative Advocacy events, our ongoing work addressing our Charter for Racial Justice, and our focus on justice issues such as breaking the school-to-prison pipeline, maternal health, food insecurity, climate care, and more, we continue to be challenged to ask the "hard questions" and take action individually, locally and globally.
-  We support our ministry with women and children through pledged "Mission Giving" throughout the year. Additionally, we promote "Legacy Giving" as an endowment that will assure that leadership development within this organization, which has been vital to the entire church for over 154 years, will continue to make a difference in the future.
-  Leadership Development and Education for the Transformation of our world at the local, district, conference, and national level is ongoing through an ever-increasing array of opportunities such as Annual Gatherings, Spiritual Growth Retreats, participation in the Reading Program, Faith Talk Webinars, Response Magazine, Daily Prayer Guide, Mighty Networks, Assembly and Jurisdiction Gatherings every four years.
-  Our role in supporting our annual "Mission u" cooperatively with our Conference Board of Global Ministries provides a transformative educational opportunity for all adults, children, and youth.
-  We have members actively participating on the boards of our National Mission Institutions within our conference...Atlantic Street Center and Tacoma Community House. In this way, we are kept up to date on the services and needs of these organizations "close to home."

We encourage you to explore United Women in Faith and the many opportunities for making a difference through the following sites:

uwfaith.org • pnwumc.org/uwfaith

Peace with Justice Grants

Grant and Award Applications are being accepted for 2024 thru March 22

Peace with Justice Sunday

Peace with Justice Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate and recognize the efforts made by United Methodists to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, and love their neighbor. What we say matters, and sharing the gospel with our voices helps us share the witness of our faith. Yet words alone cannot build a peaceable kingdom. Christ said, 'Feed the hungry,' not 'Talk to the hungry about food!'

Peace with Justice is about doing the things we talk about. To live our faith through acts of mercy, kindness, and mission globally and here at home, we ask United Methodists around the world to help. Your financial contribution helps us meet the need for justice. Your gift helps us purchase the tools and equip people for ministry. Your help means we can train up leaders to uplift our world.

Peace with Justice Sunday is May 26, 2024. Learn more about the impact you can have by lending your support and making a gift to this important effort [on the UMC.org website](https://www.UMC.org).



Peace with Justice Sunday Grant

These awards are granted through funds given through Peace with Justice Sunday, usually held the Sunday after Pentecost each year throughout our denomination. The award is coordinated by our Conference Board of Church and Society, which works with the Peace with Justice program to advance the work of Church & Society in our area and in the world.

Both Methodist-related organizations/projects as well as organizations and projects that have some connection to or consistent with UMC commitments to social justice, inclusion, and liberation are welcome to apply.

The standard award is for \$1,000, but there may be occasional opportunities for more to be provided.

All applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. PT on March 22, 2024, for consideration. For additional information, contact dwright@pugetsound.edu.

[Click here to apply!](#)

Or visit this link: <https://forms.gle/CHsWM1MtVc6zrrgt7>

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award

The MLK Award is a chance to honor an individual – who is a member of or regular participant in a UM Congregation in the PNW Annual Conference, or a clergy member of the PNW Conference – whose work embodies the legacy and commitment of Dr. King to the long arc of social justice.

Funding for this award is from donations on Peace with Justice Sunday, traditionally held on the Sunday after Pentecost across the United Methodist Church, and coordinated through the PNW Conference Board of Church and Society. The recipient will be able to designate a non-profit that will receive a modest grant in the recipient's honor.

All applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. PT on March 22, 2024, for consideration. For additional information, contact dwright@pugetsound.edu.

[Click here to apply!](#)

Or visit this link: <https://forms.gle/5NbuNjZ4HxUojxRYA>

PNW Conference Student Scholarships

A Pacific Northwest Conference scholarship offered to students who are members of a United Methodist ministry setting (church or campus ministry) in the Pacific Northwest or Alaska Conference. We will be offering a limited number of scholarships upto \$1,500. Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F5GR2S5> to apply by March 31, 2024.

Scholarship Requirements

- Applicants must be active, full members of a United Methodist Ministry Setting in the Pacific Northwest or Alaska Conference for at least ONE year. Membership is determined by the date the applicant was confirmed and took membership vows with a United Methodist setting (Members of other Methodist denominations are not eligible). Membership will be verified.
- Applicants must be pursuing a degree through an accredited program, college or university (which can be outside the state).
- High school students may apply IF they will be college students in the fall term.
- Applicants must submit a new application each year they would like to be considered for a scholarship.
- Scholarship may be granted a maximum of 4 times to the same applicant.
- Please include two recent letters of reference. The first one must be from someone of a pastoral role. The second one should be from a teacher, work supervisor, club sponsor or other. Reference letters should address why the applicant would make good use of the scholarship and what characteristics make the applicant a good choice for this scholarship. References must not be related to the applicant and reference letters must be from the current academic year.

Scholarship Timeline for the 2024-2025 Academic Year

- Application Opens: January 1
- Application Deadline: March 31
- Grant Recipients Notified: May 15
- Grant Checks Issued: August 1
- Grant Checks are typically mailed directly to the school listed on the acceptance form.

Please gather all the information you need before starting the application including your reference letters. You cannot save and return to the application later.



Other Scholarship Opportunities

Scholarships from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) works to advocate for the United Methodist Church in providing financial support for students. They have an annual scholarship application, released in early January, open for all undergraduate and graduate students to apply for.



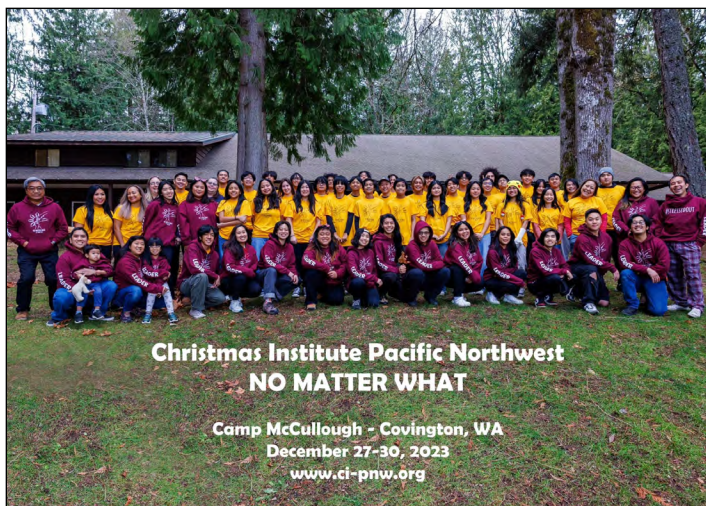
Scholarships from the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation

The United Methodist Higher Education Foundation (UMHEF) was founded in 1965 with a vision to support education in relation to the church. Today, they offer a variety of financial support for undergraduate, graduate and seminary, and international students. They also have a scholarship search, where one can put in their level of education, and other information, to determine which scholarships to apply for. A popular program they offer is the UM Dollars for Scholars Program. If your church contributes \$1000, UMHEF, your UM school, and participating conferences can match that for a potential total of \$4000.



Commission on Ethnic Ministries

The Commission on Ethnic Ministries (COEM) supports ethnic clergy, youth, and young adults in the Pacific Northwest Conference with financial support and resources. The COEM's long-term goal is to create a space that will serve as a resource depository to help our diverse ethnic clergy navigate the plethora of information provided to assist ministers thrive in the conference. COEM is committed to providing mutual care and compassion to our ethnic clergy by offering opportunities for fellowship, storytelling, education, and financial assistance. We welcome ideas from ethnic ministers about future programming that COEM can provide.



Christmas Institute

The Christmas Institute is a thriving conference ministry comprised of Filipino-American and Filipino-Canadian youth and young adult campers. The institute returned to in-person gatherings, and they had a meaningful fellowship. The cost of the in-person gathering doubled after the pandemic, and COEM was able to provide a generous grant for the institute in 2022.

Facing the Future

PNW COEM generously supported all Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural (CRCC) ministers in the Greater Northwest by paying the registration fees for our clergy to attend the General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR) Facing the Future virtual conference in 2022. This year, COEM supported ethnic clergy by offering full scholarships to attend the in-person event in Atlanta, GA. Facing the Future is designed to resource ministers for CRCC appointments.

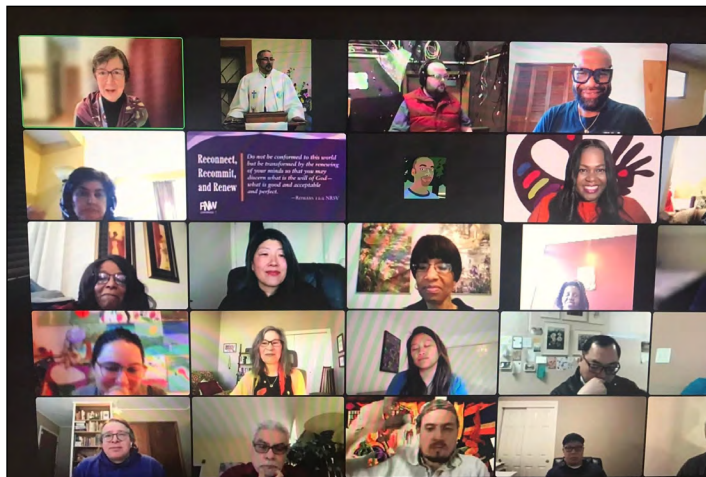
Ethnic Youth Support

The Commission on Ethnic Ministries approved grants to support Spanaway UMC ethnic youth to attend Students Learning About Mission (S.L.A.M.) of the Pacific Northwest.



This past summer, Shelia Miranda led a PNWUMC pilot youth program. She sent GNW youth and their leaders to the Yakama Reservation for a one-week S.L.A.M. mission trip in July.

S.L.A.M. Trips stands for "Students Learning About Mission." The summer mission trips are hosted and led by members of the faith-based native non-profit organization Mending Wings.



Ethnic Ministers Retreat

The Ethnic Ministers retreat is an annual event intended to create a respite, resourcing, and reconnecting space. We held a virtual retreat in 2022, and the PNW extended the invitation to the Greater Northwest Area. The retreat was spiritual and informative, and the ethnic ministers reconnected and made new connections during the one-day event.

The attendance was robust. The COEM provided significant funding for the event and was able to provide swag gift bags to all the active Ethnic Ministers in the Greater Northwest as an expression of care and compassion. The Spring 2024 Retreat is scheduled for April 1-3, 2024, and will be in-person at the Alton L. Collins Retreat Center in Eagle Creek, Oregon.

If you have questions or would like to connect with the work of COEM, contact chairperson Rev. Dr. Troy Lynn Carr – coem@pnwumc.org.

Hispanic/Latinx Ministry

The Pacific Northwest Conference Hispanic/Latinx Ministry and the Conference Hispanic/Latinx (H/L) Committee together coordinate, in consultation with appropriate agencies and leaders, the work of H/L Ministry. We provide acompañamiento to the Greater Northwest Area (GNW), Missional Districts and Local Churches as they create missional strategies for the development of contextualized Latinx communities of faith.

The areas we emphasize are:

- **Advocacy:** Training Justice as a Spiritual Practices, Advocacy Action Support and communications producing and sharing stories as we continue training and equipping our leaders. Immigration is a vital area of our work. We work in partnership with Central Washington Justice for our Neighbors providing legal representation to our Immigrants families.
- **Leadership Development:** Leadership training through Local Church Lay Leadership, Leadership Retreats, Certified Lay Missioners & CLM and Spanish Immersion programs. Accompaniment of Candidates for Ministry.
- **Churches & New Starts:** Congregational Emotional Intelligence & Cultural Competency, Financial Support for Ministries and Camping Ministries.

These areas are crucial to follow Bishop Cedrick Bridgeford Vision M.I.L.E. for our Episcopal area.

At the heart of The United Methodist Church beats a vibrant diversity that enriches and strengthens its mission and ministry worldwide. H/L ministries have long been a vital yet often underestimated part of this rich tradition. However, in the GNW Area, a new era has dawned for this community, thanks to the brave and visionary leadership of Bishop Cedrick Bridgeford.

One of the cornerstones of this new dawn is the creation of a space where the voice of H/L is not only heard but

The Vision

A church called to be united and diverse in God's love that changes lives and transforms communities.

Acts 2:8

Values

Respect

We recognize the inherent value and dignity of all God's creation and all people.

Love

Inspired by the compassion and grace of our God, we seek to joyfully embrace and serve with all people.

Community

We commit to live with our neighbors united in loyalty, family, solidarity, and inclusivity.

Justice

We strive to live into the equality of God's provision in a world where every need shall be met.

Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



valued. The announcement that a representative of H/L Ministries will sit on the conference cabinet is a historic milestone. This decision is not only recognition of the rich contribution of H/L to the church's life but also a bold step toward building a more inclusive and equitable future.

Another promising signal of this new commitment is the call to develop a regional Strategic Plan for H/L Ministries in the GNW. This proactive approach demonstrates a deep understanding that growth and sustainability are not accidental but result from deliberate and collaborative planning.

The National Plan for Hispanic Latino Ministries and the PNW Office of Connectional Ministries provide funds that are helping us in the development of these areas but the funds we received from the National Plan and the OCM only help us with programmatic areas.

Now that we are putting a strong emphasis in "Eliminating Racism," it is important that we can have resources for planting new H/L churches and new ministries in new places. This challenge of planting new churches will request a much stronger budget that will help us with our Vision and Plans. We invite you as a leader of the PNW AC to begin a deep conversation about how to strategically allocate more financial resources to facilitate the development of H/L Ministry in the PNW.

As we move towards a more inclusive and diverse future in the UMC, let us remember the inspiring words of Martin Luther King Jr.: "Darkness cannot drive out Darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." Bishop Cedrick Bridgeford is igniting that light and nurturing that love through his visionary leadership, guiding Hispanic-Latinx ministries toward a place of recognition, inclusion, and

empowerment in the UMC in the GNW.

For more information, contact Rev. Cruz Edwin Santos, Director of H/L Ministry to cesantos@pnwumc.org, Aurora Pavon Conference H/L Committee Chairperson L.a.c.p.3122@gmail.com and Pastor Joel Rodriguez joelroma17@gmail.com.



Communications Ministry

The Office of Connectional Ministries Communications Team supports and guides the communications efforts of the Pacific Northwest Conference and the Greater Northwest Area (GNW Area) of The United Methodist Church. We regularly publish stories on our news blog featuring original content and timely news items across the United Methodist connection.

Additionally, our communications team designs and supports the web ministry of the groups mentioned above, including their official websites and social media. We produce a bi-weekly News Digest, alternating with a GNW Area Newsletter to help share information and support the different projects of our annual conference ministry areas. Submissions for this newsletter are due on Wednesday by noon to communications@pnwumc.org and are subject to approval.



To sign up for our PNW Conference newsletter, visit <https://gnw-email.brtaapp.com/subscribe> and select "PNW News Digest."

Our annual conference is also home to the Regional Media Center (RMC), which serves the United Methodist churches in the Oregon-Idaho and Pacific Northwest Conferences. In addition to its library of video resources available for loan to member churches, the center can consult with its members on media licensing for worship and live streaming.

Our work in supporting the communications needs of our annual conference also extends to supporting the local church's work. Through training and consultation, we assist local churches looking to expand or perfect their capacity to reach new people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are partners with United Methodist Communications – <https://umcom.org> – in supporting the local church.

Communication Policy

The Pacific Northwest Conference Office of Connectional Ministries works collaboratively and creatively to serve the missional needs of United Methodist ministries in Washington State and Northern Idaho. We welcome the submission of news and requests (job openings, ministry materials) that benefit the local church and serve the mission of our larger connection. Space limitations and other considerations may prevent your material from being printed or posted.

Any fundraising events or requests should be for official United Methodist projects, most typically denoted with a conference or general church Advance Number. Publication of causes, events, or job postings by partnered agencies, outside groups, and unofficial organizations within shall be at the discretion of the Director of Communications as guided by denominational policy and practice.

While we occasionally share information about ministry materials (books, curricula, etc.) and training opportunities that may benefit leaders in our local churches, we reserve the right to use our sole discretion in making such decisions.

- To submit a story or press release, use the following form – <https://gnw-reg.brtaapp.com/PNWStory>
- To submit other items for the News Digest, Greater NW News Blog, or PNW Website, contact Patrick Scriven, pscriven@pnwumc.org
- To submit items for distribution in your District, contact your District Service Center staff.

We reserve the right to edit all submissions. If submitting photos or artwork, please ensure that it is high-resolution and that you have attained any copyright and permissions that may apply.

For more information about conference communications, contact PNW Director of Communications Patrick Scriven at pscriven@pnwumc.org or (206) 870-6808.



SUMMER 2024
COLLABORATIVE
YOUTH
SERVICE TRIP

THE
GREATER NORTHWEST
AREA
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A cross-cultural service and learning trip led by Native-Americans on the Yakama Reservation

2024 DATES ANNOUNCED
SIGNUP TODAY

Youth S.L.A.M. Trip dates for Summer 2024

The “E” of Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth’s M.I.L.E. reminds our churches of our Greater Northwest (GNW) Area goal of eliminating racism. One step on this journey toward justice is to learn about the history of native people in our GNW Area, including the Methodist involvement in boarding schools.

Youth groups have the unique opportunity to visit the Yakama reservation this summer to learn about Native American culture, serve elders through work projects, and build friendships. Mending Wings, a native faith-based non-profit organization, invites youth grades 7-12 and their youth leaders and chaperones to Wapato, Washington, for a week-long S.L.A.M. Trip. To learn more about S.L.A.M. Trips visit slamtrips.com.

S.L.A.M. stands for Students Learning About Mission. Last summer, 61 youth and adults from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska came together on the Yakama reservation for an amazing week of learning and service. This summer, we aim to have 150 youth and adult leaders/ chaperones participate in three separate GNW Youth S.L.A.M. Trips weeks.

Your youth group may choose from the following dates which have been set aside for Greater Northwest United Methodist Churches:

- July 7-12, 2024
- July 21-26, 2024
- August 4-9, 2024

Each week will accommodate 50 individuals. The cost is \$450 plus the cost of your travel to Wapato, Washington, on the Yakama Reservation. Going with the GNW Area offers the opportunity to do collaborative pre-trip work in conjunction with the Circle of Indigenous Ministries, and the opportunity for adult leaders to train together. We hope we can help ease the burden of the registration process of churches and youth workers and assist your group with accessing scholarship funds through groups like UMVIM, assistance for BIPOC participants, and other funding sources.

To indicate your interest and begin the process for joining a Summer 2024 trip, fill out this interest form – <https://forms.gle/oFXA1dfvVdh4237S7> – or reach out to Sheila Miranda at smiranda@pnwumc.org or (206) 870-6815.

EQUITY

COHORTS

Beginning in late 2023, three cohorts have been gathering to intentionally address equity in our institutional life. Their work is part of a major initiative to address the “E” – eliminating racism – in our call **to go the M.I.L.E.**

Equity is a precursor to justice. Wesleyan theology invites us to a transformative relationship with Jesus Christ that bears fruit as just action in the world. That said, the church has been both active and complicit in centering white-dominant culture as the standard for much of our institutional and congregational life. The work we enter now is about uprooting those standards, evaluating them through different lenses, and determining an inclusive path forward.

This area-wide initiative includes three cohorts involving approximately 130 people over a nine-month period. An Institutional Cohort includes lay and clergy leaders representing some of the most influential boards and agencies of our annual conferences. Their task is to explore how our institutional policies and practices advantage some and disadvantage others. This cohort will address the biases that are built into our system and every system that has not undertaken this intentional work.

A congregational cohort including lay and clergy teams from 19 congregations from the PNW and OR-ID Conferences who applied to participate with the obligation to learn during the cohort process; take

their learnings back into the local churches; and influence and support congregations in their districts to do this work in the future. Alaska used an intensive model separately to minimize cost and travel.

In addition to the institutional and congregational cohorts, 14 lay and clergy leaders from across the GNW Area have entered the Colleagues in Training process. These individuals will participate in the institutional cohort and observe the congregational cohort as training to facilitate this process in our congregations, and with our boards and agencies in the future.

We do this work with the leadership, coaching and support of Beth Zemsky & Associates. Zemsky has consulted with major foundations, non-profit organizations, and faith communities to move institutions from diversity and inclusion aspirations to action. With 35 years of experience in this field, Zemsky has developed tools and processes that have tangible results.

As Zemsky identified in our first gathering, we use the terms diversity, equity, and inclusion as if we have shared understanding of their meanings. Often, we do not. She defined diversity as “counting the people.” In our UM context, we often legislate the demographic composition of committees for this purpose.

“Diversity is necessary, but not enough,” Zemsky said.

If diversity is about counting the people, then inclusion according to Zemsky, is about “the people counting.” Do we listen deeply to one another? Do we invite the authentic voices of those whose life experiences are different from the majority to influence decisions? Do we include?

If diversity is about counting the people and inclusion is about the people counting, then equity, according to Zemsky, is about “outcomes.” Do diversity and inclusion make a difference in our actions? Can we analyze our policies and practices to determine who is advantaged and disadvantaged, and reconstruct our systems for equity? Can we sit with the discomfort of uncovering biases to create just



systems that reflect our deeply held beliefs that all people are of sacred worth and made in God’s image?

This is long work. It is culture-changing work. This is the good work that we embark on together as we approach the imperative to eliminate racism – voiced by Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth – but surely owned by us all. This is more than training. It is capacity building for the GNW Area of the UMC to increase relationship with all God’s people in a manner that is liberative for all.

To learn more about the Equity Cohorts, contact Kristina Gonzalez, GNW Area Executive Director for Innovation & Vitality, at kgonzalez@greaternw.org.



Information for Church Treasurers

As a local church treasurer, you have many responsibilities. Among them is the careful recording of money and proper disbursement of it. For your own protection, you should never approve a bill for payment but have the person responsible for the budget category approve all charges made to that budget item. The Finance Committee of the local church is the responsible group for overall administration of the financial program of the local church, and when in doubt, consult them.

Monthly Financial Report

You should prepare a printed and duplicated financial report monthly which should include the following as minimum:

- *Receipts by pledge category: month of, year to date, and annual budget.*
- *Expenditures by budget category for: month of, year to date, and annual budget.*
- *Cash on Hand - designated (restricted) and General Funds.*
- *Unpaid Bills - list all unpaid bills older than the current month.*

Keep the report simple but clear - one or two pages should be sufficient.

Apportionment Payments

All Conference apportionments are to be paid in twelve equal monthly installments. It is best if the apportionments are paid in the indicated monthly amounts for your church. Special gifts received should be forwarded to the proper recipient at least monthly so they may reach their intended purpose without delay.

The best way to have the most updated information is to use the Ministry Financials portal (<https://umcdata.net/MissionConnect/Public/RcvWeb/#/login?conf=FalconPnw>) where you can see your latest statements, make payments by ACH, or print a remittance form. If you have a support need to get access, please reach out to Cathy Lang or another person in the Treasurer's office for help.

Designated Special Gifts

Designated special gifts are to be forwarded to the Conference Treasurer's Office. These designated special gifts include General Advance Specials for gifts to UMCOR, GBGM Mission projects, and Conference Advance Specials.

All designated special gifts are to be listed individually with the proper code in the Ministry Financials portal or listed on the bottom of the remittance form if more space is needed.

Remember, for credit to be applied in a given month, remittance forms must be received in the Conference Treasurer's Office by the 25th of each month. If you use an online bill pay service (please consider using Ministry Financials which will save the remittance form step), be sure to send a remittance form to the conference treasurer's office so we will know where to credit your funds.

The Conference Treasurer will post on Ministry Financials weekly statement updates which recaps the previous month's payments for each fund, the accumulative total of each fund and for apportionments, the amount remaining and the percentage paid. This report is to be retained by the local church treasurer. The church treasurer, each month, should compare the online statement report with the church records. Please let the Conference Treasurer know if there are any discrepancies.

Contributions to Non-United Methodist Programs

Contributions for non-United Methodist programs should not be sent to the Conference Treasurer but rather paid directly to the project by the local church.



Be sure to keep an accurate record of gifts to all non-United Methodist programs in order that they can be included in the Pastor's annual financial report under the column - "Miscellaneous Benevolence Paid Directly."

Fire & Liability

Fire & Liability premiums are due in full by September 30th of each year. These payments can be made in flexible amounts and times.

Statements are available on the web portal and ACH payments can be made there at the church's discretion or on a recurring basis.



The Offices of The Pacific Northwest Conference of The United Methodist Church

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The Offices of the PNWUMC provide services and support to over 250 churches
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Faith Foundation Northwest

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Executive Director
Julia Frisbie julia@faith.foundation

Additional Resources

Greater Northwest New Blog – <https://greaternw.org/news>
This website hosts stories of vital mission and ministry from the three conference – Alaska, Oregon-Idaho, Pacific Northwest – that comprise the Greater Northwest Area of The United Methodist Church.

Regional Media Center – <https://regionalmediacenter.org>
A lending library of videos and books for Conference area churches to use with classes and small groups. Contact Ian McKnight for more information about membership and benefits.

ResourceUMC – <https://resourceumc.org>
The online destination for leaders throughout The United Methodist Church. Visit often to find ideas and information to inspire United Methodist leaders throughout the connection.

United Methodist News Service – <https://umnews.org>
UM News is the official newsgathering agency of the 13 million-member United Methodist Church. A unit of United Methodist Communications, it is staffed by professionally trained journalists committed to the work and mission of The UMC.