LEGISLATIVE SECTION 6

COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
Rob Booth, President

101. The NYAC Archives is a treasure trove of materials. Examples of the material within its holdings are papers from Bishop Garfield Bromley Oxnam, including transcripts of his testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee. The church records in its holdings, dating back to the early days of the nation, provide valuable information for both genealogical and historical research. Each year the number of requests for information processed by our archivist has steadily increased. She provides resourcing for local churches, conference and district boards and agencies, people doing genealogical research, and academic inquiries. The conference chancellor has utilized the work of the archivist numerous times in the past. As the amount of litigation involving the conference and conference churches has increased, so has the reliance on the archives. The director of the Frontier Foundation makes heavy use of the archives.

102. Sadly, the exact content in the conference holdings is unknown. As much as 70% of the material within the archives is unprocessed. Unless action is taken soon to process and catalog this material, much of its value for academic research is vulnerable to being lost. When the provenance of an item is lost, the true history of that item is lost with it. The current rate of church closings within the conference makes it impossible for the amount of material received annually to be processed in a timely manner by a part-time archivist. Even with volunteer assistance, the task is larger than current staffing allows. We receive enough inquiries to fill the archivist’s current time. On a part-time basis she has precious little time for processing new material. We believe that there is enough work of a vital nature to warrant a full-time archivist position.

103. The current location for the archives at the Conference Center has proven to be unsuitable. In the last few years there have been numerous incidents of flooding. We have been very fortunate that large amounts of materials have not been destroyed. Ernest Swiggett and the Trustees have invested considerable sums of money in unsuccessful attempts to solve the problem. It does not seem prudent to continue those efforts. The wiser course of action is for the archives to be relocated.

104. Our commission has been investigating possible sites to house the archives. We are looking for vacant space in churches within our conference. We are exploring the feasibility of leasing commercial space. Neither of these options would be ideal, but they would allow us to move the archives out of danger of water damage. An optimal solution to the issue would be if we are able to
find space within an educational institution’s archives. We have begun looking into this possibility.

105. Many may be taken aback by the percent of increase in the annual budget being requested by Archives and History. We realize this is a big change. We believe that the request is reasonable and not out of hand considering the circumstances. Not all of the increase we are asking in our budget is for new expenditures. Much of the expenses now seen in our budget has been present in the past but was hidden within other line items in the budget. The conference has been paying for an archive every year. That expense is contained within the operating expenses for the conference center, and is thus invisible as a commission expense. The most significant increase we are asking for is the move to a full-time archivist. In the last two years, sensitive records have been recovered and protected from being placed in public hands due to the work of the archivist. How much other material is being lost every day?

106. A paraphrasing of George Santayana’s comment upon history, that those who are ignorant of history are doomed to repeat it, is commonly invoked in a variety of circumstances. Without access to primary sources, historians, researchers, and policy analysts are left to view history through the interpretive lens of previous generations. That is one reason that adequate resourcing of the New York Annual Conference Archives is critical.

CONFERENCE ARCHIVIST
Bette Johnson Sohm, Archivist

101. The Book of Discipline mandates that every Annual Conference shall have an Archives and History Commission that shall: collect and preserve the historically significant records of the annual conference and its agencies; encourage and assist the local churches in preserving their records, compiling their histories, and celebrating their heritage; provide for the permanent safekeeping of the historical records of all abandoned or discontinued churches in the bounds of the annual conference and its antecedents; maintain a fire-safe historical and archival depository; to provide for the ownership of real property and to receive gifts and bequests; to nominate buildings, locations, or structures within the conference for designation as historic sites or heritage landmarks; to maintain contact with officially designated historic sites and heritage landmarks in their bounds; to assist the bishop or the appropriate conference committee in planning for the historical hour and other appropriate historical observances at annual conference sessions; to establish retention and disposition schedules for annual conference and local church records; to cooperate with and report to the general and jurisdictional commissions on archives and history; and to
engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or Evangelical United Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage.

102. The C. Wesley Christman Archives is the New York Conference’s response to this mandate. We are the repository for the records of this conference, keeping and cataloging reports, membership records, photos and in current years even videos and DVDs, all of which tell the story of who we are. The Archives continues to resource the local churches, the agencies and committees of this Conference, as well as researchers from beyond our boundaries. Most requests come through email, though some are received in phone calls and through regular surface mail.

103. We maintain a library of books on Methodist history, as well as those that pertain specifically to our conference. We also house some interesting artifacts, including saddlebags that once belonged to Freeborn Garretson. These are currently on display at the Conference Center in White Plains.

104. We are currently open one day a week. We welcome both visitors and volunteers.

UNITED METHODIST CITY SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT 2006
Rev. Dr. Clyde A. Anderson, Executive Director

101. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work…For the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. 2 Corinthians 9:8, 12 (NRSV)

102. In the midst of significant challenges in 2006, the United Methodist City Society gained a renewed vision and passion for three primary tasks that define the agency: empowering local churches, enhancing the lives of children, and transforming the lives of individuals. This banner year has been a journey of opportunities, and I am pleased to share with you this report, highlighting, how God has used the City Society in facilitating mission throughout New York City and its vicinity. You will also see in this report a comprehensive account of the City Society and Subsidiaries Consolidated Balance Sheets.

103. Our Approach to Empowering Local Churches
Although recent financial constraints have inhibited our ability to support local churches in the same measure as we have in the past, we remain committed to working with Churches to create a vibrant mission. We have seen in several of our small congregations located in Manhattan, the Bronx and Brooklyn many challenges that are typical of mainline urban churches.
The problems are common: small and aging congregations; aging buildings in need of repairs; negative balance in their operating budgets; insufficient income for all their maintenance and growth needs; and a fast-changing community around them, with which they have little or no relationship.

104. In 2006, the City Society in consultation with city real estate developers conducted architectural studies for a number of church buildings to which the Society holds title to explore other potential uses for the Church buildings that are consistent with Church mission. The repurpose development model is intended fully contribute to advancing the spiritual and social and ministries of the churches. Each church is intended to gain sustainable economic independence, and be freed from the financial constraints that keep them from focusing on their core mission and ministry opportunities. One recommended way to self-sustained growth is through a mixed use facility, inclusive of affordable housing/commercial space, that will quickly cause the church to be seen as a “community insider” to hundreds of new neighbors.

Some of the cooperative projects that we have been working on with local churches include:

105. **Salem United Methodist Church**
In partnership with Salem, the Society, the construction of a mixed use building of low-income housing, retail and community space across from Salem Church is well underway. This multi-story building is expected to have a major positive impact upon Salem Church and the Harlem community. Since the inception of this project, the City Society has been involved as a partner, and we are extremely pleased that this vision is becoming a reality. This project is expected over-time to provide long term financial support for the church to grow its congregation; and provide a springboard for new ministries.

106. **Peoples United Methodist Church**
Due to a deteriorating building structure, People’s Church building in Queens, NY, became no longer safe to occupy. This property has been condemned and the congregation is currently sharing facilities with San Pablo United Methodist Church, Long Island City. The City Society holds title to both properties and is working strategically with the Peoples congregation regarding their future.

107. **St. Mark’s United Methodist Church (Harlem)**
In 2006, the City Society launched a partnership with St. Mark’s through its Re-engineering initiative. The Re-engineering model advocates growth of healthy churches through principles intended to produce relevant, strategic and successful churches.

108. **St. Mark’s United Methodist Church (Brooklyn)**
New Consecration Sunday: Local churches are recognizing the need to approach financing the operational ministries of their congregation from a
spiritual perspective rather than from a fund-raising perspective. New Consecration Sunday is based on a biblical/spiritual theology of the need of the giver rather than on the need of the church. Under the leadership of the City Society in 2006, St Mark’s UMC increased their financial giving by 25%. This membership has grown spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church’s mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

109. **Strategic Mission Partnership**  
**Our Faithfulness in Motion with Children**  
**Children’s Program**  
In 1997 the United Methodist City Society launched the Children’s Program. This initiative has improved the quality and scope of church-based after school programming in Methodist churches across New York City. These programs are open and available to all regardless of religious affiliation and provide the families and children in these communities with opportunities to build their commitment to social and academic achievement.

110. Our accomplishments over the last ten years include the following:

- Total average enrollment of over 1,000 children between the ages of 5 and 14 per year at participating local church sites;
- Support of program enrichment such as creation of computer labs, introduction of activities that build reading, language and math skills and recruitment of staff with specialized skills;
- Formal testing to measure student proficiency in math and reading and identify additional program, curriculum, and staff needs;
- Development of a year-round programming model by creating linkages between day camps and after school programs.
- Assistance with fund development by identifying funders for program sites and providing assistance with proposal writing.

111. Every center works to create a seamless transition between all stakeholders in the education of the students. Over 75% of students return to the same program site year after year, allowing staff to form nurturing relationships with each child and family.

In addition, all of the After-School Program sites are closely linked to their community through staff, parents, and outside partnerships, allowing them to respond quickly to the specific needs of children and families.

112. In 2006 the Children’s Program served 1,200 children at seven church sites located in the Bronx, Manhattan and Queens.
113. **Summer Day Camps**
The City Society provides program assistance and financial support to local churches that operate summer day camp and vacation bible school programs. Awards are made on an annual basis through the Summer Task Force application process and range between $500 - $2,000 depending on length of program and number of children served. In 2006, we provided funding for 18 churches serving over 1,000 children.

114. **Our annual Field Day event, which brings all the day camps together, took place on July 20 at Pelham Bay Park in the Bronx.** The event included games, sports activities, clowns and face painters to entertain the children and volunteers. Gentlemen from Anchor House were on hand to assist with activities.

115. **Camp Olmsted**
Camp Olmsted, located in Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York, has been serving children and families from New York City’s impoverished neighborhoods for over 100 years.

The Olmsted program serves boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 13 years and often provides the first opportunity these children have to experience the world outside of New York City. During the two-week program sessions, campers enjoy swimming, hiking, art, reading and ropes challenge course activities. These activities are designed to build their self-esteem and enhance their social skills.

116. In 2006 the program at Olmsted touched the lives of over 350 children. This figure includes 260 children who participated in our regular camping program, 25 children who participated in our new day camp program and 100 children who participated in a special Field Day/Open House event in August.

117. **Head Start**
The Head Start program began as one of the programs in the 1964 War on Poverty. The philosophy of the program is to provide preschool children from lower socio-economic backgrounds with additional assistance that will better prepare them for success when they attend public school. The program offers activities that are designed to assist children between the ages of 3 and 5 years in the development of their social, emotional, academic and motor skills. The Head Start program model also puts an emphasis on parental involvement community partnerships and in-kind donation requirements.

118. The City Society has been involved with the Head Start program since 1966. Currently, the City Society manages two programs, one is located at Christ UM Church in Brooklyn (which serves 98 children) and the other is located at the Joseph Di Marco Child Care Center in Long Island City (which serves 34 children).
The City Society receives funding for this program from the Administration for Children’s Services.

119. **Strategic Partnership**  
**Our Faithfulness in Motion with Other Subsidiaries**

120. **Olmsted Retreat Center**  
The retreat program at Olmsted is designed to provide year-round facilities for local churches to host spiritual retreats and other church-related activities. The facilities are also open to schools, not for profit groups, and groups from other denominations. We have three different types of facilities available for use by groups: the Manor House, our largest facility, which can accommodate a maximum of 30 people; the Kirkwood House, a Victorian-style facility which is perfect for smaller groups and offers a more private retreat experience and the Cabins, which can accommodate a maximum of 23 persons each and offer a more rustic experience. A total of 1,320 persons participated in retreat programs at Olmsted Center in 2006. This is an increase of 115 persons or 9.5% over last year. In 2006 we completed many upgrades to the property including a new roof on Manor House, completion of the renovation of the cabin bathrooms, rebuilding of the deck of the Manor House, and the overhaul of the shower house (done by NOMADS). We continue to look for ways to enhance the appearance and usefulness of the facilities in 2007.

121. **Anchor House**  
A subsidiary of the City Society for years, Anchor House has committed its efforts to providing comprehensive, life-saving assistance to individuals struggling with drug and alcohol addiction, our most vulnerable population. In 2006, eight women and 10 men graduated from the alcohol and substance abuse program. Before leaving the program, these persons are provided rehabilitation both in mind and body and given hope through work skills training which ensure that they will lead productive lives going forward.

122. **Far Rockaway Mission**  
In a new location since our last report, the center kept pace by serving more than 10,000 hot nutritional lunches; the food pantry supplied over 12,000 food packages along with new clothes, household items from various distributors. The families served range from 4-9 members per family whose income is below the poverty level. Hundreds of young people, elderly and young alike come weekly for worship, counseling and referrals in the area of substance abuse and shelter.

123. **Scholarship Program**  
The United Methodist City Society awards scholarships to persons who are looking to do ministry in an urban setting. Recipients are selected through an annual application process by the UMCS Scholarship Committee. In
2006, the committee awarded scholarships to eight candidates ranging in amounts from $500 - $2,000.

124. Strategic Partnerships
Our Faithfulness in Motion with Mission Partners
More than 350 persons gathered in May, 2006, to hear The Rev. Dr. Rodney T. Smothers, Associate Council Director of Congregational Development of the Baltimore-Washington Conference. Dr. Smothers challenged the church community to understand the difference between “Technical” and “Adaptive” change. On the following day, he conducted a workshop at the Inter Church Center on the Church in the Market Place: “Moving Beyond Business as Usual”

125. Strategic Partnership
Celebrating City Society Sunday
In hearing a special message about the City Society mission, the following churches led the way in celebrating City Society Sunday in 2006.

Brooklyn churches: Bethany UMC, South Third Street UMC, Fenimore UMC, John Wesley UMC, John Wesley UMC, and Hanson Place UMC. Bronx churches: Trinity Morrisania UMC, Butler UMC, Crawford Memorial UMC, and Woodycrest UMC. Manhattan churches: Grace UMC, Metropolitan Community UMC, Park Avenue UMC, and Metropolitan Koryo UMC. Queens churches: Brooks Memorial UMC, St. Paul UMC, and Springfield Gardens UMC. Long Island churches: Hempstead UM. Westchester churches: First Mount Vernon UMC. Connecticut churches: Westport/ Weston UMC, Darien UMC and Meriden South Trinity UMC.

126. This special campaign involves staff and board of directors who itinerated to many churches in the New York Annual Conference to tell the mission story in a myriad of ways. Through preaching, and the sharing of a colorful DVD presentation, these celebrations were intentionally designed to reconnect the City Society with our partner churches in meaningful and significant ways. Each congregation received a special offering in support of the City Society’s mission/program portfolio. Approximately 21 churches celebrated City Society Sunday, and the number is expected to rise in 2007.

127. Our Approach to Financial Sustainability
In our continued efforts to support church building expansion, outreach ministries, programs for children, leadership development training, ministries for seniors, and general operating expenses, all of these require major funding support. Our financial portfolio alone does not allow us the opportunity to strengthen our mission partnership with our constituency, and reliance upon the stock market in today’s society does not guarantee our financial sustainability.
Therefore, we have taken the following approach to generate new funds for our mission initiatives:

128. **Renewal of Contract with Fundraising Firm:**
J.C. Geever helps the City Society craft proposals for funding, which are then sent to foundation and corporate funders across the city and the nation. They offer advice and expertise in building relationships with funders, a critical part of fundraising, and also help the City Society to solve problems identified by potential donors. Their work has helped the City Society maintain relationships with long-time givers, and is now focused on cultivating new funders.

129. **Summer and Christmas Appeals**
Our two annual appeal letters are a chance to update all our friends and donors on the City Society’s progress. During the summer, we asked for donations to help with facilities expenses for churches with real, unmet needs across the Annual Conference. The funds raised have repaired aging buildings across the city and in Connecticut, and have allowed our congregations to continue worshipping in dry, safe structures. Our Christmas appeal reflects on the blessings of the year, and this year highlighted the services provided throughout our region by the City Society. The resulting gifts will help us provide food, after school programs, rehabilitation and more this year.

130. **Board Giving**
Directors were challenged to upgrade their giving by making an annual pledge in support of the annual budget. In 2006, directors increased their giving from 60% to 80%, and in this regard, the ultimate goal is to increase board giving to 100% by the end of 2007.

131. **Reflecting on the work of Directors and Staff**
There is a renewed activism robust with great harmony, a sense of purpose and vigor among directors and staff. Our accomplishments are reflections of their commitment and dedication to the City Society’s goals and objectives. I want to extend a personal word of appreciation to President James W. Perkins who has been a spring of hope for the City Society in a myriad of ways. His excellent leadership and deep understanding of the agency has made a significant difference. In addition to the officers, I want to offer a word of appreciation to Chairpersons of our Standing Committees and their members for their distinguished leadership throughout the year. Your labor has not gone unnoticed!

132. **Our staff team takes pride in their work and are not dedicated to a job, but to mission.** It is always gratifying to recognize those who are committed to making a difference. A special thanks to Ms. April Callender, Associate Executive Director and Ms. Trudy Grove, Chief Financial Officer for another productive year. I extend many thanks to Mrs. Leticia Johnson, Ms. Young
Huh and Ms. Nataly Lopez for the dedication/commitment they displayed in their work.

133. **Staff Changes - New Staff Welcome**
In September 2006 the City Society said farewell to Ms. Nadene McPherson-Lee. Nadene had served the City Society’s Director of Children’s Programs for the past six years. She related well to the funders that supported the UMCS Children’s Program initiative and offered quality technical assistance to the churches under our umbrella. Nadene also played a critical role with the program at Olmsted – she was responsible for the development of the day camp program and she managed the registration process for the sleep away camp program. We wish Nadene well as she pursues other career opportunities and thank her for her service to the United Methodist City Society.

134. In December 2006, the City Society welcomed Ms. Aisha Campbell, as the new Director of Children’s Programs. Ms. Campbell previously served as Program Director/Day Camp Director of Five Points Mission Camp Olmsted and brings to the City Society a wealth of experience in the area of children’s programming. We are elated to have her aboard.

Throughout the year, we heard innumerable testimonies from individuals, churches and communities we have assisted, enhanced or promoted throughout the year. We endeavor to make a difference and that’s what our God has called us to do!

135. The staff and directors of the City Society are grateful for the support from our mission partners, (churches/individuals/directors) who gave so generously in 2006. Your collective gifts through our Summer/Christmas Appeals/City Society Sundays totaled $27,978.84. In addition, we are thankful for the continual financial support that comes from those churches that included the City Society in their annual budget 15% of their Local Church World Service Asking. We have been forced to rely on funds from individuals and churches as we continue to recover from historic losses in stock market investments, a major source of mission dollars. Nonetheless, we believe sufficient monies are available among generous givers in our churches that would enable us to return to the fullness of the work God has called us to do. We are grateful to Bishop Jeremiah Park for encouraging every church in the New York Annual Conference to honor this Episcopal mandate. Without you we would not have a reason to exist nor could we continue, therefore the consistency of your support is very crucial and most assuredly needed. You are the lifeline that keeps us going!

For additional information on how to make a gift to the endowment fund, please call: 212-870-3084.
101. The year 2006 will be marked in the history of the Society as a year it turned the corner in building the strength of its operations and its ability to bring its resources to bear on the various ministries in which it is engaged. A material reduction in financial resources in recent years has forced the Society to rethink 1) the ways in which it uses the assets it has, (2) the available sources of support or our programs, and (3) whether the programs it has supported are effectively sing the Society's resources, or whether there should be a refocus in those programs.

102. As I have reported in the past, the down turn in the financial markets at the end of the 20th Century has had a profound adverse impact on the Society's endowment which, in turn, has impaired the Society's programs in two ways. First, it restricted the Society's ability to fund programs in the level it had in the past. Second, our administrative budget relied too heavily on the endowment to fund its operations and the decrease in income from the endowment meant that the Society has run significant budget deficits that it cannot sustain over time, if it wants to continue the mission in which it has engaged over 150 years.

103. With fewer funds in the bank generating fewer dollars for operations, the Society has turned to exploring ways it can use its hard assets, such as real estate, as a means to strengthen the endowment. In 2006, the Society sold its 119-121 104th Street Apartments and signed a contract to sell a Church Building, which had been condemned by public officials. Once sold, these assets will be redeployed to support the Society's mission programs such as underwriting potential new church starts or expanded outreach programs, particularly our work with children. The Society is currently in negotiation with the Salem Church concerning the Church taking title to its Church Building from the Society and assuming the related financial obligations, in exchange for receipt of the Society's interest in Salem House, a mixed use building, including affordable housing, which it partnered with Phipps Houses to develop. The City Society is also in discussions with real estate developers to evaluate how it can maximize value from other real estate assets it owns and, at the same time, be true to mission objectives, such as providing affordable housing and other facilities to improve the communities where we minister.

104. The Society's depleted endowment has also caused it to focus on ways to improve fund raising capabilities and fiscal management. This is the second year we have employed JC Geever to provide professional advice about how better to each foundational and individual sources of giving. Geever, working with Associate Executive Director April Callender and the
Development Committee, has assisted the Society in increasing the number of grant proposals made to foundations and enhanced our network connection to individual contributors, in hopes that, over time, these sources will help the Society turn its current deficits into a positive cash position so that we can underwrite all of the programs we desire to sponsor, instead of just some. This past year, the Audit Committee, with the assistance of Chief Financial Officer Trudy Grove, studied ways in which the Society can be more efficient in its accounting and asset management functions.

105. Also in 2006, the Board and Executive Staff took a hard look at the programs we are underwriting to ensure that the grants and loans the Society provides are being used in a way that will foster growth in Methodist causes in the City and not just for stop gap measures that will bear little to no fruit in the long term. This past year, we re-activated the Executive Committee of the Board to enable directors to study more closely some of the more complex issues we face such as: the redeployment of assets described above; the Society’s partnership with the approximately 15 church buildings it owns and the congregations that inhabit them; and how best to assist the New York Annual Conference in addressing the various issues that arise in Urban Ministry.

106. We are grateful for the leadership of the Executive Director, Rev. Clyde Anderson as he becomes more familiar with the numerous components of the Society’s mission and ministry in order to guide the Society forward in this 21st Century in the most efficient and effective manner. The numerous areas in which the Society functions require him to be businessman, politician and cleric all in one.

107. Even with the challenges the Society has faced in recent years, we cannot lose sight of the fact that we are a people of faith and hope, and these are all the tools we need to overcome them. With the Society’s mission to be in service to others, using the Gospel of Christ as our guide, we cannot fail.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS
Betsy Ingram, Chair

101. As the new chair for this committee, I am appreciative of the work that Rev. David Johnson and his committee have done in the recent past. Our commission is to find disciples to serve in areas of ministry for which they have a passion or at very least an interest.

102. As this is being written, we are in the middle of the process. We have had good discussion on the function and responsibility of each of our conference committees, which in turn helps us find the right people to serve. Most of
our work is dictated by Discipline or conference rules. The district sends
those who have answered a call to represent that particular area. It is then
our imperative and an interesting challenge to be conscious of both passion
for the work to be done and diversity so as to balance the rest of the
committee.

103. Thank you to all who have responded to these particular calls to ministry.
Our conference will be stronger and wiser with your participation.

PARISH DEVELOPMENT — MISSIONAL PRIORITIES (EMLC)
COMMISSION
Rev. John H. Cole, Chairperson

101. INTRODUCTION: Last year, 2006, was a busy year for the commission,
and I wish to thank all the members of the group who faithfully came out to
meetings in order to make the important decisions to support our Conference
Churches through our Loan and Mission grant program. I especially want
to thank our vice chair David Mantz for his support and for taking minutes at
our meetings. Also let me thank those responsible for the new Conference
Web Site—we finally have date-neutral application forms for both loans and
mission grants available for download on the site!

102. OUR GUIDELINES: “The Commission, which meets at least four times a
year, has 10 at-large members elected to two-year terms with a six-year
maximum. It also includes chairs of all the District Parish Development
Committees, all District Superintendents, the Director of Connectional
Ministries, the Conference Treasurer, representatives from the Council on
Finance & Administration, the United Methodist City Society, the Commission
on Equitable Compensation, and Ethnic caucuses. In the committee, a
quorum consists of those who are present and voting. The Commission has
the following functions: (1) Making the final determination annually for ministry
and mission grants. (Including those requests for Missional Priorities – all use
the uniform application form.) (2) Making loans and grants for capital projects
out of the Conference revolving loan fund. (3) Taking on other responsibilities
as defined by the Conference and the committee.”

103. REVOLVING LOAN FUND: In 2006 the Commission authorized 15 loans
totaling $597,500 to churches and granted $116,300 in 18 capital grants.
Usually only given with a loan, our rules were suspended in three cases to
make grants only. Two small emergency grants totaling $4,800 came from
the fund at the request of the Catskill Hudson District. At the request of the
Bishop and the Cabinet, a $100,000 grant was given to the Han SaRang
UMC to clear up past obligations—$50,000 has been used so far. We also
suspended our rules last June to give Walton UMC (major flood damage) a
loan of $80,000—$20,000 over our limit—and a grant of $10,000. Last year’s
“bridge loan” to the Washington Square UMC of $100,000 was paid back in
full early in the year as promised. At the end of 2006, we have unpaid loans with no activity since 2005 amounting to $290,233. The Districts have been asked to contact those churches about making some payment, but we know that a number of these loans will have to be “written off”. Our interest—currently 7.25%—allows us to maintain the fund and provide small capital grants along with the loans. Invested funds under the stewardship of the Commission remain in the custody and management of the New York-Connecticut Foundation and include monies for New Church Development.

104. **MISSION FUNDS:** Looking at requests from each District and reviewing information from the Cabinet about Equitable Salary and Salary Supplements, the Commission tries to fairly distribute the available Parish Development-Missional Priority funds at our November meeting. Last year the Conference budget again provided only $150,000 for mission grants, and there was about $80,000 available in the Missional Priority Fund—each year churches give to this special apportionment and there is generally a small balance that is carried over for emergencies. The Fund ended 2005 with $82,061; the NYAC Churches generously gave $118,821 during 2006; and we distributed $97,690 in grants transferring $20,000 to Mission Grants, leaving a balance of $83,192. Mission grant requests from the districts for 2007 totaled $272,500. With only $150,000 available, this was a difference of $122,500! After much discussion, the total was reduced to $173,000—a reduction of nearly $100,000 from original requests but still leaving us with a $23,000 gap. We agreed to move $23,000 from Missional Priority to Mission Grants for 2007.

105. **GRANTS 2007:** The following is a list of all the mission grants approved for 2007:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT &amp; CHURCHES 2007</th>
<th>Mission Grant</th>
<th>Missional Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catskill Hudson</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kingston-Clinton Ave.</td>
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<td>Connecticut</td>
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<td>Brpt.: Summerfield</td>
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<td>7000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH: 1st &amp; Summerfield</td>
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<td>Meriden: South Trinity</td>
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<td>South Hampton</td>
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</tr>
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</table>
The Park Avenue United Methodist Trust Fund was established in 1966 following a successful real estate venture in which the Park Avenue Church had been a partner. The Trust agreement provides that grants shall be made “for religious and charitable purposes of the kind appropriate for the Park Avenue Methodist church or the New York Annual Conference of the Methodist Church to participate in or sponsor.” Further, the Trust states “it is the intention that recurring expenses should not ordinarily be underwritten and the preference should be given to deserving causes in the New York Conference, and more especially, to those in the Metropolitan New York area.”

Over the course of its 41-year history, the Park Avenue United Methodist Church has followed this mandate, accepting applications and making distributions. Since the inception of the fund in 1966 it has given $7,546,520 in grants. The New York Annual Conference, local United Methodist churches, and related institutions have received $5,265,513 (70%) of those grants and the Park Avenue United Methodist Church has received $2,281,007 (30%). The funds given to the

**Long Island West**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Amount 1</th>
<th>Amount 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Wesley- Queens</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>9950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Jamaica - Queens</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Far Rockaway-UM Center</td>
<td>25000</td>
<td>5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knickerbocker - Brooklyn</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>6000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Ave.- Brooklyn</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>10000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens Hispanic</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Hollis</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>10000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Metropolitan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Amount 1</th>
<th>Amount 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asbury - Mt. Vernon</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epworth – Bronx</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Hispanic – Man.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Parish Coun. – Man.</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexington</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Com. – Man.</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salem – Man.</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>6000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Special Ministry to Japanese</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul’s &amp; St. Andrews – Man.</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Stephen</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Union Japanese</td>
<td>4500</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New York / Connecticut**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Amount 1</th>
<th>Amount 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poughkeepsie</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newberg Trinity</td>
<td>7000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamford First</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTALS**

|                  | 173000   | 72450   |

*Missions or non-UMC*
Conference, and more especially, to those in the Metropolitan New York area."

102. Over the course of its 41-year history, the Park Avenue United Methodist Church has followed this mandate, accepting applications and making distributions. Since the inception of the fund in 1966 it has given $7,546,520 in grants. The New York Annual Conference, local United Methodist churches, and related institutions have received $5,265,513 (70%) of those grants and the Park Avenue United Methodist Church has received $2,281,007 (30%). The funds given to the local church are for capital projects and an annual distribution for the operating budget.

103. The current Trustees are Edward J. Brown, President (PAUMC); Robert Whyte, Vice President (UM City Society); Jeffrey Hughes, Secretary-Treasurer (PAUMC); Edward Ruppmann (NYAC); and Joyce Pavolitz (NYAC). The Trust Agreement also provides consultation on grants with the Bishop, the Metropolitan District Superintendent, and the Pastor of Park Avenue United Methodist Church.

104. During 2006 the trust received interest and dividends of $167,000. It incurred expenses for the year of $38,500, of which $33,000 was investment management fees and audit costs. Grant distributions were $403,000, paid as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Park Avenue United Methodist Church</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodist Church Home for the Aged</td>
<td>$ 50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana United Methodist Church</td>
<td>$ 75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mamaroneck United Methodist Church</td>
<td>$ 10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wesley United Methodist Church</td>
<td>$  5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walton First United Methodist Church</td>
<td>$ 25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epworth United Methodist Church</td>
<td>$ 50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bushwick Parish United Methodist Church</td>
<td>$ 65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summerfield -Bridgeport United Methodist Church</td>
<td>$ 13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$403,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

105. At December 31, 2006, net assets of the trust were $8,542,000 in comparison with $7,977,000 at the end of 2005.

106. The assets of the trust are managed by a large and respected investment advisor, Bessemer Trust Company of New York City. Bessemer also has custody of the securities. The assets are invested in a diversified portfolio of money market instruments, quality short to intermediate bonds, and domestic and international equities. Early in 2006 Bessemer temporarily reduced the equity commitment in anticipation of a less favorable market environment.
107. The Trustees held two working meetings in 2006 and were in frequent communication by the telephone correspondence and e-mail between meetings.

108. During 2006 Mr. Ed Ruppmann joined the Trustees, representing the Board of Trustees of the New York Annual Conference. A strong word of thanks is due to the Rev. Charles Straut for several years of faithful service representing the Conference and for many valuable contributions to the work of the Trust.

109. Thanks are also due to Rev. William Shillady and the staff of the Park Avenue United Methodist Church for providing administrative support to the trust.

RULES COMMITTEE
Rev. Adrienne Brewington, Chairperson

101. Our Conference Rules of Order impose two mandates upon the Rules Committee. First, the committee is to receive and consider all proposed changes or additions to the Rules of Order and make recommendations to the Annual Conference regarding those proposed changes or additions; and, second, the Rules Committee is to periodically restudy the Conference Rules of Order in light of changing General Conference and Annual Conference actions and procedures, and recommend to the Annual Conference for its consideration and action such changes and adaptations that the Rules Committee judges to be necessary.

102. Moreover, the Conference Rules require that proposed changes or additions to the Rules of Order shall be presented to the committee, through its chairperson, by either electronic means or regular mail, no later than February 1st of each year.

103. Inasmuch as a full restudy of the Conference Rules of Order in light of changing General Conference and Annual Conference actions and procedures was undertaken prior to the 2006 Annual Conference session, and inasmuch as no member of this Annual Conference submitted proposed changes or additions to the committee chairperson by February 1, 2007, the committee had no business before it that required a meeting. For the same reasons, the committee has no recommendations to make at this time.

104. Proposed changes to the Conference Rules should be presented to the Rules Committee through its chairperson, the Rev. Adrienne Brewington. Email transmissions should be sent to revvybrew@aol.com. Snail mail can be sent to The Westbury United Methodist Church, 265 Asbury Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590.
CONFERENCE SECRETARY’S OFFICE
Gene Smith/Bob Miller, Conference Secretary

101. The Conference Secretary’s office is charged with issuing the Conference Journal, reports as requested by General Conference and “such other reports necessary to the orderly upkeep of records of the conference.” For the New York Conference, that includes “Call to Conference” notification, Pre-Conference book of reports and petitions, clergy service recordkeeping, communication of death notices and a stream of reports to the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCF&A) and General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM).

102. Increasingly, the Secretary’s office has used e-mail and Conference website posting to reach more people, more quickly, more affordably. But the three largest projects—Journal, Directory and Pre-Conference Book—continue to be produced in hard-copy form to accommodate persons who do have at-home or at-work access to a PC. The cost of the hard-copy versions continues to be substantial. There may be a time—in the not-too-distant future—when our financial resources are refocused in areas beyond the ministry of administration.

103. Our situation is being further complicated by the closing on March 1, 2007, of our printer for the three “big books.” A new printing/binding source has been found; we will see how well our needs are met with this new firm.

104. We commend those who serve as assistant secretaries and greatly contribute to the fast turnaround of our publications: Clifford Field, Kristina Hansen, Evelyn McDonald, Carolyn McNair, Linda Redfield and Elizabeth Mortlock. Also the concern and help of Barbara Vaccarro, Everett Dickson, and Shelley Mitchell at the Conference Center is much appreciated.