

SECTION 2: CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES AND MINISTRIES OF NURTURE

All items were approved by the indicated votes and were included in the consent calendar affirmative vote. The votes shown are those from the legislative section for each item. There were no petitions in this section.

CAMPING AND RETREAT MINISTRY

Ms. Beth Ann Graf, Chair; Ms. Leslie Vachon, Vice-Chair; Mr. Gregory Nissen, Acting Director; and Ms. Marilyn Van Tine, Secretary

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. **Mission Statement and Context:** We offer natural settings where all are welcome. Here the experience and respect for God's creation connects people in an oasis where Christian community and adventures invite spiritual growth.
102. The Camping and Retreat Ministries (CRM) Governing Board is a subset organization of the NYAC with membership elected from the NYAC membership body. The CRM Governing Board has undergone many manifestations, but currently serves to guide and supervise the camping staff and acting executive director. The CRM Governing Board confers directly with Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCF&A), and the Conference Trustees on the management of properties for which we are stewards.
103. The CRM Governing Board has many facets to fulfill the mission to which we have been charged. The board's representatives see themselves as constituents to the larger mission and each member has a focused role or camp to which they have a connection. We, the CRM Governing Board, have made deep changes in response to current difficult economic conditions. Maximizing our ministry's efficiency is of critical importance.
104. **The Properties, Ministry and the Future:** Sweeping changes at the sites have taken place prompting the need to reevaluate how we operate and administer the properties. Staff re-allocation, insurance reassessments, and new technologies to collect fees have all contributed to a better use of limited resources. The Bishop's Task Force on Camping and Retreat Ministry was commissioned in 2011 to allow the CRM Governing Board to act upon opportunity in a timeline that matches that of traditional business organizations.
105. The NYAC of The United Methodist Church's shrinking and declining populations cannot be ignored. However, we also believe our role extends far beyond that of "making Methodists." While we understand that we are focused to grow and support a church of "heart-warmed United Methodists," we need to re-examine the feasibility of operating three retreat centers if our population is shrinking. With usage by United Methodist populations at an all-time low, Camp Epworth in High Falls, NY cannot be maintained. Even beyond the conference subsidy to the ministry, Epworth, from an historic perspective, runs both program and capital deficits together, totaling approximately \$100,000 annually.
106. **Conference Budget and Support Going Forward:** In response to the stressed and delicate financial condition of the NYAC, the CRM has pledged for 2012 and 2013 (as per our budget request) to ask for only \$90,000 in administrative subsidy to be used primarily for capital improvements or debt service on capital improvements. As 2012 closed, the CRM overran subsidized allowances by

\$96,000 and NYAC covered as much as possible. These costs were for capital and payroll costs primarily at the Epworth facility. In terms of cash flow, Quinipet traditionally supports Epworth in times of cash shortages, such as the winter season, for direct pay expenses like insurance and fuel bills. In 2012, Quinipet injected \$101,000 into Epworth for these kinds of expenses.

107. The conclusion of the Bishop's Task Force was:
 - a) It is not possible for Epworth to become financially sustainable in the near future,
 - b) The conference has no funds allocated to continue to subsidize the property and program at Epworth at the above-referenced amount, and
 - c) It was recommended that the conference sell the property to eliminate the financial drain. This will enable the CRM Governing Board to focus its full attention on the programs and properties at Kingswood and Quinipet, and, therefore, ensure we provide a healthy and vital camping and retreat ministry to the member churches of the NYAC.
108. The CRM financial system relies on "fee for use" with a 5-8% amount built into the fee for capital improvement and large "upkeep" items in addition to the \$90,000 subsidy. To sustain the approximately 900 acres and 55 buildings, the capital contingent in the fees would need to be 10-12% and the subsidy \$180,000, neither of which our market can bear at this time. By use of the current fee structure, the CRM Governing Board is attempting to recognize challenges within the subsidy system while continuing to be a part of the bigger picture of ministry of the NYAC.
109. As was concluded in 2005, over two million dollars in capital improvement needed to be completed to be code compliant and to continue serving those organizations, churches and campers that use the facilities. To date, our campaigns have raised approximately half that amount and the CRM borrowed the remainder. Upon the closing of the mortgage and elimination of some smaller lines of credit, the CRM entered the 2013 season with outstanding borrowings from the NYAC of approximately \$746,000.
110. Upon the sale of Epworth, the CRM Governing Board will work in conjunction with CCF&A and the Conference Trustees to reimburse the NYAC first, followed by the mortgage. If following precedents and the wish of the CRM Governing Board, all remaining proceeds of the sale of Epworth will be under the advisement of the CRM Governing Board. Additionally, we are pleased to report a new task force comprised of heads of the Conference Trustees and CCF&A, the conference treasurer and key members of the CRM Governing Board has been formed to reinforce communication across all bodies of the NYAC as it relates to the CRM.
111. **Capital Campaign:** The CRM raised 50% of the financial goal of \$2,300,000 allowing for many improvements including the addition of the Klein Welcome Center, Infirmary and Administrative Building at Quinipet, addressing the needs of code compliance. Those who have contributed to the campaign and those who have maintained their capital contributions are to be commended.
112. The campaign of 2008 ended in 2012, but opportunities to donate to the CRM remain abundant. Both Quinipet and Kingswood rely heavily on contributions to take that "extra step" or add additional improvements or programs. Please refer to our campsites' respective web sites to see future plans for expansion of ministry, as well as more information on the concepts listed below. Very special

thanks to the Newtown UMC and The Paul R. Carey Foundation for grants and contributions of significant size.

**Kingswood Camp Site in Hancock, NY, 766 Acres
(www.kingswoodcampsite.org) - Seasonal**

113. Kingswood remains a self-sufficient property in terms of cash flow. Proceeds of the timber harvest contract from 2011 allow Kingswood to continue making capital improvements without seeking funding from the CRM system.
114. Kingswood is run by Volunteer Director Ms. Cheryl Winship and operates under a New York State Children's Camp Permit and a New York State Temporary Residence Permit. Ms. Julie Wityk oversees the children's camp, and Ms. Holly Moore, who is on site for the majority of the summer season, serves as Kingswood's primary contact for event organization and family camp reservations.
115. Kingswood continues to make landscape improvements such as the dam restoration project including a new boat dock, a rebuilt campsite due to storm damage, an installation of a new well-pump, drainage improvements to the pole barn and a new roof installed on the addition of the farmhouse with plans for a new roof on the remaining part of the farm house and retreat center. Plans are in place to provide electricity to the new limited mobility campsite, to provide electricity to and expand the number of RV camping sites, to install a new septic tank and to improve access to the bathhouse.
116. The hydraulic fracturing industry has the area around Hancock (where Kingswood is located) in its future sights for development. Awareness of what is happening in the natural gas industry and markets is under constant surveillance. As you might know, the issue is highly charged and politically and environmentally directed depending on the NY State gubernatorial leadership.
117. Kingswood is a cash-flow-neutral property. There was \$64,500 in program revenues for 2012, while the program operation/expense was \$80,500. The timber harvest proceeds have netted \$211,000 in 2011/2012. Kingswood used these funds in 2012 to cover the \$16,000 loss and add \$40,000 in capital and fixed assets.
118. Kingswood will have to make some adjustments to their program revenue in order to remain cash flow neutral in the future. The program is strong, vital and volunteer based, and a need to increase revenue should not affect the program to a great extent going forward.

**Epworth Center in High Falls, NY, 165 Acres (www.epworthcenter.com)
- Year Round**

119. The programs held over the years at Epworth will leave a lasting legacy in the New York Annual Conference. It is expected that Epworth will be listed for sale by the Conference Trustees in the fall of 2013. No asking price has been established at the time of publishing this document. The CRM has and will continue to maintain the camp in the utmost salable condition.
120. Mr. Justin Savarese is the property manager on-site. He is responsible for the operations of the entire site with some assistance from part-time workers and contractual laborers. Ms. Laura Pickard assists by keeping the books and financial operations under the direction of Greg Nissen, acting executive director.

121. Epworth operates under a New York State Children's Camp Permit, a New York State Temporary Residence Permit, and operates an approved NY State non-municipal potable water system along with current SPECDES permits.
122. Epworth ran a successful day camp program in 2012, however the CRM Governing Board has determined it will not be sustainable for 2013. The 2013 season will bring family camping, youth retreat camping and many smaller contractual usages by other organizations. Contracts will continue to be fully executed with rental organizations for the 2013 season and will continue into 2014 pending a sale.
123. While we have completed improvements, we remain realistic on our total exposure. Capital improvements are being implemented with the intent of carry-over value to potential new operators. Improvements made to pre-existing and non-conforming structures have value as replacement costs are often much higher than the improvement costs.
124. We have a great responsibility in the stewardship and future of Epworth. Land preservation groups and some educational groups have already expressed interest. The CRM Governing Board prays that Epworth will go to an organization that embodies the traditions and principals it has been operated with since our purchase. Before our ownership, the property was operated by Dreamland Farm, bringing visitors closer to the environment as a "resort farm." Epworth is a unique and wonderful parcel of land, rich in its history with the NYAC.
125. In recent years, including 2012, Epworth was a cash-flow-negative property. Epworth had program revenues of \$236,000 and additional NYAC subsidized support of \$24,000. Additional funds were also allocated to Epworth from Quinipet (\$101,000) for fixed-asset and program (salary) expenses as cash flow required. Of that, \$83,000 in capital and fixed-asset expenditures relating to the replacement of the oil-fired heating and air conditioning system with a propane-fired system were used so we could remove the large storage tanks. The program loss was \$44,000 in 2012. Epworth reduced staff at the end of 2012 by eliminating two $\frac{3}{4}$ -time positions leaving the property manager to handle all facets of running the camp.

Quinipet Camp and Retreat Center in Shelter Island Heights, NY, 25 Acres (www.quinipet.org) - Year Round

126. The Quinipet facility serves as our main office and houses the CRM administration. Mr. Gregory Nissen, the acting executive director is located primarily at this site. Ms. Lauren Ruiz, the administrator, and Mr. Bryan Knipfing, the assistant director responsible for both school groups and summer programs, maintain the program and its operations. Mr. Chris Baer is the full-time food service manager serving both the retreat groups and summer camp operations. Ms. Jennifer Martin maintains our web site, assists in producing publications and various office tasks on a part-time basis. Quinipet reduced staff in 2012 by eliminating a dedicated school group coordinator/marketer and no longer has a full-time dedicated facility manager.
127. Quinipet has an active Christian sleep-away camp over a six-week season. About 500 campers attend during that period of time. Our day camp, which also operates for a six-week period, has approximately 500 campers. Finally, the community sailing program, housed out of the waterfront, enrolls about 100 campers over the course of the summer season.

128. Running a sleep-away camp on Eastern Long Island has been a challenge. The ability to offer day camp and a community sailing program helps to offset the cost for the Christian sleep-away camp and helps to keep our prices from growing exponentially.
129. During the non-summer season, Quinipet hosts many church and non-profit retreats on weekends. Approximately 35% of these are United Methodist. In the spring and fall seasons, Quinipet hosts approximately 25 school programs during the mid-week periods. The CRM Governing Board will remain attentive in our goal of filling critical high-capacity buildings and maintaining continual revenue streams year round.
130. Quinipet had \$1,300,000 in program revenue in 2012. Contributions, primarily towards the construction of the Klein Welcome Center, netted approximately \$35,000, which is included in the figure above. The total program expense was \$1,260,000, netting \$38,000 in positive cash. The NYAC invested \$56,000 of subsidized funds toward Quinipet. Quinipet then supported Epworth with \$101,000 — all related to seasonal cash-flow conditions. Quinipet added approximately \$81,000 in capital and fixed assets for 2012.
131. Quinipet has future growth plans that can be viewed at www.quinipet.org. Future projects include a renovated and restored sailing barn to continue the community sailing program, additional meeting rooms built in basement spaces which are not yet maximized, general efficiency, handicapped accessibility, and environmental improvements, as well as a 31-room adult retreat house to replace the aged Cliff Cabins and serve an expanded demographic.

Summary

132. Creative opportunities continue to bless the CRM every day. Some doors close, others open. The future of the program relies on the ability to be financially conservative and creative in the use of our awesome resources.
133. The Camping and Retreat Ministries Governing Board asks that you consider these properties first when planning any retreat events. Visit our web sites or call and speak with our staff, who are well versed on all properties and ready to accommodate your needs. Our sleep-away camps offer our youth excellent opportunity for Christian growth in the church as well as the community. Please contact Quinipet to discuss scholarship programs offered by the CRM or for help in establishing one at your church. Brochures are sent to every church prior to the summer season and CRM Governing Board members are happy to visit churches to make a camp presentation. If you would like to contact Greg Nissen, acting executive director, you may do so at greg@quinipet.org or by calling the office at 631-749-0430. Both Greg and members of the CRM Governing Board will be available during annual conference at the CRM table.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Ms. Lynda Gomi, Consultant

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. In 2012 with the support of the Connectional Ministries Office and the Perkins Foundation, Children's Ministries expanded on the success of two years of Vacation Bible School (VBS) on the Road. Each church in the third year of the program made a commitment to work for one year with a consultant to design

a Children's Ministry in each church that would build on connections made during summer VBS and link to fall programming.

102. The churches who participated in 2012 VBS on the Road were: Norwalk UMC, Norwalk, CT, Seaford UMC, Seaford, NY.
103. Several churches not in the VBS on the Road program participated in the rotation of decoration items to help reduce the cost of their programs.
104. VBS materials used in past VBS on the Road programs were recycled and used by churches not able to afford new VBS materials. Churches interested in using the previous year's material for VBS should contact Lynda Gomi at lgomi@nyac.com.
105. Sunday School materials are made available for preview in the Learning Center as are children's magazines and seasonal material with worship, activity and craft ideas.
106. Workshops were held at the request of individual churches for teacher trainings.

COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

Rev. Andrew Peck-McClain, Chair

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. Our annual conference supports and nurtures college students and seminarians of all ages through the Commission on Higher Education and Campus Ministry. We support the work of campus ministers across our annual conference, and through the New York Education Society, we oversee the scholarship and loan opportunities made available through the annual conference and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.
102. There are six campus ministries currently supported by the New York Annual Conference. Four of the six are ecumenical Protestant ministries. These four are: SUNY-New Paltz (Rev. Dianna Smith); The Long Island United Campus Ministries (LIUCM), an umbrella organization for campus ministries at Long Island colleges and universities; SUNY-Delhi; and Western Connecticut State University (Rev. Mark Horton). Two are based out of United Methodist congregations: Westside Campus Ministry (Church of St Paul & St Andrew, Manhattan, Siobhan Sargent); and United Church of Westville campus ministry (Rev. Won-Guen Kang). The commission also supported the Yale Methodist Fellowship in 2012. If your congregation would like to get started in this important ministry, please contact the commission. We are happy to resource others who seek to reach out to students, faculty and staff at the higher education institutions within the bounds of the NYAC. A limited amount of funding is possible.
103. The New York Education Society administers our annual conference scholarships to support students from our annual conference who may not be eligible for aid from the General Board of Higher Education & Ministry (GBHEM), since those scholarships are geared towards United Methodist-related colleges and universities. The NY Education Society Fund is managed by GBHEM. The New York Education Society Scholarship disbursed \$17,250 in scholarship funds in 2012, for the 2012-2013 academic year. We were proud to have nine NYES Fellows this past year, who were each awarded \$1000 scholarships. They were Kahlil Lashley (Kings Highway UMC), Juyeon Lee (The United Church of Westville), Julia Madden (St. Paul and St. Andrew UMC), Lakira McQuilter (Christ Church UMC), Haley Merritt (Union UMC),

Emily Peck-McClain (Calvary UMC, Durham, NC), Samuel Phillips (Pleasantville UMC), Tamara Taylor-McDonald (St. Mark's UMC), and Emelio Woodstock (Butler Memorial UMC). In 2012, we had five NYES Scholars, who each received \$750. These were Rachel Barber (Fishkill UMC), Amy Phillips (Pleasantville UMC), Carla Esther Phillips (Pleasantville UMC), Brandon Samuel (Butler Memorial UMC), and Priscilla Wong (Chinese UMC). We also awarded eight book grants of \$500 each to Natalia Alvarez-Plaud (Co-op City UMC), Roy Grubbs (Yorktown UMC), David Irons (Butler Memorial UMC), Jelani Magloire (Butler Memorial UMC), Tiffany Miller (Butler Memorial UMC), Kenneth Peden (Huntington UMC), Alison VanBuskirk (Christ Church UMC), and Amanda Yau (Chinese UMC). Finally, we contributed NYES funds toward our Conference Merit Recipient winner. Congratulations to all of the 2012 recipients and we look forward to honoring the 2013 scholars at annual conference in June.

104. The United Methodist Student Day offering is an essential way to support our Conference Merit Scholarship program. A rebate from this offering funds our Conference Merit Scholarship, which was awarded to Gordon Edwards from Calvary UMC. Gordon is studying biochemistry with a pre-med focus at American University in Washington, DC. If your congregation doesn't usually participate in UM Student Day, encourage them to do so. It's a great way to assist students of all ages with the monumental task of paying for their educations. In addition, participating in World Communion Sunday offerings supports the Crusade Scholarship program of the General Board of Higher Education & Ministry. We encourage all NYAC churches to support these scholarship offerings to help educate the next generation of United Methodist leaders in our churches and our communities. Thank you for your support.
105. Many thanks to the members of the commission for their commitment to students of all ages and to higher education in our annual conference. Your time and attention are greatly valued.

HISPANIC CONSULTANT

Rev. Arturo Maine, Consultant

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The following outlines activities and meetings in which I engaged as part of my function during the year April 2012-13.
102. **2012:**
- April 23: Vision Bearers meeting Conference Center
 - May 12: Vision Bearers Graduation
 - June 2: Meeting with 4th Ave
 - Sept 14: Meeting with Saint Stephen's and D.S.
 - Sept 18: Drew Hispanic Caucus
 - Sept 28: Vision Bearers 3 Yr Interview
 - Oct 21: Laity Sunday 1st Spanish at 111& Lexington, Manhattan
 - Oct 27: Workshop Co-op City UMC
 - Nov 30: BOOM Commack UMC

2013:

Jan 3: Meeting Conference Relations, Conference Center

Jan 5: Hispanic Council Corona, Queens

Feb 8: Worship and Prayer retreat at 4th Ave

Feb 20: Jackson Heights/Pastor John Rivera

Feb 27: Meeting Conference Relations, Conference Center

April 8 : Meeting Conference Relations, Conference Center

April 24: Meeting With Bishop Conference Center

April 27: Vision Bearers class workshop

103. These are the activities of major involvement (Countless calls and visits to other Hispanic activities not included.)

LEARNING CENTER

Ms. Lynda Gomi, Coordinator

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The Learning Center is run by the Connectional Ministries Office to offer support for churches and UM organizations through books, periodicals, curriculum samples, multi-media resources, puppets, and worship materials such as the labyrinth, as well as space for meetings, workshops and day retreats.
102. Items may be requested through the online Resource Library catalogue. Materials are mailed in returnable pouches and are thus equally accessible across the conference. Usage continues to increase as more people became aware of this easy-to-access resource. (http://nyac.com/resource_find.asp)
103. As new materials are acquired for the Resource Library, they appear in the “What’s New in the Resource Library” blog, <http://nyac.com/blogs> .
104. With changes in technology has come the need to update video formatted material to DVD. The online catalog provides patrons the option to search for material in their preferred format.
105. During the summer of 2012 interns assisted updating VHS to DVD when copyright permitted and adding information to the online catalog to make it easier for lenders to identify items as VHS or DVD material.
106. The Learning Center continues to host workshops and provide space for retreats. The altar displays change with the liturgical calendar and make it an ideal space for a day apart.
107. The Learning Center continues to assist in coordinating Safe Sanctuaries Workshops. Safe Sanctuaries Regional Consultants were appointed in fall 2011 and are available to lead workshops on writing Safe Sanctuaries policies. Contact the consultant in your area via the Safe Sanctuaries page on the web site at: <http://www.nyac.com/safe-sanctuaries>.

FELLOWSHIP OF LOCAL PASTORS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Rev. Eileen M. Daunt, Chair

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members joined the Town and Country breakfast meeting at annual conference last year. About 10 local pastors

and associate members attended. We ate, shared fellowship around the tables and participated in the discussion. Each pastor present introduced themselves and shared their ministry and its setting. We discussed ways that the fellowship might help all local pastors and associate members. We also discussed options of how best to connect for fellowship, learning, and sharing. Our hope is that one day we will have an active fellowship in the conference.

102. We recognized Pastors Edward Dayton and W. Fred Loving, as the newest local pastors in our conference.
103. As the fellowship chair, I was unable to attend the National Fellowship of Associate Members and Local Pastors meeting in Kissimmee, Florida in September. About 100 clergy and spouses attended from around the country. This annual gathering is great for fellowship, connecting, and learning from fellow pastors. The annual gathering will be in Branson, Missouri September 17-20, 2013. The Reverend Dr. Robert Crossman is the 2013 NFAMLP seminar leader. He is the founder & director of the South Central Jurisdiction's Small Church Leadership Institute and the author of *Committed to Christ: Six Steps to a Generous Life*. The seminar topics include: "Discover a Passion for the Lost," "68 ways to Increase Worship Attendance Without a Change of Pastors," "WITNESS - What is The Most Effective Way to Invite Others to Attend Worship," "Navigating Worship Growth Barriers: Finding the Way Forward" and "Create A Stewardship Ripple in Your Church." All persons who attend the event may earn 1.5 continuing education credits. I was re-elected to a two-year term to serve on the leadership team of the National Fellowship as the local pastor representative.
104. It is the function of the fellowship to promote fellowship, learning and connectionalism with our pastors and conference. It is an honor to serve our conference as the fellowship chair. I expect to find a way that our fellowship will be able to have a web meeting, there are other conferences already meeting in this format.

CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES VISION TABLE

Rev. Ann A. Pearson – Director of Connectional Ministries

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. For Annual Conference, 2012, we continued the quadrennial theme, "For Such a Time as This." The secondary theme was, "In Mission for the Transformation of the World." Each year of this quadrennium has celebrated the four principles of our Conference Vision Statement.
102. A highlight for the conference this year was the conference-wide challenge to raise 1.2 million dollars for the No More Malaria campaign. A presentation was prepared by the youth of the conference with special musical guests and a life-sized mosquito.
103. We are pleased to announce that 4,500 Health Kits were transported to Mission Central in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania for distribution by UMCOR.
104. The mezzanine was crowded with interactive ministry displays. Thank you not only for your presence, but also for your passion for ministry.
105. For the second year, annual conference sessions were "live on the Internet." We are pleased to hear that families and mission sites around the world were

connected to our event. We were glad to welcome Good News Ministry TV as our audio/video team for 2012. GNTV will continue to be our techno team for Annual Conference 2013.

106. The work of the Connectional Ministries Vision Table (CMVT) continues to prioritize its ministry in line with the Conference Vision Statement, adopted in 2006, to “build up a healthy body of Christ.”
107. The Office of Connectional Ministries has prioritized the Call to Action begun in April 2011. In response, districts identified clergy to participate in Incubator Group training – four intensive training sessions for three days each. We were pleased to welcome Rev. Kwasi Kena and Rev. Safiyah Fosua, Rev. Ken Sloane and Ms. Carol Krau from the General Board of Discipleship as instructors.
108. By late spring, 2012, at least 48 clergy in each district (yes, that’s 288 clergy) were participating in incubator groups looking forward to beginning local church leader incubator groups by the fall. The ripple effect of the Incubator Project has amazing potential.
109. The Office of Connectional Ministries partnered with the Frontier Foundation to present Clergy Tax Seminars in the winter of 2012. Thanks to Keith Muhleman and the host churches for their splendid participation. In addition, the Frontier Foundation provides stewardship resources and training for conference, district and local church programming.
110. The Office of Connectional Ministries has engaged Ms. Cassandra Negri as the Children’s Ministry Consultant. She is the “go to” person for children’s resources, workshops, VBS cluster training and Safe Sanctuary scheduling. In addition, we thank Ms. Elizabeth Christie, Ms. Deb Mecca and Rev. Arturo Maine for their workshop leadership in children’s ministry and Safe Sanctuaries.
111. For the third year, VBS went on the road. Thanks to funding from the Rev. William Perkins Fund, churches were selected to participate in a partnership with the Office of Connectional Ministries for a week of Vacation Bible School. Criteria were met, including a demographic that supports year-round Sunday School. VBS team leaders continue to coach the host church for one year following the On the Road Event. Our thanks to host churches and our team leaders, especially *Ms. Lynda Gomi* – our Children’s Consultant.
112. We want to thank THE VISION editor, *Rev. Joanne Utley*, for her work. In conjunction with *Ms. Barbara Eastman*, our Webmaster, the online communications of the New York Annual Conference has developed beyond all expectations. We are thankful for the work of Ms. Shelly Mitchell who has moved on to another position in her church in Valdosta, GA.
113. The office of Connectional Ministries published two online publications each week. The eNewsletter is published on Tuesday, primarily a programmatic communication including many opportunities available around the annual conference. The Week in Review is published on Friday and includes interesting stories from the denomination, conference and local church. Let’s not forget the “Chuck Knows Church” feature!!! If you are not receiving these online publications – why not!!! Contact apearson@nyac.com.
114. *Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie* continues to bring energy and passion in *Mission and Outreach* to the Office of Connectional Ministries. Flood waters came to the annual conference thanks to Superstorm Sandy. Trained volunteers responded to provide disaster relief in five locations on Long Island and Staten Island. Next

spring, in partnership with UMCOR and other funding sources, NYAC will begin the long road for Superstorm Sandy Recovery. International Volunteers in Mission from the New York Conference are involved in remarkable life-changing work. Joseph continues to train folks in the area of disaster relief. He travels with his message of mission when invited by local churches or districts.

115. *Rev. Jim Stinson* continues to serve as consultant for *Older Adult Ministries*. He has led district, cluster, and local church seminars and is currently writing a very popular online column for *Older Adult Ministries* in *The Vision*. This year, the Committee on Older Adult Ministry was formed. Workshops “on the road” have been created with a resource booklet to assist the local church in conversations about older adult issues.
116. The Budget Committee of the Conference Vision Table continues to make adjustments to reflect the encouragement of new initiative ministries while supporting active committees.
117. *Rev. Arturo Maine* continues as our Hispanic Consultant. His dedication to building ministry has been gratefully appreciated by the Hispanic community.
118. *Mr. Neal Bowes* continues to consult in the area of Youth Ministries. Our special thanks to the Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM) under the leadership of 35 amazing youth and adult sponsors led by *Ms. Dana Dudkewic*. They continue to sponsor IGNITE annually as well as workshop leadership for the Bishop’s Confirmation Rally. Check out the Youth web site www.umyouth.com.
119. As director of Connectional Ministries, it is my role to be a “listener” around the conference, to respond to the educational needs raised by committees, boards, the Cabinet and to be ever aware of the sparks of a new idea that may be developed into amazing ministry. It is my role as DCM to work with the vision of Bishop McLee, Cabinet and the Conference Vision Statement, toward a preferred future of ministry.
120. This year, Lynda Gomi was named assistant to the director of Connectional Ministries. She has worked at the annual conference since 2008 as the director of the Learning Center. She holds a Masters in Teaching English as an International Language and a Masters of Theology from Drew. She is a valuable asset to Connectional Ministries. Lynda continues her work as the Learning Center director.
121. I continue to celebrate what God is doing through The United Methodist Church and the pockets of superb ministry that I encounter. I see evidence of “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors” everywhere I go! “We are the people of The United Methodist Church.”

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES — CONNECTICUT DISTRICT

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair, Chair

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

“The Spirit blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes.” —John 3:8

101. The Holy Spirit has, and continues to move through the people and churches of the Connecticut District! The vision of the Connecticut District Council on Ministries is to harness a bit of that spirit power to empower and enable us

all to do ministry together. Last year, as we gathered at Nichols UMC for our district conference, we celebrated the presence of the Holy Spirit and prayed for continued blessings. Even in that place, as we heard the story of struggle and triumph from New York Giants player Mr. Isaiah Stanback, the Spirit was working, transforming hearts and lives in the name of Jesus Christ. One person came that day to support a family member who was being recognized as a new lay speaker. By the grace of God, he gave his life to Jesus that day. And that story alone makes the ministry we do and celebrate as a district a witness to the glory of God!

102. The Vital Congregations process has continued to be a ministry focus for 2012/2013. At September's District Clergy Meeting, pastors were trained on creating SMART goals and blessed by Rev. Hugh Hamilton's challenge to step into the murky waters of Vital Congregations, much as Naaman hesitantly stepped into the river to be healed. Three groups of clergy Incubators led by Rev. Paul Fleck, Rev. Laura Galbraith, and Rev. Heather Sinclair, have been trained in eight modules centered on the drivers of Vital Congregations, including Worship, Evangelism, Small Group and Leadership. Pastors are beginning, in various ways, to bring this training into congregations. At the district and conference level there will be more training and events for clergy, laity and congregations as we grow into this Vital Congregations process. Seeds are being planted and, by the grace of God, we anticipate harvesting the fruit of vitality!
103. In the fall of 2012, Rev. Craig Fitzsimmons, district mission coordinator, opened our eyes to the needs of our sister church in Prattsville, NY, that sustained significant damage in the flooding from Hurricane Irene. District churches join in the Share-a-Chair effort and raised funds for all new sanctuary chairs prior to Christmas. The generosity of the churches also allowed us to give additional funds toward repairs to the parsonage.
104. On October 28, as New York City began preparations for Hurricane Sandy, a bus full of brave United Methodists from Connecticut ventured to Salem UMC to celebrate and welcome Bishop Martin McLee. In a service of rousing music and preaching, the bishop encouraged and challenged us to "free our minds of clutter," "sing a new song" and "press on together to the mark." Our "rapping" and "praying" bishop blessed and inspired the congregation as we look forward to ministry together in the New York Annual Conference.
105. Following Hurricane Sandy, Ms. Cassandra Broadus-Garcia, district disaster response coordinator, worked diligently in connecting churches and needs. Several Emergency Response Teams from Connecticut have traveled to New York to be the hands and feet of Christ to families and communities in need.
106. District Resource Days Workshops for laity and clergy were held on two separate occasions in February at West Hartford UMC and Stratford UMC. Thank you to those congregations for their welcoming hospitality! A special thank you to Stratford UMC and the presenters for their flexibility in re-scheduling following the Blizzard of 2013! Workshops were offered on Call to Action/Vital Congregations; Pastor/Parish Relations; United Methodist Women & Men; Church Finance; Children's Ministries; Serving in the Mission Field; Lay Servant Ministries; The UM Frontier Foundation; and Nominations/Serving with Joy. All who attended (a total of over 100 between the two days) were blessed by the learning and fellowship.

107. Throughout the year, DCOM has financially supported ministries and events that bring people and churches of the connection together. These including offering scholarships for the Laity Convocation; supplementing honorariums included for speakers at the Yale in Huntington Lecture Series at Huntington UMC; and aiding in bringing together U.M. ARMY (United Methodist Action Reach-out Mission for Youth).
108. Again this spring, we look forward to the CT District Conference. Our guest speakers will be the ministry team of Newtown UMC, Rev. Mel Kawakami, Rev. Jane Sibley and Rev. Sue Klein. We have been supporting them and praying for them since the Sandy Hook tragedy in December, and we look forward to being blessed by their words of healing and hope. A new class of lay servants, who completed the training this spring, will be recognized, as well as a joyous diversity of music and celebration.
109. For five years, it has been my privilege to serve as the chair of DCOM. I am grateful to the members of the Council for their hard work, creative ideas, and the joy of serving in ministry with you all. Thanks to District Administrative Assistant Ms. Dorothy Chamberlain, and all her support. I also thank Superintendent Rev. Ken Kieffer for his guidance and leadership in many ways throughout the ministries of the district. As I leave this position and the Connecticut District, I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers. God bless.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES — LONG ISLAND WEST DISTRICT

Rev. Delroy Murdock, Chair

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The big story in the LIW District this past year was the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy and the response of the churches. Several churches in our district were impacted, as well as a significant number of our church members. However, it was encouraging to see neighbor coming to the aid of neighbor. Some local churches teamed up and volunteered their service cleaning up flooded basements. The LIW Emergency Response Team was also instrumental in facilitating some clean-up projects.
102. The Far Rockaway Mission played a pivotal role in providing help to many of Sandy's victims. The mission has been providing hot meals from Monday through Friday, and now, with the help of several churches in the district, this service has extended to Sundays.
103. In general, this was another very active year for the DCOM. By far our biggest and most successful event was our Annual Lay Leaders Training which had over 300 persons attending 14 different workshops. The demand for this training has been overwhelming and it does provide the empowerment our laity needs to effectively fulfill the church's mission.
104. Equally important has been our Lay Speaking School. Ninety- three lay servants satisfactorily completed the courses offered at the Brooklyn and Queens sites and they continue to give vital ministry support to pastors across the district.
105. The active clusters continue to play a vital role in our district, keeping our connection alive by bringing churches together in services of celebration such as the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Lenten and Good Friday services. The South Brooklyn Cluster has also responded to Sandy with financial aid to the Sheephead Bay UMC – one of the churches that was flooded. Beyond that they

responded to an appeal for contributions to Bethany Methodist Home which is being refitted to accommodate out-of-state VIM who are engaged in rebuilding projects across the borough.

106. The LIW District Youth and Outdoor Ministry had a very successful youth empowerment event at the Bushwick UMC with 141 persons in attendance engaging the youth in worship, workshops and concluding with a concert.
107. We are encouraged by the signs of life among the district UMM which was somewhat dormant for a while. We anticipate that significant ministries will follow.
108. Finally, let me say thanks to the faithful core who attends meetings to plan and to see those plans blossom into effective ministries.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES — METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

Ms. Daryl Norman, Chair

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The mission of the Metropolitan District Council on Ministries is to align our leadership efforts to enable, encourage, support, lead and resource our wonderful churches from Westchester County to Staten Island through a variety of training events, shared network resources, input from committee chairpersons and Conference concerns.
102. Our two major training events are Leadership training and District Lay Servant training. Our 2013 leadership events were held in Westchester, Staten Island, Manhattan and the Bronx. The Lay Servant training event was held at First Church Mt Vernon. We had excellent attendance and favorable evaluations.
103. In all I believe we still have some basic areas for accountability and improvement. The areas are listed below:
 - Full participation of all churches in training events and district-wide events
 - Increase payment of our apportionments
 - Visioning strategies for 2014
 - Member accountability, written reports and attendance at meetings are a “must” for 2014
104. The best ministry years for our congregations are not behind us but are in front of us.
105. We have been blessed by the leadership for the past two years of Rev. St. Clair Samuel and pray God’s grace and favor be with him as he leaves the district to return to the local church.
106. Ms. Leslie Asase, our administrative assistant, has provided excellent support services to us for the past 7 years and we are grateful for her zeal and commitment and pray God’s continued favor on her as her professional life grows as she departs for a new employment venture.
107. We welcome Rev. Dr. Denise Smartt Sears as our new district superintendent and prayerfully stand ready to follow her leadership vision for 2014; specifically for the Metropolitan District Council on Ministries.
108. Thank you to all who have served with joy, integrity and spirit as we continue to bring in the light of Christ’s love and guidance.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES — NEW YORK/CONNECTICUT DISTRICT

Mr. Ross Topliff, Chair

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. This has been a great, exciting time for my first year as chair. As always, we have a very dedicated group of people who require little guidance and less encouragement to be about God's work in the New York/Connecticut District. They made it easy for me to lead this wonderful group of people.
102. Of course, our District Superintendent Rev. Betsy Ott provides a guiding hand to all we do. Her wonderful presentation on the visioning process at the laity leadership events helped many people gain a better perspective on the goals and this process.
103. It has been exciting to help plan new activities and expanded opportunities for our laity to join in worship and training. We held a wonderful Advent Service of lessons and carols with at least 30 people assisting, then provided two laity leadership training events so that more people could attend without traveling quite so far. Our lay servant leaders have been very busy bringing these new classes all across our district in addition to the Danbury and Grace-Newburgh schools.
104. Coming events include: End of Summer Jesus Party on Aug. 10, the return of "Great Day of Methodist Singing" on October 5th, and our second (annual) Advent Service in early December. Additional youth events are in the planning stages so that our scattered youth will feel less alone in their journey.
105. I want to express my sincere appreciation to all of the busy, talented people who continue to step forward again, and for the first time, to serve our Lord Jesus and this district in so many ways. Without them, none of this would be possible.

MISSION AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie, Conference Mission Coordinator

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all our VOLUNTEERS for sacrificing their time and resources to bring hope to survivors of the superstorm Sandy. When the time came for United Methodists to put their faith into action and show God's love they exceeded in giving and sharing. Below is a brief report on how our Conference Disaster Administrative Committee prepared and responded to the disaster that caused great damage to lives and properties in Long Island, Staten Island, and Connecticut on Monday, October 29, 2012.

Conference Disaster Preparation and Response

Background

102. **Sandy** was not a hurricane when it landed on the Northeastern United States. It had turned into a category 2 tropical storm. Nevertheless its destructive power was deadly and costly. According to FEMA sources about 285 people lost their lives and the estimated cost of damaged was assessed at over \$71 billion.
103. The New York and New Jersey episcopal areas were greatly affected by Superstorm Sandy. FEMA records indicate that over 528,186 survivors have

registered for federal assistance. New York survivors account for more than half of the total FEMA registrants.

104. **NYAC Response**
- 1) Activated the NYAC disaster response Incident Command System
 - 2) Set up Conference Disaster Response Call Center
 - 3) Did the initial assessment with Bishop McLee and Conference Disaster Administrative Committee (CDAC)
 - 4) Deployed Early Response Teams during the Relief phase
 - 5) Three years Recovery Ministries
105. **Initial Assessment** — Immediately after the storm subsided, Joseph Ewoodzie and members of the Conference Disaster Administrative Committee began reaching out to the UM churches in the affected communities. Several of the pastors including Rev. Jeff Wells of the Community UMC in Massapequa, Rev. Dr. David Henry of Freeport UMC, Rev. Robert Grimm of St. Mark's UMC in Rockville Centre, Pastor Matthew Schaeffer of Bethel UMC in Staten Island and Rev. Wesley Daniels of Calvary UMC in the Bronx (working at St. Mark's UMC in Brooklyn) began to reach out in their communities, initially with their own parishioners and then to the local population to see what the extent of the problems were and to begin organizing a response to provide help.
106. **Organized Disaster Response Centers and Volunteer Housing** — Community UMC in Massapequa, Freeport UMC, Bethel UMC in Staten Island, St. Mark's UMC in Brooklyn and St. Mark's UMC in Rockville Centre let it be known in their communities that these churches were being set up as Disaster Response Centers and letting the local communities know that they could call these centers for help. Rev. Timothy Riss pastor of the Hicksville UMC spearheaded the effort to enable Hicksville UMC to be used to house out-of-area volunteers. Local volunteers began to help in the disaster centers to take phone calls for help and to log the needs. Members of churches throughout the conference prepared to send teams to the area to help. Many local volunteers signed up to help out at the five disaster recovery sites.
107. **Trained ERT leaders** — Mr. Ross Porter led the effort to set up training locations throughout the conference to train leaders for teams to respond to the needs of local citizens. Classes were held every Saturday during November and December with additional classes in January with over 180 people trained.
108. **Volunteers** — Volunteer teams have arrived from a number of universities including Clemson University in SC, University of South Carolina, Hofstra University, Dowling College, University of Massachusetts, Geneseo State and St. Joseph College. Teams and individuals have come from Arizona, Maryland, and Delaware.
109. **Work Performed** — Volunteers pumped water from basements; removed mountains of debris and placed it curbside; removed and stored furniture in PODS; removed sheetrock, insulation, flooring, subflooring and placed it curbside, and sorted personal belongings into “keep piles” and “throw away piles” for the homeowners. They treated and performed mold remission on homes where possible and in general prepared the home for the next phase of work. Other volunteers provided office help to receive volunteers, provide orientation, directions and guidance and gathered work summaries at the conclusion of the day for each team.

Disaster Recovery Ministries (supported by UMCOR Grant)

110. There are many organizations providing help to Sandy victims in NY, however, there are not nearly enough organizations to provide the help required. UMCOR and The United Methodist Church will make a significant impact on the communities in need. Given the size and scope of the disaster, if only 10% of the FEMA registrants required help that would be 27,000 families in NY alone. UMCOR dollars will reach nearly 800 of the most vulnerable survivors in some way. As you can see, every organization is desperately needed to be on the ground to provide help. UMCOR funded NY Disaster Recovery Ministry which will be working in conjunction with the Long-Term Recovery Group in Long Island, Brooklyn, Staten Island, and Connecticut to provide the broadest help possible at the same time minimizing duplication of services through our cooperative efforts.
111. The UMCOR grant will enable The United Methodist Church in NY to create and staff a Disaster Recovery Ministry to reach out to affected individuals and families throughout NY and in CT. Specifically the dollars will help to:
- Perform initial needs assessment,
 - Institute a holistic case-management system for those targeted by the UMC to help,
 - Implement an effective VIM system to organize, direct and house volunteers,
 - Repair, rebuild and restore damaged homes,
 - Provide ongoing disaster spiritual care to affected persons , and
 - Provide direct assistance to survivors
112. By the Numbers:
- FEMA registrations – total to date - 528,186
 - NY registrations - 271,181
 - NY UMC Disaster Recovery Centers - 5
 - NY UMC Volunteer Housing Centers - 3
 - Total number of volunteers – 1847
 - Total number of volunteer hours – 14,572
 - Total number of homes worked on – 300

Conference Mission Leadership 2012- 2013

113. Please join me to say a big “thank you” to our dedicated VIM leaders whose diligence and devotion have brought great success to our ministry worldwide:
114. **Mission Leadership:** Rev. Wesley Daniel, Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie, Rev. Ann Pearson, Rev. Timothy Riss and Rev. Charles Straut
115. **Conference Disaster Administrative Committee:** Rev. Dr. M. Craig Fitzsimmons, Rev. Dale Ashby, Ms. Cassandra Broadus-Garcia, Rev. Wesley Daniel, Mr. Warren Ferry, Rev. Paul Hibbard, Rev. Janet Hodge, Rev. Melvyn Kawakami, Mrs. Mary Ellen Kris, Mr. W. Ross Porter and Deaconess Claris Skerritt
116. **Mission Personnel:** Rev. Dr. Esther Amartey-Amarh, Rev. In Koo Chung, Pastor Oscar Destruge-Sandoval, Ms. Annette Griffith, Ms. Denise Hamilton, Rev. Sonia Jermin, Ms. Una Jones, Rev. Hector Laporta and Ms. Linda Mellor

117. **Volunteers in Mission:** Pastor Oscar Destrugé-Sandoval, Rev. Woodrow Eddins, Rev. Carl Franson, Rev. Roy Grubbs, Mr. Robert Hawkins, Rev. Marion Hubbard, Pastor Wendy Vencuss and Ms. Enid Watson
118. **Disaster Coordinators:** Rev. Dale Ashby, Catskill-Hudson; Ms. Cassandra Broadus-Garcia, Connecticut; Mr. Warren Ferry, Long Island East; Rev. Cedric Johnson, Long Island West; Rev. Wesley Daniel, Metropolitan, and Mr. W. Ross Porter, New York/Connecticut
119. **District Mission Coordinators:** Ms. Linda Mellor, Catskill Hudson; Rev. Dr. M. Craig Fitzsimmons, Connecticut; Ms. Denise Hamilton, Long Island West; Rev. Sonia Jermin, Metropolitan, and Mr. W. Ross Porter, New York/Connecticut.

Youth Ambassadors in Mission (Y.A.M)

120. The 2012 YAM team did their mission work in Ghana in February. Adult leaders whose dedication and love for young people made this trip a great success were: Mr. Tyrone Johnson, (Grace St. Albans), Ms. Emily Ott (Park Avenue), Ms. Gillian Prince (Fenimore), and Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie.
121. The thirteen young people who participated in this year's trip to Ghana were:
Connecticut: Sara Burrous (Simsbury), Alyssa Wood (Shelton); **Long Island East:** Sarah Anne Mackey (Commack), Jennifer Carle (Farmingdale); **Long Island West:** Stephanie Hoyt (Fenimore), Okema Smith (Fenimore), Kevon Wilson (Fenimore), Isaiah Warren (Grace St. Albans), Taliah Moore (Bethany); **Metropolitan:** Dwayne Dell (Butler Memorial), Imani Smith (New Rochelle), Maya Smith (New Rochelle), Deniece Dwyer (Wakefield Grace)
122. The next YAM trip is scheduled for Ecuador in February 2013.
123. Since 2005, the Conference has provided a special volunteer in mission opportunity for young people from our local churches. One of the main purposes of Youth Ambassadors in Mission is to give our youth and young people a unique firsthand cross-cultural life-changing experience.
124. Youth Mission Trips have the potential of accomplishing several goals such as:
- Bring youth from across the New York Annual Conference together with a common experience,
 - Begin to develop youth leadership for our Conference Youth Ministry,
 - Inspire our youth with the traditional Wesleyan mission spirit,
 - Help youth learn and experience another culture by working and interacting with others, and
 - A life-changing experience of encountering Christ again in a strange environment.
125. **Participation** — Each of the six districts identifies and recommends two youth who have interest in mission. The district and the local church partially fund the trip and support their candidates with prayers. Candidates may apply for Conference Mission Scholarships.
126. After the mission experience, each participant becomes a core member of Conference Youth Ambassador in Mission. They will be recognized at the annual conference session in June of each year. They will give presentations at district workshops during that year, sharing their experiences and inspiring other youth for mission.

Mission Interpretation/Missionary Covenant Relations

- 127. The New York Annual Conference continues to support and strengthen the relationship with the following mission initiatives:
- 128. **International Volunteers In Mission sites:** Mozambique Sister Conference Initiative, Bolivia Mission, Costa Rica Mission, Cambodia Mission, Haiti Mission, Ghana Mission, Ecuador Mission
- 129. **National:** Churches Saving Communities-Projects (Advance #982143), Communities of Shalom-Projects (Advance #742566), Homelessness in the U.S. (Advance #982385), Appalachia Service Project (Advance #982050), National Justice for Our Neighbors-Projects (Advance #901285), Bread for the World-Project (Advance #982325), Church World Service – Crop Hunger Walk – Project (Advance #982380), UM Army, Midnight Run

General Board of Global Ministries Missionary Support

- 130. The following are the missionaries related to the New York Conference:

John A. Calhoun	Advance # 13970Z	Kiev, Ukraine
Helen de Leon Camarce	Advance # 13953Z	Manila, Philippines
Joseph Chan	Advance # 12903Z	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Marilyn Sovann Chan	Advance # 12904Z	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Hikari Chang	Advance # 3021520	Tokyo, Japan
Eun Ha (Grace) Choi	Advance # 13974Z	Philippines
Jae Hyoung (Jay) Choi	Advance # 13973Z	Philippines
Dieudonne Karihano	Advance #3019569	Mozambique
Eumin Kim	Advance #3021370	Almaty, Kazakhstan
Prumeh Kim	Advance #3021369	Almaty, Kazakhstan
Sun Lae Kim	Advance #11871Z	Mongolia
Ediberto Lopez	Advance #12860Z	Puerto Rico

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

James A. Stinson, Consultant on Older Adult Ministry

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

- 101. This conference year saw the formation of a Conference Committee on Older Adult Ministries. It has been meeting monthly since the fall of 2012. As a committee, we have been studying Rev. Dr. Richard Gentzler’s book, *Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century*, the first portion of each meeting being devoted to a different chapter. We continue to do so as a means of focusing on our purpose as a committee, which is to inform, promote, and lead in ways that allow local congregations to engage more deliberately in ministry with the older adult population in each congregation and community.
- 102. We have developed a manual for our members to use as we work in various districts and congregations, so that our presentations and information sharing is uniform in its approach. We have recently shared with congregations in the Metropolitan District workshops and look forward to sharing with other districts and clusters as invited.

103. We will be sharing our emphasis on Older Adult Ministries, with an interactive display during the NYAC in June.
104. In addition to assisting the formation and direction of this committee, as the Consultant on Older Adult Ministry, I continue to make myself available to local congregations and groups, including the districts. I am available to preach, lead workshops and lead seminars on a variety of issues related to this ministry.

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRIES

Ms. Dana Dudkewic

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

Team Reports

101. The Social Justice Team has done amazing things to help the annual conference theme: “No More Malaria” and with the UM Women for a day on the issue of human trafficking. Great things have happened and I know greater things are to come.
102. The Leadership Development Team helped to motivate and inspire the youth of the conference throughout the year. After last year’s annual conference, the Leadership Team successfully piloted the third Camp Lead; a one-week program for youth who show excellence in the area of leadership. Six youth from around the NYAC gathered at Kingswood Camp to embark on a spiritual journey to grow as future leaders of The United Methodist Church. In March the team led a workshop at Ignite about what teens want from our church services and youth groups. This all-adults class was a rousing success. All of the workshop attendees left Ignite with a wealth of knowledge pertaining to youth. The Leadership Team is now beginning to plan for Camp Lead 2013. We think this year will bring us a greater number of participants and we cannot wait to see what God has planned. The date for Camp Lead 2013 is August 11-16 at Camp Epworth. Applications to sign up will be available at the CCYM table at annual conference.
103. In the past year, CCYM’s Mission Team managed to expand far beyond expectations. They led the flash carnival held in Walton, NY where we served many children and families offering them a day of free games, face painting, dancing, snacks, and great fellowship. We are in the process of connecting with Restoration Generation and our jurisdictional youth council to increase our ability to offer mission opportunities for the youth of our conference. Ignite 2013 provided a presentation to encourage youth groups to get involved in mission trips and mission work. Along with the presentation they created a display board of past youth mission work and staffed a table to hand out information about Youth Ambassadors in Mission trips. The team is currently working on a weekend in September to return to the Walton church to do a free fall carnival and visit the wonderful children and adults we met last year.
104. Youth Service Fund (YSF) team has made applications available to people who want to develop organizations for teenagers that need a financial boost. The YSF team presented at Ignite and staffed a table to give out information. The YSF team sold lollipops and threw a coin war at Ignite 2013 to raise more funds for YSF. Since we started collecting in 2009, we have yet to receive an application, so this year we hope to distribute money to benefit many youth organizations.

105. This year, the Design Team for CCYM did a lot of hard work and had a lot of fun. We created flyers and promotional items for CCYM events like Ignite, our district Ignition Event, the Annual Conference Lock In, and Camp Lead and we set up a CCYM table at annual conference. At last year's conference we had a great time assisting with the children's events. This team set up and decorated for Ignite 2013 and helped assist with a lot of the cleanup. This team has a lot to do to get ready for this year's Camp Lead, more Ignition events, Ignite 2014, and our Annual Conference Lock In; we are very excited to be God's hands and feet.
106. This year the Spiritual Formation Team has organized many things for the youth of the New York Annual Conference. They took on many tasks this year. The biggest job was planning and facilitating worship for all CCYM events including the Annual Conference Lock In, Ignite, Ignition events, and Camp Lead. Our Spiritual Formation Team also wrote daily devotions and small group plans, called "spark groups," for Ignite. We also helped organize and run the Bishop's Confirmation Rally. We are working on putting together a CCYM band to play at all CCYM events. Please keep this new venture in your prayers.
107. All in all, this has been one powerful and strong year for our CCYM, one filled with many new ventures and much excitement. So far God has blessed us more than we could have ever imagined and we look forward to seeing what is to come. Ignite 2013 blew our minds as we went from canceling 2012 to overbooking camp Quinipet for 2013. Praise God!!! We have been blessed with adults and young adults who played a huge role in getting CCYM up and going a few years back. Many of our wonderful youth are going to college this year but we look forward to the new youth who will be joining us; we know God has the perfect replacements for those who will be leaving for new ventures. Our May 11th and August 24th meetings were/will be open meetings as we accept new youth and adults for the year 2013-2014. Also, our visit to the jurisdictional meeting was wonderful and gave us many new ideas that we hope to implement this year. Last but not least, it is very exciting that with the return of many of our young adults, we are beginning a Young Adult Council. Our first event for the NYAC Young Adults will be this summer. Keep your eyes open for more information.

SOCIETIES & INSTITUTIONS

Note: Submissions from agencies which have no reporting responsibility to the Conference are included herein for information purposes.

AFRICA UNIVERSITY

Mr. James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. Africa University is deeply grateful to the New York Conference for its leadership in giving to the Africa University Fund (AUF). We thank you for your 100% investment to the AUF in 2012. In total, 27 annual conferences met 100% of their asking. Other annual conferences also increased their support and overall giving to the AUF reached a new record of 93.35%.
102. By consistently giving at 100%, the churches of the New York Conference have provided financial aid for needy students as well as vital teaching tools and a great learning environment. Your gifts ensure that Africa University has dedicated faculty to inspire, train and nurture a generation of new leaders. More

importantly, these contributions allow the university to plan with confidence, knowing that it can rely on the church's ongoing investment in the AUF to meet its day-to-day and operational expenses.

103. **We urge you to continue to invest in the AUF at 100% of the asking, or higher.** Demand for an Africa University education is growing. More than 1,200 qualified applicants sought admission in August 2012. The university had space for only about 400 freshmen. Currently, women account for 52% of the total enrollment, which stands at 1,386 students. In addition, 25 African nations are represented in the student body.
104. **Scholarships and financial aid grants are vital to access.** More than 90% of the students at Africa University need assistance—scholarships, financial aid grants and work study—in order to pay their tuition and other fees. For the vast majority, a direct or endowed scholarship award made possible by your generosity is their only means of attending university.
105. Throughout 2012, the 20th anniversary celebrations highlighted the crucial role that Africa University is already playing in the life of our global church. The Rev. Dr. Laishi Bwalya, for example, is superintendent of the Zambia Provisional Conference and a member of the Connectional Table of The United Methodist Church for 2013-2016. Africa University graduates serve as directors on general agency boards and in regional leadership roles. Across Africa, more than 4,700 graduates are helping to eradicate hunger, poverty, disease, conflict and hopelessness.
106. **Africa University's full potential is not yet realized.** For every graduate, there are hundreds of gifted persons who are praying for a chance to be equipped to serve. That's why Africa University is doubling its efforts to raise scholarships and develop more online distance learning programs.
107. New York Area United Methodists have a strong record of engagement with Africa University, including a considerable investment in the endowment for scholarships that will educate leaders for the church and society in Africa in perpetuity. With your gifts and prayers, you have helped to establish a life-changing ministry. Help us to grow this ministry in ways that will continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ who transform communities.
108. Thank you. Please pray without ceasing for your Africa University. Changing Africa: Learning here, living here, and leading here. Serving God, all the time, everywhere.

BLACK COLLEGE FUND

Ms. Veronica Fulmore-Darby, Chairperson

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The Black College Fund (BCF) supports the 11 historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) related to The United Methodist Church. Since 1972, the Black College Fund has been an apportioned fund of the Church. The objective of the BCF is to marshal financial support for the programs and ministries of the HBCUs related to The United Methodist Church.
102. Regular and consistent funding support is essential in continuing the important work of these colleges. Most of these member institutions are well into their second century of service. They still need the continuing institutional support of

this church connection to continue their work of opening doors and extending opportunities to deserving students.

103. The HBCUs today have an increasing enrollment of Asian, Hispanic, white and international students. Several religious denominations support private HBCUs, however, The United Methodist Church supports the largest number of fully accredited HBCUs in the United States.
104. The eleven United Methodist Historically Black Colleges and Universities are:

Bennett College for Women Greensboro, NC	Bethune-Cookman College Daytona Beach, FL
Clafin University Orangeburg, SC	Clark Atlanta University Atlanta, GA
Dillard University New Orleans, LA	Huston-Tillotson Austin, TX
Meharry Medical College Nashville, TN	Paine College Augusta, GA
Philander-Smith College Little Rock, AR	Rust College Holly Springs, MS
Wiley College Marshall, TX	

105. We presented to the 2012 Annual Conference Lina McCord, intern/ambassador, and Ms. April Cotton, a proud senior at Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas. Ms. Cotton is majoring in Chemistry and upon the completion of her Bachelors of Science degree she will be pursuing a Juris Doctorate. We collected \$4,578 through a special offering. The Black College Fund Committee continues to sponsor the annual luncheon. On March 9, 2013, the luncheon was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, White Plains. The keynote speaker was Rev. Dennis L. Blackwell, lead pastor at Asbury United Methodist Church in Woodlynne, New Jersey. We sold approximately 150 tickets and collected \$3,231 in contributions.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Dr. Mary Elizabeth Moore, Dean

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. What a Year! I am dazzled by the achievements of our faculty, students and staff here at Boston University School of Theology in 2012. This has been a year of deep reflection as we underwent the BU Academic Program Review and the United Methodist University Senate Review. Both reviews went very well and revealed vital strength in our faculty, students, and administrative staff. This has been a year for celebration – our largest ever incoming class, excellence in teaching and learning, and a vibrant community life. Some highlights from the previous year were:
- **Reaching into the greater community** through service days, “vocations vacation,” seminary singers tour to Florida, and contextual internships.
 - **Building up intentional living communities** for students: Theology House, Green House and Mason Terrace.

- **Enhancing spiritual life** through weekly worship, reading retreats, winter retreat, daily morning prayer, and small groups.
 - **Creating a “greener” school** with: 26 green offices, Carbon Rally Challenge, expand programs for composting and recycling, and now a 2013 renovation to create a green community center.
 - **Hosting Lowell Lecture Series** on “Restoring Civil Discourse,” featuring Dr. Virginia Sapiro, Bishop Melvin Talbert, Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, and Chief Justice Barbara Smith (Chickasaw Nation).
 - **Traveling with seminar groups** to Ephesus (Turkey), Israel and Palestine.
 - **Advancing communication** through a new web site, the launching of STH Connect, and production of webinars and video resources.
102. This has been a year for strengthening master’s education and reviewing doctoral programs. It has also been a year for deepening relations with faith communities, service agencies, and global research initiatives, as we seek to intensify STH’s contributions to our fragile world.
103. Thank you for being a friend of Boston University! We welcome your stories, suggestions, and support for us. STH is on a mission, and we especially covet your prayers for our people and our work. We are praying for you!

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Dr. Jan Love, Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. **Candler School of Theology** prepares *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world. Our commitment to authentic discipleship and relevant ministry enables us to develop uniquely well-rounded leaders who are challenged academically, encouraged spiritually, and immersed in Christian service from the first day they arrive on campus.
102. As one of the 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church, Candler is grounded in the Christian faith and shaped by the Wesleyan tradition. As one of seven graduate professional schools of Emory University, Candler provides a rich context for learning and formation supported by the extensive resources of a top-tier research university. As a school located in the metropolitan area of Atlanta, Candler offers a learning environment that reflects the highly diverse communities of our 21st century world. There is no better place for ministry preparation that addresses our major denominational priorities: developing leaders, starting and growing churches, ministry with the poor, and improving global health.
103. Candler’s student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful. Our enrollment stands at 478, with 365 seeking the Master of Divinity, 50 the Master of Theological Studies, 30 the Master of Theology, 18 the Doctor of Theology, and 15 enrolled as Special, Non-Degree students. The student population is 32 percent U.S. ethnic minority, 10 percent international, and 50 percent women. Half of M.Div. students are United Methodist, with forty-three denominations represented in all programs. The median age of our entering class of M.Div. students is 27, with 58 percent under thirty.
104. Candler remains steadfastly committed to making theological education financially feasible, dedicating nearly \$5 million to financial aid. Eighty percent

of eligible students received Candler-based financial aid, with the average award covering 66 percent of tuition.

105. Construction preparations for the second phase of the Candler's new building got underway at the end of 2012 thanks to an extraordinary gift of \$15 million from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation. The new building, which will house Pitts Theology Library, community space, additional classrooms and offices, group study areas, and the Wesley Teaching Chapel, will be completed in late spring of 2014 in time for Candler's Centennial Celebration. Candler's phase one building was named in memory of Rita Anne Rollins, the first grandchild of the foundation's namesake, in honor of its generous financial gift.
106. Candler had an excellent presence at the 2012 General Conference in Tampa. In addition to my attendance, Associate Dean Anne Burkholder took a class of 20 students so they could learn firsthand about United Methodist governance. Assistant Dean Mathew Pinson and Dr. Alice Rogers attended as delegates, and the Candler Singers, directed by Barbara Day Miller, performed at the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry reception and the plenary session.
107. We continue to emphasize preparing our students for leadership in an increasingly global context, and now offer 19 academic exchanges with theology schools across five continents and 15 countries, including many related to The United Methodist Church. In addition to our ongoing summer internship program with the Methodist Church in the Bahamas, this year's travel seminars included the Middle East and World Methodist Evangelism Institute evangelism seminars to Zimbabwe, Peru, and Israel.
108. Our public events supported our commitment to strengthen the church by offering opportunities for clergy and lay people to hear fresh, new voices. Last fall we hosted Christian activist and bestselling author Shane Claiborne for two major addresses, "Jesus for President" and "Resurrecting Church," with nearly 1,000 in attendance. Our Spring Conference, "The Singing Church," gathered experts to lead an exploration of the best practices and emerging trends of congregational song.
109. Candler draws considerable strength and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of *educating faithful and creative leaders for the church's ministries in the world* depends upon your support, gifts, and prayers. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. Visit us in person in Atlanta or online at candler.emory.edu to see firsthand how Candler prepares *real* people to make a *real* difference in the *real* world.

DREW UNIVERSITY THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, Dean

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. Drew Theological School, deeply rooted in its United Methodist heritage, is a place that empowers its students to conceive and implement dynamic ministries. Drew offers the MDiv, MA, MAM, STM, DMin, and PhD degrees, as well as certifications in Camp and Retreat Ministry, and Spiritual Formation. Academically rigorous and spiritually engaging, Drew develops religious leadership prepared for these ever-changing times. Drew welcomes people of all faiths, but we are particularly interested in building up the United Methodist

ethos that is part of our historic Wesleyan heritage. **Drew offers 100% tuition scholarships to all United Methodists who meet all admissions requirements and have a 3.2 undergraduate GPA or higher.**

102. In June 2012, I was pleased to welcome to Drew's campus representatives from 8 of the 13 United Methodist seminaries, staff members from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, one bishop, and representatives from three annual conferences. We hosted the first annual conference on Theological Education and Clergy Health co-sponsored by the Center for Clergy and Congregational Health and Wholeness at Drew and the Center for Health of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. This three-day conference addressed issues of the current poor state of clergy health in relationship to Theological Education in order to begin to understand the impact of seminaries on students' health.
103. It was also my pleasure to host the September 2012 Theological Conference at Drew entitled, *The Future of Christian Spirituality and Interreligious Interaction* in honor of Dr. Pyun Sun Hwan. Over the course of the three days, an array of speakers from the U.S., Korea, and other countries engaged attendees and one another on topics such as "Interreligious Dialogue Versus Interreligious Theology," "The Future of Comparative Theology," and "Interreligious Theology, Liberation, and the Church."
104. It was also a great pleasure to welcome alumni/ae back to campus for the Tipple Vosburgh lectures in the fall. This year's topic was "Faith, Race, and Politics" which provided opportunities to hear the voices and visions of activists, scholars, and church leaders responding to this unique and timely dilemma.
105. Creative, cutting-edge, inclusive, multi-cultural, social justice ministry is part of the legacy of Drew, and I am proud to be associated with it! Below are just a few other ministries that make me proud to be associated with Drew.
106. ***Building up the United Methodist Connection*** — I have enjoyed meeting bishops and many Boards of Ordained Ministry to convey our desire at Drew to be a resource to the entire denomination. I am particularly pleased that Drew is hosting a January Term class taught by UM bishops. This past January, Bishop Peggy Johnson of the Eastern PA and Peninsula Delaware Conference, taught a class entitled, *Topics in Pastoral Care: Disabilities and the Church*. Her class led worship recently in chapel and shared just how important this course was in forming a compassionate, inclusive and prophetic vision for the church. In January of 2014, Bishop Jane Middleton will teach a class on Ministry and Health.
107. ***United Methodist Liaison at Drew*** — The Rev. Jeff Markay continues to work with our UM students by introducing them to the leaders and resources within our denomination. He helps them navigate the process toward commissioning and ordination as well as with issues of discernment. We have monthly UM Lunches to meet with bishops, and leaders of the general agencies, conferences and connection.
108. ***United Methodist Deacon Liaison at Drew*** — We are also grateful to have the Rev. Susan Worrell as the Deacon Liaison on campus who shares resources and wisdom with those hearing a call to the Ministry of the Deacon in the UMC.
109. ***Bishop in Residence: Bishop Ernest Lyght*** — It was with great joy and excitement that I announced the appointment of retired Bishop Ernest S. Lyght as the bishop-in-residence at the Theological School beginning March 1, 2013.

I anticipate this appointment to continue until 2015. In this position, Bishop Lyght will teach and mentor students and be a presence on campus.

110. **National Shalom Ministry of the UMC** — Communities of Shalom, now in its 6th year at Drew, completed its curricular redevelopment of ShalomZone Training, which is now available through a cadre of certified national and regional trainers under the leadership of National Director, the Rev. Dr. Michael Christensen.
111. Center for Clergy and Congregational Health and Wholeness — In October 2012 Dean Ginny Samuel made a presentation to members of the AUMTS (Deans and Presidents of the 13 United Methodist Seminaries) about the state of clergy health. She was accompanied by a staff person from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, Anne Borish, and together they invited AUMTS members to participate in the longitudinal study. While there was a unanimous support for this study, thus far Drew and Duke Divinity School are the two participating seminaries. We expect that more seminaries will join the study in the coming years. This collaborative effort will support efforts to make needed changes in the structures and programs of an MDiv degree to encourage and support students' attention to their own health and well being.
112. In February we launched the Seminary to Ministry longitudinal study in partnership with the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. This study will track MDiv students during their time in seminary and for the first five years in ministry. Results of the survey will be helpful to faculty in its revision of the MDiv curriculum as it informs them about the realities of student health and well being while they are at Drew.
113. We at Drew look forward to working with the good and faithful people of the UMC as we forge deeper friendships in the shared ministry of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.
114. For more information about Drew, please visit us at: www.drew.edu.

THE LONG ISLAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Rev. Thomas W. Goodhue, Executive Director

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. The mission of the Long Island Council of Churches is the help diverse Christians to work together in mission and to help Christians and non-Christians to understand one another better.
102. The LICC provides resources that are beyond the capacity of individual congregations. In the past year, we fed hundreds of people each week in Nassau and Suffolk counties, often providing emergency food to more than 2,100 people a month. Last month we fed 200 more people in Freeport than we did a year earlier. In addition we distributed hundreds of Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. We fed 475 people at our Thanksgiving Dinner in Riverhead, distributed 8,500 household items just in Riverhead, and helped people with rent and mortgage assistance, prescription assistance, transportation, and other problems. We continue to need food donations and volunteer drivers to pick up these contributions.
103. Our Multi-Faith Forum recently presented its 290th educational program, designed to help us understand, get along with, and reach out to neighbors

of other faiths. This project is without parallel elsewhere, sending volunteers from eleven different faith communities into schools, workplaces, and houses of worship to help Long Islanders understand their neighbors. Our volunteers represent the Bahais, Brahma Kumaris, Buddhism, Christianity, Hindus, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Native American Spirituality, Sikhism, and Unitarian Universalism. If you are not familiar with all these traditions, you may need a Building Bridges program! We need more volunteers for the Forum, particularly Christians who are willing to tell how they practice their faith in their daily lives.

104. We continue to offer workshops on how to be good stewards. Our financial experts have tackled such topics as how to find affordable housing, how to reduce household expenses, and how to manage money in retirement. We have addressed audiences ranging from day-laborers to retirees, from residents of a domestic violence shelter to unemployed workers trying to save their homes. We sponsored a major conference with GreenFaith this March on how to save money by using less energy both in your house of worship and in your home. Perhaps you would like us to do a workshop for your congregation? Perhaps as part of your stewardship program? Through Liger Energy, we also offer churches and individuals substantial discounts on natural gas.
105. We continue to offer programs on how to preach and teach about immigration and how to make your congregation more welcoming to our newest neighbors. And we are exploring an effort with the Partners for Sacred Spaces to help congregations use their facilities more effectively in ministry and mission in their communities—and find new partners who will help maintain their buildings.
106. We have launched new efforts to encourage ecumenical and interfaith dialogue in our region, including a series of road trips to visit the Jain Center of America, a Sikh gurdwara, the Brahma Kumaris' Global Harmony House, a Hindu temple, a Mormon stake, and a mosque. In responding to our neighbors in need, we want to address the issues that divide us. We do not imagine that we can unite the broken Body of Christ, but we can at least try to get out of the way of God's attempts to make us one.
107. None of this would be possible without the support of many people like you. Thanks!

UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Dr. Wendy J. Deichmann, President

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. Is God calling you or someone you know to the ministry of Jesus Christ? If so, we invite you to explore how United can assist you in fulfilling God's purposes for your life and how you can help others in this journey. Come and check us out in person or online at www.united.edu!
102. United is one of the fastest growing, accredited seminaries in North America. Why are Christian disciples and leaders signing up for our traditional and online programs? They are doing so because United is committed to teaching the Bible and the historic Christian faith, cultivating spiritual formation for personal and social holiness, and renewing the Church for the mission of Jesus Christ in the world. What could be more important or exciting?

103. In addition to expanding our service in the Midwestern US, United will continue to enhance its use of technology to deliver theological education in underserved regions in North America and beyond. United's hybrid/online UMC FLEX Master of Divinity degree was designed specifically to meet the requirements of the UMC for ordination and it is accessible anywhere with good Internet service. Our hybrid/online UM Course of Study is expanding each semester, along with UM Certification offerings.
104. What's new at United? Three new professors joined our excellent team of faculty in 2012 and a search is underway for yet another. United and Aldersgate Renewal Ministries have developed a new partnership, and we have piloted a new certification program focused upon ministries with persons with disabilities. Each year, United's doctoral program adds new mentors and focus groups for advanced ministry study.
105. Please let us know if you have questions about how we can best assist you or, if you would like to help make it possible for an American or international student to study at United.
106. Enrollment at United continues to grow, and we invite you to call or visit soon!
107. For more information, please contact admissions@united.edu.
108. Thank you for your prayers, partnership, service and support in the ministry of Jesus Christ!
109. Spirit Led, Renewing the Church! United Theological Seminary, 4501 Denlinger Rd, Dayton, OH 45426 www.united.edu

WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Rev. Dr. David McAllister-Wilson, President

Concur: 124, Non-Concur: 0, Abstain: 0; 100% concurrence, NYAC conference session: adopted

101. As a new residence hall rises on the home campus, Wesley is building an institution that fosters vital churches for the next generation. We have developed a vision for what the church of the future should be, and have become a new kind of seminary. More than a good graduate school, we have become like a research university dedicated to serving the church.
102. The Lewis Center for Church Leadership continues to expand its programs and the readership of the premier online resource for churches: *Leading Ideas*. Through the Center, we are administering three new programs funded by grants from the Lilly Endowment. One enables us to continue our Lewis Fellows program, an intensive post-seminary leadership training initiative for young clergy. Another will reach pastors, five to ten years beyond seminary. They will engage with thought leaders in Washington, D.C. on the subjects of courage, doing good well, generosity and well-being to help expand their field of vision and lead their churches to engage more effectively in their communities. The third program takes a hard look at the economic challenges facing future ministers. We will conduct research into our graduates' debt, analyze information about current compensation packages, and review the consequences of debt on the well-being of graduates. We will review our own economic and funding strategies and improve institutional practices while creating educational programs that better prepare future pastoral leaders as managers of personal and congregational finance.

103. Our extension campus in downtown Washington, D.C. at Mount Vernon Square is developing as a center for missional churches as we help churches turn inside out in mission evangelism, community transformation and public theology. Our work there is spiritually and physically centered on an intentional living community of students and of faculty and church partners ministering in the shadow of Capitol Hill. We are engaging in hands-on learning/serving experiences in urban communities through our Urban Fellows and Missional Fellows programs.
104. The biggest new development is the Heal the Sick Initiative (HTS) developed in partnership with three hospital systems and the White House Office of Faith-Based Initiatives. In HTS, Wesley will be the catalyst and educational partner in the development of a pilot program of parish-based healthcare in the Baltimore-Washington-Northern Virginia Region modeled after several successful programs nationwide. The HTS will prepare ministry leaders to support their congregations in the development of health ministries which include care and support for their members' overall well-being, as well as care for their neighbors, particularly the poor.
105. Wesley is actively recruiting the kind of students who want to be Disciples of Jesus Christ and transform the world at all levels of ordained and lay ministry. We have continued to increase financial aid while holding down the cost of tuition. We launched a new 36-hour Master of Arts degree in the fall which uses a flexible curriculum to enable students to acquire a basic theological education. Wesley has entered into two dynamic partnerships this year. The first is with the Center for Discipleship at Southwestern College in Winfield, KS, and makes unique lay study courses developed by Wesley in its Wesley Ministry Network available to the public on a large scale. And, Wesley is now partnered with Pfeiffer University and Union Presbyterian Seminary to make it possible for United Methodist students to complete their Master of Divinity degrees at Union Presbyterian Seminary's Charlotte, NC campus.
106. Meanwhile, Wesley has become a truly global seminary so that we may serve the church where it is growing the most and that we might benefit from the spiritual vision and vitality of global Christianity. We completed the final two class terms of a Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) program for 14 West African leaders engaged in educating persons for pastoral ministry in Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Cameroon. And we began our sixth Global Asian D.Min. track. In addition, there are currently 22 international students from around the globe studying in Master's degree programs. And, we have established new relationships in China and India.
107. The coming year will bring more exciting changes to Wesley as we continue our efforts to develop strong and dynamic leaders for the church and the world.
108. Meet us at www.wesleyseminary.edu