



# Communicator

## an edition of

# The United Methodist Reporter

Two Sections, Section A

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NOVEMBER 7, 2008

### The Healthy Church Initiative

A Pathway to Healthy Disciples involved in Healthy Ministry Leading to Healthy Churches



CARE Team is sponsoring a Safe Sanctuaries Training

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### The Spiritual Transformation of Grace

Racism is a sin because it is fundamentally the abuse of power. It is the use of power to exploit others for your benefit. In our racist society, power has generally been given to those in the majority culture. In your neighborhood the power structure might be different. The racist power may be given not by the color of skin but by the language that you speak. When I served a deaf congregation, power was held by those who knew American Sign Language and those who didn't sign often told me they felt marginalized. Racism is about power, not about ethnicity. The opportunity to abuse our social power can make any of us racist, but the Gospel of Jesus Christ can transform us from a racist into a gracist.

The term "gracist" comes from

### Message From Our Bishop

a book by David A. Anderson entitled "Gracism: The Art of Inclusion." Racism excludes and hoards power for itself. Gracism seeks to openly share with all the blessings of God to everyone no matter who they are. To go from a racist to a gracist is to undergo a spiritual transformation. It is a reorientation from exclusion to inclusion, from a view from scarcity to abundance for all.

As a gracist we understand that we are all part of the same family with one God who loves us all. The scripture tells us that to neglect our family, is to be worse than an unbeliever. It is not necessary to make distinctions that God does not make, for we are all one in Christ Jesus. Gracism is living a life that bears spiritual fruit and it is at war with the racist ways of the flesh. Gracism calls us not only to love each other, but to go out of our way to live at peace with one another. The Spirit of Grace

moves us to seek to bring joy into the lives of those who are struggling. A gracist looks for ways to show kindness to others and to be gentle with those who seem the most vulnerable among us. Gracism takes a lot of self control, because just because you have the power to live selfish greedy lives does not mean that you should. Instead we are to be as Christ, who had the very power of God, chose to use that power not for his own pleasure, but to save an entire world from sin. He chose to live among the poor. He chose to take upon himself the burden of our sins. To become a gracist is to become like Christ.

The pain caused by racism is real and needs to be acknowledged, because we cannot change what we don't acknowledge. But then we must move on to repentance, we need to change from our racist ways, to God's gracious calling. We must all become transformed by the



Bishop Peggy A. Johnson

renewal of our minds and hearts and become gracist in all we do. As we give power and as we receive power, we must all learn to use our power not to exclude others but to find creative ways of including everybody. We need to use our power to find ways encouraging others. We need to find ways of using our God given blessings to become a blessing to those who need those blessings in their lives too. Racism will disappear only as we move on to perfection allowing gracism to appear. Open your hearts and make it so.

### Phone Card Program Still Going Strong (Part I)

By Tamara Ward

What can one person do to make a difference? I hear this question a lot. Almost every day, working for the church, I receive an answer. Recently I attended the United Methodist Association of Communicators (UMAC) meeting in Providence, Rhode Island. A few days prior to the meeting I received a call from the United Methodist Endorsing Agency\*\*\* requesting my help in distributing materials for a speaker they were sending to UMAC. This person, I came to realize, was that 'one person' that made a difference. Our guest speaker was Chaplain (LTC) Matt Woodbery, Deputy Joint Staff Chaplain, Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Religious Affairs Office, The Pentagon. While Chaplain Woodbery was deployed, he was asked

what our troops needed that supporters 'back home' could provide. Thinking 'outside the box' (at the time) Chaplain Woodbery said 'how about phone cards.' In 2003 during a panel discussion at UMAC (held in Philadelphia, PA) the Endorsing Agency put out a call through the Communicators for donations from Annual Conferences, local churches, and individual members to purchase phone cards.

The first United Methodist cards were distributed in October 2004 and, four years later, approximately 13,400,000 minutes of phone cards service have been donated. Through the Endors-

ing Agency, one 120 minute card costs \$4.95. In the past five years they have placed 15 orders for 5000 cards and collected over \$450,000. But, we are not done yet. There are still military men and women deployed all over the world that would like to call home and we need to continue to support them as they are working so hard for us. The Endorsing Agency has given permission for the Peninsula-Delaware Conference to not only send out a call for donations but a special call for two of our very own chaplains that are currently deployed. Revs. Sherrol James and Barry Steiner Ball are currently serving our country and our brothers and sisters in Christ on deployment. If you would like to do so, any donations that you send to the Endorsing Agency you can request that the monies go to purchase phone cards that will



Chaplain (LTC) Matt Woodbery

be sent to them for their distribution. As they return from their deployment, the Endorsing Agency will then take any future donations directed to them and disperse cards to other chaplains that are deployed.

Contributions can be sent to

Continued on Page 4.....



Youth Rally is coming Page 4



### Veteran's Day

Observed on Monday November 10, 2008

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## A "PREACHING FOR LIFE CHANGE" SEMINAR

A "Preaching For Life Change" Seminar is being offered at Mariner's Bethel UMC (Route 26 and Central Avenue), Ocean View, DE on Saturday, November 22, 2008. Is your preaching changing the hearts and lives of your people? Do you desire to become a better communicator to reach the lost in your community? Each weekend, 55 million people listen to 1 billion words in sermons given across America. Yet, research shows that the #1 complaint people have is that sermons are boring and don't relate to their lives. "The Preaching for Life Change Seminar" will help you develop creative approaches, strategies, and techniques to communicate the only message that can truly change a person's life. It's practical information that is transferable, regardless of church size or cultural-context.

This seminar is presented by Pastor Steve Ackerman and Pastor Woody Wilson. Registration and gathering will begin at 8:30 until 9:00 am. There will be two morning sessions with lunch from 12:15-1:00 p.m. and two afternoon sessions with a Q and

A session from 4:15-4:30 p.m. Clergy, student and supply pastors, certified and local lay speakers, lay leaders, and interested laity are encouraged to attend this seminar. The early registration fee, on or before November 10th, is only \$10.00 and includes all materials and lunch. The late registration fee, November 11th through November 20th, is \$15.00, so be sure to register early. Thursday, November 20, is the last day to register. Please include the following information....your name, church, and a contact number where you may be reached, along with your early registration fee of \$10.00 made payable to the Pen-Del CBOLM and please mail to:

Mrs. Luray McClung  
24309 Wiley Branch Road  
Millsboro, DE 19966

If you have any questions about this seminar, please contact Pastor Ackerman at pastorsteve.ackerman@aldersgatede.org, Pastor Wilson at pastorwoody@verizon.net or Luray McClung at 302-934-8560.

### Cont. from Page 1

the United Methodist Endorsing Agency (UMEA), P.O. Box 340007, Nashville, TN, 37203-0007.

All of the dollars collected purchase the phone cards. The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) provides the shipping and handling.

Judy Carter, wife of retired pastor, Rev. Tom Carter, volun-

teers at the Agency. She communicates with the chaplains and sends out the phone cards.

(check the November 21st issue for Part II of this story)

(\*\*\*The Endorsing Agency is a Division of Ordained Ministry at the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry based in Nashville, Tennessee)

### Communicator

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## Young People's Ministry

### Top 10 Reasons NOT to go on a Mission Trip Next Summer!!

10. You may be infected with a whole new and maybe dangerous understanding of who God is – His heart, His passion, His love!

9. When your faith explodes, it may scare your family and friends.

8. You are probably happy just spending all "your money" on yourself – Are you really sure that you want to come to terms with who really owns it all and how He wants you to use the money He has entrusted to you?

7. You may think leadership is all about good looks, power, and popularity – Why get confused learning about servanthood and real influence?

6. You may think your time and future are your own – Are you sure you want to be confronted with God's claims on your life? After all, you were bought with a price – and He has a part for you in His plan for the whole world!

5. Experiencing the Body of Christ in another culture will make it hard to maintain the status quo back home.

4. Your heart will be broken.

3. The Bible does say that God owns the cattle on a thousand hills – but surely He can't handle the cash for a mission trip.

2. What would your family think if you received a call into full-time Christian service on account of a mission trip? Charles Spurgeon: "If called to be a missionary, don't stoop to be a king!"

1. You are at an age where you can be changed...and if you let a mission trip get to you...you might help fulfill God's promises to change the world!

I love mission trips! Why? There are so many reasons: There is something cool about taking a high school senior who's been on a few summer mission trips to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and having her lead the roofing team! There's an awesome feeling when you take a college freshman to Mexico and have him lead a church-wide team to the same location the next year. There's amazing joy when you see 45 high school students having the time of their lives in the poorest county in West Virginia, even though you know they've never before worked this hard at anything. But there's nothing quite as fulfilling as seeing how

God uses these experiences to show students the call He has on their lives. I have known many students who have been molded and shaped because of their experiences on mission trips. It's as if God is able to work overtime in their lives during these times. Truth is, He can!

There's something special that happens when students give up a week (or more) of their lives to serve others, when they are taken outside of their comfort zones, surrounded by their peers and adult mentors, working together to help those who need a helping hand. There's something about how God uses those times. I know many young people who are serving in full-time ministry, serving as missionaries, or are studying for ministry because of something God has done in their lives because of their involvement in short-term missions.

Wouldn't it be great if you could provide an opportunity like this for your students? Good news – you can!!! Don't be the youth leader who uses any of the excuses above not to offer a short-term missions experience for your students. There is a myriad of opportunities for your youth ministry to be involved in missions – in your own backyard or anywhere in the world you want to go. As a local church youth pastor I tried to offer various opportunities for my students to be involved in missions, sometimes close to home, sometimes far away. I tried to offer a variety of experiences – construction, teaching VBS, flood relief, in a variety of settings – rural, urban, domestic, international, you get the picture. Seeing God at work (and seeing how God can use each of us) in each of these settings is more valuable than any price tag we could put on these trips.

I would love to see each of our churches sponsor at least



Shane Hinderliter

one mission trip. To make it easy for you I would love to talk with you about the many mission agencies that you could partner with to make a summer mission trip a reality. To make it even easier for you we are offering two summer mission opportunities in 2009. One is a local mission camp in Delaware called Mission Possible; the other is a trip to the Bahamas, which is a partnership with the Youthworker Movement ([youthworkermovement.com](http://youthworkermovement.com)) and Mission Encounter ([missionencounter.com](http://missionencounter.com)). Keep checking this newspaper and the Young People's Ministries website, [umyoungpeople.org](http://umyoungpeople.org), for more information as it is released or contact me for more information. Begin by asking God to direct your planning and to show you the best options for your ministry to get involved in short-term missions. I look forward to hearing why you love mission trips too!

Grace and peace,

Shane

p.s. Thanks to Steven Wiseman, youth pastor at Avenue UMC in Milford, Delaware, for the Top 10 list. Feel free to steal this from him and use it in your own ministry. I did!



The 2009 Youth Rally brochures have been sent to all churches in the Peninsula-Delaware Conference. If your church has not received your brochure, please contact Penny Carney at [pcarney@pen-del.org](mailto:pcarney@pen-del.org) or 1.877.736.3351 ext. 21



## Congress Passes Charitable IRA Rollover

On Friday, October 3, Congress enacted legislation to address the current economic and financial crisis. This legislation includes the extension of the popular Pension Protection Act provision which allows taxpayers over 70 ½ to make tax-free distributions from Traditional and Roth IRA accounts directly to a church or charity in 2008 and 2009. This extends what proved to be a wonderful way for donors to make a gift to the Church. Many IRA account holders are aware that money contributed to an IRA account will grow tax deferred until the time of an elective distribution in retirement, or mandatory distribution at age 70 ½. This distribution will then be taxed as ordinary income upon withdrawal. Under the Pension Protection Act, a donor may choose to make a charitable distribution directly from the IRA to a charity in any amount up to \$100,000. The distribution to the charity will not be subject to taxes. Individual Retirement Account (IRA) assets are subject to income tax when withdrawn

by the account owner or by the survivors. This wonderful opportunity to fund a planned giving program or charitable gift using money that otherwise would be taxed should now be considered. This is particularly true for individuals over 70 ½ that are subject to a mandatory income distribution before the end of the year. For more information contact the Foundation office at 1.800.828.9093.



Jack Brooks

### Certain Income in Uncertain Times Do you know your current Charitable Gift Annuity Rate? Single Life

Age	Charitable Annuity Rate
65	5.7%
70	6.1%
75	6.7%
80	7.6%
85	8.9%
90	10.5%

Approved by the American Council on Gift Annuities on April 2, 2008  
Effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009  
For a free rate quote  
Contact the Foundation Office at 1.800.828.9093

## BUMP Holds Workshop

On Saturday, October 4th, the Black United Methodist Pastors held their Annual Church Leadership and Spiritual Growth Workshop at Wesley College. Rev. Dr. Sandra Steiner Ball, Conference Resource Director opened the morning devotion with information pertaining to Ministry of Laity.

The following workshops were offered: Evangelism: "It Is My Story And I Am Sticking To It," was led by Rev. Dr. William Wallace. The purpose: To stimulate our creative energies as we strategize ways to do disciple making for our church and community. The challenge today is not to change what we do as much as it is to change how we do it. The following are necessary for effective disciple-making: Be door openers: we must meet the needs of those who knock at the door; Be invitational: we must be willing to welcome and embrace all who are at the door; and be incarnational: we are the body of Christ Jesus, and to be effective in evangelism, we must be desirous to love unconditionally as Jesus

loved.

"Servant Leadership" led by Rev. Carroll Fields. Key Scripture: Ephesians 4:7-8, 11-13. The workshop will help leaders: to identify and know their God-given gifts and skills of leadership. To inspire, equip and empower others around us to realize their leadership abilities, minister to others with a servant heart. To develop committed and mature servants who are united in sharing the ministry, vision, burden, and business of healthy churches and ministries.

"Methodist History & Polity", led by Rev. Dr. J. T. Seymour. The following information was shared: John Wesley and the Early Methodist Movement, Methodism in America: Brief Highlights, The Meaning of "Polity", What makes us "distinctive" and United Methodist. We are: Connectional, Itinerant, Conciliar, Episcopal, Grace-oriented, Committed to the "Quadrilateral" and Vital Aspects of United Methodism for Local Churches today.

Rev. William Ross led "Hospitality & Stewardship." The follow-

ing information was presented: The Theology of Stewardship in the Twenty First Century. Be a Good Steward by Living Stewardship Today. How to make a difference in your giving. Tithing as a Biblical concept. What Stewardship can do for working women? Theology of Hospitality. What is hospitality? How can your church become more inviting? Why Hospitality?

Those that attended the BUMP Workshop had a wonderful time learning and sharing information with others. Information that was collected from the evaluation was very positive. Many comments suggested that maybe the time should be extended from half day to a full day. This would allow for longer sessions and more discussions. A special thank you to Ms. Brenda O. Gaines for helping to make the day successful.

Rev. Yvonne Penn thanked everyone for attending the BUMP Workshop. A special thank you to all the presenters.

The day ended with a closing prayer.

## Cokesbury Connection

### ADVENT. CHRISTMAS. EPIPHANY

Are YOU ready? These joyous times of the year are fast approaching. Let Cokesbury help you make them more important and meaningful than ever before. Here are some resources and sales that can help.

### CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE... November 20-22.

You are invited. Visit the Cokesbury Store in Baltimore or King of Prussia and find wonderful gifts and sales on books, Bibles, greeting cards and more all at 25% OFF. 30%-50% off select children's books.

### ONLINE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING:

What if you cannot get to a Cokesbury store? Not a problem. Shop by phone (800-672-1789) or at www.cokesbury.com. Mention promo code OH09 and get 25% off over 200,000 products for ministry AND FREE SHIPPING.

### THE PURPOSE OF CHRISTMAS

by Rick Warren

Share some of the childhood memories of this influential pastor, including the tradition of having a birthday party for Jesus that he and his family have kept for 50 years. (9781416559009).

### THE MANGER MATCHING GAME:

Children ages 3 and up match up tiles bearing the images of people, places, and animals from the Nativity story. (185079000202)

**3-DAY SALE PRICE 40% OFF** on a beautiful standing Advent Wreath \$999.00 Reg. \$1725. See picture in the Cokesbury November monthly catalog on page 2.

### COKEBURY SALES ON CUSTOM PRODUCTS TO BEAUTIFY AND ENHANCE YOUR WORSHIP EXPERIENCE.

- Choir Robes: 15% OFF until Nov. 15th
- Pew Cushions, Communion Rails, Church Furniture 15% OFF thru Jan. 31, 2009
- Memorial Gifts – 15% OFF. Honor the memory of a loved one with Altarware and get FREE engraving.

### NEW AND IMPORTANT BOOKS FOR YOUR MINISTRY AREAS.

#### CHURCH GROWTH:

- \**God-Size Your Church: Beyond Growth for Growth Sake* 9780687649099
- \**The Wired Church 2.0 Multi-Media is not an add-on any longer but a new system of communication.* 9780687648993
- \**Wiring Your Church for Worship* 9780687642816
- \**Five Practices of Fruitful Congrega-*



Madeline Beall

tions 9780687645404  
\**Can These Bones Live? Bringing New Life to a Dying Church* 9780687335572  
\**Outreach Ministry in the 21st Century*, Group Publishing 9780764434372

#### LEADERSHIP:

\**Women and Leadership* 9780787988333  
\**Leveraging Your Communication Style: Enhance Relationships, Build Bridges, and Reduce Conflict* 9780687647514  
\**The Ministry of Administrative Assistants (Ministry Guides from Adam Hamilton and Church of the Resurrection)* 9780687647095  
\**Building a House for All God's Children: Diversity Leadership in the Church* 9780687649990

#### YOUTH MINISTRY:

\**Youth Ministry, Ministry Guide from Church of the Resurrection & Adam Hamilton* 9780687650392  
\**Scary, Gross, and Weird*, Group Publishing 9780764436987

#### MISSION:

\**Mission Trips That Matter* 9780835899475  
\**Following God's Call: Individual Volunteers in Mission* 9780687491094  
\**Faithful Witnesses: United Methodist Theology of Mission* 9781933663197

#### AFRICAN-AMERICAN RESOURCES:

\**Being Black, Teaching Black: Politics and Pedagogy in Religious Studies* 9780687465033  
\**God Delivers Me: A Model from Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century.* 9780687648894  
\**Black Church Studies: An Introduction. An instant textbook classic.* 9780687332656

#### DEVOTIONAL:

\**Surprised by Hope* by N.T. Wright 9780661551826  
\**Going On To Salvation: A Study of Wesleyan Beliefs* by Maxie Dunnam 9780687653133  
\**Find Your Way Home: Words from the Street, Wisdom from the Heart* by the Women of Magdalene with Becca Stevens 9780687647057  
\**Vessel Of Peace: A Guide for Pilgrims of the Spirit* 9780687642557

Jesus...the Brightest Star of All

Madeline Beall  
Cokesbury Consultant  
Toll Free: 1.877.792.5410  
Email: mbeall@cokesbury.com

## CARE TEAM CONCERNS: Safe Sanctuaries: WHY and HOW?

On Saturday December 6, 2008 Joy Thornburg Melton, an ordained deacon and practicing attorney, will lead a day long workshop for Peninsula-Delaware Conference on Safe Sanctuaries: Why We Need It and How To Make It Happen. Who better to lead such a workshop than the woman who wrote the books: Safe Sanctuaries (1998) and Safe Sanctuaries for Youth, Reducing the Risk of Abuse in Youth Ministries (2002)?

"A decade ago, Melton could settle church child abuse cases out of court for less than \$1000 to cover the costs of medical care and counseling. Now our society realizes churches can be brought into court, and the demands for settlement are in the millions." (excerpted from a 2006 article by Marta W. Aldrich, a freelance journalist in Tenn.)

Ah, but, you are a member of a church or a leader in a congregation where the prevailing thinking is: "We are a family. It cannot happen here!" So why should you bother to invest time and energy to try to prevent something that might never happen? Let me offer five reasons why your church should be represented at this event:

1) Lawsuits are a very real reason. You may not be concerned about prevention of harm, but who wants to lose their church?

2) Reputation is another reason to attend. You may not lose your church financially, but the shame of such an event becomes very public information with long lasting impact. In truth, even when wide knowledge of gory details is not out in the community, the inward hurt and secret keeping has a harmful impact upon a congregation for many years to come. People may not be able to put their finger on it, but they know something is or was very wrong!

3) Connection is reason to attend. In 1996, the United Methodist General conference passed a resolution calling on every church to develop policies and

procedures to reduce the risk of child sexual abuse in its ministries and facilities (Aldrich). Is your church United Methodist? Do you have a Safe Sanctuaries/child abuse prevention policy? Are you enforcing it?



4) Evangelism is an even better reason to attend. Have you been asked how you ensure the safety of children in Sunday School and youth events? If not, you will be. Offering prospective members your Safe Sanctuaries brochure or describing your Safe Sanctuaries policy is an excellent evangelism tool. Radical hospitality prepares for the newcomer and the care of their children. When people's concerns are anticipated, they are more likely to return.

5) Preventing the pain of victimization is the most important reason someone (or better, a team) from your church should be at this event. Is not the church called to protect the vulnerable? Jesus is best known for standing up for those with the least power and capacity to protect themselves. In Matthew 18:6 he cautions against putting a stumbling block before little ones. This is our call as Christians. Denial of the possibility of abuse is akin to indifference.

PLAN TO ATTEND on December 6 from 9AM-4PM! Whatcoat UMC 341 Saulsbury Rd. (Rt. 15), Dover, DE 19904 Fee: \$15 includes morning coffee, lunch & .6 CEU.

REGISTER NOW AS SPACE IS LIMITED! Make checks payable to "Peninsula-Delaware Conference" c/o Marilyn Cleeton, BFEM Resource Center, 139 N. State St., Dover DE 19901

(Contributed by Rev. Sally Dolch sdolch@comcast.net. Rev. Dolch is a member of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference CARE Team.)

## Veteran's Day November 11, 2008

(Even though Veteran's Day is 'officially' on Tuesday, we celebrate on Monday for those that have the day as a holiday)



## Volunteers In Mission The Ultimate Missions Website

For United Methodists, there are a few websites to go to for mission information. If you are looking for ways to connect with what our denomination does in mission, there are two websites you should check out.

You may know about the first one: [www.gbgm-umc.org](http://www.gbgm-umc.org). This is the site for the General Board of Global Ministries. This is our long term missionary sending agency. This is also where UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) is housed, as well as United Methodist Women, and more. Check it out.

The second one is [www.umvim.info](http://www.umvim.info). If you have not been to this website, you are missing out! This is our site for Volunteers in Mission (VIM). VIM is our term for short-term missionary trips that typically last 7-10 days. You may join existing teams, or plan a trip. To plan a trip, contact your Conference VIM committee for information and training. Amy Yarnall 410.885.5641 [pastor@trinitytownpoint.com](mailto:pastor@trinitytownpoint.com)

At this site, you will find infor-

mation about things like:

- National Mission Trips: Want to see what mission trips are happening from local churches all over the country, going to places all over our country? There is an entire list.? You can also see where VIM teams are needed for making trip plans.
- International Mission trip opportunities: Want to go on an international mission trip? Check this out; you may a join of team already planning to go or form a team (contact VIM Committee)
- Youth Trips: Want to find a mission trip site for a youth team? There is a special listing for these trips.
- Family Trips: Want to find a place to go on a family friendly mission trip? Children as young as 6 are welcome at some sites.
- NOMADS: Ever heard of a NOMAD? These are retired mission minded folks, who travel by RV. They work 3 weeks at a site, take a week off, and then can go to a new site if they want to continue. If you like to travel by RV and want to do some mission



work in your travels, check this out.

Finally, the Conference VIM Committee wants to hear from you, and keep you informed. To stay informed about missions, subscribe to the email listserv. Simply send an email to [VIMNews-subscribe@pecometh.org](mailto:VIMNews-subscribe@pecometh.org) You will receive information from around our Conference and from our Jurisdiction. Please also share about the mission trips that are happening in the church. We want to hear the stories, know about the trips that are being planned, and the ones recently taken. At Annual Conference in June, we want to celebrate all of our missionaries. Contact Amy Yarnall 410-885-5641 [pastor@trinitytownpoint.com](mailto:pastor@trinitytownpoint.com)

## Celebrate Africa University Sunday

By Kevin Goodwin, Conference Coordinator of Special Appeals

This year we can celebrate the completion of the Endowed Scholarship. Masudi Makangula Andre is the recipient of our efforts. He is from the DRC and is a 1st Year student in the Faculty of Theology. He is one of over 120 students from 21 countries outside of Zimbabwe enrolled at AU this

year (total enrollment is 1265).

This year's gifts on Africa University Sunday will help endow a scholarship in the name of our former bishop, Marcus Matthews, and his wife. AU Sunday can be held on any Sunday in November. Remember to remit your gifts to the Conference Office by year-end for them to count towards the Bishop Matthews scholarship at Africa University. A bulletin

insert is being sent to each pastor to support this effort.

The political situation in Zimbabwe has improved greatly over the last month. Both parties have formed a government and are sharing power. Pray that this works and that the economy recovers. So far, Africa University has seen little direct impact on its operations other than more students in need of financial aid.

## Conference Calendar of Events

### November 2008

- 7 **Howard Bailey Life Enrichment Program Meeting**, Chestertown: Big Woods, 6:30 p.m.
- 8 **Committee of Clergy & Laity Leadership Meeting**, Dover: Wesley UMC, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
- 9 **Anniversary Service**, Frederica: Barratt's Chapel, 3:30 p.m.
- 10 **Board of Ordained Ministry Full Board Meeting**, Magnolia UMC, 9:30 a.m.  
**Credit Union Meeting**, BFEM Resource Center, 1:30 p.m.  
**Spiritual Formation & Discipleship Team Meeting**, BFEM Resource Center, 6:00 p.m.  
**Conference Hispanic/Latino Task Force Meeting**, BFEM Resource Center, 7:00 p.m.
- 11 **Black United Methodist Preachers Meeting**, BFEM Resource Center, 11:00 a.m.  
**Annual Conference Sessions Team Meeting**, Dover: Wesley UMC, 4:00-6:00 p.m.  
**Wesley Foundation (Delaware State University)**, BFEM Resource Center, 4:30-6:00 p.m.  
**Clergywomen Meeting**, Dover: Wesley UMC, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
- 12 **Conference Council on Finance and Administration Meeting**, BFEM Resource Center, 9:30 a.m.  
**Bishop's Day on the District (Salisbury)**,  
**Clergy-Korean UMC**, 9:00-11:00 a.m.  
**Laity-Fruitland**: St. John's UMC 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- 13 **Advocacy Resource Team Meeting**, BFEM Resource Center, 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
**Archives & History Meeting**, Frederica: Barratt's Chapel, 10:00 a.m.