

## INCREASE YOUR INCOME

A Charitable Gift Annuity with the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation may help you increase your annual spendable cash, cut your current income taxes, and make a significant gift to your favorite United Methodist institution and/or congregation. The annuity rate is determined by your age at the time you create your gift annuity.

Here is a sampling of current rates and benefits for a single life gift annuity created with \$10,000 cash:

Age	Payout Rate	Annual Income	Tax-free Portion	Charitable Deduction	Effective Return Rate *
60	5.7%	\$ 570	\$271	\$3,467	7.5%
65	6.0%	\$ 600	\$309	\$3,854	8.1%
70	6.5%	\$ 650	\$364	\$4,353	9.0%
75	7.1%	\$ 710	\$433	\$4,749	10.1%
80	8.0%	\$ 800	\$526	\$5,147	11.7%
85	9.5%	\$ 950	\$681	\$5,440	14.3%
90	11.3%	\$1,130	\$855	\$5,859	17.5%

\* This rate represents an equivalent, fully taxable yield in the 28% bracket calculated with the Applicable Federal Rate for November 2006. Actual numbers may be slightly different, depending on federal discount rates at the time of the annuity's creation.

Note: These rates are recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities. Rates for a two-life gift annuity are lower and are available upon request.



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# THE CORNERSTONE

...helping United Methodists build for the future

The New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation Newsletter

Vol.5, No. 4

## Foundation Provides Program Presentations



Marilyn Large, Director of Communication and Outreach, is available to present two programs the New Mexico Conference Foundation would like to share with your group.

*Information for Loved Ones* is a program designed to help individuals and families identify important documents, papers, and decisions that need to be made at some point in all of our lives. A very useful workbook to aid in future planning is provided at no cost for each meeting attendee.

*Women as Donors* is a presentation that addresses questions women face as they enter retirement.

- Should I create an advance directive or a durable power of attorney?
- What kinds of plans should I make for the future?
- How can I handle inheritance for a wayward child?
- What if I need more income?
- Should I sell my home and move to a retirement community?
- What if there is an IRA balance when I pass away?

These are all very important questions the Foundation can help answer.

To schedule Marilyn to speak at your church, please call 505-255-8786 (or 800-678-8786), ext. 120, or e-mail her (marilyn@nmcmmfi.org).

## Potential Tax Savings Available for Seniors

This summer President Bush signed the Pension Protection Act of 2006, which permits IRA charitable rollover gifts (qualified charitable distributions) during 2006 and 2007 in any amount up to \$100,000. This is a very gracious provision for those persons at least 70-1/2 years of age who wish to make a special year-end gift this year and any time next year.

If budgets allow, persons in this age group may be interested in the following information concerning tax-free withdrawals from certain retirement accounts to fund charitable gifts. This allows a donor to give a special gift to qualified charities such as the church. Following are the conditions to qualify for this special two-year opportunity.

- The donor must be at least 70-1/2 years of age.
- The distribution must be made from a traditional or Roth IRA.
- The distribution must be made directly from the custodian of the IRA to the qualified charitable organization.
- The charitable organization must qualify under IRC Section 170(b)(1)(a), and most churches do.
- The distribution must be a current gift and excludes gift annuities or similar life income plans such as charitable remainder trusts.
- No taxes are paid on the current gift distributed to charity, and no additional deduction is allowed for the gift.

This will be of special interest to those seniors who take the standard deduction on his/her income tax return and for those whose required IRA distribution puts them in a higher income bracket for Social Security taxation.

Please contact the Foundation (505-255-8786 or 800-678-8786) for additional information.

## ABOUT YOUR FOUNDATION

### Board Highlight

LaDoyce Lambert  
Vice President



LaDoyce Lambert

LaDoyce has been a member of the Foundation Board of Directors since 2000 and currently serves as Vice President. He has expressed his pleasure to be a part of the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation, because its entire focus and reason for being is to be an extension of Christ's ministry. "The Foundation not only is an excellent manager of church, conference, and donor funds but provides a level of guidance in stewardship and education in giving not available to many churches and members in any other way."

LaDoyce is an active member of the First United Methodist Church in Odessa, Texas. He currently serves as Chair of the Finance Committee, is on the Church Foundation Board and member of the Long-Range Planning Committee, and

teaches an adult Sunday School class. He has also served as Administrative Board Chair and Lay Leader.

LaDoyce is Senior Vice-President of West Texas State Bank which is a family-owned bank in Odessa, Texas, and spends considerable time volunteering with civic and non-profit organizations. He and his wife Gloria, a retired secondary school history teacher, have been married for 38 years. Their daughter, Amy, enjoys her career as a pharmacist and currently lives in Dallas, Texas.

LaDoyce enjoys playing bridge, reading, doing crossword puzzles, and working out at the gym.

### Some Ways the Foundation Can Assist You ...

**Endowment Planning.** The Foundation provides consultation on beginning, enlarging, or reactivating endowment programs to encourage gifts that will provide financial resources for ministry.

**Estate Planning.** The Foundation provides leadership for estate planning seminars and wills seminars.

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**Can A Church Have Too Many Endowment Funds?**

According to Larry Glenn (First United Methodist Church, Clovis), the answer is absolutely not. When Larry agreed to serve on the Foundation Board of Directors, he quickly found out how the Foundation works and what a good deal it offers. The church currently has five endowment funds managed by the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation, Inc.

The first FUMC endowment in Clovis (named the Faith Endowment) began with Larry, his wife Virginia, and his parents' desire to contribute 10% of the cost of the new sanctuary. They were amazed how the fund kept growing, and soon their desire materialized. It was too soon to build the sanctuary, so funds were put into classrooms. The fund still had more than the targeted amount, so they built more classrooms. When the sanctuary was completed, the fund still had a balance remaining above the 10% goal.

At the request of the donors' estate, and with the extra from the Faith Endowment, the Hope Endowment was established for building maintenance. The church replaced several heating and air conditioning systems when earnings from the endowment were the only funds available to cover the expense. Larry stated, "It has been there when the church really needed it, and it will continue to pay for required maintenance. Every year the fund gets bigger and bigger."



First United Methodist, Clovis

At the request of a deceased church member, a College Scholarship Fund began with memorial gifts designated for this purpose, and other persons interested in education have added to it. Last year's scholarship was \$900, and it will go up again this year. Scholarships go to young people who are active in the church and have a desire to go to college.

The Kaptina Fund started with this couple's estate. This endowment fund is designated for new church construction. After paying for a new parking lot, the fund still has a balance close to what the estate initially provided. Another estate provided funds to set up the Pippin Endowment which is reserved for specific church construction projects.

Larry believes hard-working people, who save their money and give a substantial gift to the church, should have the assurance that it will be used for something important, as they would have intended. He also believes that when folks work all of their lives and leave their estate to the church, an endowment fund with the Foundation will produce good things forever.

Larry encourages every church to set up endowments with the Foundation, so money left to the church will not only grow but also be available as needs arise. "If you don't have to pay tax on it, it is amazing how your money will grow," Larry stated. "We need to be stewards of what we are given, and the Foundation is a great example of how we can accomplish that."

For more information, please contact the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation (505-255-8786 or 800-678-8786). You are invited to visit the Foundation website (www.nmcmfi.org).

*A Note from the Executive Director, Rev. Sanford Coon*  
**GETTING OUR (VALUES) HOUSE IN ORDER**



The closing weeks of the year always seem to be overly \_\_\_\_\_ (you fill in the blank according to your life experience). For many, it is a season for hurrying, spending, and arranging. For some, it is a time of sad reflection on years past and relationships passed. For teachers and students, it is a time of recess from the ordinary. For many families, it is an interval of travel and renewal, while for other families, it is a season of separation and isolation. While we probably hear and may sing words of joy and hope, many feel despair and desperation.

In our Methodist congregations, it is a time for preparations and pageants, special services and music, parties and grand meals. It is also a time in which convictions about values are challenged and often unconsciously or inadvertently abandoned. The notion of a Christ-centered "Christ Mass" is buried under the wrappings of cultural urgencies and abandoned "until there is more time."

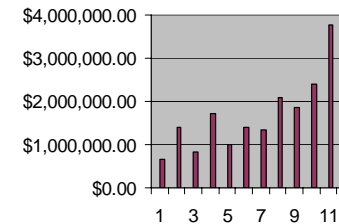
May this be a season in which our genuine values come to the fore. We know this won't be easy, but we also know that the gift of divine love in this season requires our attention and devotion. Here are three possible steps toward the preparation of our hearts for God's intervention:

- Let the sense of busyness, overwhelm, sadness, or frenzy be the key to stop whatever we're doing, sit, breathe deeply and consciously, and spend no less than two minutes in reflective giving of thanks to God for the bounty of relationships, possessions, opportunities, and grace that God gives so generously;
- Let each of us find at least one person--whether within our close circle of family or friends or as yet unknown to us--for whom we will find ways of communicating God's love through benevolent attention and generous inclusion of presence and prayer; and
- Let each of us make an unusual, over-and-above gift to the congregation, which is our spiritual home, of no less than the most expensive gift we buy or, better yet, ten dollars more than the total of all the gifts we buy.

You may have other steps you would like to take, but will you join me in this effort to truly make the closing weeks of this year the season of holy days and not simply holidays? If our highest presumed values cannot prevail in this season, then they are not our true values. May we support each other in care and prayer in getting our values house in order.

Sanford Coon

**Annual Distributions**  
(Years of 1995-2005)



Year	Distribution
1995	648,483.22
1996	1,388,320.69
1997	837,074.05
1998	1,701,536.04
1999	1,004,535.23
2000	1,392,602.81
2001	1,342,047.47
2002	2,089,765.04
2003	1,843,077.83
2004	2,396,223.61
2005	3,775,262.83
Jan-Oct 2006	2,675,340.53

**\$21,094,269.35**

Special thanks to Molly Emkes, Executive Assistant, for her research to provide these statistics for our edification.

**It's God's Miracle: Turning Dollars into Ministries**

Well over 21 million dollars have been distributed from the Foundation to churches and institutions of the New Mexico Conference during the past decade. It is easy to see the value of the cooperative relationship between the Foundation and the various entities being served. **These are dollars that have gone into ministries that change lives.** Distributions have ranged from a couple of hundred dollars to several hundred thousand dollars. Whether the distributions have been for programs, equipment, scholarships, new construction or renovation of facilities, budgetary supplementation, planned gifts, or other purposes, **these dollars have provided for God's work to be done!**

Contact the Foundation if your congregation has not yet developed an endowment program or if your program has become inactive. **It is not too late!**



Member of the National Association of United Methodist Foundations

11816 Lomas Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112

Phone: 505-255-8786 or 800-678-8786

Fax: 505-265-6184

web site: www.nmcmfi.org

**STAFF TO SERVE YOU**

Sanford Coon  
Executive Director

Molly Emkes  
Executive Assistant

Marilyn Large  
Director of Communication  
and Outreach

Shirley Baker  
Communication Assistant

Dear Sanford  
I am interested in receiving further information about the following:  
Methodist Foundation Incorporated ( ) Making a Will ( ) Estate Planning ( ) Donor Advised Funds ( ) My Church ( ) A Specific Ministry ( ) Advantage of Giving Appreciated Stock (Securities) and Property ( ) Gift Annuities ( ) Charitable Remainder Trusts ( ) I am interested in receiving the free eNewsletter, "GiftLegacy" ( ) I wish to receive The Cornerstone Newsletter ( ) Please send information on the IRA Rollover ( ) I have a request:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
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