## I Officers of the Conference

### I. Officers of the Annual Conference

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I Officers of the Conference

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Our Presiding Officer, Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton

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PITTSBURGH AREA

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I Officers of the Annual Conference

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I Officers of the Conference

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UNITED METHODIST GIVING PROGRAM

The United Methodist Church has eight apportioned funds, six church wide Special Sundays with offerings and two designated giving programs—all which need your support. In addition, annual conferences take special offerings on Christian Education Sunday, Golden Cross Sunday and Rural Life Sunday. The United Methodist Children’s Fund for Christian Mission and the Youth Service Fund provide opportunities for young people to share their resources.

**Apportioned Funds**

**World Service Fund** supports outreach through the work of general agencies and other national and international mission programs. It also underwrites a comprehensive television and telecommunications ministry, and pension and salary equalization. 2010 apportionment: $1,310,412

**Ministerial Education Fund** provides educational support for ordained elders, ordained deacons and diaconal ministers of the church through funding for theological schools, recruitment, professional development and continuing education. 2010 apportionment: $336,443

**Black College Fund** provides operating funds and capital for 11 historically Black colleges including a medical school. 2010 apportionment: $178,960

**Africa University Fund** helps support a new university in Africa providing post secondary education for African students. Africa University is partly funded by World Service Special Gifts in addition to the apportionment. 2010 apportionment: $40,052

**Episcopal Fund** is for salaries, pensions, office operations, official travel and other expenses for the bishops. 2010 apportionment: $387,572

**General Administrative Fund** supports general agencies whose work is administrative in nature, the cost of General Conference and other items essential to the operation of The United Methodist Church. 2010 apportionment: $141,985

**Interdenominational Cooperation Fund** supports United Methodist participation in the World and National councils of churches and the Consultation on Church Union. It also pays the travel expenses of United Methodist delegates to those bodies. 2010 apportionment: $34,913

**Jurisdictional Fund** supports the collective ministries of the conferences in the northeastern United States, including Western Pennsylvania. 2010 apportionment: $31,865

**Designated Gifts**

**Advance Specials** permit churches and individuals to support mission and relief projects with voluntary gifts. Every dollar given to the Advance goes to the project designated by the donor.

**World Service Special Gifts** permit churches and individuals to contribute to approved projects of World Service-related agencies. Every dollar goes to the project designated by the donor.

**Special Sundays with Offerings**

**Human Relations Day**, the Sunday before Martin Luther King Jr’s birthday observance, supports Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Services and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

**One Great Hour of Sharing**, the fourth Sunday of Lent, provides major support of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, which aids in refugee ministries, disaster-response ministries and hunger ministries.
Native American Awareness Sunday, the second Sunday after Easter, funds urban ministries with Native Americans, scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist seminaries and annual conference Native American ministries.

Peace with Justice Sunday, the second Sunday of Pentecost, supports peace with justice ministries through the General Board of Church and Society and the annual conference.

World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday in October, supports Crusade Scholarships, the Ethnic Scholarship Program, and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program.

United Methodist Student Day, the last Sunday in November, provides loan and scholarship funds for United Methodist college, university, and graduate students.

Other Special Offerings

Christian Education Sunday. The conference determines the date and how the offering is used to strengthen Christian education.

Disability Awareness Sunday. Special offering to promote awareness issues and ministries that provide opportunities for fuller inclusion of people with disabilities.

Golden Cross Sunday (Red Stocking Sunday). The annual conference determines the date and how the offering will be used to support health and welfare ministries.

Rural Life Sunday. The annual conference determines the date and how the offering will be used to strengthen the nurture, outreach, and witness of congregations in town and rural areas.

Other Conference Special Offerings

Camping Sunday supports the summer program in order to reduce registration costs for participants.

Keeping the Doors Open supports mission agencies, mission churches and other outreach ministries within the Conference boundaries who need additional funds to continue their work.

UMVIM Sunday support the Conference and Jurisdictional UMVIM offices and programs, with 90% of funds collected going to the Conference VIMship Advance Special, and a tithe of 10% to the Jurisdictional UMVIM programming efforts.

Youth Service Fund supports projects of mission and ministry by and for youth as well as administration of the fund.

Conference Special Sundays without Offerings

Keystone United Methodist Federal Credit Union Month to promote being good and faithful stewards of God's gifts by learning about the resources and benefits of becoming members of our credit union.

Retired Clergy Sunday to honor retired clergy, spouses or surviving spouses

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday to support our United Methodist beliefs highlighted in our Social Principles that celebrate the wondrous gift of life for all and for creation.

Sanctity of Marriage Sunday to strengthen marriages in their ministry in the body of Christ and give prayer and spiritual support for stronger marriages.

Sanctity of Singleness Sunday to honor those who are single and their contributions to their families, congregations and communities and to promote ministries to and with those who are single.
I Officers of the Conference

2010 Special Days and Program Calendar
Corrections and praise for this section should be sent to dcm@wpaumc.org or 1-800-886-3382 x 237.

Jan 3  Epiphany to commemorate the coming of the Magi
Jan 17  Human Relations Day to encourage better human relations; offering funds community developers, voluntary services, and youth offender rehabiliations.
Jan 18  Martin Luther King Jr Birthday
Jan 18-25  Prayer for Christian Unity Week
Jan 24  Sanctity of Human Life Sunday to emphasize our official United Methodist belief in the sanctity of all human life, particularly for the unborn, the terminally ill, the infirmed, the elderly, people with disabilities

Feb 1  Black History Month to celebrate the historical contributions of African Americans to the worship life, mission and ministry of the church
Feb 14  Scouting Sunday to emphasize scouting as ministry to children
Feb 17  Ash Wednesday to begin Christian self-examination for Lent
Feb 14  Disability Awareness Sunday to promote issues as well as ministries providing opportunities for fuller inclusion of those with disabilities. (or another date chosen by local church)

Mar 5  Women's History Month
Mar 14  World Day of Prayer to link Christian women of the world in prayer.
Mar 14  Daylight Savings Time begins –Spring Forward
Mar 14  One Great Hour of Sharing to share the goodness of life with those who hurt; offering funds, programs of relief, rehabilitation and service
Mar 28  Palm Sunday to commemorate Christ's entry into Jerusalem

Apr 1  Holy Thursday to celebrate the institution of the Eucharist
Apr 2  Good Friday to commemorate Christ's death
Apr 4  Easter Sunday to celebrate Christ's resurrection
April 18  Native American Sunday to recognize Native Americans in society, offering funds to ministries, urban initiatives and seminary scholarships

May 3-9  Christian Family Week to focus on families in the church & community
May 9  Sanctity of Marriage Sunday / Mothers Day
May 9  Golden Cross Sunday to further the work of health & welfare ministries in the annual conference (or another date chosen by local church)
May 23  Heritage Sunday
May 23  Pentecost to celebrate the birthday of the Church
May 30  Peace with Justice Sunday to call the church to peace with justice, offering funds annual conference and General Board of Church & Society peace with justice ministries

May 30  Trinity Sunday

June 10-13  Annual Conference held at Grove City College
June 20  Fathers Day

July  Sanctity of Singleness Sunday choose a Sunday to celebrate ministry of single adults.

August 8  Rural Life Sunday to emphasize the value of rural life & agriculture

Sept 12  Christian Education Sunday to call the church to be open to growth and learning
Sept 19  Retired Clergy Sunday to honor retired clergy, spouses or surviving spouses
Oct 4  World Communion Sunday
Oct 10 Camping Sunday
Oct 17  Laity Sunday  to celebrate the ministry of all Christians whose lives are empowered by the Holy Spirit

Nov 1  All Saints Day  to remember departed Saints
Nov 7  Daylight Savings Time ends  clocks fall back
Nov 7  Youth Service Fund Sunday  offering to assist youth programs in our conference, nation, and world

Nov 14  Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday
Nov 21  Bible Sunday  to acknowledge the place of the Bible in today's world
Nov 25  Thanksgiving Day  to thank God for blessings, commemorating our national heritage
Nov 28  United Methodist Student Day  to call the church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge; offering funds scholarships & loans

Advent  Keeping the Doors Open  Appeal for Mission Agencies to support mission agencies, mission churches and other outreach ministries within the Conference boundaries

Dec 24/25  Christmas  to celebrate the birth of Christ
Dec 31  Watch Night  to usher in the New Year with covenant renewal.