

Pre-Conference Journal

The 151st Session of the New Mexico Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church



**New Mexico Annual Conference
Western Hills UMC - El Paso
June 11-13, 2026**

Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut, Presiding

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Important Deadlines

May 25 – Last day to reserve group rate rooms at Holiday Inn Express

May 12 – Registration Fee increases to \$200

May 29 – Registration Closed! No registrations will be accepted after May 29, 2026

Find registration links and more at <https://www.nmconfum.com/2026-annual-conference-home/>

Schedule is subject to change

All activities at Western Hills UMC, 524 Thunderbird Dr., unless otherwise noted

Wednesday, June 10

6:00 pm Pre-Conference Gathering, St. Mark's UMC, 5005 Love Rd.

Thursday, June 11

7:00 am Check-In
9:00 am Opening Worship
10:30 am Break
11:00 am **Clergy/Laity Sessions**
12:00 pm Lunch on your own
1:30 pm **Opening Plenary Session**
3:00 pm Break
3:30 pm **Plenary Session**
5:00 pm Fiesta Dinner at Western Hills UMC
7:00 pm Commissioning Rehearsal

Friday, June 12

9:00 am **Plenary Session**
10:30 am Break
11:00 am Celebration of Ministry Service
12:00 pm Retiree Lunch
1:30 pm **Plenary Session**
3:00 pm Break
3:30 pm **Plenary Session**
5:00 pm Dinner on your own
Board of Ordained Ministry Dinner
7:00 pm Commissioning
9:00 pm Reception

Saturday, June 13

9:00 am **Closing Plenary**
10:00 am Break
10:30 am Closing Worship/Fixing Appointments
12:00 pm Adjournment

CALL TO THE NEW MEXICO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

DATE: April 1, 2026
TO: Lay and Clergy Members of the New Mexico Annual Conference (NMAC)
FROM: Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut, residential bishop of the New Mexico Annual Conference
RE: Call to the New Mexico Annual Conference Regular Session 2026

Dear United Methodists in the New Mexico Annual Conference,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our one true vine!

I hereby call the 151st regular session of the New Mexico Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church to meet on June 11-13, 2026, at Western Hills United Methodist Church in El Paso, TX. We will be hosted by our siblings in the El Paso District and we look forward to learning more about them and their ministries.

This is a milestone year for us as we mark 150 years of Methodist mission and ministry in New Mexico and west Texas. We will gather to celebrate the ministry highlights of the past 15 decades, mark our present place in this ongoing story and together discern how God is inviting us to write the next chapter.

As we look to the future, I invite us to consider these next three years as a season of growth where we will re-explore our rootedness in Christ and the invitation to grow for the sake of the world. Grounded in John 15, ***A Season of Growth: Rooted in Christ, Growing for the World*** will serve as our guiding vision for the rest of the quadrennium.

Our theme for this year is ***Pruning for Clarity*** which is the first in the three-year series on the guiding vision. It is an opportune time as we celebrate 150 years to ask the pruning question: “What must we release so that our future can be more fruitful than our past?” Together, we will learn from the past without being bound by it, release what no longer serves the mission, clear away distractions so that identity can breathe and create space for new, stronger growth. I invite you to reflect on this as we prepare for our time together.

Your attendance is always important for the sake of strengthening our bonds in the body of Christ and because we will be making important decisions in the life of our annual conference. Your voice and vote are valued, and I hope that you will take this responsibility seriously and make plans to attend.

Information is now available at <https://www.nmconfum.com/2026-annual-conference-home/>. Please pay attention to the due dates for registration and other submissions, and I ask you to please abide by these deadlines. Doing so will greatly help the continuing planning of the conference. It will avoid causing undue stress on our staff and volunteers. I trust you will do your part as beloved members of our covenant community.

I look forward to being with all of you in El Paso in June. May the Holy Spirit work in our minds and our hearts, even now, as we prepare for this important work of holy conferencing.



Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut

A QUICK GUIDE TO PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Parliamentary Procedure is a set of rules for conduct at meetings. Its purpose is to make it easier for people to work together effectively and to help groups accomplish their purposes. Parliamentary procedure provides for democratic rule, protection of rights and a fair hearing for everyone.

Although the ultimate decision on an issue rests with a majority, all members have such basic rights as the right to be heard and the right to oppose. The rights of all members-majority and minority-should be the concern of every member, for a person may be in a majority on one question, but in minority on the next.

Members get their say by making motions. A motion is a proposal that the assembly takes a stand or takes action on some issue. Members can present motions, second motions, debate motions and vote on motions. There are four general types of motions. They are:

- Main motions Main motions introduce subjects to the assembly for its consideration. They cannot be made when another motion is before the assembly. They yield to privileged, subsidiary and incidental motions.
- Subsidiary motions Subsidiary motions change or affect how the main motion is handled. They are voted on before the main motion.
- Privileged motions Privileged motions are most urgent. They concern special or important matters not related to pending business such as a motion to adjourn.
- Incidental motions Incidental motions are questions of procedure that arise out of other motions. They must be considered before the other motion.

To present a motion:

1. Obtain the floor
 - a. Wait until the last speaker is finished
 - b. Rise and address the chair
 - c. Give your name and church
2. Make your motion
 - a. Speak clearly and concisely
 - b. State your motion affirmatively (“I move that we...”, instead of “I move that we do not...”)
 - c. Avoid personalities and stay on the subject
3. Wait for a second
 - a. The chair will call for a second
 - b. If there is no second, your motion will not be considered
4. Chair restates your motion
 - a. The chair must say, “It is moved and seconded that we...”
 - b. After this happens, debate or voting can occur
 - c. Your motion is now “assembly property” and you can’t change it without consent of the members
5. Expand on your motion
 - a. The mover is allowed to speak first
 - b. Direct all comments to the chair
 - c. Keep to the time limit for speaking
 - d. You may speak again after all other speakers are finished.
6. Putting the question
 - a. The chair will ask “Are you ready for the question?”
 - b. If there is no more discussion, or if a motion to stop debate is adopted, a vote is taken

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AT A GLANCE

	To do this:	You say this:	may interrupt speaker	second required	debatable	amendable	vote needed	may be reconsidered
Main motion	Introduce new business	"I move that..."		x	x	x	majority	x
subsidiary motions	Temporarily suspend consideration of an issue	"I move to table the motion"		x			majority	
	Limit or extend the limits of debate	"I move that debate be limited (or extended) to ..."		x		x	majority	x
	Amend a motion	"I move to amend the motion by..."		x	x	x	majority	x
	Give closer study of something	"I move to refer the matter to committee"		x	x	x	majority	x*
	Postpone debate to a specific time	"I move to postpone this matter until..."		x	x	x	majority	x
	End debate and amendments	"I move the previous question"		x			2/3	x
Privileged motion	Adjourn the meeting	"I move that we adjourn"		x			majority	
	Call an intermission	"I move that we recess for..."		x		x	majority	
	Complain about noise, heat, etc.	"I rise to a question of privilege"	x					
Incidental motions	Protest breach of rules or conduct	"I rise to a point of order"	x				chair rules	
	Suspend rules temporarily	"I move to suspend the rules so that..."		x			2/3	
	Vote on a ruling of the chair	"I appeal the chair's decision"	x	x	x		majority	x
	Request information	"Point of information"	x					
Others	Take up a matter previously tabled	"I move that we take from the table..."		x			majority	
	Reconsider previous action	"I move to reconsider the vote on..."		x	x**		majority	

* unless committee has already taken up the subject

** unless the motion to be reconsidered is not debatable

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT

Rev. Ross Whiteaker, District Superintendent

1 Over the past year, I have found myself wondering what is forming us. Beneath the activity of our
2 churches, beneath the metrics we often use to measure health, there is a deeper reality at work, the
3 slow, steady shaping of lives, communities, and faith. As I reflect on this past year in the Albuquerque
4 District, I am increasingly convinced that our calling in this season is not simply to do more, but to
5 become more. To allow God to form us in ways that are deep, durable, and life-giving.

6 7 Formed in Christ

8 Recent years have revealed how quickly external structures can shift. Programs change, attendance
9 fluctuates, and long-standing patterns no longer function as they once did. And yet, what endures is the
10 life of Christ within us.

11
12 I have seen congregations rediscover practices that shape and sustain faith over time: prayer that is
13 honest and consistent, engagement with Scripture that is thoughtful and communal, and worship that
14 reorients our lives around God’s presence. These are not new innovations, but they are being
15 experienced in fresh and meaningful ways.

16
17 More and more, our churches are reclaiming their identity not as places people simply attend, but as
18 spiritual homes and places where people are formed over time in the way of Jesus. In a world that often
19 feels fragmented and shallow, our congregations are becoming spaces where people can encounter
20 depth, stability, and a sense of belonging grounded in something greater than themselves.

21 22 Formed in Community

23 Formation does not happen in isolation. It happens in relationship. It happens in the steady, sometimes
24 challenging work of learning to live with and for one another.

25
26 This year we have navigated pastoral transitions, financial pressures, and the ongoing reality of change
27 within the wider church. Yet even in the midst of these challenges, I have seen a growing recognition
28 that we need one another. Congregations are finding new ways to collaborate, to share resources, and
29 to support one another across traditional boundaries.

30
31 Within our local churches, I have been especially encouraged by the ways people are investing in
32 relationships that go beyond surface-level connection. Our congregations are becoming places where
33 wisdom is shared across generations, where questions and doubts are met with grace, and where
34 people are invited to grow not only spiritually, but as whole human beings.

35 As Bishop John Shelby Spong once observed, “the church is like a swimming pool-the noisiest part is the
36 shallow end.” There is a temptation in every generation to remain at the surface, where things are
37 louder, easier, and less demanding. But what I am seeing across our district is a quiet movement toward
38 deeper waters; toward a faith that is more reflective, more resilient, and more capable of sustaining
39 people through the complexities of life.

Administrative Reports

1 There is a real hunger in our culture for the kind of depth where people can be known, where they can
2 wrestle with life's deeper questions, and where they can be shaped in community with others who are
3 also seeking to live with purpose, integrity, and compassion. This is one of the gifts the Church uniquely
4 offers, and it is taking on renewed importance in this season.

5

6 Formed for the Sake of Others

7 Christian formation is never inward-focused for long. As we are shaped by the love and grace of God, we
8 are also sent outward into the world.

9

10 I love seeing congregations embodying this outward movement. They are feeding their neighbors,
11 walking alongside those in crisis, advocating for justice, and creating spaces of belonging for those who
12 have often felt excluded. These acts of ministry are not separate from the inner life of the church, they
13 are its natural expression.

14

15 As people are formed in communities of faith, they begin to see the world differently. They become
16 more attentive to suffering, more open to difference, and more committed to participating in God's
17 work of healing and restoration. The impact may not always be immediate or easily measurable, but it is
18 real, and it is deeply needed.

19

20 Looking Ahead

21 As we move forward, my hope is that we will continue to embrace this deeper work of formation. Not
22 rushing to replicate what has worked in the past, nor chasing after what is new for its own sake, but
23 committing ourselves to the kind of life together that shapes people over time.

24

25 If we give ourselves to this work, if we remain attentive to the ways God is forming us in Christ, through
26 community, and for the sake of the world, I believe we will find not only resilience for the challenges
27 ahead, but a renewed sense of purpose and possibility.

28

29 Much of this work happens quietly, beneath the surface of what can be easily seen or measured. And
30 yet, it is there that God is at work, shaping a people who reflect more fully the grace, wisdom, and love
31 of Jesus Christ.

Administrative Reports

EL PASO DISTRICT

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Pamela Rowley, District Superintendent

1 As the El Paso District of the New Mexico Conference: “We believe that everyone in the geographic span
2 of the El Paso District will find a place to BELONG, to BELIEVE, and to BE USEFUL”. We endeavor to BE
3 LOVE to our neighbors in the borderland, and to BE FAITHFUL in our relationship with God as we nurture
4 our spiritual lives through Lenten labyrinth prayer and walk experiences, a workshop on Mary the
5 mother of Jesus, and Advent Noon Divine Hours.

6
7 Our district Lay Leader, Sue Malone, had a wonderful first year! She attended as many as possible
8 charge/church conferences, is very active in her home church of Western Hills in El Paso and she did a
9 fabulous job of leading the district lay team, as well as functioning in conference related committees as
10 our lay leader. I am very grateful for her leadership and her willingness to tackle any task.

11
12 Last January, some of the east side churches in El Paso began a year-long peer-learning cohort with the
13 Change Maker Initiative: Becoming a RISK-Taking Church. These churches, clergy and laity, continued to
14 work together on a common cause as they explored ways to be fruitful and faithful in ministry. One
15 collaborative project focused on Lydia Patterson Institute and an art and storytelling exposition which
16 will feature students, their personal journeys, and their artwork at Annual Conference. You may view a
17 video, *Stronger Together: A Story of Risk, Reward, and Real Community* on the SCJ website, featuring our
18 east side El Paso churches and LPI.

19
20 This Winter, the El Paso District served as the host location of a South-Central Jurisdictional event with
21 approximately 70 leaders from Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Nebraska, Missouri and
22 New Mexico, and our bishops, including Bishop Carlo. Kathy Jewell, Conference and Jurisdictional Lay
23 Leader, Alli Newsome, Griselda Sandoval, and I were pleased to represent the NMC in conversations
24 about the future of the church. The El Paso District did a superb job of hospitality!

25
26 I am so honored to serve alongside so many gifted individuals in the El Paso District, and one I am
27 especially grateful for is Rev. Amy Wilson-Feltz. As the chair of the EP District Committee on Ordained
28 Ministry, Amy serves tirelessly and faithfully to assist individuals defining their call to ministry, those
29 who are in seminary studies, candidates for ministry and certified candidates, certification
30 recommendations for CLM’s, and continued licensing recommendations for Licensed Local Pastors. My
31 sincere gratitude to Amy and all members of the DCOM: Mike Puckett, Young Hoon Kang, Kathy Jewell,
32 Layloni Drake, Mary Elaine Williamson, Doug Mills, Kathy Naegle-Delgado, Heike Miller, Steve White,
33 Cazandra Campos-MacDonald, Terry Allen, and Sue Malone.

34
35 Rev. Dr. Joe MacDonald serves as the chair of the EPD Committee on Superintendency, along with Janet
36 Whitmore, Jon Hendricks, Aubrey Jarnigan, Heike Miller, Stephanie Harmon, Bill Wood and our district
37 lay leader Sue. Thank you all so much for your continued support, prayers, accountability, and
38 encouragement!

39 Steve Wilson, chair of the New Mexico Conference Board of Trustees and a member of St. Mark’s in El
40 Paso, has worked with a team to turn the former Vista Ysleta church property into a community center,
41 providing ministry space for non-profit entities. Bravo, Steve!

42
43 It is a joy to see the UMC represented in Carlsbad, New Mexico and the appointment of Rev. Koreen
44 Guillermo. From Silver City, NM to Alpine, Texas, east to Fort Stockton and Odessa, and north to

Administrative Reports

1 Roswell, we are a varied district of plains, mountain and desert regions, cultural and ethnic diversity, and
2 the beautiful folks who bring Jesus Christ to this magnificent corner of God's creation. Thank you so
3 much for the privilege of serving you and our churches.

COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Submitted by Willard Steinsiek, Chair

4 This is an Historic Occasion! That makes this gathering our Sesquicentennial Conference!

5
6 There were indeed some false beginnings and incursions into the New Mexico territory before that date,
7 but in 1876 the very first Annual Meeting of the NM Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church was held
8 on November 20th in Peralta.

9
10 Since that day there have always been Methodist Churches, and a Methodist Conference here in this
11 area. In fact, there were sometimes 2 or 3 such Conferences, with the MEC, the MEC, South, The
12 Methodist Church, the UB Church and finally the United Methodist Church all present within the rich
13 tapestry of our 175-year history.

14
15 Through a lot of ups and downs we have persevered!

16
17 When that first Annual Meeting was held in the church at Peralta, the church still had the bullet holes
18 over their doorway. Someone fired at them while they were building it. They built it anyway.

19
20 Present that day in Peralta were Ambrosio Gonzales, who kept his bible study going when the earlier
21 mission was abandoned in 1856. For 14 years he taught and preached to his group of 40 people and
22 waited for the Methodists to come back, and finally Thomas Harwood came to him in 1870. John Steele
23 came later as well and helped them build a church in their community, physically, and now they were
24 gathered together there 6 years later for the first time as an entity unto themselves, no longer
25 connected to the Colorado Conference or anyone else. They were now *The New Mexico Mission*,
26 comprised of just 7 Pastors serving 8 churches. In addition to the 3 pastors I have already mentioned,
27 The other 4 were Benito Garcia, Matthew Mathieson, Blas Gutierrez, George Murry, and J H Roberts.

28
29 They didn't even have a Bishop assigned to be at their Conference until the next year, but still they met,
30 and they made sure those eight Methodist churches each had a pastor assigned to them. Meanwhile,
31 Harwood himself was out creating more churches both English and Spanish wherever he could.

32
33 It's the stuff of legend, circuit riders on horseback, never far from danger.

34
35 By 1890 there were many more of them, and the newly formed NM Conference of the MEC, South as
36 well. By 1909 The United Brethren would form the North Texas Conference on the eastern plains of New
37 Mexico, and gradually our tapestry of ministry would come together in churches, schools, and even
38 hospitals that served the needs of growing communities. We have accomplished much and if there is
39 only one lesson to be learned from our past, then it is that we are made of tough stuff in this
40 Conference, and we don't give up easy.

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1 I have been writing a book for many years, and at least some of it can now be found on the NM
2 Conference website. It is entitled All This Shall Be Your Work. If you want to know more, you are
3 welcome to download it now one chapter at a time. There will be more chapters coming soon.

4
5 The job of the Commission on Archives and History is to make sure that we never forget our past. We
6 preserve the records that tell our story.

7
8 That job will continue, although change is coming, and we know that may find ourselves in a new
9 situation soon. The Archives itself may need to be moved from its present location. That has happened
10 in the past, and so if and when that needs to happen again, then we will be ready to do so.

11
12 My thanks to those who have served on the Commission and also those who have more recently
13 volunteered at the Archives as well. You give me hope that the past will continue to be preserved and
14 inspire others yet to come.

15
16 As before when we met at our most recent meeting in February, we selected two more Living Archives
17 from among us. They too are a source of information and an inspiration to us all.

18
19 They are _____ and _____. (To be named at Annual Conference)

20
21 One final reminder to the local churches and pastors and all those who serve on the various Boards and
22 Committees of the New Mexico Conference of the United Methodist Church. Take care to preserve the
23 record of your past, because without it the future becomes a little harder for others to imagine.

ENDOWMENT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

Submitted by Rev. Dustin Burrow, Chair

nmac.endowment@gmail.com

24 In 2025, the Endowment Distribution Committee received over 40 applications for Bishop's, Senior,
25 Vitality, Pipipn, and Thaxton grants. The committee reviewed and interviewed all qualifying applicants
26 during our second annual Endowment Distribution Meeting and Retreat. From the Pippin Fund we
27 awarded \$22,872, from the Thaxton Fund \$48,399, and a total of \$108,833 in Bishop's, Senior, and
28 Vitality grants across all categories. I am deeply grateful for every member of this committee and the
29 care and discernment they brought to this work.

30
31 Two grants in particular capture the spirit of what we are trying to fund:

32 First United Methodist Church in Gallup received support for Wild Grace Summer Camp, a scholarship
33 program sending 9th through 12th graders into outdoor adventure and creative experience. Gallup sits
34 in one of the most remote corners of our conference. Youth there do not always have access to the kind
35 of formation that shapes faith for a lifetime. This ministry plants seeds in young people who may not
36 have another door open to them. The committee believes those seeds will bear fruit long after the
37 summer ends.

38
39 Mesa View United Methodist Church received support for Ruth's Closet, a clothing ministry for women
40 in transition. What sets this apart is its design. Ruth's Closet is not a donation bin. It is a boutique
41 experience: intentional, dignified, personal. Women come not just to find clothes for a job interview but
42 to be seen and valued as they step toward a new chapter. That is neighbor love made tangible.

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1 These two grants reflect what the committee is looking for: creativity, relational engagement,
2 community reach, and a willingness to meet people where they actually are.

3
4 We want to be clear about the kind of ministry this committee most hopes to resource. We are looking
5 for lay led, congregationally supported ministries that are ready to put down roots in their local
6 communities. Endowment funds are seed money, not a budget line. The vision we are investing in is
7 ministry that a congregation owns, tends, and carries forward; ministry that does not depend on a single
8 grant cycle or a single pastor to survive. When a congregation's laity are already doing the work, already
9 building the relationships, and already committed to the long haul, that is where endowment funding
10 can do its most lasting good.

11
12 Which brings us to the deeper question of how ministries like these come to exist in the first place.
13 Laity are not simply participants or spectators of ministry. They need to be its architects and its
14 practitioners, especially given that clergy leadership moves under appointment and cannot be counted
15 on for permanence. The relationships, trust, and presence that make a program into a ministry cannot
16 be funded. That work belongs to laity, and it begins long before any application is submitted.
17 When laity are actively planning and leading the ministries they hope to see funded, something shifts.
18 The application is no longer a pitch. It is a report from the field. The people writing it are the same
19 people who already know the neighborhood, already have the relationships, already understand what
20 the community needs and why. That kind of knowledge cannot be manufactured in a committee room.

21
22 This is also deeply Wesleyan. Ministry is not a service the church provides to people. It is a vocation the
23 whole people of God share. Laity who are embedded in food pantries, tutoring programs, housing
24 ministries, and immigrant welcome efforts are not waiting for permission to do the work. They are
25 already doing it. Endowment funding, at its best, resources what laity have already discerned and are
26 already leading.

27
28 The strongest applications we receive come from people close to the ground; people who can speak to
29 real neighbors, cross real barriers, and promote real transformation already underway. The committee's
30 role is to steward these resources wisely. The applicant's role is to show us where those resources will
31 take root.

32
33 We look forward to receiving applications in the coming year that carry that same spirit: lay led,
34 congregationally rooted, and built to last in the communities our churches are called to serve.

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

*Submitted by Rev. Koreen Guillermo, Chair Rev. Laird Cross, Vice-Chair
David Robinson, Secretary Griselda Sandoval, Conference Treasurer/Statistician*

Report #1 Our Shared Financial Ministry

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work... You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! (2 Corinthians 9:6-15 NRSV)

With an abiding sense of gratitude, your Council on Finance and Administration would like to express our thankfulness for the way that so many of our churches have been faithful in supporting our shared ministries over the past year. This conference year has been a learning year for us we began to navigate the new funding model and the resulting lean budget. We are continuing to gain better insight about where things stand as a Conference as we lean into our new reality. While we anticipate that budgets will continue to be lean, we are confident that God is not done with us. Like John Wesley, we know, “Best of all, God is with us.”

We have been feeling the effects of disaffiliation and an uncertain national economy for a couple of years. The good news, though, is that we received 98.8% of the expected tithes from Conference churches and the 2026 Spending Plan is fully funded. While this number is higher than it has been in recent years, it should also be noted that there are fewer churches in the New Mexico Annual Conference than in past years, so the increased percentage does not translate into increased dollars from previous years.

The percentage of income contributed through the tithe as compared to operational income remained steady last year. The 2025 percentage was 5.9% compared to 5.8% in 2024. However, the percentage remains on the low end of the experienced payout during the tithe model era. The 2022 percentage was 7.0% and in 2023 it was 6.9%. The lower percentage is indicative of the financial realities that many of our churches are facing. Based on past history, when we have dipped this low, we have rebounded after a year or two. While we cannot make accurate predictions based on past history, we can hope that this holds true as our churches regain their footing in the post-disaffiliation period.

In 2025, a total of 61 local congregations contributed 100+% of their tithe on a monthly basis and 42 reported their operational income every month. This represents 67% of NMAC Congregations. Five local congregations contributed 75-99% of their tithe. This represents 5% of all congregations. One congregation contributed between 50% and 74% of their tithe of operational income, 1% of NMAC congregations. Finally, 25 congregations contributed 0-49% of their tithe – 27% of NMAC congregations.

The last years, in the midst of uncertainty, have been difficult financially, yet throughout it all, you remain faithful. We give thanks for your continued participation in the tithe model and we believe that

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1 our continued transparency and communication around these issues will continue to bear fruit for the
 2 Conference in greater trust in how we are stewarding our resources for the continued work that God
 3 does through the Conference and the local church.

Shared Ministry or Tithe Model Contributions and Income History						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
% Tithe Paid	75.50%	91.00%	99.80%	65.50%	65.70%	98.80%
Money Contributed	1,492,387	1,669,853	1,721,047	1,148,931	938,251	957,101
Reported Line 52 Operational Income	25,358,224	25,871,505	24,694,094	16,756,527	16,181,498	16,159,169
% of income contributed	5.90%	6.50%	7.00%	6.90%	5.80%	5.90%

4 **Report #2 Proposed 2027 Budget and Spending Plan**

5 The 2024 Annual Conference adopted a new model for funding the Budget and Spending Plan for the
 6 Conference in order to assure we are being the best financial stewards possible while also living into the
 7 realities of post-disaffiliation existence and the continued decline of payouts to the Conference from the
 8 local church. The model, which went into effect in 2026, calls for funding based on the monies we
 9 received in the prior calendar year. With this model we have a better feel for what is available to fund
 10 the Budget and Spending Plan, but it also places a hard cap on our expenditures.

11
 12 Per the new model, local church tithes received in 2026 are being set aside in a reserved fund to pay for
 13 2027. Based on past tithe receipts from local churches and extrapolating from what has been received
 14 year-to-date in 2026, we have made an educated estimate of the monies that will be available in 2027 at
 15 \$1,098,823. This represents an increase of \$117,918 over 2026.

16
 17 By Conference rules, we can also fund the Budget and Spending Plan from additional funds available to
 18 the Conference. In past years, the Conference has taken a 6% distribution from the Conference
 19 endowment. Three percent of that has gone to the Conference Budget and Spending Plan, and 3% has
 20 gone to the Endowment Distribution Committee. For the 2025 budget year, we increased that
 21 distribution to the Conference Budget and Spending Plan to 4.5%. For the 2026 budget year, CF&A
 22 requested all 6% go toward funding the Conference Budget and Spending Plan. In 2027, CF&A will again
 23 request the entire 6% distribution. By using the entire 6%, CF&A was able to set the 2027 Budget and
 24 Spending Plan to include 100% of funds requested by Conference committees and also provide \$10,000
 25 the Conference Endowment Committee. We do not make the decision to keep the 6% distribution
 26 lightly, and it is not sustainable for the long-term, but the Conference Endowment Distribution
 27 Committee has ample reserves for expenditures in 2026-2027.

28
 29 It should be noted that as much as we know, there is some uncertainty in predicting what will happen in
 30 the next six months. It should also be noted that budgets are living documents. Because there will be a
 31 hard cap on spending, CF&A is committed to continued oversight of Conference expenditures and
 32 practicing good stewardship of the monies available to fund the administrative and ministry functions of

Administrative Reports

1 the Conference while also holding each group accountable for operating within the confines of the
2 Spending Plan. Hard conversations and even harder decisions may be necessary during the conference
3 year.

4
5 For those unfamiliar with the work of the Annual Conference, we keep using the terms Budget and
6 Spending Plan and you may not be familiar with what they mean or why we present two options. When
7 we passed the Tithe Model in 2015, one of the purposes was to increase the transparency about where
8 the funds from the Conference were actually going and for each group to know exactly what they had to
9 expend. That was the Spending Plan.

10

11 However, to abide by disciplinary rules to fully fund our general and jurisdictional church
12 apportionments, we have also had to present a Budget which called out for 100% payout to those lines.
13 We have been in conversation about a better way to do this, but for the moment we are following that
14 procedure and so you will find a Budget which includes 100% payout to the general church and then the
15 Spending Plan which has a reduced payout and represents actual projected spending for the
16 Conference.

17

18 In past years, we have set the payout rate to the general and jurisdictional church at 70% or higher. But,
19 in the past few years, because of our own financial realities, we have decreased those numbers. In 2023,
20 we paid 65% of our apportionments. For 2024 we proposed 50% payouts, which we set before we
21 received the new apportionment amounts from the 2024 General Conference, with the expectation that
22 they would be lower. They were, but not substantially. In 2024 through 2026 we paid 50%. We are
23 requesting that the payout again be at 50% for 2027.

24 The exception to this payout is for the Episcopal Fund and also Lydia Patterson Institute, both of which
25 we fund at 100%. We also note the disparity that we as the Conference are asking every church to pay
26 100% of their tithe to support the Conference, while turning around and not doing the same for the
27 general church. This is an area for further conversation in future years and an area for growth.

28

29 If you look at report #4 found in this report, you will see the decline every year in reported operational
30 income and in actual Conference expenses. Both are down by almost 48% since 2012. Report #1 has
31 actual Conference income since 2020; our current income is about half of what it was in 2017. Not all of
32 that is from disaffiliation. On the expense side in report #4 you will see a plateaued around \$2 million
33 from 2018-2023. That should have been through 2022, but we had some unexpected and one-time
34 expenditures in 2023 that elevated that number. In 2024 we were at \$1.6 million, although some of that
35 was from withholding the tithe to cover 2026. Expenses declined slightly in 2025, coming in at
36 \$1,510,210.

37

38 At 2024's Annual Conference, as part of the resolution to change our funding model, we said we
39 guessed that we would need to get expenditures down to around \$1.1 million for 2026. That was close,
40 as the expense for 2026 came in at just short of \$1.2 million for 2026. The proposed Spending Plan for
41 2027 is slightly over \$1.2 million, up by just over \$100,000. However, we are still maintaining
42 expenditures at a level that is \$2 million less than the peak of \$3.2 million in 2013. So, in the past 14
43 years, we have reduced expenditures by \$2 million annually.

44

45 As these decreases have been happening over the years, your CF&A has been reiterating that we do not
46 want to have to be the ones to make significant cuts to the programs and ministries of the Conference.
47 We are well past being able to nickel and dime programs to be able to make everything balance. Serious
48 and difficult conversations about the structure of the Conference and what ministries we continue to

Administrative Reports

1 fund as a Conference have begun. At the same time, we are very aware that there is a line where we will
2 be cutting off our nose to spite our face.

3
4 At fall charge conferences two years ago, many churches requested greater presence from the
5 Conference. We recognize the desire to fulfill this on both sides of the aisle. Yet we also realize that the
6 more we cut Conference programming and staff, without figuring out how to replace it and/or do it
7 differently, the less the local church sees from the Conference. The local churches then cut what they
8 are submitting because they are not seeing a return, causing the Conference to cut more. It is an endless
9 catch-22 cycle which is not sustainable for the long-term.

10
11 As you look at the proposed 2027 Spending Plan, the general church apportionments represent 22.5% of
12 the expenditures. Conference programming and ministries represent 11.6% and Conference
13 Administration represents just short of 60% of expenditures. BUT there are some significant caveats to
14 considering those numbers.

15
16 First is that there are things in the Conference Administration line that clearly involve and impact the
17 ministries and programming of the Annual Conference. Where one ends and the other begins is not a
18 clear line of demarcation. Second, the Conference Administration line has already seen significant cuts
19 over the past few years. The expenses for the 2027 Conference Administration lines, while nearly
20 \$80,550 higher than in 2026, still represent a decrease of \$403,000 from the 2020 Spending Plan. We
21 are pleased that we are able to make an increase to the Conference office line after several years of cuts
22 in the Budget and Spending Plan. That said, CF&A will continue to monitor expenses. Conversations have
23 commenced to identify how we can continue to cut administrative overhead while providing cost of
24 living salary increases to our District superintendents and Conference staff and continuing to fund vital
25 Conference committee work.

26
27 Programming and ministries funding is being held at the same level in the 2027 Spending Plan as it was
28 in 2026 with the exception of an increase in \$10,000 for the Endowment Distribution Committee work.
29 It needs to be noted that the Spending Plan for this area has decreased \$310,000 in the past six years.
30 However, the majority of these cuts are from New Church Development and Sacramento which
31 represent \$230,000 of that difference. The other differences are in Campus Ministries, which matches
32 their request for actuals, the elimination of the Conference E-Teams, and Four Corners Ministries, for
33 which we are matching actual costs. This doesn't mean that these are good cuts, but they are where we
34 have found available decreases.

35
36 If you look at the line for New Church Development, you will see a \$0 on the Budget and Spending Plan.
37 This does not mean that we are not funding anything for New Church Development. Two years ago, the
38 Trustees took the lead in requesting \$0 for their expenditures for 2025, with the intention of using
39 reserved funds to cover their expenses. This year New Church Development did the same. They will be
40 funding their activities with reserved funds. This not only helps the Conference, but we, as CF&A, believe
41 better utilizes some of our funding to further the Kingdom of God. It's great to have rainy day funds, and
42 so we are utilizing them while it is starting to drizzle.

43
44 However, this is also not sustainable in the long term. At some point New Church Development will have
45 to have a budget line with a number greater than zero, as will Trustees, and some others we are asking
46 to use other funds. At some point something has to give on the bottom line.

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1 And so, once again, your CF&A is strongly, intensely, earnestly, deeply and verbosely encouraging the
 2 Annual Conference, and that means all of you reading this, to engage in deliberate conversation and
 3 decision making about the operations of the Annual Conference. As a Conference we must Right-size
 4 some things, prioritize others, and remove some that no longer match our focus or vision or that can,
 5 and perhaps should be, funded from other sources. Those cuts will have to be made, and as we have
 6 been saying for many years, we as your CF&A do not want to have to make them for other entities.
 7
 8 Given our desire to be good stewards of the resources we reasonably believe we will receive to support
 9 the ministries and missions of the New Mexico Annual Conference with which the local church has
 10 entrusted to us, your Council on Finance and Administration submits the following Budget and Spending
 11 Plan for 2027 for your approval.

	2026 Budget	2026 Spending Plan	2027 Budget	2027 Spending Plan
INCOME				
TITHED INCOME FROM LOCAL CHURCHES				
2024-2025 reported operational income	\$16,181,498		\$16,159,169	
8% of reported operational income			\$1,292,734	
budgeted portion of income from tithe (100%)			\$1,292,734	
expected portion of income from tithe (usually 85%)			\$1,098,823	\$1,098,823
Income received in prior year	\$980,905	\$980,905		
OTHER INCOME				
Conference Endowment 4.5% - 6% Distribution	\$215,920	\$215,920	\$206,000	\$206,000
Additional Stabilization Funds Needed	\$336,725	\$0		
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,533,550	\$1,196,826	\$1,304,823	\$1,304,823
EXPENSES				
GENERAL CHURCH APPORTIONMENTS				
World Service	\$195,799	\$97,900	\$203,001	\$101,501
Episcopal Fund	\$96,512	\$96,512	\$100,063	\$100,063
Ministerial Education Fund	\$67,726	\$33,863	\$70,218	\$35,109
Black College Fund	\$27,015	\$13,508	\$28,009	\$14,005
Africa University	\$6,046	\$3,023	\$6,268	\$3,134
General Administration	\$33,091	\$16,546	\$34,309	\$17,155
Interdenominational Cooperation	\$2,803	\$1,402	\$2,906	\$1,453
TOTAL GENERAL CHURCH APPORTIONMENTS:	\$428,992	\$262,752	\$444,774	\$272,419

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Administrative Reports

JURISDICTIONAL APPORTIONMENTS				
Lydia Patterson	\$16,286	\$16,286	\$16,286	\$16,286
Jurisdictional Administration	\$4,701	\$2,351	\$4,701	\$2,351
Jurisdictional Reserves	\$818	\$409	\$818	\$409
TOTAL JURISDICTIONAL APPORTIONMENTS:	\$21,805	\$19,046	\$21,805	\$19,046
<hr/>				
TOTAL APPORTIONMENTS:	\$450,797	\$281,798	\$466,579	\$291,464
<hr/>				
CONFERENCE/AREA ADMINISTRATION				
Conference Office	\$423,000	\$343,000	\$343,000	\$390,823
District Superintendents	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$311,000
District Work	\$60,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$49,500
Equitable Compensation	\$51,253	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$50,000
Trustees	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Conference	\$13,500	\$13,500	\$13,500	\$13,500
Council on Finance and Administration	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000
Area Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Board of Ordained Ministry	\$7,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$9,625
Legal Fund	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Communications	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$7,500
Conference Committee Meetings	\$3,500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
New Cabinet Expenses	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Delegate Expenses	\$6,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
TOTAL CONFERENCE/AREA ADMINISTRATION:	\$897,753	\$774,500	\$774,500	\$854,948
<hr/>				
CONFERENCE PROGRAMMING AND MINISTRIES				
New Church Development	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Campus Ministries	\$100,000	\$80,528	\$80,528	\$80,528
Four Corners Native American Ministries-Director	\$60,000	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$45,000
Camping Ministries and scholarships	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Endowment Distribution Committee				\$10,000
Board of Laity	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Conference Lay Leader	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
Unallocated Programming	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Envisioning Ministries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Conference Ministry Team	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
TOTAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMMING AND MINISTRIES:	\$185,000	\$140,528	\$140,528	\$150,528
<hr/>				
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$1,533,550	\$1,196,826	\$1,381,607	\$1,296,940
SURPLUS				\$7,883

Administrative Reports

1 **Report #3: Second Mile Giving**

2 Another measure of generosity and vitality, beyond the tithe, deserves to be highlighted. Second Mile
3 Giving amounts to a significant amount of support and represents how we make a difference well
4 beyond the walls of our churches.

5 This year, the largest recipients of such giving include: (1) Disaster relief in places like Jamaica, Ukraine,
6 as well as Texas and California, (2) Conference ministries such as Four Corners Ministry, and Good
7 Medicine Way, (3) Ministries within our Annual Conference's geographic region, such as McCurdy
8 Ministries and Lydia Paterson Institute.

9 These offerings did see a decline from 2024 to 2025, and we encourage local churches to highlight
10 opportunities to give beyond the local congregation. It is how we demonstrate vitality and serve our
11 neighbors.

2025 SECOND MILE GIVING

(Remitted through the Conference Treasurer)

Advance Projects

Disaster Response, International - Undesignated	3,445	
Disaster Response, USA - California	11,203	
Disaster Response, USA - Jamaica	5,000	
Disaster Response, USA - Texas	8,493	
Disaster Response, International - Ukraine	21,110	
Disaster Response, USA - Undesignated	30,572	
Forbes, Belinda	2,500	
Heifer Project International	1,942	
	Total	84,266

Conference Advance Specials

Disaster Relief	525	
Good Medicine Way	250	
Four Corners NA Ministry	300	
Lydia Patterson Institute	525	
Ruidoso	2,470	
	Total	4,070

Conference Special Offerings

McCurdy Ministries	5,697	
McMurry University	25	
Methodist Children's Home	2,397	
Retired Ministers' Day Offering	25	
Sacramento Methodist Assembly	45	
	Total	8,189

General Church Special Sunday Offerings

Human Relations Day	778	
One Great Hour of Sharing	6,875	
Native American Ministries Sunday	2,741	
Peace with Justice Sunday	1,967	
World Communion Sunday	1,877	
United Methodist Student Day	850	

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	Total	15,088
Other Offerings		
Imagine No Malaria	180	
	Total	180
TOTAL REMITTED THROUGH CONF TREASURER		111,792
Albuquerque District	89,032	
Clovis District	7,463	
El Paso District	10,392	
Other	4,905	
TOTAL SECOND MILE GIVING REMITTED DIRECTLY		235,652
Albuquerque District	173,316	
Clovis District	14,052	
El Paso District	48,284	
GRAND TOTAL OF ALL SECOND MILE GIVING		459,237

1 **Report 4: Reported Local Church Income to the Conference**

2 During 2025, the New Mexico Conference received \$16,159,169 of income. Compared to 2024, 2025's
 3 income was virtually flat, with a slight decline of less than 1% (0.14%). 2025's expenses totaled \$1,510,210,
 4 a 10% reduction from the prior year.

5 Over the past several years, the New Mexico Conference and the CF&A have worked to deal with declining
 6 income. Based on the 2025 financial statements, CF&A is hopeful that those efforts are now bearing good
 7 fruit.

8

Year	Total Operational Income	% Change	Actual Expenses	% Change
2012	31,057,016		3,209,346	
2013	30,437,503	-1.99%	3,036,891	-5.37%
2014	30,012,222	-1.40%	2,818,407	-7.19%
2015	28,572,974	-4.80%	2,619,603	-7.05%
2016	27,020,790	-5.43%	1,985,043	-24.22%
2017	27,704,154	2.53%	1,981,339	-0.19%
2018	27,436,438	-0.97%	2,066,362	4.29%
2019	26,971,889	-1.69%	2,083,127	0.81%
2020	25,358,224	-5.98%	2,028,354	-2.63%
2021	25,781,505	1.67%	2,086,632	2.87%
2022	24,694,094	-4.22%	2,153,163	3.19%

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2023	16,756,527	-32.14%	2,117,237	-1.67%
2024	16,181,498	-3.43%	1,679,904	-20.66%
2025	16,159,169	-0.14%	1,510,210	-10.10%
	% Diff from 2016	-40.20%		-23.92%
	% Diff from 2012	-47.97%		-52.94%

1 **Report #5: Stabilization Fund**

2 The New Mexico Annual Conference Structure, Policies, and Rules states in Par. 2310, “The Conference
3 Stabilization Fund is to be used to the advance payment of salaries and expenses for the District
4 Superintendents, Campus Ministers, and other Conference connection personnel, as well as for
5 budgeted items that are approved by the Annual Conference.”

6
7 The purpose of the stabilization fund is to even out the money available to pay the Conference’s
8 expenses made necessary by the ups and downs of monthly offerings. It allows the work of the
9 Conference to continue moving smoothly without being constrained by a particular month’s receipts.
10 The stabilization funds come from a variety of sources including accrued interest, earnings from invested
11 funds, and unspent money from various items in the budget. Disbursements from Conference reserves
12 may be used as necessary to provide adequate funding for the stabilization fund.

13
14 The Conference Treasurer has reported that the conference stabilization fund ended 2025 with a
15 negative \$514,299 balance. Funds will be transferred from conference reserves to cover the shortage.
16 With a fully funded 2026 budget, any receipts more than expenses will be deposited into the
17 stabilization fund.

18
19 The 2027 Budget and Spending Plan may be implemented with confidence given the flexibility and
20 support of the stabilization fund.

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Stabilization Fund Activity 12/31/2025

TMF Beginning Balance 1/1/2025			712,763.22
Income:			
	Transfers	-428,081.12	
	Capital Gains	171,580.63	
	Interest Income	140.85	
	Change in Market Value	-135,750.26	
	Total Income		-392,109.90
Expenditures:			
	Disbursements	69,522.63	
	Expenses		
	Total Expenditures		69,522.63
Ending Balance 12/31/2025			251,130.69

NMAC Beginning Balance 1/1/2025			-440,178.31
Income:			
	TMF Stabilization Fund	602,118.04	
	Interest Earned	26.03	
	Total Income		602,144.07
Expenditures:			
	Disbursements	676,265.09	
	Expenses		
	Total Expenditures		676,265.09
Ending Balance 12/31/2025			-514,299.33

US BANK - Money Market Beginning Balance 1/1/2025			261,238.47
Income:			
	Interest Earned	26.03	
	Total Income		26.03
Expenditures:			
	Disbursements		
	Total Expenditures		
Ending Balance 12/31/2025			261,264.50

TMF Stabilization Fund	251,130.69	
NMAC Stabilization Fund	-514,299.33	
US BANK Money Market	261,264.50	
Total Stabilization Funds		-1,904.14

Administrative Reports

1 Report #6 Fund Reports

New Mexico Annual Conference Texas Methodist Foundation Funds As of 12/31/2025

Fund Name	Fund Use / Designation	Market Value
Stabilization Fund	Stabilization Fund	\$251,730.69
Senior Ministries Endowment	Senior Ministry Grant through Endowment Distribution Committee	\$423,736.98
Congregational Transformation	Congregational Vitality and Renewal	\$95,440.04
Whitfield Seminary Scholarship	Assistance for Course of Study-Katanga Methodist University Theological School in DRC	\$41,598.55
Conference Endowment	Annual Distribution support Stabilization Fund and Bishop's and Vitality awards and grants through Endowment Distribution Committee	\$3,972,978.57
NMAC Trustees	Trustee's Fund	\$270,233.91
Conference Building Reserve	Funds held for major Conference Office Expenses	\$28,830.49
Board of Trustees	Offset housing allowance for Conference Provost	\$122,286.28
Thaxton Endowment Fund	Endowment Distribution Committee awards grants from these funds for provision of basic human needs and care-children, families, & elderly in NM	\$1,613,830.82
Thaxton Endowment Earnings	See Thaxton Endowment Fund	\$97,386.76
Pippin Endowment	Mission work in NMAC, includes training of Navajo Ministers	\$719,318.87
Lackey Scholarship Fund	Assistance for children of clergy attending UM college/university	\$70,814.34
Campus Ministries	Provide funding assistance for Campus Ministries	\$66,091.63
Pace Endowment	Salary Support for New Church Planters	\$645,918.02
New Church Fund	General New Church Development Fund	\$339,370.32
New Church Distribution	Un-restricted New Church Development from Sale of Closed Churches	\$898,958.50
New Church Restricted	Restricted (Bricks-and-Mortar) funds for New Church Development from Sale of Closed Churches	\$442,827.26
NMAC Archives and History	Financing via income projects not in conference budget	\$9,481.47
Sivley Special Account-CBGM	Project grants fulfilling UMCOR priorities within NMAC- originally from the T.J. Sivley Charitable Lead Trust	\$19.62
Volunteers In Mission	Volunteers-in-Mission programs in the NMAC	\$16,546.94

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Pruett Earnings Fund	See Pruett Loan Fund	\$90,047.81
Pruett Loan Fund	Loans to ministerial students made on an emergency basis	\$48,296.53
Native American Ministerial Ed	Scholarship fund for Ministerial Education for Native Americans (first priority)	\$244,997.79
Native American Ministerial Earn	See Native American Ministerial Ed Fund and Conference Journal	\$107,581.73
		\$10,869,403.70

1

REVOLVING FUND ACTIVITY

1/1/2025 TO 12/31/2025

Beginning Cash Balance 01/01/25		\$185,643.28
<u>Income:</u>		
NMAC	\$8,076.00	
Interest Earned	\$1,546.70	
TOTAL INCOME		\$9,622.70
<u>Disbursements:</u>		
El Calvario UMC	(27,872.64)	
Bank service charges/supplies/adjustments	\$0.00	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		(\$27,872.64)
Cash Balance in Fund 12/31/2025		\$167,393.34
<p>\$50,000 of cash balance is guarantee money held for UMDF and is unavailable for distribution</p>		

<u>Notes Outstanding:</u>		
	Loan Amount	Balance
NMAC-6/1/2021	\$77,735.76	\$0.00
El Calvario UMC	\$27,872.64	\$27,872.64
Total loan amount	\$105,608.40	
TOTAL OUTSTANDING		\$27,872.64

COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION

Submitted by Rev. Layloni Drake, Chair

2 Each year we as an annual conference have the privilege to give grants for pastoral compensation to
 3 churches who find themselves in temporary difficult financial situations. For the conference year 25-26,
 4 due to your generosity, we were able to award support to the following churches: Zia UMC at Santa Fe,
 5 First UMC at Las Vegas, First UMC Raton, St James/Myrtle UMC at El Paso, and Tobin Park UMC at El
 6 Paso. These grants total \$51,141.97. Every bit of your churches' tithe that is sent in makes it possible for
 7 us to give grants to those in need.

Administrative Reports

1	Recommended Minimum Salary	
2	Full Elder Pastor	\$46,977
3	Provisional Member	\$44,265
4	Pastor Associate Member	\$42,835
5	Pastor Full-time Local Pastor	\$40,456
6	Student Pastor	\$39,274

BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Kimberly Kinsey, Chair

7 The BOM continued their important work of nurturing and supporting individuals as they discern and
8 live out their calls to ministry. The handbook for the BOM was revised this year and members of the
9 executive committee continued to attend jurisdiction training events to increase the board's
10 effectiveness. At clergy retreat, we shared the steps into ordained ministry to provide clarity and
11 continuity to the conference as a whole.

12
13 Thanks to Sean Smith for stepping into the role of registrar.

14
15 This year we hosted our annual clergy retreat and support a bi-conference deacon's retreat. Both events
16 provided fellowship and spiritual nurture for the clergy of our conference. Thanks to our chairs of the
17 order of the elders and deacons for organizing these events.

18
19 In February, the board met to interview and evaluate both candidates for provisional ministry and those
20 moving toward full ordination. This continues the important work of the district committee on ministry
21 as they support individuals discerning calls to ministry. These interviews reflect the hard work of
22 discernment and prayer that is given to each individual and the blessing of supporting people as they
23 move forward in ministry.

24
25 The board is also blessed with several scholarship funds to support people in their educational process.
26 Along with providing education materials and loans, our conference is supporting candidates financially,
27 as well.

28
29 As our annual conference reflects on a faithful vine connected to Christ, we are blessed to see the life of
30 Christ shaping and flourishing through the ministers and ministries of the New Mexico Annual
31 Conference.

32

BOARD OF LAITY

*Submitted by Kathy Jewell, NMAC Lay Leader, Chair
Director of Lay Servant and Certified Lay Ministries*

33 The New Mexico Conference Board of Laity (NMCBOL) has focused on a clear and Spirit-led vision this
34 year: to cultivate spaces where relationships deepen, faith matures, and disciples are formed through
35 intentional learning and shared spiritual practice. The members of the NMCBOL are stepping forward
36 with renewed commitment to discipleship, connection and missional ministry through courageous
37 servant leadership

Administrative Reports

1 The NMCBOL lifts the work of laypersons across our Conference who continue to embody courageous
2 servant leadership in a season of transformation, discernment, and renewed hope.

3
4 The NMCBOL is blessed with laity and clergy who are stepping forward with resilience, creativity, and
5 deep spiritual commitment, to serve on this board. Their leadership is shaping congregations,
6 strengthening communities, and building connectional relationships

7
8 We believe courageous servant leadership, for all people, grows when people are:

- 9 • Encouraged through Scripture, prayer, and Wesleyan practices
- 10 • Equipped to serve their churches and neighborhoods, through purposeful Lay Servant classes.
- 11 • Engaged across congregations, cultures, and generations

12
13 This year, our focus has been to strengthen relationship-centered learning environments through a
14 variety of classes offered. This vision is shaping how we design, support, and resource lay ministries
15 throughout the New Mexico Conference.

16
17 The NMCBOL is strengthening relationship-centered learning environments, by offering

- 18 • Small-group discipleship classes that emphasize storytelling, shared prayer, mutual support,
19 caring, and communication.
- 20 • Certified Lay Servant and Certified Lay Minister formation courses that integrate spiritual
21 disciplines with practical servant leadership skills
- 22 • Cross-congregational learning cohorts that foster connection across districts and cultural
23 contexts

24
25 These offerings are designed not only to teach, but to strengthen relationships, in the NMC and across
26 the conference boundaries.

27
28 The NMCBOL has worked intentionally to strengthen relationships across the connection by:

- 29 • Partnering with District Lay Leaders to support local congregations
- 30 • Encouraging collaboration between churches for shared learning and mission
- 31 • Invite other Conferences to participate in class offerings

32
33 We celebrate the many laypersons who are modeling courageous servant leadership by:

- 34 • Stepping into new ministry roles
- 35 • Supporting all people through partnership and shared discernment
- 36 • Encouraging safe, welcoming spaces for spiritual exploration

37
38 The NMCBOL encourages laity and clergy leading together, grounded in Christ's love and guided by the
39 Holy Spirit.

40
41 In the coming year, the NMCBOL will continue to:

- 42 • Encourage partnerships with local churches, for connection
 - 43 • Engage resources that nurture servant leadership
 - 44 • Empower every layperson to discover and live their calling
 - 45 • Equip all people through pertinent classes or gatherings that foster spiritual growth.
- 46 NMCBOL is committed to building on this year's momentum. Our priorities for the coming year
47 include:
- 48 • Expanding accessible training pathways for Lay Servants, and Certified Lay Ministers

Administrative Reports

- 1 • Developing new classes that integrate spiritual practice with practical servant leadership
- 2 • Strengthening partnerships with local churches, Conference ministries and South-Central
- 3 Jurisdiction
- 4 • Creating resources that nurture spiritual resilience and relational servant leadership
- 5 • Encouraging every layperson to discover, claim, and live their God-given calling

6
7 The NMCBOL team will serve together to form courageous servant leaders who build relationships,
8 deepen spiritual practice, and strengthen the connectional life of our Church. We give thanks for every
9 layperson who has offered their gifts, time, and heart to the work of Christ this year. Your servant
10 leadership matters. Your faithfulness matters. Your courage matters. Together, we are building a
11 Conference where relationships flourish, disciples grow, and the love of Christ is made visible in every
12 community we serve. May God continue to guide us as we lead with courage, serve with compassion,
13 and walk together in the way of Jesus.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Submitted by Steve Wilson, Chair

14 At the Trustees June 18, 2025 meeting in Albuquerque, the following officers were elected:
15 Steve Wilson, chair; Michael Puckett, vice-chair; Lisa Blaylock, secretary and Griselda Sandoval,
16 treasurer.

17
18 Properties that were transferred to Conference Trustees, per the Discipline and sold this past year
19 include: Anthony UMC in Anthony, NM; the debt on the Beacon of Light Church in Clovis was satisfied
20 and the deed was transferred to them. A vacant lot in Cerro, NM was sold; the parsonage which was
21 part of the El Divino Salvador church in Odessa was sold and the church building is in negotiations to sell.
22 Grandfalls Union Church in Grand Falls, Texas was just deeded to the other protestant denominations
23 sharing that building. Ojo Amarillo church in Northern NM was closed and we hope to find another
24 ministry to take over the building. The building is on the reservation, and the conference does not own
25 the land. Trustees are finalizing the sale and transfer of the church building in Hernandez, NM just
26 outside of Espanola. The building has been vacant for over 20 years. There is a ministry, (some are
27 former congregants), that want to make the extensive repairs needed to use the building. To help their
28 ministry, Trustees are transferring title to the building and property, in return they will help pay closing
29 cost expenses. The little money they may have been able to come up with to buy the building, will now
30 go towards the repairs of the building, so they are able to continue their ministry in the Espanola valley.

31
32 Vista Ysleta UMC in El Paso was closed last year and is now repurposed as UM Community Faith Center
33 (CFC) in El Paso. CFC houses a Hispanic ministry worship service on Sunday afternoons and a non-profit
34 community outreach center that also supports a secondhand store for the community. The non-profit,
35 Reach & Relieve Ministries, holds several food drives including a Christmas toy drive that this past year
36 gave away over 800 toys to underprivileged children in the area. CFC is currently exploring a vacation
37 bible camp for children during school breaks. The Center is open to other ministries and denominations
38 that promote a Christian community ministry. CFC is self-sufficient, supported by the rental income from
39 its tenants. It is our desire to keep a United Methodist presence in this eastside neighborhood, and we
40 hope to promote other United Methodist ministries through this community center property.

41
42 Finding affordable property insurance coverage for our conference churches continues to be a
43 challenge. This year we will continue coverage for our New Mexico churches with Sovereign Insurance

Administrative Reports

1 who had the better rates in New Mexico. We were able to partner with Lightwell insurance in Texas for
2 a more affordable property insurance program. Lightwell did individual site visits for all churches in
3 Texas and New Mexico but was most competitive in Texas. The Lightwell program saved our Texas
4 churches almost 20% in addition to lowering their wind and hail deductible to 2% and 3% versus the
5 Sovereign deductible which was 5%.

6
7 Safe Sanctuaries is another important part of ensuring the work of our churches. Safe Sanctuary training
8 must be taken every year, and background checks are required every two years. Every New Mexico
9 Conference church must have a Safe Sanctuary Policy (*not a guideline*). Our certified trainers can help
10 with. If you have questions or need help with your Safe Sanctuary program, please reach out to Deb and
11 Hank Humiston or Kathy Jewel and let's stay in compliance with this program for the safety of our
12 churches and those we serve.

PROGRAM AREA REPORTS

NEW MEXICO CONFERENCE BORDER MINISTRIES TEAM AND BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

Submitted by Rev. W. Douglas Mills, PhD, Chair

1 Church & Society in the New Mexico Annual Conference has a call and passion for Border Ministry.
2 During the past year, the Conference Border Ministries Team and the Conference Board of Church and
3 Society created a new subcommittee, a Green Team, to bring a new dimension of work to Church and
4 Society and to border issues. Funded by a Endowment Committee grant, the purpose of the Green Team
5 initiative is to leverage the church's skills and community connections to contribute to environmental
6 healing in a climate-changed world. It aims to educate and build skills in alignment with The United
7 Methodist Creation Justice Movement (UMCJM). The program targets UMC churches, pastors, and
8 communities within the New Mexico Annual Conference. This initiative invites local churches to
9 participate in enhancing education and actions that improve community well-being through building
10 Green Teams in local congregations. This program will be sustained by a volunteer green team through
11 the Conference's Board of Church & Society, including commissioned Earthkeepers and leaders from the
12 United Women in Faith. Success will be measured by goals such as increasing creation awareness,
13 establishing a Green Team, enhancing church-related climate care activities, and certifying more
14 EarthKeepers and Green Teams.

15
16 As part of the Green Team initiative, this task force within the Conference's Board of Church & Society
17 will research, educate, and advocate on human migration as it pertains to climate changes and
18 ecological emergencies and transformations. As these changes occur, shifts in human reactivity and
19 response will create new challenges and opportunities for the Gospel to be made manifest and for
20 disciples of Jesus Christ to transform the world.

21
22 The Subcommittee of Church and Society has been approved and an 8-member team has been
23 assembled of both clergy and laity from many corners of the state. More team members are
24 encouraged. Current team members are:

25 Rev. Andy Stoker, Albuquerque

26 Rev. Tina Cross, Roswell

27 Dodie Hawkins, Albuquerque

28 Haley Jones, Carlsbad

29 Melly Locke, Las Cruces

30 Steve Wilson, El Paso

31 Chef Tim Nuzum, Albuquerque

32 Sarah Allen, Las Cruces

33 Alli Newsom has been instrumental in helping to create our Creation Care/Justice page.

34

35 There are a number of categories of information that are relevant for clergy and laity.

Program Area Reports

CREATION CARE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE OF THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY BOARD

ABOUT	ADVOCACY & Worship	NEWS TIPS GRANTS Scholarships	EVENTS TRAININGS
THEOLOGY TEAM GOALS	BISHOP LETTERS NMAC RESOLUTIONS SOCIAL PRINCIPLES SERMON &	MONTHLY TIPS NEWS GRANTS SCHOLARSHIPS	EVENTS EARTHKEEPERS UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

1 Once a month in the Conference News includes UMC Creation Care Tips, resource offers a
2 simple way to get our congregations actively involved as individuals, families or teams in creation
3 justice and environmental ministry! Each month, 10 tips are provided that are easy to implement,
4 biblically and theologically sound, and educational. <https://umcreationjustice.org/tips/>
5

6 We encourage each to use these monthly tips in your own newsletter, or to pass them along to a
7 Trustee who will benefit from the ideas.
8

9 We encourage each church to create a Green Team, to have a member of their congregation
10 become an EarthKeeper, or to appoint a Trustee to receive information on how to save their church
11 money by implementing “green” solutions. Global Ministries EarthKeepers is a training and
12 incubator program that provides a collaborative space for United Methodists to develop and grow
13 environmental projects in with their church family and their communities. Topics include eco-
14 theology, antiracism, community organizing, and project planning. All participants plan a project
15 during the training. Scholarships are now available for EarthKeepers and other trainings. A class is
16 being offered after Easter to encourage Lay Servants, CLMs, and others to deepen their understanding
17 of the change in the Social Principles putting increased importance on caring for the beautiful planet
18 that God created for us.
19

20 Starter grant projects at churches range from \$250 to \$500 and are meant to be incubator or
21 starter project ideas or to supplement worthwhile creation care programs that need further
22 assistance. The grant application went live with the website March 3rd. Grants are due April 24th.
23

24 We encourage NMAC clergy to provide at least one service a year on creation care and provide
25 resources for them. Resources <https://www.creationjustice.org/resources.html>
26 <https://umcreationjustice.org/library/>. [https://umcreationjustice.org/project/creation-justice-sermon-](https://umcreationjustice.org/project/creation-justice-sermon-collection/)
27 [collection/](https://umcreationjustice.org/project/creation-justice-sermon-collection/). Clergy resource links are posted to the website.
28

29 Provide a small scholarship fund to increase the education of Clergy or Certified Lay Ministers
30 or laity who wanted to enhance their formal training in this area Examples: eco preacher
31 training <https://www.creationjustice.org/ecopreacher>; UMC Global Ministries Earthkeepers training
32 The Scholarship application has been created and is live on the website

Program Area Reports

1
2 The Creation Care/Justice Committee wants to thank our Bishop Carlo, Rev. Pam Rowley, Rev Ross
3 Whitaker, Rev Doug Mills, and Alli Newsome for support of this important addition to the New Mexico
4 Annual Conference. You may receive more information from Sarah Allen 928-691-6471.

NEW MEXICO CONFERENCE BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Submitted Rev. Dr. Andy Stoker, CBGM Secretary

5 The United Methodist Church, through the General Board of Global Ministries and the United Methodist
6 Committee on Relief (UMCOR), supports mutuality in mission through partnerships worldwide. Tasked
7 by The General Conference to **Connect the Church in Mission** and **Alleviate Human Suffering**, the Board
8 of Global Ministries and UMCOR's efforts span disaster response, health and sanitation, agriculture,
9 volunteer mobilization, and international partnerships. Together, these projects reflect a deep
10 commitment to love, justice, and service in the name of Christ.

11
12 It's incredible to see the legacy of the New Mexico Conference already at work in our wider United
13 Methodist connection. In 2025, churches generously gave a total of **\$37,434.11** through Global
14 Ministries to support missionaries, including Belinda Forbes, and Advance projects around the world.
15 Additionally, we collectively contributed **\$92,786** to UMCOR and **\$7,060** to the Advance, for a total
16 giving of just shy of \$100,000!

17
18 What follows is a sampling of the global ministries impacted by your generosity, organized according to
19 our **conference's missional focus and strategic initiatives**:

20 21 *Global Migration*

22 These ministries respond to the growing challenges of displacement, refugee support, and rebuilding
23 lives with dignity.

- 24 • In Mission Together – Ukraine and Moldova: Supports displaced families and communities
25 through pastoral care, emergency assistance, and new church starts in post-conflict areas.
- 26 • Refugee Response, Church World Service: Provides shelter, legal aid, resettlement assistance,
27 and job training for refugees and asylum seekers worldwide.
- 28 • Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (Middle East Council of Churches): Offers
29 healthcare, education, and psychosocial services to refugee communities in the Middle East.
- 30 • Congo, Nigeria, and Middle East – Undesignated: Enables flexible and timely support for
31 migration-related crises across these regions.

32 33 *Championing Children and Youth*

34 Focused on education, safety, and holistic development, these programs invest in the next generation.

- 35 • McCurdy Ministries Community Center (New Mexico, USA): Serves children and families through
36 after-school programs, education, and counseling.
- 37 • Child Reintegration Centre (Sierra Leone): Transforms the lives of vulnerable children through
38 family reunification, education, and trauma-informed care.
- 39 • Mary Jo Phillips Methodist Daycare (Paraguay): Offers early childhood education in a safe,
40 nurturing, faith-filled environment.
- 41 • Africa University Scholarships: Equips young adults with Christ-centered higher education,
42 developing leaders for church and society.

Program Area Reports

- 1 • Tanzania Women Development and Orphans Schools: Supports education for girls and
2 vulnerable children in rural Tanzania.
- 3 • Next Generation Ministries (Haiti): Provides care, housing, and education for children affected
4 by extreme poverty and disaster.

6 *Pursuing and Embracing Diversity*

7 These initiatives lift up the beauty and strength of God’s people across cultures, abilities, and languages.

- 8 • Disability Ministries Committee: Advocates for full inclusion and accessibility for people with
9 disabilities in worship, leadership, and daily church life.
- 10 • Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ministries: Equips churches to welcome and disciple Deaf and HOH
11 communities through ASL worship and leadership training.
- 12 • Latvia In Mission Together: Partners with local churches to strengthen emerging congregations
13 in post-Soviet contexts with diverse theological backgrounds.
- 14 • Leadership Development (Global): Trains diverse leaders in contextual ministry, empowering
15 indigenous pastors and lay leaders worldwide.
- 16 • Moscow Theological Seminary: Offers theological education to a diverse body of students across
17 Russia and Central Asia.

18
19 Each gift from the New Mexico Conference has extended the hands and feet of Christ to the farthest
20 corners of the globe. Together, we are shaping communities of hope, healing, and transformation.
21 Whether it's providing clean water in the Congo, empowering women in Liberia, walking with refugees
22 in Ukraine, or nurturing faith among children in Paraguay—these ministries are tangible expressions of
23 God’s love in action.

24
25 This is more than charity. It is connectional ministry at its best—an embodiment of our shared calling to
26 make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

28 **CONFERENCE BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES GRANTS**

29 *There are opportunities for local churches to engage more fully in the work of Global Ministries:*

30 **The Sively Award**

31 Organizations and churches for significant work in disaster relief, rehabilitation after disaster,
32 root causes of hunger and refugee ministries. Application deadline is March 15th. Application to
33 be posted.

34 **McCreless Endowment Fund of UMCOR-Child Related Ministries**

35 Supports mission projects within the NMAC that will serve the needs of children with an
36 emphasis that reflects United Methodist Committee on Relief values and goals. Application
37 deadline is March 15th. Application to be posted.

38 **Cinco Estrellas (5 Stars) Award of Excellence**

39 Awarded to churches who meet 5 of the following criteria in a preceding conference year:

- 40 • Paid World Service & District Mission shared ministries in full
- 41 • Supported (financially or in kind) the Annual Conference Mission Project
- 42 • Supported at least 1 Advance Special at each of 3 levels: Conference: JFON-El Paso; Operacion
43 Hogar; McCurdy Ministries; South Albuquerque Cooperative Ministry; the Storehouse;
44 Sacramento Camp & Conference Center; Abundant Grace Free Store; and UMC Free Stores
45 throughout the Conference.
46 National: Four Corners Native American Ministry (#581254); Lydia Patterson
47 Institute(#531532) McCurdy Ministries Student Financial/General Support (#581479); ;
48 Volunteers in Mission, SCJ #(901455)

Program Area Reports

- 1 International and Jurisdictional: Lydia Patterson Institute; Oklahoma Indian Missionary
2 Conference, Mulungwishi, Congo, Endowment Funds
3 • Observed, with an offering, One Great Hour of Sharing
4 • Shared a mission story with the Conference
5 • Sponsored at least 1 person (per 100 members in avg. weekly worship
6 attendance) on a UM VIM project/trip
7 • Be involved in a significant mission project in the local community
8 • Have a GBGM Covenant Relationship with a UM missionary – Support Methodist Missionaries
9 around the world with \$5 per church member per year. Don't forget to renew your Covenant
10 Relationship documentation annually! See the General Board of Global Missions 'website for
11 details <http://www.umcmision.org/get-involved/partnerships/covenant-relationships/Covenant-relationships>; #3022046 Greg Henneman missionary to Ohio;
12 #3022137 Jennifer Henneman missionary to Ohio; #3021966.
13 To apply, submit in writing or by email a detailed summary of how your church has fulfilled at
14 least 5 of these criteria. Be specific. (Advance Specials of GBGM qualify for this.)
15
16
17 Thank you for your generosity, your prayers, and your commitment to mission. As we continue to grow
18 in our faith and connection, may we boldly answer Christ's call to serve "the least of these" and witness
19 the Spirit at work in every culture, community, and heart.

NM COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

Submitted by Rev. Cazandra Campos-MacDonald, Chair

20 In 1972, the United Methodist Church established the General Commission On the Status and Role Of
21 Women (COSROW) to "challenge the UMC for the full and equal participation of women in the total life
22 and mission of the Church." Each annual conference across the connection is required by The Book of
23 Discipline to establish a COSROW team.

24
25 The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women advocates for full participation of women in
26 the total life of The United Methodist Church. We're helping the church recognize every person – clergy
27 and lay, women and men, adults and children - as full and equal parts of God's human family. We
28 believe that a fully engaged and empowered membership is vital to The United Methodist Church's
29 mission "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."
30

31 The New Mexico Annual Conference COSROW has not been an active presence for many years. In the
32 2025-2026 appointment year, the commission has gathered to establish the Commission. Our focus has
33 been to determine the needs of the New Mexico Annual Conference.
34

35 Our needs reach beyond equal opportunities for clergywomen. With a diverse population, the equality
36 of all without discrimination based on race, color, sexual orientation, or gender are imperative for full
37 equal representation.
38

39 At each Annual Conference, COSROW provides monitoring. "Monitoring is a process of observing
40 behaviors, opportunities for participation, and the overall inclusiveness of gatherings to bring awareness
41 to challenges and barriers that may prevent full and equal access," said the Rev. Katrena King, director
42 of monitoring and resource development for the General Commission. "It also includes providing
43 feedback and recommendations to help resolve concerns as they arise. While monitoring is not a new

Program Area Reports

1 concept, COSROW has worked to provide greater clarity, streamlined processes and practical tools to
2 make monitoring more accessible and user-friendly.” The New Mexico COSROW has not participated in
3 monitoring and looks forward to moving forward with this task in 2027.

4
5 From updating sexual ethics policies in Annual Conferences, creating resources for churches in
6 welcoming a woman pastor, as well as a resource for district superintendents, the GCOSROW is a vital
7 force in the denomination.

8
9 It is now time to establish an active presence and resource for the New Mexico Annual Conference.

10
11 If you are passionate about equality and representation, COSROW has a place you. In order to have a
12 vibrant presence, those called to this ministry are needed. The NM COSROW uses people who are not
13 officially on the commission listed in the Journal. Please reach out to the chair for information on
14 participating, cazmac9910@gmail.com.

15
16 The monthly e-newsletter, Wisdom Talks, is designed to communicate information to facilitate the
17 advancement of women at all levels of The United Methodist Church, presented by The General
18 Commission on the Status and Role of Women. [https://www.resourceumc.org/en/landing-
19 pages/subscription-management/gcsr-w-subscribe](https://www.resourceumc.org/en/landing-pages/subscription-management/gcsr-w-subscribe)

20
21 Please visit <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/partners/gcsr-w/home> for more information on GCSRW.

FOUR CORNERS NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY

Submitted by Debra Yazzie, Executive Director

22 Four Corners Native American Ministry (FCNAM) located in Shiprock, New Mexico has received a
23 resurgence of mission work team requests to make a huge difference in the four corners region for
24 2025. We give thanks to all our donors, sponsors, volunteers, stakeholders, board members, and staff
25 for a successful 2025! Your continued prayers are felt and have manifested as we work with our fellow
26 brothers and sisters as we push our Ministry towards Christ’s love!

27
28 FCNAM gave out 150 emergency food boxes, 250 emergency hygiene kits, 175 emergency food kits,
29 delivered 7,000 gallons of drinking water, delivered 3 tons of coal, delivered 10 cords of firewood,
30 coordinated 4 mission work team projects, completed two solar oven seminars, 4 community projects,
31 and built 7 ramps.

32
33 FCNAM now has a fab shop for building ramp modules (aka frames) in partnership with the NM Ramp
34 Project out of Albuquerque, NM. All our staff are Team Leads and assist with pre-planning, drawing up
35 plans for ramp build, site prep, soliciting for volunteers, filling out required paperwork, driving ramp
36 modules to site, site set up, ramp build, and post paperwork closure. We have grown and learn so much
37 with our partnership with The NM Ramp Project.

38
39 We are in our third season with The Solar Oven Project. The plan is to have two, 2-day workshops this
40 summer. The first out on the Hopi Nation and the second in Kirtland, NM. The solar oven project has
41 brought to our area the element of “one with nature” through using sun rays to cook food. We continue
42 to be amazed at what can be cooked in the solar oven. We are looking at having at least 75 people per
43 workshop so we can continue to grow our partnership with The Solar Oven Project out of South Dakota.

Program Area Reports

1 We are in the planning phase for a new shelter and office building. We enjoy the backpack, school
2 supplies, and Christmas gift boxes ministry which has grown by leaps & bounds. We are looking forward
3 to growing our water delivery program through a potential grant from The N3 Foundation for 2026.
4 Ahxe'hee ("thank you" in Navajo language).

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

Submitted by Rev. Josh Kouri, Chair

5 "We are always open to instruction, willing to be wiser every day than we were before, and to change
6 whatever we can change for the better."

- 7 • John Wesley's instruction for organizing Methodist Societies and Class Meetings

8
9 In the United Methodist Church, we believe that faith and learning are inseparable gifts. We are rooted
10 in John Wesley's own conviction that an educated people are a more fully formed people in the image of
11 God. It is no wonder that supporting college students in their intellectual and spiritual development is
12 not merely a program offering. It is an expression of our very heritage and our commitment to form
13 disciples who are deep thinkers and bold servants. The Board of Higher Education and Campus ministry
14 is honored to carry this work forward in New Mexico, believing that investing in students is an
15 investment in the continued development and promise of the church.

16
17 The Board of Higher Ed coordinates with active campus ministries at University of New Mexico,
18 University of Texas, El Paso, Eastern New Mexico University, and New Mexico State University. Each of
19 these Wesleys brings its own distinct character, shaped by its campus culture and the students it serves
20 That diversity of witness is, itself, a strength. For the second consecutive year, after a long period of
21 dormancy, the Board has maintained consistent meetings, deepening coordination, and mutual support
22 among these ministries.

23
24 This year marked an additional milestone. We hosted the first college-age retreat in over a decade.
25 More than 20 students from 3 ministries gathered at Sacramento Camp for worship, fellowship, and
26 learning about listening to the heart. The retreat was a tangible reminder of what is possible when our
27 campuses are connected rather than isolated. We are genuinely hopeful about the road ahead for this
28 vital dimension for our conference's ministry and we look forward to continued growth for years to
29 come.

EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY WESLEY FOUNDATION

1417 South Ave. K, Portales New Mexico 88130

575-356-6721

Submitted Elizabeth Kirkwood, Executive Director

30 The Wesley House Foundation at Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU) serves as a vital campus
31 ministry, offering a welcoming space for students of diverse backgrounds, including international and
32 first-generation students. It provides emotional, spiritual, and social support, creating a community
33 where we feel valued, accepted, and connected.

34
35 Our Wesley House focuses on fostering spiritual growth through Bible studies and worship, providing
36 emotional support during difficult times, and building community through shared meals and cultural
37 exchanges. It is a sanctuary for international students who may feel isolated, offering a "home away

Program Area Reports

1 from home." It also creates an environment for students to grow socially, develop friendships, and
2 experience cultural diversity.

3
4 Each new semester we are blessed to meet new faces from all over the world. Faces that we don't yet
5 know what their story is. By GOD'S encouragement they make their way to us and bring, share their rich
6 culture, family values, backgrounds, faith and academic disciplines with us.

7
8 Wesley House's impact extends beyond the campus, preparing us to become compassionate leaders
9 who carry faith, values, and service into the world. It helps us integrate into campus life and provides
10 support that academics alone cannot, especially for students seeking a sense of belonging and
11 community. For example,

12
13 Through our support and encouragement of her fellow students one of our Wesley students has opened
14 a Shower Ministry for the Homeless in our town. The local Catholic church provides the showers, and
15 the community, local churches and members help with supplies. This is one example of our students
16 working, caring and giving back to their college community and town.

17
18 Our Wesley House Foundation stands as a beacon of support, faith, and community on ENMU campus. It
19 is a safe space that offers more than just meals or worship opportunities. It is a home where students
20 from all walks of life (Christians, Muslims, Hindus, and Atheists) come together to grow in faith, form
21 lifelong friendships, and find a community of support during their university journey. It provides us with
22 a sense of belonging and emotional support to grow spiritually and socially. Through the Wesley House,
23 we not only thrive academically but are also equipped to become compassionate leaders in our
24 communities.

25
26 2025-2026 ENMU campus house has opened their doors to the ladies of ENMU Rodeo team for a bible
27 study and gathering place. They have invited the other young women of our Wesley to join them. Our
28 young men meet and have prayer meeting which they have opened it up to the other students of the
29 Wesley community.

30
31 In closing we would like to say THANK YOU to the churches that have extended their continued support,
32 prayers and faith with our Wesley here at ENMU.

33
34 We would like to conclude with this verse from the Bible, which says:

35 ¹⁰ "God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped
36 his people and continue to help them." Hebrews 6:10 NKJV

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY WESLEY FOUNDATION

Submitted by Brian Townsend, Executive Director

37 We are grateful for the on-going support of the New Mexico Annual Conference and invite you to
38 celebrate with us all that God is doing at Wesley in Las Cruces that serves students at New Mexico State
39 University and Doña Ana Community College. It is because of your generosity and partnership we can
40 provide students a safe space to gather, build community, ask questions, serve, and grow in their faith!

41
42 On Sunday nights, we offer students a free dinner in partnership with members of local UMC churches
43 who provide the meals. Students gather and share a meal together. Often the adults from the local

Program Area Reports

1 churches who bring the meal, stay to eat too. Along with sharing a common table, we enjoy a time
2 where everyone has an opportunity to share a “high and low” of the week. This has been a beautiful
3 community building experience. Before the meal on Sundays, we have some students who gather every
4 other week to make desserts for that evening’s meal or on opposite Sundays make crafts together.

5
6 Wednesday nights is dedicated to worship! We gather each Wednesday night for a time of music,
7 interactive Bible study, and prayer. Last Spring we studied principles in the Book of Proverbs and took a
8 deep dive into the Apostle’s Creed. We took the Fall semester to discover Biblical principles with the
9 purpose of helping us align our priorities, passions, gifts, and experiences with the desire of Jesus for our
10 lives found in John 10:10, “I have come that you might have life and have life to the full.”

11
12 Because of your partnership, we are able to offer students a space to enjoy fun activities on Friday
13 nights. Students gathered to sing karaoke, play capture the flag, play board games, watch movies, and
14 share an assortment of other activities together. As students have shared in Wesley fellowship events,
15 they have also experienced a sense of Christian community. They’ve been given the opportunity to
16 develop meaningful relationships with others, feel acceptance, and discover community. Several times
17 a semester, Wesley partnered with other campus student clubs for special events. Students gathered
18 for mystery dinners, pot-lucks, and sleepovers. Last year, we also co-hosted a Valentine’s Day dinner and
19 dance, a glow-in-the dark Easter Egg hunt, and a Halloween party with attendance topping fifty
20 students! Several students who have joined us for these joint events are now active at Wesley because
21 of the relationships they built.

22
23 In addition to our weekly activities, the students enjoyed several Saturday outings during this past year
24 including a trip to White Sands, hiking in the Organs, and a trip to Caballo Lake.
25 We have an active presence on campus by routinely “tabling.” We take flyers, candy, water, and
26 assorted fun give-away items and set up a table in an outdoor area. It gives us the opportunity to meet
27 students, invite them to Wesley, and pray for students who express a need.

28
29 In addition to all we do at Wesley, we also have students serving in local United Methodist churches! We
30 have students singing in choirs, leading worship, working in church preschools, running multi-media on
31 Sunday mornings and serving as pianist every Sunday. Students have also helped with ramp-builds and
32 local food pantry ministries through the local churches.

33
34 On behalf of the students and the Wesley Board, thank you for your prayers and partnership!

ALBUQUERQUE AND SANTA FE WESLEY FOUNDATION

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Andy Stoker; Rev. Michele Walton, Executive Director

Introduction

35
36
37 The past year has been a period of growth, connection, and strategic transition for the Wesley
38 Foundation. Under the foundational leadership of Rev. Dr. Andy Stoker and Rev. Michele L. Walton, a
39 ministry model has been designed to bridge the gap between the academy and the altar. The mission to
40 empower individuals through education, spiritual growth, and community involvement has been
41 enriched by a focus on creating "brave spaces" for students of all backgrounds to illuminate their paths
42 and transform their lives.

Program Area Reports

1 **Mission and Vision**

2 The core mission remains empowering individuals through education, spiritual growth, and community
3 involvement. With the community's support, the Wesley Foundation has continued to illuminate paths
4 and transform lives. This report is submitted collaboratively by Rev. Dr. Andy Stoker, an Ordained Elder
5 who led last year, and Rev. Michele L. Walton, a Commissioned Deacon, who was appointed mid-
6 January of this year to continue this vital work.

7 8 **Highlights from the Past Year**

9 **Small Group Gatherings and Designing Sacred Space**

10 Weekly sessions at the University of New Mexico's Student Union Building have provided a sanctuary for
11 learning, reflection, and faith exploration. Since early 2026, this space has been transformed into a
12 sanctuary for reflection, prioritizing communal dialogue and theological reflection that meets students
13 in their lived experiences.

14 15 **Community Service and Mercy & Justice in Action**

16 Outreach was expanded by supporting food pantries at both UNM and Central New Mexico Community
17 College, addressing collegiate food insecurity as a tangible expression of grace and offering hope and
18 sustenance to those in need.

19 20 **Organizational Growth and Institutional Expansion**

21 This year, official student organization status was achieved at the University of New Mexico, and
22 recognition is actively being sought at Central New Mexico Community College and Santa Fe Community
23 College.

24 25 **Civic Engagement and Community Dialogue**

26 The chapter has participated in advocacy at the RoundHouse, supported legislation aligned with its
27 values, and hosted influential guest speakers from organizations such as the ACLU and the Basic Needs
28 Consortium. These dialogues align students' spiritual values with legislative advocacy and social justice.

29 30 **Church Partnerships and Regional Partnerships**

31 Zia United Methodist Church in Santa Fe has become a supportive partner, hosting student events and
32 serving as a vital hub for the northern student population, fostering a bridge between the local church
33 and the university.

34 35 **Student Leadership and Networking**

36 Students have built connections beyond New Mexico, including one serving a House Representative in
37 Washington D.C. Recently, they enjoyed a spiritual retreat in Sacramento, where they strengthened
38 their relationship with God and each other.

39 40 **Vibrant Community Life**

41 From study nights to game nights and social media outreach, the community continues to thrive and
42 grow in both numbers and spirit. These activities have fostered a vibrant and inclusive community
43 atmosphere, encouraging deeper connections among students.

44 45 **Looking Forward**

46 As the 2026–2027 year approaches, the Wesley Foundation remains committed to revealing the
47 presence of God through inclusive community and creative expression. The focus on inclusivity and
48 gratitude shapes every aspect of the work and vision for the future.

Program Area Reports

1 **Gratitude**

2 Heartfelt thanks are extended to all who have supported the Wesley Foundation over the past year.
3 Together, a legacy of hope, faith, and love is being built that will resonate for generations to come.
4 Gratitude is also extended to the New Mexico Conference for their support during this leadership
5 transition and for the opportunity to build a legacy of hope, faith, and love on the campuses.
6

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Tanya Barlow, New Mexico Conference President

7 The United Methodist Church is in a Season of Growth. The United Women in Faith is in a Season of
8 Growth. The United Women in Faith is in a Season of Unstoppable Growth. United Women in Faith
9 launched its growth campaign to increase giving and membership August 2025. The Unstoppable
10 Campaign is not simply about increasing membership numbers. It is about activation, leadership
11 development, spiritual formation, and social justice engagement. As “Influencers,” we are boldly
12 working toward growing beyond 500,000 members by 2029. That growth will happen through:

- 13 • Invitations to join our organization
- 14 • Flexible engagement pathways
- 15 • Intergenerational leadership
- 16 • Digital access through our All-Access Membership
- 17 • Stronger local units

18
19 Unstoppable Growth means expanding access, deepening commitment, and strengthening sustainability
20 for the future of faithful, mission minded women. Women can engage in a variety of pathways that will
21 fuel Unstoppable Growth through:

- 22 • Soul Care – experiences that embody self-care and spiritual rejuvenation. There have been
23 several Soul Care events completed in this conference with very positive attendance.
- 24 • Mission u – is United Women in Faith’s annual flexible faith-formation and leadership
25 development curriculum, designed to equip men, women, children, and youth for deeper
26 discipleship and faithful engagement in the world. Mission u serves the entire church and offers
27 some of the best Christian study programming. Mission u is a structured learning experience
28 where Scripture, theology, and current issues come together in practical and transformative
29 ways. After all, the people of The United Methodist Church are called to make disciples for
30 Christ for the transformation of the world. Mission u is definitely the place to “Prune for Clarity”
31 and be empowered to do just that! This year’s Mission u theme, Experiencing Emmanuel will be
32 another event that is promising Unstoppable Growth, and some “Pruning for Clarity.”
- 33 • Assembly – a once every 4-years gathering of women committed to faith, empowerment, and
34 making a difference. A weekend that strengthens your faith, uplifts your soul, and brings you
35 together with an Unstoppable sisterhood.
- 36 • Social Justice campaigns – “Climate Justice,” and “Ending mass incarceration and criminalization
37 of communities of color.” In our conference, we also have an active Charter for Racial Justice
38 committee with yearly events. The event for this year was a comparison of John Wesley and
39 Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr, and how their sermons relate today.
- 40 • UWFaith Digital – a free digital platform where members can find resources, zoom and webinar
41 links, and be able to network with other members for collaboration and sisterhood.
- 42 • All Access Membership – available on the digital platform for free to make contacts, network,
43 have meetings, share information, and make plans for the unit. We have one All Access unit in
44 this conference. Their focus is the reading program.

Program Area Reports

1 While we celebrate digital and national engagement, the foundation of United Women in Faith remains
2 the local unit! According to the governing documents of The United Methodist church:

- 3 • The Book of Discipline and organizational bylaws require every United Methodist congregation
4 to organize a United Women in Faith unit.
- 5 • This expectation ensures that women in every congregation have structured access to mission
6 education, leadership development, and social justice advocacy.
- 7 • Also, just a reminder that Pastors of United Methodist congregations are members of United
8 Women in Faith by virtue of their appointment.

9

10 The presence of an active unit is part of how The United Methodist Church lives out its connectional
11 structure.

12

13 United Women in Faith celebrates the ratification of the 2024 constitutional amendments by The United
14 Methodist Church. These changes advance gender, racial, and structural equity across our global church.
15 The Constitution now clearly states that no person may be denied membership or participation based
16 on gender or ability. This reflects our ongoing commitment to social justice and full inclusion.

17 United Women in Faith members serve as delegates to the Annual and General Conference, helping
18 shape the policies and priorities of The United Methodist Church. Serving as a delegate ensures
19 women's voices are present in key decisions and strengthens the church's commitment to equity,
20 mission, and faithful leadership.

21

22 The New Mexico Conference of United Women in Faith are on a path of Unstoppable Growth of the
23 sisterhood, serving where possible at our churches and in our communities. We have the clarity of faith,
24 hope and love in action for women, youth, and children at home and around the world.

INSTITUTIONS

MCCURDY MINISTRIES

Submitted by Rev. Tiffany Hollums, Executive Director

1 McCurdy Ministries was honored to be recognized as an official United Methodist National Historic
2 Mission Institution site #581 in October 2025 with a beautiful worship service, dedication by Bishop
3 Carlo, and a gathering of former and present staff, alumni of the mission school, many faithful friends of
4 McCurdy, and community members.

5

6 McCurdy Ministries is truly blooming in so many ways as we live deeply into our calling to ‘be a light in
7 the valley’ of Española. Every single day we welcome families and individuals to our new Family
8 Resource Center, which is housed in the former High School ‘Cole’ building. Families are met at the
9 ‘FRC’ with compassionate care, connected with resources, and helped with practical needs through the
10 LightHouse clothing pantry, the Food for Kids pantry, and the new regional diaper bank.

11

12 Our new children’s literacy initiative program called LEER (Spanish for ‘to read’) has planted an
13 incredible ‘Enchanted Forrest of Reading Library in KidSpace (the former Hovermale elementary/middle
14 school) where families and children are invited to take a book home and bring the love of reading into
15 their world. LEER has also planted over 20 Free Little Libraries throughout in the Española Valley
16 region. We are also bringing reading buddies into the local elementary schools. Through LEER’s camp
17 stars summer literacy camp, every single child who attended had a Reading Buddy and improved their
18 reading scores by at least one reading level during the summer camp. This summer we will be launching
19 an internship program in which college students will be chosen to help lead the Camp Stars summer
20 camp. The interns will live on the McCurdy campus, which is truly a powerful continuation of McCurdy’s
21 mission of raising young leaders through the gift of education, Faith, and mentorship. The dream is that
22 this internship program will continue to expand to raise up the next generation of leaders and
23 professionals who are desperately needed in the valley.

24

25 Our Project Cariño program continues for its 40th year to offer free mental health services to children
26 and their families. We have seen the trajectory of entire families’ lives changed through this
27 transformational therapy ministry. We now have adults on staff at McCurdy who were children in
28 Project Cariño many years ago, who are now back at McCurdy serving their community.

29

30 The McCurdy five-star PreK continues to be a heavily sought after preschool program for children in the
31 valley. We have rich participation from family members in this program and it’s incredible to see the
32 class of Preschool graduates each May.

33

34 The McCurdy Ministries campus is truly transforming before our very eyes as we continue to open the
35 campus to family events such as the fall festival, the Easter egg hunt, Los Posadas Christmas family
36 event, Dia De Los Niños day celebration, a Father (Father Figure)/Daughter Valentine dance and other
37 community event events. These events are an inspirational partnership with the ‘village of casitas’ of
38 nonprofits who are housed on our campus. McCurdy Ministries has lived out radical hospitality by giving
39 a new home to other nonprofits, which has created a bustling nonprofit community on campus. We
40 currently are the home to the following nonprofits: United Way of Northern New Mexico, Casa First, the
41 Northern Youth Project , Nhlbha (National Hispanic Latino Behavioral Health Association) , Dream Tree,
42 Gerard’s house (grief support for children), Las Cumbres grandparents raising grandchildren, and state
43 agencies such ECECD (Early Childhood) and PED (Public Education Department).

Institutions

1 McCurdy Ministries also has great plans for the future as we revitalize our historic campus through
2 creative projects, such as a grant for a walking trails project in collaboration with Northern youth
3 project. We are planning a restoration of the historic McCurdy orchards, an educational children's
4 learning garden, and a beautiful and thoughtful trail system throughout the campus for the community.
5 We are bringing new life to our historic Adobe buildings through creative partnerships and grants, and
6 the decades of alumni are thrilled to see the historic campus they love literally overflowing with activity.
7 We have the wonderful 'problem' to solve of how to make space for all of the activities on campus,
8 which is a wonderful problem to have!

9

10 McCurdy Ministries is a beautiful and ever-growing example of what radical hospitality, creative
11 resource sharing, and generously offering hope can do in the lives of a community which has so often
12 been underestimated and forgotten. We are deeply touched by the way in which our nonprofit
13 partners, churches, and the community are coming together to create this profoundly transformational
14 ministry hub in the Española valley. You need to see it to truly believe it and we welcome you to come
15 and experience the light of Christ at McCurdy, whether as a tour or as a volunteer mission team. You
16 will be blessed as you bless McCurdy Ministries and the Española community.

17

18 Vaya con Dios.

METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME

Submitted by Trey Oakley, President/CEO

19 Greetings from Methodist Children's Home (MCH) and the thousands of children, youth, and families we
20 serve each year. As an independent 501(c)(3) organization, your continued voluntary support of our
21 vision to empower all we serve to experience life to the fullest is as important as ever. I invite each of
22 you to visit our website at MCH.org to learn more about how to refer a child for placement or ways to
23 join our ministry.

24

25 Your support provides the resources needed to offer the care, programs, and talented individuals
26 necessary to positively impact the lives of those we serve through residential care on the Waco campus
27 and Boys Ranch and through MCH Family Outreach offices across Texas and New Mexico, including the
28 Permian Basin, El Paso, Las Cruces and across New Mexico.

29

30 We are now in our 136th year of ministry. Here are some highlights of the past year:
31 We are now in the third year of our five-year strategic plan, Imagine 2028, which continues to guide
32 MCH's growth, innovation, and commitment to excellence in serving children and families.

33

34 The MCH Boys Ranch has expanded its capacity to serve young men with higher and more complex
35 needs. The opening of the Marek Home and the Knight Home marks a significant step forward in our
36 ability to provide specialized residential care in a structured, therapeutic environment. These homes
37 allow us to extend Christ-centered care to youth who require a higher level of support and supervision.

38

39 Our foster care program continues to grow and now includes kinship care services, providing additional
40 support for children being raised by relatives or close family friends. This expansion strengthens families,
41 preserves important connections, and broadens the continuum of care available through MCH.

Institutions

1 The counseling program at MCH experienced continued growth this year, increasing access to trauma-
2 informed mental health services for children, youth, and families across our service areas. As the need
3 for high-quality counseling services rises, MCH remains committed to meeting that need with excellence
4 and compassion.

5
6 For youth on the Waco campus, we increased career training opportunities through the Embry
7 Vocational Building, where students learn skills in woodworking, machinery operation, and other skilled
8 trades that prepare them for meaningful employment.

9 MCH once again achieved a Charity Navigator Four-Star Rating and Candid Platinum Status, reflecting
10 our continued commitment to financial transparency and stewardship.

11 Our commitment to community collaboration remains strong. As a Trust-Based Relational Intervention
12 (TBRI) Ambassador Organization, MCH staff continues to train other like-minded organizations across
13 the nation in TBRI, equipping professionals with trauma-informed care practices.

14
15 In October, MCH revived the historic Willson-Johnson Lecture Series, welcoming Dr. Robert Anda, co-
16 principal investigator of the landmark Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study, as part of hosting the
17 2025 CORE National Conference, creating a meaningful opportunity to share expertise and advance best
18 practices in trauma-informed care with professionals from across the country.

19
20 Leadership and staff continued to sharpen professional skills and share expertise at key industry
21 conferences, ensuring MCH remains a leader in providing high-quality care for children, youth, and
22 families.

23
24 Our achievements in the past and those yet to come are directly related to the many individuals and
25 congregations throughout our service area, including the New Mexico Annual Conference, who support
26 our work and ministry through financial gifts, prayers, advocacy, and service on the Board of Directors.
27 We look forward to continued partnership with you for many years to come.

28
29 Thank you for supporting our vision to empower all we serve to experience life to the fullest.

PROVIDENCE PLACE

Judith Bell, President and CEO

30 Bishop Rapanut and the members of the New Mexico Conference, thank you on behalf of our Board of
31 Directors, staff, and those working hard to achieve their own personal level of success. Your dedication
32 in partnership with the ministry of Providence Place is immeasurable.

33
34 The year of 2026 marks 131 years of service; all possible because of your loyal and faithful support from
35 individual donors and United Methodist Churches throughout the New Mexico Conference. Every day,
36 we have the wonderful opportunity to see God's hand in our ministries as the lives of women, children
37 and families are transformed.

38
39 Providence Place continues to redefine how services are provided to victims of crime, trauma survivors
40 and parents of young children. Providence Place strives to develop programs that are culturally
41 competent and have transformational community impact. Providence Place provides Trauma Informed
42 comprehensive services to survivors of complex trauma and victims of crime including but not limited to

Institutions

1 intimate partner violence, sexual assault, child abuse and professionals of other non-profits. Providence
2 Place also works to empower families with young children.

3
4 After settling in at our new location in 2024, Providence Place provided over 4,000 packets of diapers
5 (and over 4,000 toiletries) and over 3,000 child accessories (sippy cups, pacifiers, etc.) to families striving
6 to make ends meet. The family advocates provided 1,300 hours of parenting education on topics related
7 to improving parenting situations and 600 hours of parenting education to improve pregnancy
8 outcomes. Our therapists provided 4,000 hours of counseling to 76 clients identifying as victims of
9 crime and survivors of complex trauma. In 2025, Providence Place continued to provide Mindful Co-
10 Parenting classes focusing not only on parent education but also family stabilization.

11
12 The relationship between Providence Place and the New Mexico Conference, along with individual
13 churches, has been lifechanging in so many ways. Together, we have helped young women facing
14 unplanned pregnancies, provided a home for countless young adults, offered hope and restoration for
15 survivors of complex trauma, and created loving homes for children in foster care. What makes our
16 programs unique is our ability to serve women, children and families using a trauma informed care
17 model. This commitment to women and families started with our founder, Madame Volino, when she
18 first sought help from Travis Park Methodist Church in San Antonio and changed her life from a brothel
19 owner to a sanctuary for women and young children in need.

20
21 Without a doubt, churches and their congregants have played a significant role in the success of
22 Providence Place for 130 years; something we will never forget. I encourage you to call to arrange a
23 speaker for your congregation or church group, and request offering materials for an annual church
24 offering. We couldn't continue these ministries without you and we would love to come and share the
25 stories of Providence Place! If we could be a resource to you, contact our Mission Advancement Team at
26 (210) 696-2410 or at info@provplace.org. Also, please visit our website at www.provplace.org to learn
27 more about our special ministries and to hear first-hand stories from those we have served.

SOUTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION

Submitted by Eddie Erwin, Executive Director

www.scjumc.org

28 A non-dualistic way of life resists the false comfort of “either/or.” It refuses to reduce people, ministry,
29 or mission to simple categories—right/wrong, insider/outsider, sacred/secular. Instead, it invites the
30 church into faithful discernment: holding complexity with humility and listening for the Spirit.

31
32 In that sense, *the non-dualistic life we lead is one of questions, not answers*. This is not a rejection of
33 truth; it is a recognition that God is larger than our certainty, and that discipleship is often less about
34 arriving at conclusions and more about practicing attentiveness—learning to listen, to notice, and to be
35 formed.

36
37 The following gatherings, trainings, webinars, and conferences from this past year reflect this posture.
38 Across each setting, leaders and participants engaged not only in learning, but in discernment—asking
39 better questions, strengthening relationships, and deepening shared purpose.

1 **Highlights from this season of connection and formation**

2

3 **Youth Leadership Gathering Oklahoma**

4 This gathering created space for emerging leaders to name both hope and complexity. The most
5 significant work was not the delivery of “answers,” but the cultivation of trust—where our young people
6 could ask:

- 7 • What does faithful leadership look like in a changing world?
- 8 • How do we belong to one another across difference?
- 9 • What is the church called to be and do in this moment?

10

11 **United Methodist Volunteers in Mission Connect Event at the Wespeth Campus**

12 The Connect Missions event emphasized mission as a relationship rather than a transaction. Participants
13 explored questions central to mutuality and partnership, especially around the updated relationship
14 with Global Ministries and Higher Education & Ministries

- 15 • Are we approaching mission as “help,” or as shared formation?
- 16 • What does mutuality require of our planning and expectations?
- 17 • How do we measure impact without reducing people to outcomes?

18

19 **Introduction to UMVIM Webinar**

20 This webinar served as an entry point into the UMVIM vision and practices, inviting participants into
21 discernment around mission journeys:

- 22 • What makes a mission journey faithful—not only effective?
- 23 • How do we prepare teams spiritually, culturally, and practically?
- 24 • What does it mean to go with humility rather than heroism?

25

26 **Mission Volunteer Training in Arkansas**

27 This training is for those wishing to serve between two months and two years. It shares the same
28 theology of mission, with solidarity and mutuality, as experienced throughout United Methodist
29 Volunteers in Mission and Global Ministries. This mission journey deepens relational partnership and
30 strategic conversations between the Church and community:

- 31 • What does “do no harm” look like in real contexts?
- 32 • How can we “do good” in different seasons of our lives?

33

34 **All Things in Common SCJ Leadership Event in El Paso & Lydia Patterson Institute**

35 This gathering, alongside the witness of Lydia Patterson Institute, offered a compelling picture of shared
36 life across boundaries. Leaders engaged questions that do not yield a quick resolution, but shape faithful
37 community:

- 38 • What do we owe to one another across geography, culture, and conference lines?
- 39 • How do we lead when resources are uneven, and needs are urgent?
- 40 • What does it mean to hold “common life” without erasing difference?

41

42 Lydia Patterson Institute’s mission and hospitality continue to invite the church into deeper solidarity
43 and a more expansive imagination for belonging.

44

45 **“What’s My Job?” Webinar for Lay Leadership**

46 This webinar helped lay leaders clarify their roles in their local church. responsibilities, and shared
47 ministry. The conversation centered on vocation as both personal and communal:

Institutions

- 1 • Is leadership primarily a task list, or a calling?
- 2 • How do we lead without over functioning—or withdrawing?
- 3 • What does shared ministry look like in busy, complex congregational life?

4 5 **Archives Webinar on Heritage Landmarks**

6 The Heritage Landmarks webinar emphasized that memory is not nostalgia; it is formation. Participants
7 explored:

- 8 • What stories have we preserved—and which have we neglected?
- 9 • How do landmarks teach us to honor the past without idolizing it?
- 10 • What does it mean to inherit tradition while remaining responsible for change?

11 12 **Church & Society Conference held at Southern Methodist University**

13 The Church & Society conference placed faith in conversation with public life, where simplistic answers
14 often fail. Participants engaged in questions that are both theological and practical:

- 15 • How do we pursue justice without losing compassion?
- 16 • How do we speak with conviction without weaponizing certainty?
- 17 • What does faithful witness look like in a polarized world?

18 19 **Co-Leading a Workshop at the United Women in Faith's Assembly**

20 Co-leading a workshop at the United Women in Faith Assembly that highlighted the strength of being
21 stronger together in mission. The work focused on cultivating practices that sustain faithful action:

- 22 • Listening for what the Spirit is doing among the people called Methodist
- 23 • Naming the questions that keep communities honest
- 24 • Building courage for action without pretending we can control outcomes

25
26 A life of questions is not a life without direction. It is a life that trusts God enough to keep listening.
27 In a culture that rewards quick certainty, the church can offer a different witness: a community willing to
28 stay present, to hold complexity, and to keep asking the kind of questions that make room for grace.
29 The non-dualistic life we lead is one of questions, not answers—and in that posture, we find not
30 confusion, but deeper communion and more faithful discipleship.

31 32 **Will YOU**

- 33 • join with UMVIM in training 100 young people to lead mission journeys?
- 34 • continue to partner with Lydia Patterson Institute to ask the questions of where the intersection
35 of faith, social justice, community, integrity, and respect intersect?
- 36 • prepare to welcome thousands of students to the South Central Jurisdiction at Discipleship
37 Ministries' Youth 2027 event?

38
39 Connect with us at [SCJUMC.ORG](https://www.scjumc.org)
40

TEXAS METHODIST FOUNDATION

Rev. Lisa Greenwood, President and CEO

1 **Dear New Mexico Annual Conference,**

2

3 As you celebrate 150 years of ministry in New Mexico, we at Texas Methodist Foundation are giving
4 thanks for you – for your tireless commitment to helping individuals and communities flourish and for
5 the courage to move into the future with a steadfast vision for the church’s witness. It is our deep
6 privilege to walk alongside you as partners in this work.

7

8 At Texas Methodist Foundation, our calling is to help congregations and ministries align all their
9 resources — including financial resources, property assets, leadership giftedness, generosity, and even
10 their yet-to-be-realized potential — with God’s mission.

11

12 Through nationally recognized Learning and Innovation initiatives, combined with expertise in investing,
13 lending, and charitable giving, we seek to strengthen the financial and spiritual foundations that allow
14 the church to flourish. Together, we are tending what is rooted in tradition while courageously making
15 space for new expressions of leadership and ministry — so that congregations thrive and communities
16 are transformed by God’s love.

17

18 At the close of 2025:

19

- 20 • TMF’s loans to churches in the **New Mexico Annual Conference totaled \$3.3 million.**
- 21 • Churches and agencies in the Conference invested **\$35.0 million** in Impact Certificates.
- 22 • Over the past 5 years, TMF has awarded **\$1.4 million** in grants to churches and nonprofit
23 ministries in the Conference.
- 24 • Over the past 5 years, TMF has invested **\$29.5 million** in charitable services and grants
25 and **\$14.9 million** in learning and innovation initiatives into churches and nonprofits across
26 Texas and New Mexico.

27

28 These numbers represent sanctuaries renovated and community spaces reimaged. They represent
29 leaders empowered and ministries strengthened. They represent hope taking root.

30

31 Our work supports a Spirit-led cycle of generosity. When individuals, congregations, and conferences
32 open investment accounts with TMF, they not only receive competitive returns but also enable other
33 churches and ministries to be a blessing through affordable loans and ministry support. We then invest
34 all our net revenue in learning and innovation initiatives, grants, and charitable services that help
35 strengthen the future church.

36

37 We know that each congregation’s context is unique. That is why we strive to offer flexibility,
38 affordability, and expertise tailored to churches’ needs. We are here to listen, to discern alongside you,
39 and to help you steward your resources with clarity and confidence.

40

41 Every leader we engage, every project we finance, and every investment we steward reflects a shared
42 trust in God’s future for the church. It is an honor to serve beside you.

Institutions

<p>The New Mexico Annual Conference’s Team at Texas Methodist Foundation</p> <p>The Texas Methodist Foundation team is honored to work with churches, nonprofits, and leaders across the New Mexico Annual Conference, providing services and support that are vital to thriving ministries and communities across Texas. Please contact any one of us at any time.</p>	<p>Impact Certificate Investments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variable and fixed-rate Impact Certificates • Clergy Appreciation Rate +0.50% <p>Sara Beltran Assistant Vice President, Investor Services sbeltran@texasmethodistfoundation.org (512) 583-1920</p>
<p>Endowment and Charitable Gift Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endowment policy formation • Laity philanthropy engagement <p>Tom Stanton Vice President, General Counsel tstanton@texasmethodistfoundation.org (512) 583-1927</p>	<p>Market-based Investments for Churches and Nonprofits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equity and Bond Funds • Multiple Asset Funds <p>Derek Casteel, CFA Director of Investment Services dcasteel@texasmethodistfoundation.org (512) 515-1431</p>
<p>Philanthropy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gift planning • Donor-Advised Funds • Life Income Gifts • Endowments <p>Justin Gould Chief Philanthropy Officer jgould@texasmethodistfoundation.org (512) 583-1944</p>	<p>Loans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debt refinancing • Property acquisition • Construction and improvement • Flexible terms <p>Chris Miller Chief Lending Officer cmiller@texasmethodistfoundation.org (512) 583-1931</p>
<p>Learning and Innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courageous Congregations Collaborate (C3) • <i>Igniting Imagination</i>® podcast <p>Rev. Dr. Blair Thompson Chief Learning and Innovation Officer bthompson@texasmethodistfoundation.org (512) 583-1962</p>	<p>Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For churches and nonprofits • Providing evangelism with social impact • Improving the conditions of those living in poverty <p>Wendolyn Abel Vice President of Grants Ministry wabel@texasmethodistfoundation.org (512) 583-1934</p>

UNIVERSITIES AND SEMINARIES

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

G. Sujin Pak, Dean

1 Your partnership, prayers, and support are a cherished gift as BUSTH seeks to serve the church and the
2 world! In a year like 2025, BUSTH's commitments to equip transformational leaders for peace and justice
3 are more necessary and significant. We are hopeful and vigilant in our continued partnership with you.
4

5 **NEWS:**

- 6 • **Students:** The academic year 2025-26 entering class was among our most diverse, with 106 new
7 students, 40% of whom are international students from 17 different countries.
- 8 • **Faculty:** In July, Rebecca Copeland and Luis Menéndez-Antuña were promoted to Associate
9 Professor. In September, Nicolette Manglos-Weber became Associate Dean of Students &
10 Community Life, and Rady Roldán-Figueroa ('05) started as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.
11 Timothy Adkins-Jones ('09,'21) joined as Assistant Professor of Homiletics.
- 12 • **Expanding Online/Hybrid Programming:** BUSTH launched a fully Online Master of Divinity
13 (OMDiv) program in November and the first cohort is planned for Fall 2026. Learn more at
14 bu.edu/sth/omdiv. In May, the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) program graduated its largest class ever,
15 18.
- 16 • **Faculty Research:** Professor Steven Sandage is a co-principal investigator for "Training and
17 Treatment Integration Research for Virtue and Flourishing in Mental Healthcare: A Team Science
18 Project," which received a \$5.2 million grant from the John Templeton Foundation to address a
19 growing need among therapists for training on how to integrate relational virtues and human
20 flourishing in clinical practice. Faculty published more than 130 books, scholarly articles, op-eds,
21 presentations, and book reviews during 2025. Many were interviewed by media publications or
22 featured on podcasts for their scholarship in topics such as trauma-informed care, humility among
23 religious leaders, and biblical agriculture. Selected stories: bu.edu/sth/research/faculty-research/.
- 24 • **Scholarships:** BUSTH continues to benefit from nearly 125 scholarships overall, donated to by
25 school alumni, other BU alumni, and friends of BU including more than 20 named scholarships
26 from living alumni and/or their family members.
- 27 • **Contextual Education:** Funded by the Lilly Endowment, Director of Contextual Education
28 Anastasia Kidd and Director of Enrollment Chad Moore will lead "The New Wineskins Network" \$1
29 million initiative to build sustainable, collaborative infrastructure for student and clergy formation
30 across the Boston region.
- 31 • **Online Lifelong Learning:** BUSTH offers online courses for professional and spiritual enrichment of
32 religious leaders. Recent offerings include "Digital Ministry as Contemplative Practice." Learn
33 more at bu.edu/sth/oll.
- 34 • **Development:** Recent accomplishments include a generous pledge to endow a Praise & Worship
35 Fund as well as some new operating funds including the Manoog C. Peters Chaplaincy Fund to
36 further support the school's chaplaincy curriculum, and the Center for Global Christianity and
37 Mission Film Project Fund to promote the Center's ministry.

38 **COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE and COMPASSION:**

- 39 • BUSTH's inaugural Fr. Vincent Machozi ('15) Colloquium will be held in February to honor the life's
40 work of our alumnus, martyred in the DRC for his work advocating for civilian victims of political
41

Universities and Seminaries

- 1 violence. “Ecologies of Peacemaking” will bring together scholars in the areas of social conflict,
2 economic inequalities, and environmental degradation. Register at [bu.edu/sth/machozi-](https://bu.edu/sth/machozi-colloquium)
3 [colloquium](https://bu.edu/sth/machozi-colloquium).
- 4 • Our Fall 2025 [Lowell Lecture](#) presented the work of Rev. Dr. Micah L. McCreary, whose topic
5 “Leading Through and Beyond our Wounds” focused on becoming trauma-responsive leaders.
 - 6 • Work continues to improve accessibility, sustainability, and responsible investing as written in our
7 [2030 Strategic Plan](#). BUSTH is the first certified Green School at BU.

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

8 As **Candler School of Theology at Emory University** continues in its second century of educating faithful
9 and creative leaders for the church’s ministries throughout the world, we are heartened by the work
10 and witness of The United Methodist Church and look forward to our enduring partnership as the
11 denomination moves into its next chapter with a vision to **love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead**
12 **courageously**.

13
14 An official seminary of The United Methodist Church, Candler has a strong Methodist presence among
15 our students, faculty and staff, while holding true to the Wesleyan value of ecumenical openness. Our
16 student body reflects the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful, with an enrollment of 507 from
17 11 countries, 42 states, 45 denominations, 34 UMC annual conferences, and 50% persons of color. We
18 see this diversity as a blessing, enriching our life together and providing the perfect context for training
19 for relevant ministry in the 21st century—ministry that cultivates community across difference,
20 welcomes all to contribute and belong, and embodies Christ’s love in and among us.

21
22 Last fall Candler welcomed its largest incoming class in over a decade. This strong enrollment reflects
23 years of intentional work to reimagine programs, continue to invest in faculty excellence, and offer
24 robust scholarship support through the generosity of alumni and friends. And even more importantly, it
25 reflects that God is still calling people to join the holy work of transforming the world in Jesus’ name.

26
27 Candler offers six degrees, most of which are available in hybrid or online formats. Nearly a quarter of
28 MDiv students participate in Candler’s Teaching Parish program, earning course credit by serving as
29 student pastors in local churches. And our proven DMin program—with a remarkably high 94%
30 completion rate—is 90% online. These flexible options along with Candler’s recognized academic
31 excellence and hands-on learning opportunities are opening possibilities for more people to follow
32 God’s call to ministry.

33
34 Reducing financial barriers to high-quality theological education remains a top priority at Candler. This
35 year, we are on track to award nearly \$8.5 million in scholarship support across degree programs. All
36 MDiv students receive scholarships, with those who are certified candidates for ordained ministry in the
37 UMC receiving full tuition.

38
39 Several programs beyond our formal degrees make Candler a true hub of Christian learning. The Candler
40 Foundry, our public theological education initiative, offers in-person and online courses, events, and
41 certificate programs. The United Methodist Course of Study School at Candler worked with 19 annual
42 conferences to educate licensed local pastors in 2025. The Candler Center for Christian Leadership,
43 which trains United Methodist leaders in best business practices, now has certified facilitators in 33
44 annual conferences. And a recent \$10 million grant from Lilly Endowment will further develop Candler’s

Universities and Seminaries

1 La Mesa Academy, a multicultural, multilingual program dedicated to the theological education of lay
2 ministers.

3 We are preparing for a leadership transition in summer of 2026, as Jonathan Strom completes his tenure
4 as dean of Candler in July. We invite your prayers as we search for the school's next dean.

5
6 When we talk to Candler alumni and students about their call, one thing becomes clear: The specifics
7 may be different, shaped by their unique gifts, contexts, and life experiences, but their drive to join
8 God's work of transforming lives and the world is a constant. We recently launched a series called
9 "Candler Changemakers" highlighting the range of fascinating ways our alumni are leading change as
10 they fulfill their call. Follow along on our website (candler.emory.edu) and social media to see how God
11 is working through them. You'll be inspired!

DREW UNIVERSITY THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

Rev. Edwin David Aponte, PhD, ThD (honorary), Dean and Professor of Religion & Culture

12 Drew University Theological School is a global seminary with a global student population serving the
13 worldwide church. Drew Theological School educates and mentors pastors, preachers, deacons,
14 activists, teachers, thought leaders, and change agents for ministry and service in the church, society,
15 and the wider world. Building upon its Wesleyan and Methodist foundations, Drew Theological School is
16 diverse in theology, vocations, age, as well as racial, ethnic, national, and international identities of its
17 faculty, students, and staff. Many Drew students are just beginning their ministry, while others come to
18 graduate theological education with prior ministry experience, reflecting an ongoing trend among
19 theological schools in the United States and Canada. In providing theological education to the world,
20 Drew holds in-person classes in Madison, New Jersey, classes that meet exclusively online, while others
21 meet in hybrid fashion, i.e., partially online, partially in-person, as well as in-person Doctor of Ministry
22 program in South Korea. Regular chapel services are offered in a hybrid way on Tuesdays and Thursdays
23 with people participating from Seminary Hall as well as online. Chapel worship is live-streamed so that
24 students, alumni, and friends around the world can participate.

25
26 In Fall 2025 Drew Theological School welcomed 88 new students in all degree programs, with total
27 student enrollment (by headcount) in Fall 2025 semester being 365. Enrollment of international
28 students at Drew is very strong at 140 students in Fall 2025. This number includes students who are
29 studying full-time in the U.S.A. on a student Visa, students who are studying online from their home
30 country, and students in the South Korean Cohort of the Doctor of Ministry program.

31
32 Drew's interdisciplinary degree programs provide real-world apprenticeships, promote adaptive
33 leadership skills, and encourage innovation through team-taught core courses as well as a variety of
34 electives that integrate theological disciplines and faith practices. The Drew faculty's shared values are
35 infused across in the teaching, learning, and the formation of students. These values are: 1) a
36 commitment to anti-racism; 2) gender and sexual-identity equality; 3) eco-sustainability and
37 environmental justice; and 4) interfaith understanding and cooperation. Drew Theological School
38 continues to experience an increase in United Methodist students, including United Methodist Global
39 Fellows pursuing further education for ministry. UMC graduates are serving in conferences of The
40 United Methodist Church across the United States, and especially within nearby regional episcopal areas
41 of Greater New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, Susquehanna, Upper New York, New York, and New
42 England.

Universities and Seminaries

DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL

Edgardo Colón-Emeric, Dean

1 Duke Divinity School celebrated its 99th Opening Convocation in August 2025 with a sermon from Dean
2 Edgardo Colón-Emeric to begin the Nicene Creed Preaching Series at Duke Divinity School. He
3 emphasized that the Nicene Creed is both a Pentecost profession and a peace proclamation:

4 “Perhaps this is the season for untangling the Nicene Creed from state theology and church
5 theology. Perhaps this is a task for a divinity school whose mission claims to 'engage in
6 spiritually disciplined and academically rigorous education, in service and witness to the Triune
7 God in the midst of the church, the academy, and the world.' ... Christ did not preach peace
8 looking for recognition or awards. His life is a single extended sermon on peace. Peace is
9 believing that our lowest point does not limit our highest hope, because we acknowledge the
10 power of baptism, the possibility of repentance, and the forgiveness of sin. *We believe. We*
11 *believe.* This is a Pentecost profession, a peace proclamation, and also a praise
12 pronouncement.”

13 This year we have joined with Christians around the world to commemorate the 17th centennial of the
14 Council of Nicaea and the Nicene Creed. Duke Divinity scholars and ministry leaders published the book
15 *Trinitarian Matters: 1700 Years of Shaping Christian Identity and Practice*. The school hosted two
16 conference events to explore and learn from Nicaea: Convocation & Pastors’ School, focused for those in
17 church and vocational ministry; and “Visible and Invisible: Surprising Encounters in Theology and the
18 Arts,” with musical performances, poetry, and artistic expressions informed by the richness of the
19 Nicene Creed.

20
21 Through God’s sustaining grace, we continue to welcome students from across the nation and around
22 the world to be trained for faithful ministries serving God in churches, chaplaincy, and community
23 service. In 2025, we were joined by 219 students. The Master of Divinity program gained 120 new
24 students in both residential and hybrid programs, a 10 percent growth over last year. The Master of Arts
25 in Christian Practice enrolled six new students; the Doctor of Ministry, 34; Master of Theology, seven;
26 Master of Theological Studies, 32; and the Doctor of Theology welcomed five new students to campus.
27 The Certificate in Theology and Health Care welcomed 14 students.

28
29 Duke Divinity is committed to facilitating clear and supportive pathways into theological education to
30 encourage and equip those who are discerning a call to ministry. We confirmed an MOU with
31 Huntingdon College, reaffirming our mutual dedication to nurturing vocations, strengthening the United
32 Methodist tradition, and investing in the next generation of Christian leaders.

33
34 We welcomed four new faculty this year: Jonathan Tran, professor of theological ethics; Natalie Carnes,
35 professor of theology; Matthew Whelan, associate research professor of theology; and Nina Balmaceda,
36 Irene and William McCutchen Associate Professor of the Practice of Reconciliation and director of the
37 Center for Reconciliation.

38
39 Duke Divinity School continues to be grateful for our ongoing participation in The United Methodist
40 Church and partnership with this annual conference. We look forward to our ongoing work with you as
41 we join the leading of God’s Spirit in the task of preparing people for Christian ministry. To learn more
42 about Duke Divinity School, please visit our website at www.divinity.duke.edu.

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1 La Escuela de Divinidad de Duke celebró su nonagésima novena Convocatoria de Apertura en agosto de
2 2025 con un sermón del decano Edgardo Colón-Emeric, dando así inicio a la Serie de Predicación del
3 Credo Niceno. Colón-Emeric enfatizó que el Credo Niceno es tanto una profesión de Pentecostés como
4 una proclamación de paz:

5 Quizás esta sea la temporada para desenredar el Credo Niceno de la teología estatal y
6 eclesiástica. Quizás esta sea una tarea para una escuela de teología cuya misión afirma
7 'participar en una educación espiritualmente disciplinada y académicamente rigurosa, en
8 servicio y testimonio del Dios Trino en medio de la iglesia, la academia y el mundo'. ... Cristo no
9 predicó la paz buscando reconocimiento ni premios. Su vida es un extenso sermón sobre la paz.
10 La paz es creer que nuestro punto más bajo no limita nuestra mayor esperanza, porque
11 reconocemos el poder del bautismo, la posibilidad del arrepentimiento y el perdón de los
12 pecados. *Creemos. Creemos.* Esta es una profesión de Pentecostés, una proclamación de paz y
13 también un pronunciamiento de alabanza.

14 Este año nos hemos unido a cristianos de todo el mundo para conmemorar el decimo séptimo
15 centenario del Concilio de Nicea y el Credo Niceno. Los académicos y líderes ministeriales de la Escuela
16 de Divinidad de Duke publicaron el libro "*Asuntos Trinitarios: 1700 años moldeando la identidad y la*
17 *práctica cristiana*". La escuela organizó dos conferencias para explorar y aprender de Nicea: la
18 Convocatoria y Escuela de Pastores, dirigida a quienes trabajan en la iglesia y en el ministerio vocacional;
19 y "Visible e Invisible: Encuentros Sorprendentes en la Teología y las Artes", con presentaciones
20 musicales, poesía y expresiones artísticas informadas por la riqueza del Credo Niceno.

21
22 Gracias a la gracia sustentadora de Dios, seguimos recibiendo estudiantes de todo el país y del mundo
23 para capacitarles en ministerios fieles al servicio de Dios en iglesias, capellanía y servicio comunitario. En
24 2025, se nos unieron 219 estudiantes. El programa de Maestría en Divinidad incorporó a 120 nuevos
25 estudiantes, tanto en el programa residencial como en el híbrido, lo que representa un crecimiento del
26 10 % respecto al año anterior. La Maestría en Artes en Práctica Cristiana inscribió a seis nuevos
27 estudiantes; el Doctorado en Ministerio, a 34; la Maestría en Teología, a siete; la Maestría en Estudios
28 Teológicos, a 32; y el Doctorado en Teología recibió a cinco nuevos estudiantes en el campus. El
29 Certificado en Teología y Salud recibió a 14 estudiantes.

30
31 La Escuela de Divinidad de Duke se compromete a facilitar caminos claros y de apoyo hacia la educación
32 teológica para animar y equipar a quienes están discerniendo un llamado al ministerio. Confirmamos un
33 memorando de entendimiento con Huntingdon College, reafirmando nuestra dedicación mutua a
34 fomentar vocaciones, fortalecer la tradición metodista unida e invertir en la próxima generación de
35 líderes cristianos.

36
37 Este año dimos la bienvenida a cuatro nuevos profesores: Jonathan Tran, profesor de ética teológica;
38 Natalie Carnes, profesora de teología; Matthew Whelan, profesor asociado de investigación en teología;
39 y Nina Balmaceda, profesora asociada de la práctica de la reconciliación y directora del Centro para la
40 Reconciliación.

41
42 La Escuela de Divinidad de Duke continúa agradecida por su participación constante en la Iglesia
43 Metodista Unida y por su colaboración con esta conferencia anual. Esperamos con ansias continuar
44 trabajando con ustedes, uniéndonos a la guía del Espíritu de Dios en la tarea de preparar personas para
45 el ministerio cristiano. Para obtener más información sobre la Escuela de Divinidad de Duke, visite
46 nuestro sitio web: www.divinity.duke.edu.

GAMMON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Candace M. Lewis, President & CEO

1 GAMMON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY remains the only Historically Black Theological Institution (HBTI) of
2 The United Methodist Church. Gammon Theological Seminary's mission is to provide academic and
3 degree-granting programs that help prepare individuals who understand their vocation as working in
4 partnership with God in forming a just and generative world for all, for the practice of Christian ministry
5 and public leadership.

6
7 **Accreditation**

- 8 ● Launched Gammon's independent Master of Divinity program in 2024 as a key step toward
9 separate accreditation with SACSCOC and ATS.
- 10 ● Hosted initial SACSCOC site visit in October 2025, received affirmation of 93% compliance on all
11 SACSCOC Standards, final review pending the June 2026 SACSCOC Board meeting. Starting the
12 ATS Accreditation process in 2026 with a goal of full ATS accreditation awarded by December
13 2027.

14
15 **Enrollment**

- 16 ● As of Spring 2026, Gammon enrolls 41 students (10 new and 31 continuing), reflecting sustained
17 growth since the Fall 2024 launch of the independent MDiv program.
- 18 ● Student body includes 30 United Methodist-affiliated students (73.2 percent), with 28
19 specifically identifying as UMC (68.3 percent), demonstrating Gammon's deep denominational
20 roots.
- 21 ● More than 70 percent of students are directly engaged in or preparing for ordained and licensed
22 ministry: 42.5 percent actively discerning call and 30 percent already certified candidates or
23 licensed local pastors.
- 24 ● Student-to-faculty ratios have remained healthy (4:1 to 7:1), with more than 70 percent of
25 students enrolled full-time each term, demonstrating stable instructional capacity and careful
26 scaling.

27
28 **Fund Development**

- 29 ● Secured a three-year, \$975,000 capacity-building grant from GBHEM to underwrite Gammon 3.0
30 operational expansion and strengthen institutional infrastructure.
- 31 ● Received a \$375,000 grant from the William I. H. and Lula E. Pitts Foundation to support Phase
32 III renovations, modernizing classrooms, offices, and the faculty hub for collaborative learning
33 and academic planning.
- 34 ● Obtained a \$250,000 scholarship grant from The SOMA Foundation to provide current-use aid
35 for students in the 2025–2026 academic year, directly reducing educational debt.
- 36 ● Launched the "Become 1 of 1 Million" endowed scholarship campaign fund to raise \$1 million in
37 scholarship funds for Gammon students, enabling students to answer their call to ministry
38 without incurring significant debt.

39
40 We offer profound thanks to God and to the entire United Methodist connection—bishops, cabinets,
41 annual conferences, congregations, alumni, donors, and friends—for your faithful partnership in this
42 season of renewal. Your prayers, apportionment support, special offerings, and generous gifts are
43 establishing the work of our hands and making it possible for the vision of Gammon 3.0 to become a

Universities and Seminaries

1 lived reality for current and future students. Together, we are strengthening Gammon as a vital,
2 sustainable, and innovative seminary forming leaders for the church and the world.

GARRETT-EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Javier A. Viera, President

3 Garrett Seminary continues to embody a trajectory of growth, innovation, and deepening partnership
4 across the connection. Rooted in its Wesleyan heritage and animated by its mission to form courageous
5 leaders in the way of Jesus, the seminary looks toward the future with confidence and hope.

6
7 For the fifth consecutive year, Garrett welcomed an entering class that reflects sustained enrollment
8 growth. This steady expansion signals renewed confidence in our approach to theological education and
9 in Garrett’s distinctive role within The United Methodist Church and the global Christian community.
10 The newest students represent geographic and cultural breadth, coming from across the United States
11 and more than twenty countries throughout the worldwide connection. They prepare for ministry in
12 congregations, chaplaincy settings, nonprofit leadership, academia, and mission contexts, reflecting the
13 increasingly diverse and global nature of the Church’s leadership needs.

14
15 In response to the evolving realities of ministry and lifelong learning, Garrett launched The Garrett
16 Collective, a comprehensive digital platform offering theological resources, courses, learning
17 experiences, and stackable microcredentials. Designed to serve laity and clergy alike, The Garrett
18 Collective expands access to high-quality theological education in multiple languages and modalities.
19 Content is curated and developed in partnership with annual conferences, congregations, and mission-
20 driven organizations to address expressed needs across the connection. This initiative strengthens
21 ongoing professional development for clergy, equips lay leaders for faithful witness, and extends
22 Garrett’s reach to communities that may not otherwise have access to formal theological study. The
23 Garrett Collective represents a significant step toward greater accessibility, affordability, and contextual
24 responsiveness in theological education.

25
26 The seminary also announced a historic agreement with its long-standing campus partner, Northwestern
27 University. Through this agreement, Garrett will relocate to newly designed, state-of-the-art facilities on
28 the southern end of campus. These buildings will support the seminary’s increasingly multi-modal
29 student body—those studying on campus, in hybrid formats, and in fully immersive online programs
30 from across the nation and around the world. The new facilities will allow Garrett to invest more fully in
31 vibrant residential theological formation while simultaneously expanding global access through digital
32 and hybrid degree offerings. This agreement reflects a deep and mutual commitment between the
33 seminary and the university, positioning both institutions for a strong and collaborative future. Most
34 importantly, it enables Garrett to remain focused on mission-driven initiatives for generations to come.

35
36 Garrett has also experienced significant success in foundation and grant support for innovative learning
37 and leadership initiatives. Strategic investments have strengthened The Garrett Collective, the Center
38 for Ecological Regeneration, the Job Institute for Spiritual Formation, the National Initiative to
39 Strengthen Hispanic Pastoral Leaders and Congregations, the Mageto Fellows Program in partnership
40 with Africa University, and the Faith and Leadership Collaborative. Each of these initiatives extends the
41 seminary’s relationship with congregations and their leaders, resourcing the Church in areas of
42 ecological justice, spiritual formation, intercultural ministry, global partnership, social impact, and
43 leadership development. Together, they represent a widening circle of accessibility and impact, ensuring

Universities and Seminaries

1 that theological education is responsive to the needs of diverse communities throughout the connection
2 and beyond.

3
4 Garrett Seminary remains deeply committed to the vitality of The United Methodist Church. Through
5 enrollment growth, digital innovation, historic institutional partnerships, and expanding grant-supported
6 initiatives, the seminary is strengthening its capacity to serve the Church in a season of significant
7 transition and opportunity. Guided by the conviction that God continues to call and equip leaders for
8 this moment, Garrett looks forward to continued partnership with annual conferences, congregations,
9 and ministries across the connection.

PERKINS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Brian P. Stone, Leighton K. Farrell Endowed Dean

10 Perkins School of Theology celebrates our vital connections with the New Mexico Annual Conference of
11 The United Methodist Church. Through theological education, ministerial formation, and vocational
12 discernment, Perkins continues to serve the church by supporting persons called to faithful leadership in
13 a changing church and society.

14
15 Three (3) students affiliated with the New Mexico Annual Conference are currently enrolled at Perkins,
16 in our Master of Divinity degree program. During the 2025-26 academic year, a total of three (3)
17 students received funding from the PACE (Perkins Annual Conference Endowment) grant for an average
18 \$1,160 and one (1) student from the New Mexico Annual Conference is participating in internship.

Enrollment Update

19
20
21 Enrollment at Perkins for the 2025–2026 academic year totaled 274 students. Of the 73 incoming
22 students, 44 enrolled in the hybrid/online degree program, representing 27 states.

Leadership & Faculty Updates

23
24
25 In October 2025, Dr. Bryan P. Stone was formally installed as the Leighton K. Farrell Endowed Dean of
26 Perkins School of Theology. Dean Stone is an elder in full connection in the New England Annual
27 Conference of The United Methodist Church, further strengthening Perkins’ leadership connection and
28 service to the denomination.

29
30 Perkins announced several faculty appointments and promotions supporting academic leadership,
31 ministerial formation, and program development. Rev. Dr. Pamela White was appointed Director of the
32 Intern Program and Assistant Dean for Contextual Education. Rev. Dr. Emily Nelms Chastain was
33 promoted to assistant professor of Christian History and Methodist Studies. Dr. James K. Lee was
34 promoted to Professor of Early Christianity, and Dr. Marcell Silva Steuernagel to Associate Professor of
35 Church Music. Dr. Ashley Boggan was appointed Affiliate Assistant Research Professor of Methodist
36 Studies.

37
38 In addition, Rev. Dr. Kate Hanch was appointed Director of the Baptist House of Studies, and Dr.
39 Rebekah Miles was named to the Albert C. Outler Chair of Wesley Studies, reflecting Perkins’ continued
40 investment in academic and ecclesial leadership in the Methodist-Wesleyan tradition.

Universities and Seminaries

1 **Faculty Awards & Recognition**

2 During 2025, Perkins faculty received national and international recognition for their scholarship,
3 leadership, and service to the church. At the American Theological Society—one of the oldest and most
4 selective theological societies in North America—faculty were recognized through elected membership,
5 scholarly presentations, and leadership roles. Dr. Frederick Aquino was elected to membership in the
6 Society, Dr. Karen Baker-Fletcher presented scholarly research, and Dr. Ruben L. F. Habito delivered the
7 Society’s Presidential Address.

8
9 Perkins faculty also received competitive research grants and distinguished honors. Rev. Dr. Jaime Clark-
10 Soles received a Louisville Institute Grant for Researchers, Dr. Jack Levison received a grant renewal
11 from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, and Rev. Dr. Alyce McKenzie was honored with the
12 Academy of Homiletics’ 2025 Lifetime Achievement Award.

13
14 Perkins faculty also contributed to public theological discourse through national media and artistic
15 recognition. Dean Bryan P. Stone was featured in national and regional media reflecting on faith, fear,
16 and the theology of horror cinema, drawing on his recent scholarship exploring the intersections of
17 theology, culture, and film. Rev. Dr. Harold Recinos, Professor of Church and Society, was nominated for
18 the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry for the third time, recognizing his ongoing contributions to faith-informed
19 literary and theological work.

20 21 **Growth & Opportunities**

22 Perkins entered a new partnership with Methodist Theological University in Seoul, Korea, effective
23 August 2025, to advance global theological education through academic collaboration and exchange. An
24 accelerated degree program was established with McMurry University in December 2025, expanding
25 pathways for students pursuing theological education. A teach-out agreement with Memphis
26 Theological Seminary became effective January 31, 2026, ensuring continuity, academic integrity, and
27 support for students affected by the seminary’s closure.

28
29 The 2025 Fall Convocation, held November 10–11, convened clergy, laity, scholars, and students for
30 theological reflection and continuing education. The school also hosted the 39th Annual Perkins School
31 of Youth and Children’s Ministry, continuing its longstanding commitment to equipping leaders for
32 ministry with children, youth, and families. In March 20–21, 2026, Perkins hosted the Perkins Summit for
33 Faith and Learning at McFarlin Memorial United Methodist Church in Norman, Oklahoma, offering
34 clergy, lay leaders, and community members accessible, in-person opportunities for continuing
35 theological education.

36 37 **Grants, Funding, or Resource Development**

38 In October 2025, renovations to Kirby Parlor, now “Kirby Commons,” enhanced shared learning,
39 gathering, and community spaces at Perkins, supporting the school’s academic and programmatic life.
40 The Eula Mae and John Baugh Foundation awarded \$1.8 million in funding to support the Perkins Baptist
41 House of Studies, strengthening scholarships and program sustainability and continuing Perkins’
42 commitment to ecumenical theological education.

43
44 Gifts totaling \$3 million were donated by the Permanent Endowment Fund of Galveston Moody
45 Memorial UMC and the Houston Methodist Hospital and Foundation to endow a new “The Reverend
46 Charles R. Millikan, D.Min. Endowed Chair in Spiritual Care” to advance Perkins’ ability to train
47 healthcare chaplains throughout the region. The faculty will undertake a search for this new professor in
48 the coming year.

Universities and Seminaries

1 **Retirements & Legacy Contributions**

2 In 2026, Perkins will celebrate the retirements of five members of the Perkins community whose
3 contributions have left a lasting impact. Dr. Bruce Marshall, Lehman Professor of Christian Doctrine; Rev.
4 Dr. Alyce McKenzie, Professor of Homiletics; Christopher S. Anderson, Associate Professor of Sacred
5 Music; Pam Goolsby, Building and Events Manager; and Dr. John Martin, Director of Development, will
6 retire after years of dedicated service to teaching, scholarship, and the life of the Perkins community.

7
8 Perkins School of Theology remains grateful for the partnership of the New Mexico Annual Conference
9 and for the shared work of forming leaders who serve the church and world with faith, wisdom, and
10 love. We thank the Conference for its continued support, collaboration, and commitment to theological
11 education.

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

Jay C. Hartzell, President

214-768-2000

www.smu.edu

12 Southern Methodist University (SMU) has served as a nonsectarian institution of higher learning since
13 its founding in 1911. Guided by a mission to expand knowledge through research and teaching, SMU
14 educates students with ambition and integrity, advances discovery that matters, and serves as a
15 catalyst for positive impact in Dallas, Texas, and beyond.

16
17 With continued Methodist representation on the Board of Trustees and a longstanding commitment to
18 welcoming students of all faiths, SMU honors its Wesleyan heritage while advancing as a nationally
19 recognized private research university. Consistent with this heritage and tradition, SMU submits this report
20 to the New Mexico Annual Conference.

21 22 **Institutional momentum and leadership transition**

23 I was honored to begin my service as President of SMU on June 1, 2025. My first seven months have been
24 focused on listening, learning, and building relationships with students, faculty, staff, alumni, trustees, and
25 civic and community partners.

26
27 Even after a few short months, I can clearly see the distinctive qualities that define SMU and draw
28 people to this community: academic excellence, a vibrant campus culture, deeply engaged alumni,
29 and an unusually attractive position as a private research university rooted in one of the nation's most
30 dynamic metropolitan regions. This combination, reinforced by a shared sense of purpose grounded in
31 SMU's mission and values, fuels our momentum to expand SMU's reach and influence and help shape
32 the future of higher education.

33
34 During this period, we welcomed outstanding new academic leadership to SMU. Rachel Davis Mersey
35 joined the University as Executive Vice President and Provost, bringing deep experience in academic
36 leadership, a strong commitment to faculty excellence and student success, and a collaborative approach
37 that is well aligned with SMU. We also welcomed Bryan P. Stone as the Leighton K. Farrell Dean of Perkins
38 School of Theology, whose leadership reflects a deep commitment to theological education, the life of the
39 Church, and the formation of faithful leaders. In addition to Drs. Mersey and Stone, several experienced
40 leaders stepped into key leadership roles at SMU: Janan Jayawickramarajah, dean of the Dedman School of
41 Humanities and Social Sciences; Todd Milbourn, dean of the Edwin L. Cox School of Business; Michael Harris,

Universities and Seminaries

1 interim dean of the Simmons School of Education and Human Development; and Damon Evans, director of
2 Athletics.

3

4 **Strategic planning and institutional priorities**

5 This fall, we launched a comprehensive, University-wide strategic planning process to guide SMU through
6 its next phase of growth. The process is intentionally inclusive, drawing input (to date) from nearly 9,000
7 community members, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, parents, trustees, employers and the
8 broader Dallas community.

9

10 The strategic plan will strengthen academic distinction and student success through transformative
11 teaching and exceptional experiences; expanded interdisciplinary research and creative scholarship that
12 matters; and the preparation of well-rounded, principled leaders who will make an impact in Dallas and far
13 beyond. We expect to complete the plan in Spring 2026, providing a clear roadmap for aligning priorities,
14 resources, and philanthropic support for the next decade.

15

16 **Students, faculty, and staff**

17 SMU continues to attract academically accomplished and diverse students from across the nation and the
18 world. For the 2025-26 academic year, the University enrolled approximately 12,500 undergraduate and
19 graduate students representing all 50 states and more than 90 countries. A majority of undergraduates come
20 from outside Texas, reflecting SMU's growing national profile.

21

22 Our faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduates are advancing research and creative work that
23 addresses complex challenges in areas such as energy, health, security, education, public policy, and the arts
24 – often in collaboration with industry, government, and nonprofit partners. This work strengthens SMU's
25 academic reputation while contributing meaningfully to the economic and civic vitality of the Dallas–Fort
26 Worth region.

27

28 **Research, philanthropy, and national standing**

29 During the past year, the University successfully completed its most recent comprehensive campaign, SMU
30 Ignited: Boldly Shaping Tomorrow, three years ahead of schedule, raising

31

32 \$1.64 billion in private support. The campaign strengthened the University's academic foundation through
33 investments in students, faculty, academic programs, research, and facilities, and positioned SMU for its
34 next phase of growth and impact.

35

36 In 2025, SMU was designated a Research One (R1) institution by the Carnegie Classification of
37 Institutions of Higher Education. This designation reflects sustained growth in research activity, faculty
38 scholarship, and external funding, as well as the collective efforts of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and
39 supporters. Achieving R1 status marks an important step along the University's trajectory to academic
40 prominence and affirms SMU's commitment to research that serves society and advances knowledge.

41

42 SMU continues to receive strong national recognition for academic quality, student outcomes, and
43 research activity, reinforcing the University's standing among leading private research institutions.

44

45 **Perkins School of Theology**

46 Perkins School of Theology remains central to SMU's identity and mission, advancing theological education
47 that is both deeply rooted in the Wesleyan tradition and responsive to the needs of the Church and the

Universities and Seminaries

1 world. In 2025 and 2026, Perkins expanded access to theological education and strengthened institutional
2 collaboration through several strategic initiatives.

3
4 Perkins formalized a three-year partnership with Methodist Theological University in Seoul to support
5 student and faculty exchanges and collaborative global research. The School also launched an accelerated
6 program with McMurry University, enabling qualified students to begin Master of Divinity coursework
7 during their final undergraduate year, reducing both time to degree and cost. In addition, Perkins
8 established a teach-out agreement with Memphis Theological Seminary, allowing enrolled students to
9 complete their degrees at Perkins with full credit transfer, academic support, and tuition scholarships.

10
11 These efforts – along with many activities not spelled out here – reflect Perkins’ continued commitment to
12 academic excellence, faithful leadership formation, and service to the United Methodist community
13 through expanded reach and impact.

14
15 We remain deeply grateful for Perkins School of Theology’s enduring contributions to theological education
16 and the life of the Church. As we move forward in this new chapter of leadership and planning, we do so with
17 gratitude for the past and confidence in the future – focused on preparing students to lead lives of purpose,
18 expanding knowledge that matters, and serving communities with integrity and care.

ST. PAUL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Jay K. Simmons, President

19 What does God require of us? To act justly, love mercifully, and walk humbly with God. At Saint Paul
20 School of Theology, this call from Micah 6:8 shapes everything we do—from preparing pastors to serve
21 rural communities to fostering a beloved community where all belong. Centered in Christ and rooted in
22 the Wesleyan tradition, we are committed to forming innovative leaders who make disciples of Jesus
23 Christ for the transformation of the world.

A Year of Growth and Vitality

24
25 2025 has been marked by remarkable momentum. Our Course of Study School educated 248 students—
26 a 6% increase—with 628 course registrations, representing a 14% growth. These servant leaders are
27 making a tangible difference: 42% serve rural communities with populations under 2,500, and 22 students
28 serve as pastors of three or more churches. We celebrated 21 students completing the 20-course
29 program, equipping them for licensed ministry.

30
31 Seminary enrollment grew by 9%, with a 33% increase in new students for Fall 2025. Our commitment to
32 diversity is bearing fruit, with 29% racial diversity among students and almost even gender distribution.
33 Students from 31 states and 220 cities connect with us through flexible online and hybrid learning options,
34 while 16 graduates of the Course of Study School have transitioned into our degree programs.

Living Our Strategic Vision

35
36
37 Our Board of Trustees has recently endorsed a strategic plan that reflects our values and responds to the
38 changing contexts of the church and the world. We are striving to become a beloved community that
39 embodies belonging, justice, equity, and inclusion. Our new Doctor of Ministry track in Spirituality,
40 Innovation, and Adaptive Leadership exemplifies this vision, developing change agents grounded in
41 contemplative spirituality and equipped with emotional intelligence and intercultural competence. These
42 same principles permeate our Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian Ministry programs.
43

Universities and Seminaries

1 Saint Paul remains financially healthy, operating with a balanced budget, no debt, and an endowment ten
2 times our annual expenses. This sustainability, rooted in community donations, enables us to invest in
3 scholarships, technology, and evolving academic programs that serve our students and the church.
4

5 **Looking Ahead**

6 In 2026, we are strengthening our foundation and expanding our horizons by cultivating a vibrant alum
7 network—a lifelong professional and spiritual home. Through mentorship, resource sharing, and
8 collaborative ministry, we are building a dynamic ecosystem that empowers graduates from their first day
9 of classes through retirement and beyond.
10

11 Saint Paul School of Theology invites you to join us in this journey of formation, innovation, and
12 transformation. Together, we are preparing leaders who embody justice, mercy, and humility as they
13 serve Christ and His church.

UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Dr. Kent Millard, President

14 Since 1871, United Theological Seminary has prepared faithful and fruitful Christian leaders who make
15 disciples of Jesus Christ. In the 2024-25 fiscal year, the seminary served 642 graduate students, 275
16 doctoral and 375 masters,* reflecting approximately 30 percent enrollment growth since 2021 and
17 placing United among the largest United Methodist seminaries in the United States.
18

19 A diverse community of many denominations, races and nationalities, United welcomed students from
20 38 states, 24 nations, and 54 denominations, with United Methodists representing the largest
21 denominational group within the student body.
22

23 **Academics**

24 United's academic programs remain grounded in the historic Christian faith, scriptural holiness, and a
25 commitment to the renewal of the church, preparing graduates to serve with wisdom, integrity, and
26 hope.
27

28 United introduced a Doctor of Theology in 2024 to support pastor-scholars called to ministry at the
29 intersection of the church and academy. The new degree program welcomed 13 students in its first
30 year.
31

32 The seminary's Doctor of Ministry program continues to attract experienced ministry leaders seeking
33 advanced professional education focused on faithful leadership. In the 2024-25 school year, 262
34 students participated in the mentor-led program.
35

36 Master's programs include eight houses of study, serving nearly 200 students in the United States and
37 around the world, with programs offered in English, Spanish and Korean. In July 2025, 11 students
38 attended the first Contextual Ministry Retreat for the African House of Study, held at the Kenya
39 Methodist Conference Center in Nairobi. The Hispanic House of Study will celebrate its first class of
40 graduates in May 2026, with candidates from across the United States, Mexico, Colombia, and Peru.

Universities and Seminaries

1 Through rigorous scholarship, intentional mentoring, worship, and community life, as well as practical
2 engagement with the church's needs, academic life at United advances the seminary's vision of *Spirit-led*
3 *leaders, a Christ-like Church, and a transformed world.*

4 **Finances**

5 United continues to focus on reducing the educational debt of its students. The Fresh Wind Campaign to
6 raise \$10 million for the endowment is expanding scholarship opportunities for current and future
7 students. The campaign has raised more than \$9 million toward this goal, by the grace of God and
8 through the generosity of alumni/ae, churches, and friends of the seminary.
9

10 **Looking Ahead**

11 United enters the coming years with gratitude for God's faithfulness and confidence in God's future.
12 Several senior leaders have answered new calls, and President Dr. Kent Millard has announced his
13 retirement effective June 30, 2026, concluding ten years of service marked by encouragement, vision,
14 and stability. A Presidential Search Committee is at work to identify United's next president, who will
15 begin service on July 1, 2026.
16

17
18 Trusting God's promise spoken through the prophet Isaiah, "I am about to do a new thing" (Isaiah
19 43:19), United remains committed to preparing Christian leaders who boldly proclaim the gospel and
20 make disciples of Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God!

21
22 **12-month unduplicated headcount enrollment for the 2024-25 fiscal year from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025*

WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Rev. Dr. David McAllister-Wilson, President

23 As I complete my tenure as president of Wesley Theological Seminary, I am confident in handing the
24 leadership to Dr. Carla Works, the 11th President of our school. Dr. Works, Dean and Woodrow and
25 Mildred Miller Professor of Biblical Theology at Wesley DC, is a distinguished New Testament scholar,
26 educator, and church-centered theologian.
27

28 Wesley Theological Seminary (Wesley DC) remains steadfast in its mission to equip persons for Christian
29 ministry and leadership in the church and the world, to advance theological scholarship, and to model a
30 prophetic voice in the public square. In a season marked by institutional change, civic uncertainty, and
31 renewed hope for the United Methodist Church, Wesley DC actively forms leaders who are spiritually
32 grounded, intellectually rigorous, and engaged with the world God loves through the following
33 programs.
34

35 **Master of Divinity, Master of Arts, Master of Theological Studies Degrees:** Wesley DC offers Master of
36 Divinity, Master of Arts, and Master of Theological Studies degrees through residential, hybrid, and fully
37 online formats. Our programs serve a diverse student body representing a wide range of denominations,
38 cultural contexts, and vocational callings. Across all modalities, Wesley DC emphasizes ministerial
39 formation that integrates theological depth, spiritual practice, and contextual engagement.

40 <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/study/>

41
42 **Doctor of Ministry Degree:** Wesley DC remains one of the largest Doctor of Ministry programs in the
43 United States and serves experienced ministerial leaders from across the world. In May 2025, ten

Universities and Seminaries

1 chaplains from southern Africa graduated through a landmark partnership with Africa University,
2 reflecting Wesley DC's growing global reach. Our DMin tracks for military chaplains continue to grow,
3 including through a renewed partnership with the U.S. Army Institute for Religious Leadership. New
4 tracks in Church Leadership Excellence, Soul Care, Global Church Leadership, and others begin in 2027.
5 Learn more about how you can grow in wisdom and leadership at:

6 <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/doctorofministry/program/>.

7
8 **Course of Study:** As the regional Course of Study school for the Northeast Jurisdiction, Wesley DC
9 delivers the full Course of Study curriculum online. Scholar-practitioners teach these courses, equipping
10 Local Pastors across the denomination with flexible, high-quality preparation for ministry.

11 <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/degree-programs/course-of-study/>

12
13 **Ministry Certificates and Lifelong Learning:** Wesley Pathways for Ministry offers online courses and
14 certificates to help you discover your passion for ministry and strengthen your leadership skills, whether
15 you are a layperson or a pastor. Courses and certificates help people gain ministry and leadership skills
16 for church, community, and specialized ministry settings. Many courses/certificates are stackable for
17 master's or doctoral credit and/or can be taken for CEUs. <https://www.wesleypathways.com/>

18
19 **Office of Admissions:** Are you ready to explore your next faithful step? The Admissions Office regularly
20 holds in-person and online open houses for potential master's and DMin students, and admissions
21 officers are available to answer your questions and help you discern.

22 <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/admissions/explorewesley/>

23
24 **The Hub for (Re)imagining Ministry:** Is your church ready to engage new generations or journey toward
25 thriving in new ways? The Hub is currently accepting applications for its [Engaging Young Adults](#)
26 nationwide, virtual cohort for congregations beginning August 2026, and will be recruiting new cohorts
27 of congregations for [Bringing Church Home](#) (helping churches better accompany and support
28 parents/caregivers in sharing their faith) and [Children of Faith](#) (helping churches center children in
29 worship and formation) in fall 2026. The Hub is also entering into partnerships with UMC districts and
30 annual conferences, equipping leaders to experiment, learn, and adapt faithfully in their local contexts.

31 <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/wesley-innovation-hub/>

32
33 **The Lewis Center for Church Leadership:** The Lewis Center welcomed Rev. Dr. Jonathan Page as its new
34 Director in 2025. Dr. Page brings deep experience in leadership development across ecclesial and secular
35 contexts and is guiding the Center into its next chapter of service to the Church. Through its widely read
36 *Leading Ideas* newsletter and the *Leading Ideas Talks* podcast, the Lewis Center reaches thousands of
37 leaders across the denomination. <https://www.churchleadership.com/>

38
39 **The Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion:** The Luce Center welcomed Rev. Timothy Chon,
40 MDiv, MFA as its new Director in 2025. Since Spring 2025, the Luce Center, which serves as a vital
41 intersection of theology, creativity, and public imagination, has presented four exhibitions in the Dadian
42 Gallery. In 2025, the Luce Center completed a major studio renovation that expanded capacity to
43 support multiple artists-in-residence simultaneously. The Center welcomed professional Artist-in-
44 Residence Khaleelah Harris alongside new Student Artists-in-Residence, strengthening its commitment
45 to nurturing artists at every stage of practice. <https://www.luceartsandreligion.org/>

46
47 **Center for Public Theology (CPT):** CPT builds on its nearly fifty-year legacy by equipping faith leaders for
48 thoughtful, courageous public witness. In collaboration with the Florida Annual Conference and with

Universities and Seminaries

1 support from Trinity Wall Street, CPT leads a Public Theology Fellowship addressing immigration and
2 public witness in politically diverse congregations. CPT continues to offer its flagship course, *Faith and*
3 *Politics in the Public Square*, which remains open to seminarians nationwide. The course brings
4 participants to Washington, DC for sustained engagement with policymakers, journalists, scholars, and
5 activists. This year’s cohort engaged leaders including Senator Chris Coons, NPR’s Michel Martin, Judge
6 Thomas Griffith, and Tope Folarin of the Institute for Policy Studies—preparing leaders to serve faithfully
7 amid rapidly shifting public realities. <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/programs/public-theology/>

8
9 **Community Engagement Institute):** CEI forms leaders for justice-centered, community-rooted ministry.
10 In March 2025, CEI hosted *Fostering Urban Vitality and a Heart for the City*, a two-day urban ministry
11 conference in Baltimore, with support from City Seminary of New York and the Lilly Endowment. CEI
12 offers traditional courses and immersive travel seminars open to all master’s-level students. With grants
13 from the General Board of Global Ministries, CEI continues to offer the *Heal the Sick* Health Minister’s
14 Certificate. Since its inception, the program has trained more than 500 health ministers across 38 states
15 and seven countries. In Spring 2026, CEI will offer *Trauma-Informed Congregations*, equipping leaders to
16 address trauma with theological, cultural, and communal wisdom.

17 <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/ice/about-us/overview-2/>

18
19 Wesley Theological Seminary remains deeply committed to the United Methodist Church and to the
20 formation of leaders who serve with humility, imagination, and courage. As the Church continues to
21 discern its future, Wesley stands ready—faithful to its mission, responsive to the moment, and hopeful
22 in God’s ongoing work. For the Church. For the world. For such a time as this.

23
24 Call us: (202) 885-8659 Email us: admissions@wesleyseminary.edu

25 Follow us: Facebook/IG: @WesleySeminary and YouTube/LinkedIn: @WesleyTheologicalSeminary

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION FOR COMMITMENT TO CREATION CARE

Submitted by: New Mexico Conference United Women in Faith, Tanya Barlow, President and the Creation Care and Creation Justice Committee of the New Mexico Conference

- 1 **Whereas:** "God created humans to care for creation on God's behalf." (Genesis 2:15)
2
- 3 **Whereas:** "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their hard work. If either
4 should fall one can pick up the other." (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)
5
- 6 **Whereas.** "All creation is the Lord's, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it."
7 The United Methodist Principles of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2016* p. 106.
8
- 9 **Whereas:** "All congregations in the NM Conference are encouraged to form a Green Team to plan and
10 monitor creation care improvements within their congregation." (Resolution passed at the 2017 NM
11 Annual Conference)
12
- 13 **Whereas:** "...every local church, charge, cluster, or district is urged to create a "green team" or
14 strengthen an existing one....." (Resolution adopted at 2024 General Conference)
15
- 16 **Whereas:** "Individual commitment to a group effort-that is what makes a team work, a company work, a
17 society work, a civilization work". (Vince Lombardi, American football coach)
18
- 19 **Whereas:** "Without concerted action by individuals, churches, communities, shareholders, businesses,
20 governments, and international organization, the negative effect (of global warming and climate
21 change) will become irreversible. (*Social Principles of the United Methodist Church 2025-2028*)
22
- 23 **Whereas:** The New Mexico Conference Board of Church and Society approved the formation of The
24 Creation Care and Creation Justice Committee (Conference Green Team) working with NM United
25 Women in Faith and NM commissioned Earthkeepers, to help educate and equip New Mexico
26 Conference Churches about practical ways they can make a loving difference in the communities we
27 serve.
28
- 29 **Therefore,** be it resolved that all Churches in the NM Conference submit the name and contact
30 information of a person to represent their congregation on the NM Conference Green Team to
31 s.k.allen2227@gmail.com no later than September 1, 2026.

Resolutions

RESOLUTION ON CO-PROVOSTS

Submitted by the Cabinet & Rules Committee

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Whereas, the Cabinet and Bishop desire to maintain the Provost function without adding to the staffing level of the Annual Conference;

Whereas, the successful functioning of the Annual Conference requires that a Provost function exist;

Whereas, the Bishop and Cabinet believe that the Annual Conference would be best served by establishing the Annual Conference’s District Superintendents as Co-Provosts in lieu of having a separate Provost;

Therefore, be it resolved, that in everywhere in the Standing Rules of the Conference, the word “Provost” is replaced with “Co-Provost”.

RESOLUTION ON DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT SALARIES

*Submitted by the Council on Finance and Administration
Koreen Guillermo, Chair*

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Whereas, at the 2024 Annual Conference a new salary formula was set for the clergy cabinet members of the New Mexico Annual Conference;

Whereas, the Conference Council on Finance and Administration said that it made an educated guess to establish a formula that could be usable year-over-year, but because the situation of clergy salaries from disaffiliations was still somewhat unknown that they would evaluate the formula at the end of each year;

Whereas, some of the top clergy salaries in the Conference have shifted down causing what would be a significant decrease to the compensation of the clergy cabinet members;

Whereas, the two district superintendents have seen their workload increase with the loss of one district superintendent and the provost;

Whereas, the Council on Finance and Administration does not want to create another new formula until a stable baseline of clergy salaries is established;

Therefore, be it resolved, that for the appointment year of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, that the formula for district superintendents shall be a minimum of 107% of the average of the top five clergy cash salaries of the conference for the prior year plus a cost of living adjustment. Additionally, the district superintendents shall each receive a \$15,000 stipend for their coverage of the provost position. This brings the district superintendent salary to \$114,341 for the 2026/2027 appointment year, which includes the provost stipend.

Be it further resolved, if a housing allowance is provided to a district superintendent in lieu of a parsonage, it shall be equal to 25% of the cash salary and the stipend, rounded to the nearest dollar.

Resolutions

1 **Be it finally resolved**, the Council on Finance and Administration shall continue to monitor the current
2 salary formula for district superintendents yearly, and when they believe clergy salaries at the local
3 church have stabilized, to create a new formula that maintains a stable relationship between clergy
4 cabinet members and local church pastors to present to the Annual Conference.

RESOLUTION RELATING TO LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

During a Session of the New Mexico Annual Conference

Submitted by: Rev. Dr. Eduardo Rivera

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Whereas, in the last three sessions of the New Mexico Annual Conference, Land Acknowledgements have been pronounced by leadership as part of the Conference gatherings, and

Whereas, our Conference's mission field includes portions of the Navajo Nation, the Mescalero Apache Tribe, and the nineteen Pueblo communities, whose histories and presence are integral to the life of our region, and

Whereas, it is both, appropriate and consistent with our Christian witness to acknowledge the past, present, and future of our Native American brothers and sisters with respect, humility, and gratitude, and

Whereas, the Christian Church is called not only to engage with the realities of history and culture, but, above all, to proclaim the truth of God's Word as the foundation for all understanding and practice;

Therefore, be it resolved, that in every official event of the New Mexico Annual Conference where a Land Acknowledgement is offered, the following biblical affirmation grounded in Psalm 24:1-2 be included:

"We acknowledge that the land on which we gather ultimately belongs to the Lord as Psalm 24 declares, 'The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.' Therefore, we commit, as followers of Christ, to walk with humility, love, and gratitude alongside all who dwell in this portion of God's Creation."

Rationale:

- This resolution seeks to hold together two essential commitments: affirming the Biblical truth that all creation belongs to God, while honoring the historical and present realities of our Native American brothers and sisters.
- As the Body of Christ, we are called to speak and act in ways that reflect both cultural awareness and theological clarity. Grounding our acknowledgements in Scripture ensures that our practices remain faithful to our identity as a people shaped by God's Word.
- By incorporating this Biblical affirmation, the Conference strengthens its witness, reminding all gathered, and the community at large, that our ultimate posture toward the land is one of shared stewardship under God's care.