

CHRISTIAN SERVICE TEAM

**PETER D. WEAVER CONGO
PARTNERSHIP TEAM**



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2013-14 has been a special year for the Congo Partnership and we give thanks to God and the churches of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference for all your prayers and financial support that has made possible the work of our Partnership. God continues to bless our partnership with the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Our coalition with the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference and the Western North Carolina Conference has enabled us to expand our outreach in significant ways through addition funding, energy, prayer, and more people becoming involved.

We recognize that our Congo sisters and brothers will do as much for us as we will be able to do for them. Their faithfulness in the midst of incredibly challenging times and their love and passion for Jesus Christ encourages and challenges us to "go and do likewise. On our website, www.congo-mission.com, local churches and individuals can find information about specific projects they may want to adopt. These projects are a great way to engage U.M. Women, Men's groups or a youth group in making a difference. Last year, Churches in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference raised over \$11,000 to purchase Bibles in the Otetella native language and started a new children's ministry in Wembo Nyama now ministering to over 400 children weekly. A Church in the Peninsula-Delaware Conference provided funding to install a new pump in a well to provide water at the MPASA Clinic. A donation purchased sewing machines to begin a new sewing class for mothers at MPASA so they could develop a trade to become self-sufficient! I had the privilege of congratulating the graduates of the first class this March as 9 women joyfully thanked the Partnership for helping them care for their families by learning this new trade. Visit our Web site to see more opportunities for your local churches.

Our Partnership Projects are the life-line of support for the Congo and, through the generous support of our Conference and an Eastern Shore Foundation. It is amazing the advancements our Congolese sisters and brothers have been making because we have helped provide needed resources. Our outreach through MPASA Medical and Nutrition Center reaches hundreds of children daily with new programs to reach elderly women and a new sewing program to teach young mothers a trade. Electricity and running water was installed, long needed medical equipment purchased, and we expanded the feeding program to include severely malnourished children and elderly women. Property adjacent to MPASA was purchased as a site for a future Pediatric building and a security wall around the compound is almost completed. We are support Dr. Yohadi who is attending the University to become certified in providing eye surgery and we just received word that MPASA will become a certified clinic for eye surgery upon her graduation this fall! This recognition by the government is a major accomplishment for Dr. Yohadi and MPASA. God is powerfully at work through MPASA!

46 Our Agriculture Program made major advancements this year. Training held at our
47 Diengenga farm last August equipped 15 new persons and retooled existing farm staff.
48 Many of these persons are taking this training back to their villages so this mission is being
49 extended throughout the Central Congo Episcopal Area. These farms have done amazing
50 work in initial years with new crops, cattle, construction of barns, fences, and other
51 buildings. A relationship with the local Medical Clinic has provided them with milk from the
52 goats for starving children and mothers that has literally saved lives! They have begun to
53 use oxen to help cultivate the land enabling them to increase their planting. Word about
54 the farm is out and people walking for miles to see what is happening! Hand tools and other
55 equipment will help them as they move towards becoming self-sustaining!

56
57 We also expanded our medical outreach to include four areas in the central part of the
58 Congo (Kananga, Wembo Nyama, Kindu, and Minga) that are remote and offering critical
59 medical care to persons who would not have alternatives. Jonathan was in Wembo Nyama
60 in February when he became ill and needed antibiotics. When the Doctor brought the
61 medicine he told Jonathan that the medicine he was receiving would not have been
62 available without the Partnership and these medicines saves lives every day!

63
64 A Cataract Medical Team had a fantastic mission at MPASA for people who were literally
65 blind. A U.S. surgeon & small medical partnered with a Congolese surgeon and their staff to
66 screen over 800 patients and perform over 150 surgical procedures giving sight to the blind!
67 We left surgical equipment so the Congolese can continue providing eye care if we can
68 provide the lenses and other needed medical supplies. Over \$100,000 worth of supplies
69 were donated by U.S. companies taken by our team. As with any mission experience, the
70 joy and blessing received by the team seemingly exceeded what they left behind. The Lord
71 filled their hearts with amazing delight and gratitude for the humble privilege to serve God
72 in this way. Thank you, Lord!

73
74 Our next Cataract Team will be in Diengenga (Lodja) for two weeks this July. This mission
75 will reach people in the remote areas where many will walk for 100 Kilometers to receive
76 care. Your support of this project makes it possible to live out Jesus' commission to "give
77 sight to the blind..."!

78
79 2014 is a very special year for the Central Congo Episcopal area and all United Methodists.
80 100 years ago Bishop Lambert, a missionary from North Carolina, established the first
81 Methodist Mission in Wembo Nyama. A special 100th Anniversary Celebration will be held
82 August 26, 2014 in Wembo Nyama as they celebrate God's past faithfulness and look
83 forward to the future. A new Children's Ministry began in the summer of 2013 when David
84 Ryan from Ea. Pa. and Jackie Onwu went to train people for this outreach to young children.
85 It has been amazingly successful and over 400 children are being reached weekly with the
86 love of Christ. Our plan is to use this model in other villages. Bibles are being sent for the
87 children and teachers use local resources to work with the children.

88
89 We fund a Mission Coordinator, Adolphe Yamba Yamba, who works with Bishop Yemba and
90 our Partnership to assist us in assuring the timely delivery of resources and being an
91 important communication link with our churches in the Conferences so we can hear regular

92 stories about what is happening with our projects and receive current photographs and
93 videos to use in our local churches to promote these ministries. Adolphe Yamba Yamba also
94 assists our VIM teams that travel for specific purposes such as medical, education,
95 construction, and agriculture.

96

97 We have several mission teams traveling to the Congo in 2013-14:

98 • Cataract Surgical Team, led by Donna Baker, in July to Diengenga taking a surgeon
99 and medical staff from the US to join surgeons and medical team from the Congo.
100 You can sponsor a patient that will literally be given sight for \$70!

101 • Agriculture Team will be working with the farmers at Diengenga led by David
102 Heistand.

103 • MPASA Team to assist the medical clinic and nutrition program in August 2014 led by
104 Sue Keefer. This will include the feeding program and working with the elderly
105 women.

106 • Wembo. Nyama – July 26. 100th Anniversary Celebration!

107 • Cultural Exchange - 2015: Indigenous people mission – several Native Americans
108 from our conference will be sharing their faith and culture with the indigenous
109 natives of the Congo. Date TBD

110 These are just a few of the exciting things happening with our partnership. You, and your
111 local churches, help make all this possible through your prayers and your financial support.
112 We are all indebted to the hard work of the Congo Partnership Team and the support of the
113 churches of our Conference through financial gifts and prayer. Bishop Johnson and Cabinets
114 have been very supportive and are looking at ways each district can be involved in specific
115 projects of the Partnership enabling churches to work together.

116

117 **Now we need your help! If every local church brought \$100 to Annual Conference**
118 **for the Congo Partnership, in addition to their regular giving, we can reach our**
119 **goals for 2014-15! Eastern Pennsylvania and W. North Carolina Conference local**
120 **churches will also be participating!**

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123 Submitted by:

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125 Partnership Team

126 Bishop Peggy Johnson

127 Bishop David Yemba

128 Dr. Shirlyn Brown

129 David Ryan, Eastern Pennsylvania

130 David Minor, W. North Carolina

131 Jonathan Baker, Chair

132 Sue Keefer, V-Chair

133 Joy Burke

134 David Heistand

135 Wes Hewitt

136 Doug Holmes

137 Lila Holmes
138 Jack O'Day
139 Judy Ingalls
140 Donna Baker
141 Karen Morgan
142 Doris Obenshain
143 Jackie Onwu
144 Bill Innes
145 Karen Moore
146 Donna Baker

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DISASTER RECOVERY TEAM

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Your Disaster Recovery Team would like to report on the continuing progress in our work in Somerset County. Our Recovery team began work in June of 2013 with the hiring of a Disaster Recovery Coordinator, a Case Manager, and a Volunteer Team Coordinator. We are also receiving help from the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference VIM Coordinator that comes down several days a week in assisting in our recovery efforts.

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Since Hurricane Sandy's landfall on October 29, 2012, we have been blessed by the outpouring of teams and donations from many resources. The greatest of these resources are our United Methodist Conferences and our local churches. Without the help from these resources the recovery would not be possible. We have also received grants for UMCOR to assist in recovery.

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With a reasonable degree of certainty we can report that we have worked on over a total of 119 homes since we started right after Hurricane Sandy blew through. Of those 119 homes, 27 were completed prior to May 2013 and another 60 have been totally completed since May 2013. We can safely say that over 80 homes have been completed. This is an active measurement as the list of homes needing help continues to grow monthly.

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At this time (early March 2014) 22 homes are in various stages of completion (awaiting volunteers with specific skills and materials on special order), or resolution of one issue or another. Some homes are awaiting the owner's decision about elevating the home above the flood stage. Complicating the decision is the determination of assistance grants from various organizations to fund the elevation.

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We expect to be in Crisfield beyond the end of this year, repairing an additional 80 to 100 homes. We are the only ones repairing homes in Crisfield and Somerset County since the Mennonites have been concentrating on new-builds since early last fall. All of our referrals now come through the Somerset County Long Term Recovery Committee, and they know they have at least 50 more owners to intake prior to handing them off to us.

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182 We can tell you that since June 2013 we have expended a total of 33,267 volunteer man
183 hours (person hours, if you will) which equals 832 person weeks or 16.6 person years.
184 These are impressive numbers, I think, by any standard (a value of over \$800,000 in labor
185 costs).

186
187 We are supplying housing for teams that are coming in to help in our rebuilding in two
188 locations. One location, the former Union-Asbury UMC in Crisfield, has housed a total of
189 70 teams consisting of 835 volunteers from 7/01/13 - 2/28/14. Our other housing location
190 is Asbury U.M.C. We have housed 77 teams consisting of 1,049 volunteers at our Asbury
191 U.M.C. from 7/01/13 - 2/28/14.

192
193 Training is an important piece in recovery from any disaster. Since Hurricane Sandy
194 devastated Somerset County we have held several training sessions to prepare to assist
195 others communities. Two training sessions for Early Response Teams trained over fifty
196 members to help ready homes for repairs. Two training sessions were held to prepare our
197 Spiritual Care Team to response to needs from any types of disasters. Twenty three
198 members have been trained and are ready if needed. We also held one workshop for those
199 who experienced the Hurricane first hand - to help them deal with their stress over twenty
200 four attended.

201
202 **Our plan is to continue to provide training opportunities for anyone interested to**
203 **be part of our Conference Disaster Team. Please continue to look for updates on**
204 **our Conference Web site as well as our Facebook page (UMC Peninsula Disaster**
205 **Response).**

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208 Submitted by:
209 Rev. D. Richard Walton, Sr., Co-Chair

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213 **VOLUNTEER IN MISSION (VIM)**

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215 Mission is not a trip. It is a way of being as Christians, and especially as being United
216 Methodists. The Pen-Del United Methodist Volunteers in Mission UMVIM is the **short-term**
217 **mission sending agency** of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference of the United Methodist
218 Church. UMVIM exists to promote, encourage, and enable Christians to exemplify "Christian
219 Love in Action" through short-term mission service — locally, regionally and nationally – as
220 well as internationally.

221
222 VIM provides opportunities for service by developing and nurturing relationships with
223 others, domestically and internationally. We seek to respond to the needs of local
224 communities and provide comprehensive training resources for team leaders to assist them
225 in preparing their teams for the mission field. VIM provides opportunities to serve in disaster
226 recovery in partnership with conference disaster relief ministries, ministries of construction,
227 medical ministries and Christian education, among others.

228

229 One of the most effective ways of transformation of individual faith lives, as well as the
 230 communal lives of congregations, is by sharing in service through VIM experiences. Further,
 231 the opportunities provided by VIM mission trips optimizes and strengthens the connectional
 232 system of our denomination by linking folks from churches all over the world in service to
 233 Christ.

234

235 The Peninsula-Delaware Conference has benefited from the importance of trained VIM
 236 leaders as ongoing recovery work continues in the Crisfield area of our Conference, which
 237 suffered immense damage from Hurricane Sandy. In 2013, Asbury Church in Crisfield
 238 welcomed a total of 75 teams consisting of 1,049 volunteers. In 2014, Asbury has had one
 239 team consisting of 14 volunteers. We commend the congregation of Asbury UMC for their
 240 gracious hospitality in welcoming and housing VIM teams from all over the country. A
 241 welcoming center has now been created in the converted Union United Methodist Church.
 242 Union has been equipped with showers and bunks to facilitate the receiving of teams. In
 243 2013, Union had a total of 59 teams consisting of 729 volunteers. In 2014, Union has had a
 244 total of 11 teams consisting of 101 volunteers. At the writing of this report there are
 245 currently 41 teams scheduled for 2014, not including those that have already visited.

246

247 With the receipt of both UMCOR and Red Cross disaster relief funds, the Crisfield site now
 248 has a Project Site Coordinator, Earl Bethards; a Volunteer Team Coordinator, Anika Jackson;
 249 and a Case Manager, JoAnn McKenzie. An appreciation dinner for Crisfield area church
 250 servants who have so graciously hosted VIM teams is scheduled for June 2, 2014.

251

252 **The Goals of the Pen-Del VIM are:**

- 253 1. **To provide VIM Team Leader training and ultimately ensure that every VIM**
 254 **Team in our local churches has trained leadership.** We have a new UMVIM
 255 Coordinator for the Northeast Jurisdiction, Nick Nicholas, who is based in the
 256 Philadelphia area.
 - 257 a. VIM participated in *The Well* held at Grace UMC in Wilmington in October 2013. VIM
 258 training has been held at Kent Island UMC in January 2014 and we are looking to
 259 offer training in both the spring and fall of 2014.
 - 260 b. **The VIM Team Leader Training has been recorded on DVD** and is available for
 261 purchase of \$25 each.
 - 262 c. In addition a valuable new supplement, *A Mission Journey: A Handbook for*
 263 *Volunteers* is now available for purchase of \$11 plus shipping from **Rev. Karin**
 264 **Tunnéll** at pastort@stpaulsodessa.org. All mission/outreach team members, as well
 265 as those who have received VIM training are encouraged to acquire this resource. It
 266 will provide insightful information to your team and also offers excellent devotions
 267 for your teams, whether for local, regional, national or international mission.
 - 268 d. Our committee is also available to provide training at the local church level. To
 269 schedule training, contact either **Rev. Karin Tunnéll** at pastort@stpaulsodessa.org
 270 or **Jeff Blackwell** at jblackwell@gracechurchum.org.
 - 271 e. Training is open to all people with an interest in VIM ministry and encouraged for all.

272

273 2. **To encourage every Pastor and Lay Servant to participate in mission.** Mission
 274 evangelism has been proven as one of the best vehicles to revitalize the faith lives of
 275 churches. Pastors and laity can set the example which Christ has given us to feed the
 276 hungry, visit the prisoner, take care of the orphans and widows—in other word, to
 277 partner with Christ for the transformation of the world.
 278

279 3. **VIM offers affordable team insurance through the northeast jurisdiction. Note:**
 280 **It is vitally important that teams have insurance.** VIM Teams must have insurance.
 281 Even if you have medical insurance, team members need this insurance. This insurance
 282 is inexpensive, and it covers unforeseen events. For example, regular medical insurance
 283 is often suspended in disaster zones. Also, if a team member has a serious medical
 284 event (or dies) the insurance will not only pay for care, but will pay to transport them
 285 home. These are not things we typically consider, but they are extremely expensive in
 286 the rare occasions they occur.
 287

288 Insurance is offered through the Northeast Jurisdiction VIM Office. Website:
 289 [http://new.gbgm-umc.org/about/us/mv/mission-teams-umvim/insurance-application-](http://new.gbgm-umc.org/about/us/mv/mission-teams-umvim/insurance-application-form/)
 290 [form/](http://new.gbgm-umc.org/about/us/mv/mission-teams-umvim/insurance-application-form/). Cost is \$1.55 per day plus \$15 fee per person. Coverage is medical of \$10,000
 291 with a \$250 deductible and medical evacuation and repatriation of \$100,000. The
 292 insurance sales also help to support the work of the NEJ VIM office, which makes
 293 significant contribution to our Conference VIM Ministry.
 294

295 4. **Grants/Scholarships:** This past year [2013] we were able to award seven [7] grants
 296 for first-time missionaries and [2] two in January of [2014]. Parameters include
 297 demonstrated financial need [verified through pastor recommendation], willingness of
 298 local church to match the grant, maximum grant of \$250 from VIM to be matched by
 299 church, preference given to youth with at least five scholarships available for them,
 300 limited to 20 grants total per year [assuming \$250 each]. Upon return from their trip
 301 recipients are to share their experience with their sponsoring church and submit a short
 302 witness with photographs for our website and blog. To receive an application, you may
 303 go the Conference Web Site and click on Volunteers in Mission at the bottom of the
 304 home page, or contact a member of the VIM Committee.
 305

306 5. **Hub Ministry:** Christiana UMC still houses an official HUB of Mission Central with Rev.
 307 Bonnie Jones-Goldstein and Lois Bowers serving as site supervisors. This HUB is serving
 308 as a model for potential other HUBS around the Conference. The HUB is actively
 309 receiving items that are headed for Mission Central. Contact Lois Bowers at
 310 lbowers34@gmail.com to arrange for drop-off of items or to learn about servant
 311 opportunities. The Hub is open The First Friday of each month, starting @ 3 p.m. and is
 312 a terrific place to assist with assembly and verification of UMCOR kits as well as other
 313 mission opportunities.
 314

315 One of our VIM goals is to have at least one HUB in each district—this is a great
 316 opportunity for perhaps your church to revitalize its mission ministry. NOTE: UMCOR
 317 has updated their kit lists at <http://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies>. Please be
 318 sure you are using up-to-date kit lists.

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6. **Connect with VIM Teams throughout our Conference to provide prayer support, education, and communicate what God is doing. Report on Peninsula-Delaware VIM to General Board of Global Ministries.** We have also worked to provide communication of VIM Trips that are happening around the Conference. ***We think we may be aware of only 25%-50% of the VIM ministry that is actually happening.*** If there is VIM ministry happening in your church, please ensure that these servants are connected with the Conference VIM Committee so that we can support, celebrate, equip, and encourage others to join any open teams. Contact Rev. Karin Tunnéll at pastor@stpaulsodessa.org or 302-668-6685 or any member of the VIM Committee. We also report team activity to the Conference and the Jurisdiction, which ultimately goes to the General Board of Global Ministries. This data impacts budgeting at a national level, so if providing additional support for VIM is close to your heart, know that filling out annual reports is important.
7. **Communicate:**
- a. **Communicate Team Openings around our Conference.** These are now listed on the Conference web site and updated regularly. We are currently looking for someone to assist in this task. If you want to advertise a team, or find a team to join, check the web listing. To add to it, contact Rev. Karin Tunnéll at pastort@stpaulsodessa.org or 302-668-6685. Also add your trip information on our Facebook page **Peninsula Delaware VIM Missions** and also on Facebook page **UMC Peninsula Delaware Disaster Response.**
 - b. **VIM News and Ministry Opportunities via listserv.** The VIM listserv for Peninsula-Delaware continues to be a source of ministry information for all who join. **To receive these email messages,** send an email to VIMNews-subscribe@pecometh.org This will ensure that you receive current information, especially when disaster strikes so that teams can form quickly for emergency response..
 - c. We are a part of the Northeast Jurisdiction which has an updated NEJ VIM website <https://sites.google.com/site/nejumvim1/>
 - d. **Blog:** When you travel on VIM and when you return, we celebrate VIM through our conference blog, linked on the conference web site. This is a great way to share the stories of how God is working through local churches. We are making some upgrades to our blog but to submit an entry in text and/or pictures, email Rev. Karin Tunnéll at pastort@stpaulsodessa.org.
 - e. **There is an official UMC VIM website for your use. Check out <http://www.umcmmission.org/Get-Involved/Volunteer-Opportunities/About-UMVIM>** for information about national and international trips which are open for people to join. This site also provides excellent information on the many types of mission opportunities available in our denomination. This resource is also helpful when you are researching sites to travel to for VIM teams that are forming. If you would like personal assistance connecting with a VIM site, please connect with a VIM Conference Committee member and we will be glad to assist you.
 - f. **Speakers in local churches and Conference meetings.** Speakers are willing to travel to local churches as well as District Meetings to share about VIM ministry. We

365 remain available and committed to do this. If you would like a speaker, contact a
366 VIM team member.

367

368 8. **Video Production:** We have now produced two videos and a PowerPoint celebrating
369 VIM ministry which are designed to be used in the local church to share about VIM
370 ministry. Copies are always available at no charge by contacting Rev. Karin Tunnéll at
371 pastort@stpaulsodessa.org.

372

373 **VIM Project Highlights**

374

375 1. Much of the local VIM efforts this year have been in our own conference [see information
376 above].

377

378 2. Costa Rica continues to be a wonderful international mission opportunity led by Gil
379 Hoffman of Kent Island UMC, who missions there twice a year.

380 *In 1996 one member of KIUMC went to Costa Rica with Calvary UMC, Annapolis. In*
381 *November of 1996 the missionary from Costa Rica, Marion Woods visited Kent Island*
382 *UMC and in 1997 five members from KIUMC participated in the VIM trip in January*
383 *beginning a long term relationship with VIM in Costa Rica. Since that time over 100*
384 *different individuals from the Kent Island congregation have participated on one or more*
385 *of the trips. The trips have centered around construction of church buildings, vacation*
386 *bible school, and building relationships within the local church.*

387

388 *Beginning in 2005 two teams annually, led by KIUMC, have worked in Los Chiles building*
389 *the church buildings and then improving the living conditions in the "precario" where*
390 *many of the church members reside. The nature of the work the past 4 years is the local*
391 *church establishes priorities for families from the church to provide clean water, dry*
392 *floors and roofs that do not leak. Along with teams from FUMC Winter Park Florida, a*
393 *standard house design has been created and 8 houses have been constructed in the past*
394 *4 years. In February 2012, a team of 17 from 4 churches in the conference area built 2*
395 *houses. The cost of construction is \$6000. Eleven of the team members were making*
396 *the first VIM trip to Costa Rica and the response from most is "this will not be my last"*
397 *and "it has been a life changing experience."* Mariners Bethel UMC has also established
398 a relationship with this ministry. If you would like to explore this further, contact Gil
399 Hoffman. gilhoffman@atlanticbb.net.

400

401 3. Mission to Nicaragua is becoming an annual destination led by Rev. Karin Tunnéll. Many
402 opportunities are there, along with work with our missionaries, the Nicaraguan VIM
403 representative and establishing new partnerships with the Evangelical Methodist Church
404 there. We also work with El Ayudante in León working with children and their families.

405

406 4. VIM Trips going out from our Conference have included Wilmington Urban Promise,
407 Bolivia, Haiti, Congo, Red Bird, Costa Rica, Four Corners Reservation, New York and
408 Vermont Flood Response as well as Hurricane Sandy sites. Remember to send your VIM
409 trip information for posting on the Pen-Del website so that we promote your trip and
410 cover it in prayer.

411
412 In the new Conference year, we look forward to greater integration of Volunteers in Mission
413 in the mission lives of our congregations and communities. Please let us know how we can
414 better support your mission efforts. You are our reason for serving. We look forward to
415 growing in grace together.

416
417
418 Submitted by:
419 Karin Tunnéll, VIM Coordinator
420 pastort@stpaulsodessa.org
421 302-668-6685

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426 **CONFERENCE APPEALS COORDINATOR REPORT**

427
428 I glad to have served you again in the past year. In the following paragraphs, I will cover
429 what pieces I am responsible for. Contact information: Kevin Goodwin
430 (MissionsCzar@aol.com or 302-453-1169)

431
432 **Central Conference Pension Initiative (CCPI)**

433 So, what is CCPI? This is an effort launched by the 2000 General Conference to raise an
434 endowment to provide pensions to our pastors serving in Africa and Asia where 99% of
435 them retire without any means of support. For \$10,000, we can provide enough income for
436 one of these pastors to receive enough income to live on (imagine being happy with a
437 monthly pension of \$50!). Since giving away of our Cokesbury check in 2000, our Annual
438 Conference has donated over \$100,000 to CCPI. That does not mean CCPI does not need
439 more gifts! Visit www.ccpi-umc.org to learn more about this important effort to provide
440 financial security to our retire pastors in the Central Conferences (Africa, Asia, Eastern
441 Europe, Russia). Individual pledge cards will be available at the Appeals Display at Annual
442 Conference.

443
444 **Africa University Report**

445 We continued to raise funds to endow scholarships at Africa University in 2013. By
446 receiving an offering on Africa University Sunday (2nd one in Nov), we make the earnings on
447 our endowed scholarships keep up with the rising cost of education.

448
449 Visit www.support-africauniversity.org to learn how to become an Honorary Alumni of Africa
450 University or how to include AU in your estate plans. Visit www.africau.edu to learn more
451 about Africa University itself.

452
453 We are very pleased to report to you that the following students are the recipients of the
454 **Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference Endowed Scholarships** for the second
455 semester of the 2013-2014 academic year:

<u>Faculty</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Year</u>
Education	Terrence Dzingai Masvoswa	M	Zimbabwe	3 rd
Humanities	Daka Pharaoh Mwase	M	Zambia	1 st
Humanities	Rudo Chikaura	F	Zimbabwe	3 rd

457

458 We are also very pleased to report to you that this past August, Africa University welcomed
 459 its largest freshman class to date! More than five hundred **(500)** new students participated
 460 in the annual matriculation ceremony on September 13th. Our student demographics for
 461 this current academic year are as follows: our total enrollment numbers **1,480**; young
 462 women comprise **53%** of our student population; and **25** of the 55 nations of Africa are
 463 represented in our student population.

464

465 **Special Sundays Report**

466 Giving to the six UMC Special Sundays in 2013 continued to be below our goal of \$1.00 per
 467 member of the Annual Conference. Raising these Sundays up in our churches not only
 468 provides vital scholarship funding, it increases our members awareness of how diverse our
 469 people and ministry outreach programs are. Churches have found many ways to financially
 470 support these Sundays: individual or one combined offering, inclusion within their mission's
 471 budget, or free will offerings. Our conference is blessed with several Native American
 472 speakers who want to be asked to come in support of Native American Ministries Sunday
 473 (50% of that offering remains within the AC).

474

475 **Annual Conference Appeal**

476 The 2013 Annual Conference Appeal (Congo Partnership, VIM, BOOM) approached \$44000,
 477 down 15% from 2012. This year we are asking churches to raise funds for the Central
 478 Congo Partnership, BOOM Scholarships, and Imagine No Malaria. Please raise these needs
 479 within your churches and bring your gifts to Annual Conference (envelopes are provided
 480 within the pre-conference packet). Let's see if we can get break our record of \$55,000!!

481

482 **Imagine No Malaria Appeal**

483 The 2013 Session of Annual Conference passed a resolution to raise another \$50,000 to
 484 fight malaria. As of the end of January 2014, over 20% of the goal has been donated. We
 485 need your support to reach out by this summer's Annual Conference Session. Keep the
 486 mosquito away by giving a gift!

487

488 **Board of Ordained Ministry (BOOM) Scholarships**

489 In any year, our Conference has 45-60 pastors in school; available funds cover only 20% of
 490 their tuition, books, and other expenses. There are some churches that raise 100% of the
 491 school costs for any member who goes into the ministry – wouldn't it be great if more did!
 492 While waiting for that date, this is our second largest source of pastor scholarship funds
 493 (after your apportionment-supported Ministerial Education Fund dollars). The pastor you
 494 help educated today could be assigned to your church tomorrow!

495

496 **Conference Advance Specials**

497 The 2013 session of Annual Conference re-approved seven Conference Advance Specials.
 498 Each will be assigned a Sunday for churches to raise the need to their members. Even if

499 you chose not to ask for gifts, please use those Sunday's as an educational opportunity. To
500 address concerns and clarify the purpose of having CAS, a resolution is included in your pre-
501 conference packet with some adjustments to the list and timing of the CAS.

502

503 **The Need Continues**

504 Even though much effort is focused on the Annual Conference Appeal effort, the need does
505 not start or end in the second week in June. These appeals do not have the "luxury" of
506 being on TV each night so its up to you pastors and lay leaders to bring these needs to our
507 people and see how God leads them to give. To assist in your planning, we have set up a
508 \$1.00/month guide to consider.

509

510 **The Central Congo Partnership - \$1 per member**

511 Launched in 2003, our support has become even more vital as the economy in the Dem.
512 Rep. of the Congo has failed to recover from years of Civil War. Your dollar pays salaries
513 and supplies for the medical clinic. It buys food for the nutrition center. We are now
514 starting an agricultural project to aid local farmers.

515

516 **The Annual Conference Appeal - \$1 per member**

517 Each year the Sessions Committee selects several pressing needs here and around the
518 world to give special attention to. Your generous support has allowed us to raise more each
519 year to where we are now 50% of the way to reaching this goal. Early each spring,
520 churches will be sent information related to that year's Appeal.

521

522 **Special Sundays - \$1 per member**

523 These Sundays raise funds to address special needs people in our country have. They
524 allow you to share with your church what the UMC is doing to combat some of the social
525 problems facing our nation. Each church is asked to raise at least \$1 per member for the
526 Special Sundays, less than the cost of a cup of coffee or a soda. If your church wants to
527 take one offering and divide it up to six ways, that's fine, too.

528

529 **Board of Ordained Ministry (BOOM) Scholarship Fund - \$1 per member**

530 With funds provided by your apportionment payments, our Conference can only cover about
531 16% of the cost of training our pastors in seminary and the Course of Study program. We
532 need to do better. Donations to the BOOM Scholarship Fund help us cover more of this
533 educational expense. For churches who have a member studying to be a pastor, adopt
534 them as a missionary and cover part or all of their training expenses. This goal will allow
535 our Conference to cover almost 25% of these costs!

536

537 **Local Outreach and Conference Advance Specials - \$3 per member**

538 Missions outreach starts just outside the church door. What can your church do for the
539 hurting in your community? Support local food & clothes efforts; Habitat for Humanity or
540 conference supported centers such as Neighborhood House and Salisbury Urban Ministries.
541 Completing pledges to Africa University and CCPI would also be covered by this \$1.

542

543 **The Advance/Missionary Support - \$5 per member**

544 The Advance has over 2000 projects to choose from covering every possible ministry and
545 over 100 countries. Every church should be able to find at least one that touches their
546 heart. Or select a missionary to support. Remember, 100% of all Advance gifts go to the
547 project or missionary. Support costs are covered by your apportionments.
548

549 ➤ **Important:** All missions support (other than purely local projects) should be sent
550 to the Conference Office in a timely manner using the official Conference
551 Benevolence Transmittal Form.

552 *For more information on any of these missions topics, go to www.pen-del.org*
553

554 **Red Bird Mission**

555 Over the next twelve months, we will be sending information on how to support this mission
556 project of the UMC. Red Bird Mission and the Red Bird Conference depend on the
557 connection to survive. Their outreach includes churches (most pastors are missionaries),
558 education (2015 AC appeal effort), medical, women's ministries (also provided by
559 missionaries), and VIM work camp.
560

561 Many of our churches support a missionary at Red Bird. One of those missionaries,
562 Suzanne Pohli, is a member of St. Paul's UMC-Wilmington. You can read more about her at
563 <http://rbmission.org/missionaries/suzanna-pohli/>.
564

565 Take your youth on a VIM trip to Red Bird (about 13 hour drive - \$500 per person cost). If
566 you church is already sending VIM teams, invite other UM churches to join your team.
567

568 The third special appeal at the 2015 Annual Conference session will be in support of the new
569 established Endowment Fund For The Red Bird Christian School. Our goal will to raise
570 \$25,000 for this effort. Also, we will be collecting General Mills Box Tops For Education to
571 buy school supplies. Start collecting now and bring them with you next year to Annual
572 Conference. For information about Red Bird Mission, visit: <http://rbmission.org/>.
573

574
575 Submitted by:
576 Kevin Goodwin, Appeals Coordinator
577

578 **AFRICA UNIVERSITY REPORT**

581
582 Africa University is grateful to the local congregations of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference
583 for their contributions to a wonderful investment in the Africa University Fund (AUF)
584 apportionment in 2013! Overall giving to the AUF reached 91.7% last year, the highest level
585 of any of the general church funds.
586

587 The Peninsula-Delaware Conference invested 100% of its asking to the AUF and was one of
588 25 annual conferences to do so in 2013. Thank you for your consistent and very passionate

589 commitment to this ministry. Africa University owes its impact and vitality to local
590 congregations such as yours.

591

592 **2013 Highlights:**

593 – Enrollment: Sustained by the steadfast investment of Annual Conferences of The
594 United Methodist Church, Africa University’s enrollment grew to 1480 full-time
595 students from 25 African countries in 2013. Female students now account for 53% of
596 that total enrollment.

597 – Scholarships: Second mile giving by individuals and churches enabled Africa
598 University to distribute more than \$1.8 million in scholarships and financial aid to its
599 students. Africa University also launched the Girl Child Scholarship Fund in order to
600 help more African women to gain access to higher education.

601 – Through new initiatives that include a “\$50 million Campaign for Endowment” and
602 outreach to increase financial contributions from its alumni and others in Africa, the
603 institution is working towards greater sustainability.

604 – Graduates: 450 students were awarded degree certificates in June 2013, growing the
605 number of Africa University graduates currently at work in communities to around
606 5,000. Every day, these graduates manifest the promise and power of the Gospel to
607 bring light and hope to a troubled world.

608 – Discipleship: In August, three 2013 graduates were commissioned as young adult
609 missionaries by the General Board of Global Ministries, pushing the total number of
610 Africa University alumni serving internationally as mission interns to seven in just
611 two years.

612

613 “The church has a tremendous role to play in the transformation of the world,” said Jacques
614 Kazemb, an AU graduate and mission intern who worked in outreach to at-risk children and
615 youth in Brazil. “Through a project like the Shade and Fresh Water in Brazil, the Methodist
616 Church is contributing to a positive change in many children’s lives.” Kazemb has returned
617 to his home country, the Democratic Republic of Congo, with a plan to start a similar
618 initiative for marginalized children and youth.

619

620 In Mozambique, where recent political violence has laid waste to homes, displaced
621 thousands and claimed many lives, an AU-trained pastor and governance expert—Rev.
622 Anastacio Chembeze—is one of five leaders who are helping the parties to this conflict to
623 resolve their differences so that there will be peace again.

624 The Africa University community—students, faculty, staff and trustees, thank you and
625 celebrate your ongoing investment in changing lives for the better. This work of making
626 disciples of Jesus Christ—change agents—for the realization of more hope-filled, just,
627 healthy, and peaceful African nations cannot exist without the generosity and prayers of the
628 members of the Peninsula-Delaware Conference. We pray that you will:

629 – **Continue to invest in the AUF at 100% of the asking or higher.** This allows for
630 the university to meet its day-to-day and operational expenses without uncertainty.

631 – **Encourage your local church to become an annual scholarship donor.**

632 – **Consider leading an effort to have your district invest in an endowed
633 scholarship** which can support one student a year in perpetuity.

- 634 – **Take advantage of our new Dream Insurance program**, which allows
635 individuals to donate all or a portion of the proceeds of an affordable Term Life
636 Insurance plan to Africa University.
- 637 – **Remember to include Africa University in your will**, when you make your estate
638 plans.
- 639 – **Pray without ceasing** for the ongoing success of this important effort to equip
640 disciples to contribute to a rich, impactful and vibrant future for their nations and for
641 our global church.

642
643 Thank you and God bless you.

644
645 Submitted by:
646 Mr. James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement
647 Africa University Development Office
648 P O Box 340007
649 Nashville, TN 37203-0007
650 Tel: (615) 340-7438
651 Fax: (615) 340-7290
652 Email: audevoffice@gbhem.org
653 www.support-africauniversity.org
654

655
656 **Together, we are changing Africa: Learning here. Living here. Leading here.**
657 **Serving God. All the time. Everywhere.**