

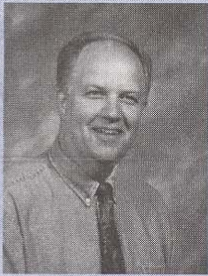
Dakotas United Methodist Foundation

November, 2004

"Faithfully Caring for Your Gifts for the Ministry of Christ in the Dakotas"

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THE PARABLES OF THE MOWERS

Like many young teenagers, my son is in that in-between stage of work. Old enough to want to work and want money to spend, but not old enough to be hired by most businesses. So like many kids this age my son mows yards and has about three yards that he mows consistently. A couple of his friends also mow and that's how they make some summer cash.

The other day, I noticed that the back of his friend's pickup was full of lawn mowers, trimmers, etc. So I asked what they were up to. The boys explained that it was more fun to mow together and it took less time if they helped each other mow.

That night when my son came home I inquired how this business arrangement worked out. *What do you mean, he asked.* Well, how does it work out, in terms of payment. *What do you mean, he asked.* Well, how did you figure out how much you owe each other after you are paid for your yards. *You don't get it dad* (which if you have teenagers you are well aware this is not a new phenomenon). *We just get paid for our own yards. It goes faster to mow together and one has a riding lawn mower that is fun to drive and another has a gas trimmer, so we just go mow yards.*

But one has much bigger yards and one gets paid more for his yards... When I got the "Don't worry about it," and the eyes that rolled so far they almost disappeared, it hit me. I really didn't get it. I was so focused on the rules and regulations, that I missed the point. They didn't care. It went faster and the work was more fun when they were together. The money was the same regardless of whether they worked alone or worked together, so why not work together?

*"You don't
get it
Dad"*

I think the same thing happens in our work and in our churches. We sometimes become so focused on the rules and regulations and the way we've done things, we miss the fun of being together and what we can do together.

One of my goals is to get out and meet as many donors as my schedule can accommodate. The reason is that the fun of this job is not spending time alone with the balance sheets and the endowment reports - it's getting the opportunity to find out what's going on in your local churches, how I can assist, and what we can do better together!

Bruce L. Blumer, Executive Director

WHY SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION? *Ministerial Student Aid*

(Just One of the Ministries Helped by Your Donations)

From Rebecca Grinager Trefz, Student at Garrett Theological Seminary

"I can't begin to express my thanks for the scholarship I received from the Foundation Ministerial Student Aid fund. Answering the call to ministry can be a very scary thing. This fear can be compounded when faced with the great expense of tuition, books, health insurance, food, rent in an expensive metro area and other expenses that accompany the decision to enter seminary full time. But just as I answered my call to ministry faithful that God would lead me where I needed to go, so God has also been faithful in providing means, such as this scholarship, that make it possible, and a little less overwhelming, to take this step.

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P.O. Box 460
Mitchell, SD
800-224-6552

Recognition Programs

We have three Recognition Programs to identify and honor those generous donors affiliated with the Foundation. They are:

Bricklayer's Club - These individuals have laid the foundation for the future by including the Foundation in the will, gift annuity, trust, or estate plans.

Cornerstone Society - A cornerstone stands out from all other stones in a building, likewise these donors stand out in love and support with a \$1000 annual pledge.

Mortar Affiliate - Just as the mortar holds the bricks together, this group of over 500 annual donors solidify the Foundation and make it strong through their generous support.

For a listing of names or more information see our website: www.DakotasUMF.org under Recognition Programs

Special Thank Yous!

There are people we'd like to thank in this issue of the newsletter. Sarah Baker has been instrumental in assisting with several projects including the Annual Conference display, the poster sent to churches, and the Foundation website. Her abilities and assistance are greatly appreciated. Also, we'd like to recognize Randy Cross who came up with the wording for our new mission statement and slogan.

We'd also like to thank Karon Davis for 20 years of service to the Foundation!



Has your church considered an Investment Account?

The funds are managed by a professional firm, the assets are available for your use (after one year), and it grows the Foundation through our low, competitive service fee.

Call for details or look at the website under Services to Churches

Churches Live On!

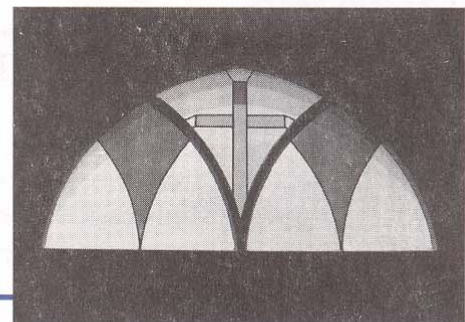
On June 6, 2004, the Delmont United Methodist Church held its final celebration. The decision was made to let the church live on by giving the assets of the sale of the property and through a special offering to the Foundation. The funds have been divided into the following endowments - 1/2 for Pastor's Pensions, 1/2 for Nursing Scholarships at Dakota Wesleyan University.

Even though their doors for worship are now closed, the Delmont (SD) United Methodist Church has left a lasting legacy! Every year funds will be given to extend their love for retired pastors and for those preparing for a career in nursing.

Funds from the closing of Mandan (ND) Rural United Methodist Church and the

Braddock (ND) United Methodist Church have been placed in the Ministerial Student Aid Endowment. What a fitting way to let the churches live on, by assisting those entering the ministry and providing scholarships for those in seminary and preparing to serve the United Methodist Church!

Funds from the Ministerial Student Aid account are given annually to assist those preparing in pastoral ministries for our Annual Conference.



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In addition, it means so much to have the support of my conference and makes me proud to say I'm from the Dakotas and excited to return to ministry there."

Gifts to the Ministerial Student Aid Endowment make these types of scholarships and grants available!

Book of Memory

The following gifts have been given in honor or memory of the people listed. It is a fitting way to recognize the contributions others have made in our lives. The Foundation holds these names in a permanent Book of Memory, they are listed on our website, and the most recent gifts are included now in this newsletter.

<u>In Memory of:</u>	<u>Given by</u>	<u>Purpose:</u>
Harry Williams	Ruth Anderson	Williams Camping Endowment
Harry Williams	Orland & Edith Sloat	Williams Camping Endowment
Ruth Nygaard	Steven Nygaard	Undesignated
Melvin Nygaard	Steven Nygaard	Undesignated
Russ Harris	Duane Ewers	New Church Development
Larry Roach	Joanne Roach	Undesignated
Rebecca Buchanan	Dean & Kay Snyder	Undesignated
Robert L. Pritchard	Shirley Pritchard	Foundation Operational Endowment
Rev. Ralph Cushing	Jospeh Mahoney	Cushing Ministerial Aid Endowment
Robert Wagner	Sam & Eileen Graf	Pensions Endowment
Robert Wagner	Betty Taylor	Undesignated
Robert Wagner	Julian & Lois Wigen	Dakota Wesleyan University Endowment
Robert Wagner	Dean & Kay Snyder	Undesignated
Robert Wagner	Gustav & Sally Van Tassel	Pensions Endowment
Robert Wagner	Michael & Suzanne Ferrell	Undesignated
Shirley Heitland	Geraldine Traver	Traver SDSU Endowment
Albert Boortz	Laura Boortz	Undesignated

A gift in Memory or in Honor is a lasting tribute to a loved one or someone who has impacted your life!

Charitable Gift Annuities

In return for a gift, we pay you a fixed, guaranteed, life-time payment based on your age. The older you are the higher the rate - 7%, 8%, 9% up to 11.3%. You receive an automatic tax deduction, most of the money we send back is tax free, and when you would pass away - what is remaining in the account goes to help your local church or a ministry of the Foundation. Sound intriguing? Call us for rates, a brochure, or a free proposal.

Have a CD coming due? Want to get a higher return and make a charitable gift?

Ministry Development Grants

The Dakotas United Methodist Foundation Board of Directors approved the distribution of the 2004 Ministry Development Grants. The following churches/programs have each received a \$500 grant and which have been funded from the Erma House Endowment, the James & Jeanette Anderson Endowment, and your undesignated gifts! ■

North Dakota Grants

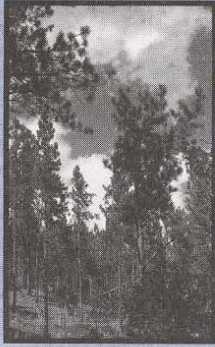
- Bowman UMC, Bowman, ND — Kingdom Kids Computer Program
- Dickinson UMC, Dickinson, ND — Saturday "Back Door" Worship Service
- St. Paul's UMC, Jamestown, ND — Financial Stewardship materials, guest leader
- Flame of Faith UMC, West Fargo, ND — Midweek, Contemporary Worship Service
- Fargo Area Ministry Team — Fargo-Moorhead Winter Bible School Program at West Acres

South Dakota Grants

- Wesley UMC, Sioux Falls, SD — Kingdom Kids Computer Program
- UM Campus Ministry, Brookings, SD — Leadership Development and Enhancement
- Faith UMC, Aberdeen, SD — Kingdom Kids Computer Program
- First UMC, Mitchell, SD — Contemporary Worship Service
- Sturgis UMC, Sturgis, SD — Outreach Ministry to Meade County Jail

Conference Grant

- Commission on Archives and History — held in trust for transition of Archives to McGovern Library at Dakota Wesleyan University



Leaving
Your
Legacy

Eileen Miller's Life Supports the
Foundation

Eileen Miller, 88, Wahpeton, ND passed away on Feb. 1, 2004. She grew up on a farm near DeLamere, ND. She received a degree in Nursing and served as an RN in Wahpeton and Breckenridge, MN. Eileen was a member of Evergreen United Methodist Church in Wahpeton and enjoyed gardening, playing bridge, traveling, and spending time with family.

She also remembered the Foundation in her will and we received a generous undesignated gift due her interest in caring for the lives of others.

Velma Vincent writes her 5th Gift Annuity!

Velma Vincent, Watertown, SD, has written her FIFTH gift annuity with the Foundation. These gifts will eventually support Watertown 1st United Methodist Church and the Foundation.

In her annuity Velma writes, "All my life God has been good to me in many ways. I have tried to share these blessings in simple ways of personal service and financial gifts. It is my desire that these funds from my estate be used to enrich the lives of all ages. The Foundation can do this through its many ministries." She is also a cherished member of her local church and has decided to portion these annuities between the church and the Foundation. We thank God for Velma's continued interest in enriching the lives of others!

Return To: Dakotas United Methodist Foundation, P.O. Box 460, Mitchell, SD 57301-0460

Enclosed is my/our Gift in the amount of \$ _____.

- Undesignated (to be used where needed).
- Permanent Endowment Fund.
- Operational Endowment Fund.
- For: _____

(List Ministry: Camps, Pensions, DWU, etc.)

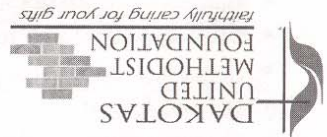
Please send me free information on:

- Better Estate Planning, Giving Securities, Giving Real Estate, How to Make a Will that Works (brochures)
- A Charitable Gift Annuity.
- Investment Accounts for your Local Church

Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____



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