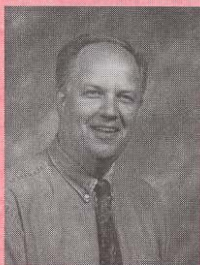


Dakotas United Methodist Foundation

Fall, 2005



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

Dr. Bruce L. Blumer, Executive Director
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"Gave it All Away"

I am a baseball fan. Both of my sons play baseball and love to watch games from pee wee to pro. When I travel, if at all possible, I try to work in a baseball game. This summer I went to a workshop in Chicago. Meandering my way back, I found that the Rochford, Illinois, RiverHawks were having a home game. I got there early, bought a program so I could keep score, and settled in to a great seat behind home plate. It obviously wasn't going to be a sell out and I spent an evening with about 300 of my new closest best friends.

When I was paging through my program I noticed one of the ads was signed by a ball player. For those of you who know minor league baseball, that's a good thing and sure enough in the third inning it was announced that I won a free oil change. I picked up my certificate and proceeded to give it away to the guy sitting next to me.

About the 6th inning, there was a race of mascots. Wouldn't you know it, the right mascot won and our section won a coupon for appetizers at a local restaurant, which I

proceeded to give away to a guy sitting next to me. In the 8th inning, a young lady in a RiverHawks shirt came up to me and handed me an envelope. I said, "What's this?" She said, "Just a thank you from the RiverHawks for attending tonight's game." "Wow, thanks!" I opened it up to find a slip for dinner for two at a local restaurant. I turned to a couple behind me and asked if they lived in the area. When they said they were, I handed them the envelope and said, "Have a nice dinner."

It made no sense to keep any of the gifts - I was on my way home and had no plans to return. Of course the people around me wanted me to become a season ticket holder and began looking for apartments to rent. But I gave my gifts away. It was easy.

*"All we
have is a
gift from
God!"*

It also made me realize that there are many people who view not just easy things, but all that they have as a gift from God. Many of those people are listed in this newsletter. It is truly a celebration newsletter, listing caring, thoughtful, and faithful people who are returning a portion of their life's possessions to God.

Bruce L. Blumer ■

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P.O. Box 460
Mitchell, SD

Toll-Free
800-224-6552

IMPORTANT YEAR-END / IRA CHARITABLE GIVING CHANGES

As part of the Katrina Emergency Relief Act, Congress is allowing UNLIMITED cash gifts to charity, up to 100% of an individual's adjusted gross income - until December 31, 2005. These donations could be for hurricane relief, but gifts may go to any charity, including the Foundation or your local church.

A major change has also been made in IRA contributions. When a person reaches 59

1/2 years of age, they may withdraw funds from the IRA accounts. Under this 100% charitable gifts option, the withdrawn funds may be given to charity - and the full gift will be deductible! Withdrawals and gifts may also be made from 401(k), 403(b) plans or any other qualified retirement plan. As it may take time to withdraw these type of funds, you may want to plan ahead. Please always seek your own tax/accounting advice!

Celebrations & Rememberances

Edith Roberts Cole - Funds Scholarship Two Ways

Born in 1909, Edith recognized the value of education and earned a college degree from the University of South Dakota in a time when it was remarkable for anyone to go to college, let alone a woman.

An artist who created oil and watercolor paintings, she also dabbled in ceramics, loved poetry, and maintained an extensive rock collection

with her husband, Wilbur.

Due to living simply and carefully saving she was able to give generously. By designating the Foundation in her will and from her Charitable Gift Annuity, we have created the Edith Roberts Cole Endowment for scholarships at Dakota Wesleyan University.

Wenonah Gray - Leaves a Legacy

Born in 1909 in Canton, SD, Wenonah attended school in Marshall, MN, and returned to Sioux Falls, SD, and soon began working for Northwestern Bell Telephone. She worked various positions, including assistant chief operator. A member of Sioux Falls 1st United Methodist Church until her death in December 2004, she also left a legacy to the ministries of the Conference, by leaving a generous undesignated gift in her will to the Foundation.

Susella Guillion - Give Now, Give Later

Born near and attending school in Miller, SD, Susella later received a Bachelor's degree from Spearish Normal. A teacher for forty-four years she taught in rural Hand County, Orient, St. Lawrence and three schools in Rapid City, SD. She and her husband, Joseph, were members of the Rapid City 1st United Methodist Church.

Understanding the importance of education and providing all people an opportunity to attend college, she had established

the Susella Guillion Endowment for Dakota Wesleyan University for Native American students. This endowment has provided scholarship funds for years and additional funds have been added to that endowment from a satisfied Charitable Gift Annuity when she left this life in 2005.

Alice M. Feind - Provides for a Church and a Ministry

After graduating from Westmar College, Alice was drawn to missionary service. She taught for two years at the Red Bird Mission. Following she served with her husband Robert, an ordained pastor, in several churches throughout South Dakota. In her retirement she continued mission service, including twelve years as a librarian at McCurdy School in New Mexico.

For several years, Alice lived at Sunnycrest Retirement Village and attended Sunnycrest United Methodist Church in Sioux Falls, SD. When she passed away in May, 2005, her Charitable Gift Annuity created the Alice M. Feind endowment, one half for the Village and one half to the Church.

Erma A. House - An Endowment and the Will to Give

For 97 years, Erma graced this earth. After graduating from Northern State University, she taught in Watertown, SD, for 39 years. During the summers she traveled extensively, to Europe, Australia, South America, and across the U.S. including Hawaii and Alaska. She moved to Aberdeen in 1997 and finished her membership at Aberdeen 1st United Methodist Church.

Ms. House had established a large endowment that has recently been one funding source for the Ministry Development Grants distributed annually by the Foundation Board. She also included the Foundation in her will.



Book of Memory

The following gifts have been given in memory or in honor 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.

IN MEMORY OF:

Dakota Lorraine Hildebrandt Nelson
James Laeger
Darwin Larson
Myron Sullivan
Martha Neff

Martha Neff

Alpha Neinas
Ron Hartung
Ron Hartung
Ron Hartung
Ron Hartung
John Herman
Wally Lofstedt
Gerald Sleep

GIVEN BY:

Dean & Kay Snyder
Richard & Twyla Hilscher
Dean & Kay Snyder
Dean & Kay Snyder
Tom & Janet Neff

Karin Wentz

Joyce Holmes
Don & Marilyn Rahn
Dick & Pat Unkenholz
Orland & Edith Sloat
Bob & Barb Wilkens
Bob & Barb Wilkens
Dale & Rhonda Page
Mildred Sleep

FOR:

Undesignated
Undesignated
Undesignated
Undesignated
Neff Endowment for Youth
Neff Endowment for Youth
Missions
Camps
Pensions
Undesignated
Undesignated
Undesignated
Storm Mountain Center
Storm Mountain Center

IN HONOR OF:

Harold & Lois Neff

Evelyn Whitney's 90th Birthday

Evelyn Whitney's 90th Birthday

Gene & Marlis Mack's
60th Anniversary
Hank & Bonnie Kor's
40th Anniversary

GIVEN BY:

Karin Neff
Scott & Dyla Jensen
Dick & Denise Whitman
Scott & Dyla Jensen
Bruce & Sharon Blumer

FOR:

Neff Endowment for Youth
Storm Mountain Center
Whitney Endowment for Children
Seeds of Faith - Storm Mountain
Undesignated

Celebrations & Rememberances Continued

Canyon Lake United Methodist Church - An Endowment an an Investment Account

From funds given through the Susan Denison Memorial Fund, Canyon Lake UMC has established an endowment and a percentage will be sent back to the church annually in her honor to fund youth camping scholarships.

They have also diversified their investments by sharing a portion with the Foundation. These funds will be available to CLUMC whenever they request the funds. The Foundation follows the social investing principles of the United Methodist Church, the service fees are competitive, and those fees go to assist the missions and ministries of the Dakotas Conference.

Miranda United Methodist Church

As they prepare to close their church, they wanted their mission to continue and established the Miranda UMC Endowment to award scholarships to students continuing their Christian education in a church-related profession - minister, teacher, missionary.

Other Foundations and Endowment Committees

We are working with other groups to provide investment services, oversight, recognition, and promotion assistance to several UMC Foundations and Endowment Committees in the Dakotas.

Need an appropriate way to honor someone?

Want a way to recognize someone special or a special event?

What do you give the person that doesn't need or want a gift?

Send a donation to the Foundation in Memory or in Honor

of someone and we'll include it in our Book of Memory section and send the family a letter indicating you have given this special gift!

The Foundation Board of Directors have approved the Ministry Development Grants for 2005. These \$500 grants were made available through the Erma House and James & Jeanette Anderson Endowments and your undesignated gifts!

North Dakota Grants

- Fargo 1st UMC, Fargo, ND – Small Group Ministry & Training
- St. Thomas UMC, St. Thomas, ND – Community Outreach & Parenting Classes
- Hillsboro United Parish, Hillsboro, ND – Community Outreach & Parenting Classes
- Wesley UMC, Grand Forks, ND – Alternative/Innovative Worship Service
- (1/2 Grant) Friendship UMC, Fargo, ND – Children’s Ministries
- (1/2 Grant) Zion UMC, Grand Forks, ND – Small Group Ministry & Stewardship

South Dakota Grants

- Canyon Lake UMC, Rapid City, SD - Reaching the Unchurched for Springcreek UMC
- Brookings 1st UMC, Brookings, SD – Campus Ministry Leadership Development and Enhancement
- Gettysburg UMC, Gettysburg, SD – Midweek Worship Service
- Trinity UMC, Lead, SD – Youth Music/Mission & Adult Education
- Aberdeen 1st UMC, Aberdeen, SD – Director of Lay Ministries



2005
Ministry
Development
Grants

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

Please send me free information on:


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

Name: _____

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