

InSight

Fall 2011

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Grateful

by Bruce Blumer, EdD, CFRE

I'm not exactly sure why, but it seems that it takes events in our lives to make us more grateful. This year I've had a couple surgeries and maybe because I've had more downtime than usual that has helped me realize that I am grateful. I'm grateful for the surgeon and his skill, for the other medical staff that treat people professionally and with caring, for co-workers, family, and friends for their concern, and that I have health insurance that covers the vast majority of the costs.

In addition, I've been reading and will be leading a study on *The Hole in Our Gospel* by Richard Stearns. He left a lucrative job and life to become the president of World Vision to help the poor and disenfranchised people around the globe. The book is very convicting and basically says we follow the parts of the Bible that we like. Instead of looking at the whole, our Bibles are full of holes. So again, I'm grateful for access to health care, clean water, safe places to live, and financial resources.

In August, my wife and I attended the dedication of the Rod

& Doris Gist Lodge. The Gists are wonderful, kind, generous people that were presented with a dream – to name a place at Storm Mountain Center. They kept looking for someone to say no to the gift and when their kids, financial advisors, friends, and God all said yes - it became a reality. Rooms in the lodge were sponsored by other families and similar stories could be shared from Ed & Ginny Coates, Bob & Elsie McBride, Jackie & Dick Tupper/Muriel Simmons, Julia and Scott Jones, Jan Speirs Family, Retired Ministers and Spouses, and Prairie Hills UMW.

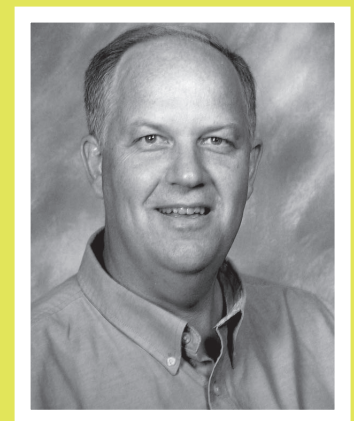
Awhile back, we received notice that Robert & Viola Bremer had named the Foundation in several annuities and life insurance policies. In addition, they held a Charitable Gift Annuity with the Foundation. They wanted to help in missions and their thoughtfulness will provide mission grants to churches (see more details on the next page). Over the years the Bremers thought, planned, and will now allow their resources to extend God's touch to many places and for many years.

See the note in this newsletter from Kay & Dean Snyder. They

have given smaller amounts, but for MANY years. They represent most of the donors that give to us – smaller amounts, but loyal givers year after year after year.

So I'm grateful for different kinds of givers – directly to a project, long-term planning for long-term help, and smaller amounts that grow over time. And I'm much more grateful for having the opportunity to be a small part of people's lives and for the occasion to get to know many amazing people.

My hope is to remain grateful without surgery. My guess is it would hurt less.



Bruce L. Blumer



NEW ACCOUNTS

Grateful for:

- **The life of Vera Larson, Pierre, SD** for naming the Foundation in a life insurance policy, leaving us an undesignated gift.
- **For William & Hallie Moyer, Spearfish, SD** who established a Charitable Gift Annuity, and now upon their deaths, the Foundation received the remainder amount for the Permanent Endowment Fund.
- **Elaine & Jim Troyer, Fargo, ND** who are arranging for a transfer of funds, upon their deaths, to establish an endowment to provide funds for UMW leadership training and workshops.

NEW ENDOWMENTS

Robert & Lucille David Endowment for Missions

– An endowment was established upon their deaths from a satisfied Charitable Gift Annuity, in consultation with their family. An annual percentage of this endowment will be provided to the Dakotas Conference for mission projects.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

Lenora Harrison, Wahpeton, ND established a Charitable Gift Annuity and will receive payments during her lifetime. Upon the satisfaction of the annuity, the beneficiary will be the Dakotas Camps Endowment and Ministerial Student Aid Endowment with the Foundation.

NEW INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS

Bismarck Legacy UMC

Established by Bismarck Legacy UMC, Bismarck, ND to invest funds for the future church uses as they determine.

Yankton 1st UMC Camp Scholarship Fund

Established by the Finance Committee, Yankton 1st UMC, Yankton, SD to be used at their discretion for the church Camp Scholarship Fund.

Bremer Mission Matching Grants

Robert & Viola Bremer, Vermillion, SD named the Foundation as the beneficiary of several annuities, life insurance policies, and a Charitable Gift Annuity. Because of their interest in missions and in helping local churches, these funds established an endowment that will generate over \$10,000 a year for mission grants.

2011 Ministry Development Matching Grants

(\$500 grants, unless noted)

These grants were made available through the Erma House Endowment and your undesignated gifts!

- **Minot Vincent UMC, Minot, ND** – start-up costs and training for a Stephen Ministry program (\$1,000 grant).
- **Hartford UMC, Hartford, SD** – “Live Out Loud” ministry as an outreach to young adults and families (\$1,000 grant).
- **Bismarck Calvary UMC, Bismarck, ND** – youth computer outreach program (\$1,000 grant).
- **White, Aurora, Sterling (SD) UMC** – weekend backpack feeding program (\$1,000 grant).
- **Milbank Central UMC, Milbank, SD** – weekend backpack feeding program (\$1,000 grant).
- **Mitchell 1st UMC, Mitchell, SD** – begin “Fusion Campus” at DWU as a second campus ministry.
- **Belle Fourche UMC, Belle Fourche, SD** – visitation and evangelism program.
- **Madison UMC, Madison, SD** – expanding “The Gathering Meal” feeding and fellowship program.
- **Flandreau UMC, Flandreau, SD** – assist in hiring a Director of Worship & Music for dynamic worship.
- **Rapid City 1st UMC, Rapid City, SD** – incorporating video into the church website within a plan of discipleship.
- **Fargo Calvary UMC, Fargo, ND** – for “Upward Sports” program to reach the unchurched through sports.
- **Winner UMC, Winner, SD** – for the “Believing Living And Sharing Truth” (BLAST) outreach program.
- **Sioux Falls Wesley UMC, Sioux Falls, SD** – computer-based literacy software for after-school program.
- **Webster UMC, Webster, SD** – expanding multi-media ministry to congregation and community.

The forms may be found on the Foundation website – www.DakotasUMF.org under the Services to Churches tab.

- The grants are \$250 or \$500 and may be used for ANY mission project from local to global.
- You list how you will match the grant with your funds.
- Email a picture of how the funds were used to the Foundation.
- Grant applications accepted until Feb. 1, 2012 and then checks will be sent - IT'S THAT SIMPLE!



Book of Memory

IN MEMORY OF:

Mark Winqvist
 Mark Winqvist
 Mark Winqvist
 Mark Winqvist
 Mark Winqvist
 Mark Winqvist
 Mark Winqvist
 Mark Winqvist
 Mark Winqvist
 Doug Cook
 Forrest Byrum
 Forrest Byrum
 Arlene Gates
 Fern Knight
 Fern Knight
 Minnetta Millard

GIVEN BY:

Dianne Axlund
 R Duane Coates
 Helen Carlson
 Jay & Kathy Larsen
 Duane & Alice Winqvist
 Mary & Tracy Upton
 Donna Robinson
 James & Cheryl Honomichl
 Laurice Ismeinger
 Ray & Sarah Baker
 Harlan & Jan Quenzer
 Bruce & Sharon Blumer
 Catherine Whitehead
 Dick & Pat Unkenholz
 Julian & Lois Wigen

FOR:

Lake Poinsett Chapel
 Lake Poinsett Chapel
 Lake Poinsett Chapel
 Lake Poinsett Chapel
 Lake Poinsett Chapel
 Lake Poinsett Chapel
 Lake Poinsett Chapel
 Lake Poinsett Chapel
 Lake Poinsett Chapel
 Lake Poinsett Chapel
 Missions Endowment
 Undesignated
 Gates Camping Endowment
 Undesignated Endowment
 Pensions Endowment
 DWU Endowment

IN HONOR OF:

Rev. Dr. William Bates
 Milton & Phyllis Stiegelmeier
 Evelyn Whitney

GIVEN BY:

Anonymous
 Jerome Stiegelmeier
 Denise Whitman

FOR:

Wesley Acres Camp
 Gist Lodge
 Whitney Endowment



Please remember the Foundation in your will or estate plans.

Check out the Foundation website – www.DakotasUMF.org

Dakotas United Methodist Foundation

Officers & Directors of the Dakotas United Methodist Foundation

PRESIDENT: Tom Dravland
 VICE-PRESIDENT: Mike Goos
 SECRETARY: Kay Werremeyer
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Bruce L. Blumer
 ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR: Bob Lower
 TREASURER: Jeff Pospisil

CLASS of 2012

Jo Harris (2006) – Brandon, SD
 Mike Goos (2008) – Washburn, ND
 David Hauser (2008) – Williston, ND
 Tom Simmons (2008) – Rapid City, SD

CLASS of 2013

*Libby Flowers (2008) – Sheyenne, ND
 Al Vanderlaan (2005) – Watertown, SD
 Bob Westall (2009) – Arlington, SD
 Jennifer Larsen (2009) – Sioux Falls, SD

CLASS of 2014

Linda Inniger (2006) – Fargo, ND
 Kay Werremeyer (2006) – Dickinson, ND
 David Nash (2009) – Bismarck, ND
 Rev. Howard Grinager (2010) – Pierre, SD

CLASS of 2015

Tom Dravland (2007) – Pierre, SD
 Don Caine (2009) – Jamestown, ND
 Richard Platte (2011) - Mitchell, SD
 Kathy Roll (2011) – Bismarck, ND

(date) indicates first year of service

*Appointment by the Bishop

Foundation Recognizes Cumulative Giving

The Foundation has many faithful givers who, over the period of many years, have given wonderful amounts. We decided to send certificates to recognize cumulative giving and received this letter from Kay & Dean Snyder.

Dear Bruce and other Foundation folks.....

What a surprise Dean and I had when we opened the large envelope last week! The recognition of being "Faithful Partners on the Journey" for the Dakotas United Methodist Foundation is such an honor. The designation to join with others for the SPIRIT AWARD is just awesome!!! We do have a story to tell about our dedication of gifting to the Foundation. Early into our first or second year of marriage, an Executive Director of the Foundation "came a-calling," and we began with a small gift at that time in 1958 or 1959.

I think I can say that since that early commitment, we NEVER missed an annual asking, whether it came through the mail or through a visit with one of the "way back" dedicated pastors who took the responsibilities to visit willing folks for the Foundation. Regretfully, I do not remember the names of some of the first early pastors, but we do remember the following:

Lloyd Grinager/1980-81-82-84; Gus VanTassel/92; followed by Julian Wigen/1995; and presently Bruce Blumer since 2003.

I have a file that holds many Call Letters for the Foundation from the pastors listed above. Since the Foundation Executive Directors were in the Black Hills area for several days, Dean and I always suggested that they come by our home around noon. We knew they needed to eat somewhere! It was over those invitations to be together, that we grew closer to each of the directors through the years.

An honor was bestowed upon me in 1981 to be elected to the Board of Directors of the South Dakota United Methodist Foundation. I served 4 terms; one as the FIRST female laity Board President.

AGAIN----- How can we thank God, Kay's parents and the Dakotas Conference membership enough for giving Dean and me the wonderful feeling we have of sharing our CUMULATIVE GIVING through the Foundation for all of these 52+ years.

THANK YOU GOD.....Kay and Dean Snyder

(Thank you God for people like Kay & Dean and all those that have been our faithful partners!)



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Methodist Foundation
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Multiplying Your Gifts for the Kingdom of God

Check-Out the Benefits of a Charitable Gift Annuity

How about a Guaranteed Lifetime Rate based on your age and eventually you make a Gift?
A portion comes back to you tax-free! The rates just increased on July 1, 2011
It's time to look into a **Charitable Gift Annuity**

Charitable Gift Annuity – single life, \$10,000 gift used for demonstration

<u>Age</u>	<u>Payout Rate</u>	<u>Annual Payment</u>	<u>Tax-Free Portion</u>	<u>Charitable Deduction</u>	<u>Effective Return Rate*</u>
65	5.3%	\$530	\$376	\$2,516	7.3%
70	5.8%	\$580	\$429	\$3,178	8.2%
75	6.5%	\$650	\$496	\$3,839	9.5%
80	7.5%	\$750	\$591	\$4,447	11.2%
85	8.4%	\$840	\$694	\$5,285	13.0%
90	9.8%	\$980	\$829	\$5,938	15.6%

* Effective rate is combined effect of tax-free portion and charitable deduction. These figures based on 28% income tax bracket, actual numbers may be slightly different. Minimum gift is \$5,000.

These rates are recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities. Rates for a two-life or single-life gift not listed are available upon request.