UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION OF NEW ENGLAND

UMFNE OVERVIEW

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HISTORY

In June 1991, the United Methodist Foundation of New England (UMFNE) was established by the former Maine, New Hampshire and Southern New England Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church to serve New England United Methodism by:

- Assisting U.M. churches/agencies in the management of their reserve/ endowed funds,
- Assisting United Methodists in making major gifts to benefit their local churches/agencies,
- Providing grants and financial assistance to support local church ministries that address direct human needs such as children and poverty.

UMFNE's Articles of Agreement allow it to administer funds entrusted to it by United Methodist institutions and agencies both within and outside the New England Annual Conference.

UMFNE is one of the largest U.M. Foundations in the denomination holding over $76.3 million in invested assets. We are the trustee for several trusts and gift annuities which total over $2 million. More than 380 churches and agencies in the New England Conference have placed their reserve and endowment funds with the Foundation. We also administer the Foundation Loan Program which serves the building and/or capital needs of U.M. churches throughout New England.

State Street Global Advisors, one of the top investment management firm worldwide with over $1.9 trillion in assets under management, is our current investment manager. Charles Schwab Institutional serves as custodian for the assets of all UMFNE funds.

MISSION STATEMENT

"To energize the ministries of United Methodist churches and related agencies by providing financial services and educational programs that promote faithful stewardship."

CORE VALUES

- **Integrity:** Serve faithfully with prudence and loyalty dedicated to the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church
- **Competence:** Provide superior educational, investment and financial administration services
- **Christ-centered:** Recognize our work as a God-given ministry
- **Teamwork:** Work with and support the missions of those we serve

MAJOR OBJECTIVES

- investments of reserve/endowment funds
- endowment development and planned giving
- financial and stewardship education
- missional loans and financial assistance

SERVICES & RESOURCES

FOR CHURCHES:

A. INVESTMENT SERVICES

- Broadly diversified (domestic and international) socially responsible offering, using investment "Model Portfolios" that enable churches to invest in "Pools", managed by UMFNE's investment manager, State Street Global Advisors - 2nd largest money manager in the world (based on assets under management)
- Fund administration by UMFNE staff using SunGard Charlotte software, a robust and proven trust accounting software utilized by banks and large national foundations
- Active proxy voting on SRI (socially responsible investing) issues by UMFNE to advocate for social justice, good corporate governance, and responsible environmental behavior
- Resources available to local church trustees and finance committees include:
  - assistance with developing endowment and investment policies
  - continuing education on investing, including matching objectives with appropriate investments, and the use of the *Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act* of 2008 in planning for growth and income from total return perspective
  - continuing education on trustee fiduciary responsibilities.

B. PLANNED GIVING SERVICES

- Web based resources including videos, gift calculator and weekly email newsletter. Visit our web site at www.umfne.org and click on "*Planned Giving*"
- Assistance in creating a Planned Giving Committee, including guidelines for the committee's responsibilities and the role of the pastor in development and planned giving
- Educational seminars for church members regarding gift planning and other areas of personal financial stewardship, including wills and trusts, long-term care decisions, annuities, estate and gift planning, etc.
- Assistance with marketing resources for communicating the church's planned giving ministry, e.g., publicity brochures, posters and news articles
- Assistance with establishing a *John Wesley Society* which exists to celebrate generosity and to recognize donors within your church

C. STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION

- "FAITH & MONEY" - *A Year-Round Comprehensive Financial Stewardship Ministry,* includes GOOD $ENSE - Freed-Up Financial Living (*Personal Financial Management* course) and "Living for Giving" DVD with companion workbook

D. CAPITAL CAMPAIGN SERVICES

- Assistance to local churches in raising funds for their capital and building projects. The Foundation provides an integrated approach through a faith-based program that focuses on *faith-raising* as well as *fund-raising*. Capital Campaign staff consultant, Rev. Dr. Bradley Call, is an experienced and seasoned professional

E. FOUNDATION LOAN PROGRAM

- Low-interest loans that assist U.M. churches to purchase, construct and/or repair their buildings and properties (average savings of $3,750 on closing costs/fees cf. commercial banks)

F. ALLIED PROFESSIONAL MINISTRY PROGRAM

- Professional United Methodists (e.g. attorneys, bank trust managers, financial planners, and development specialists), who volunteer as part of the Foundation's ministry team

FOR DONORS:

- **Assistance with the following:**
  - Donor Advised Fund (to be offered in the near future)
  - Gift plan design and proposals to support local U.M. churches or agencies
  - Donor Designated Fund - creating family endowments to benefit churches and other charities
  - Trustee services for charitable trusts and professional management of gifts
  - Full range of life income arrangements
  - Private and confidential gift planning advice

FOR CLERGY:

- **"Planning for a Life-Time of Ministry"**
  - Two-part clergy financial planning seminar series tailored for clergy at different phases in life and ministry (with the Preachers' Aid Society)
  - Clergy Tax Seminars
- Stewardship and personal financial management resources
- Guest preaching for Stewardship and/or Annual Financial Stewardship Campaigns