



higher  
education &  
campus  
ministry

*Connecting with Students  
in Schools, Colleges,  
and Campus Ministries*

Division of Higher Education  
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

## HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

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*This book is printed on acid-free paper.*

ISBN 978-0-687-64762-0

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*Some paragraph numbers for and language in the Book of Discipline may have changed in the 2008 revision, which was published after these Guidelines were printed. We regret any inconvenience.*

MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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# Welcome

You are so important to the life of the Christian church! You have consented to join with other people of faith who, through the millennia, have sustained the church by extending God's love to others. You have been called and have committed your unique passions, gifts, and abilities to a position of leadership. This Guideline will help you understand the basic elements of that ministry within your own church and within The United Methodist Church.

## Called to Spiritual Leadership

Each person is called to ministry by virtue of his or her baptism, and that ministry takes place in all aspects of daily life, in and outside the church. As a pastoral leader or leader among the laity, your ministry is not just a "job," but a spiritual endeavor. You *are* a spiritual leader now, and others will look to you for spiritual leadership. What does this mean?

First, *all* persons who follow Jesus are called to grow spiritually through the practice of various Christian habits (or "means of grace") such as prayer, Bible study, private and corporate worship, acts of service, Christian conferencing, and so on. Jesus taught his disciples practices of spiritual growth and leadership that you, as a disciple, are to share with others as they look to you to be a model and guide.

Second, it means that you always keep your eye on the main reasons for any ministry—to help others grow to a mature faith in God that moves them to action on behalf of others, especially "the least" (see Matthew 25:31-46). This is an aspect of "disciple making," which is the ultimate goal of all that we do in the church.

### CULTIVATING VISION AND MISSION

As a spiritual leader, a primary function you carry is to help those you lead to see as clearly as possible what God is calling your church to be and to do. Ideally, your church council first forms this vision and then forms plans and goals for how to fulfill that vision. As a leader, you will help your team remain focused and accountable to honor the vision and goals to which the church is committed. You will help your team create and evaluate suggestions, plans, and activities against the measure: *Does this move us closer to our church's vision to bring others to God in this place and time?*

## CHRISTIAN CONFERENCING

While there are appropriate and useful business-like practices that apply to church life, Christian practices distinguish the church as the church. In the United Methodist tradition, how we meet and work together is important. “Christian Conferencing” involves listening not only to each other, but also listening intently for the will of God in any given task or conversation. This makes prayer essential in the midst of “business as usual.” As Christians, we are called to “speak the truth in love.” This is a special way to speak in which we treat one another as if each of us were Christ among us. As a spiritual leader in your ministry area, you have the privilege and opportunity to teach and model these practices. By remembering that each of us is beloved of God and discerning the presence of God in all that the church does, every task becomes worshipful work.

## THE MISSION OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The United Methodist Church is a connectional church, which means in part that every local church is interrelated through the structure and organization of districts, conferences, jurisdictions, and central conferences in the larger “family” of the denomination. *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* describes, among other things, the ministry of all United Methodist Christians, the essence of servant ministry and leadership, how to organize and accomplish that ministry, and how our connectional structure works (see especially ¶¶125–138).

Our Church is more than a structure; it is a living organism. The *Discipline* describes our mission to proclaim the gospel and to welcome people into the body of Christ, to lead people to a commitment to God through Jesus Christ, to nurture them in Christian living by various means of grace, and to send persons into the world as agents of Jesus Christ (¶122). Thus, through you—and many other Christians—this very relational mission continues.

**(For help in addition to this Guideline and the *Book of Discipline*, see “Resources” at the end of your Guideline, [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org), and the other websites listed on the inside back cover.)**

# Your Work in Higher Education and Campus Ministry

**T**hank you for taking on leadership in your church for higher education and campus ministry. Elected by the charge conference for a one-year term, you are a member of the council on ministries, or the church council, and the charge conference. You are responsible for interpreting and recommending to the church council ways for implementing the church's mission in higher education and campus ministry. You work with the guidance of the pastor and the chairperson of the church council.

You are also the person on the “front line” in the important work of identifying and developing leadership for the church and for the world. You are the one in the local church who takes a large view on developing the next generation of leaders.

Everything you do—from helping make connections between students and campus ministers to encouraging students to consider attending a United Methodist-related college to supporting the Black College Fund and Africa University—is important because and makes a difference in the quality of leadership in the future. It is essential for the future of The United Methodist Church that students are nurtured in their faith during their college years.

College is a time when students shape the dreams and visions that will influence the rest of their lives. Those years also are a time when students examine the faith and values that will support their life choices. Your ministry helps students know that the church supports them as they increase in knowledge and shape those visions. That is no small responsibility!

## Your Job

The responsibility is not yours alone; it is shared with a team of individuals working together to advocate for the church's ministry in higher education. You are the team leader for your congregation. Prayerfully gather a group of people to join you in this ministry. In large churches, a committee may have been appointed to work with you. In small churches, you may be the only one officially designated with responsibility for higher education and campus ministry. Invite people to join in the work. Parents, teachers, students, college contacts, and high school guidance counselors could be invaluable members of the team.

At first, your responsibilities may seem overwhelming. This booklet will help you understand the scope of your work. It will also give you practical resources for doing that work.

As chair of the ministry team on higher education and campus ministry, your work is wide ranging. Recruit others in your church to assist you with these responsibilities:

- advocating within your congregation for the importance of the mission of the church's work in higher education: to identify and develop strong future leaders for the church and the world
- keeping the council on ministries or church council aware of higher education and campus ministry concerns
- promoting local church support for the higher education and campus ministry programs of your annual conference and of the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry
- interpreting and promoting the Black College Fund and the Hispanic, Asian, and Native American (HANA) educational ministries
- recruiting students for United Methodist-related colleges and encouraging students to participate in United Methodist campus ministry units on other private and public colleges
- planning your church's ministry to and with college and university students, staff, faculty, and administrators
- encouraging local support of United Methodist-related colleges, universities, and campus ministries in your annual conference
- helping to link students with United Methodist-supported campus ministries and with the United Methodist Student Movement
- promoting the United Methodist Student Loans and Scholarships programs through the observance of United Methodist Student Day, World Communion Sunday, and Native American Ministries Sunday offerings
- alerting the pastor, parents, and students to the availability of loans and scholarships for United Methodist students through the Office of Loans and Scholarships of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation, your annual conference, and your local church.

Many resources for your work are listed in this guide. They include information about the history of United Methodism, our educational ministries, interpretation of higher education and campus ministry programs, a sample calendar of a year's program ideas, and printed, video, Internet, and personal resources.

One resource that will be especially valuable is *Interpreter* magazine, the church's program journal for local church leaders. Seven copies are sent free to each church; these may be sent to church leaders' home addresses. Additional subscriptions are available. Order from United Methodist Communications, PO Box 310, 810 Twelfth Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37202-0320; website: [www.interpretermagazine.org](http://www.interpretermagazine.org). Also, you may access *Interpreter* magazine articles online at their website.

Resources and information regarding United Methodist higher education ministries can be found on the Internet. The main address is [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org). From there, you can go to specific pages about higher education issues, institutions, resources, and campus ministries.

The staff of the Division of Higher Education is available to answer questions and discuss issues. The mailing address is PO Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007; telephone is 615-340-7402; e-mail at [scu@gbhem.org](mailto:scu@gbhem.org). A directory of information available on the Internet can be found on pages 38–39.

## So, How Do You Get Started?

One place to begin understanding your congregation's ministry in higher education is to recognize each local church's responsibility for "planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, and witness for persons and families within and without the congregation" (§ 242, *2008 Book of Discipline*). Within and beyond your congregation, there are individuals who are on the college campus and engaged in higher education. You and your church have the opportunity to develop creative ministries of nurture, outreach, and witness with and for these people.

A strong program in higher education and campus ministry in your church must have the understanding and support of key persons. It is important to consult with your pastor and the chairperson of the church council. In a small church, one person may well be able to manage this ministry area. In middle-sized churches, task forces could help plan and promote special events. In larger churches, a standing commission might be in order. Even then, special events for students who are home from college may call for subcommittees or task forces.

The way you organize your work will affect all that you do. As you read this guide, make notes to help you choose the best approach for accomplishing your tasks. Most importantly, think prayerfully about the best way to minister to persons in higher education. Then put your plans and ideas to work.

Here are some ways to begin:

- **Request resources materials** from the *Division of Higher Education, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry*. You may contact the office by phone: 615-340-7402; by mail: PO Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007; or by e-mail: scu@gbhem.org. A list of all United Methodist-related schools, colleges, and universities, along with other resources, is available from the Division.
- **Identify your constituents.** High school sophomores, juniors, and seniors are potential candidates for United Methodist-related colleges, universities, and campus ministries. Get to know high school counselors who assist students in their college planning. Students now at college at both the undergraduate and the graduate level are also important constituents. Identify any college administrators, faculty, staff members, and trustees who are related to your church. College chaplains and campus ministers are valuable sources of information. Remember, too, that commuter students in your congregation are also candidates.
- **Read *Interpreter* magazine.** Check the regular column on higher education and campus ministry in the “Idea Mart” section for ideas to use in your local church.
- **Investigate the history of your church’s support** for the UM-related school, college, or university in your annual conference and for the apportioned educational funds of the Black College Fund, the Ministerial Education Fund, and Africa University. Share this with your church’s leaders. Find ways to increase your church’s giving.
- **Talk with others in the congregation about ministry in higher education.** Listen to their concerns for students, staff, and faculty at colleges. What are their ideas for making your local church’s ministry in higher education an important and creative part of the lives of those who are studying, teaching, or working at colleges and universities? Perhaps there are people in your local church who would covenant to pray regularly for this ministry, asking God to lead your church to be involved in ministry in higher education in new ways.

To get started immediately, go to “Some Ideas for Action” on pages 23–32. Read through the suggestions, choose one or two that appeal to you, and get started!

# Learning More About Higher Education Ministries in Your Area

help members of your congregation become better informed about what is happening on campus. Organize a Wednesday night supper and discussion introducing members of the church family to some key people in higher education ministries. Invite a college student, a faculty member, a local campus ministry board member, an administrator, and a campus minister or chaplain to be part of the program and discussion. Let each person describe for the group what it is like to be involved in college life today.

Questions to ask a college student might include: Why are you in college? What led you to choose your particular college? What has your spiritual journey been like since entering college?

Questions to ask a faculty member at a college or university might include: How would you describe your campus (size, public or private, its mission)? What subject(s) do you teach? What, in your opinion, are the three most pressing issues on college campuses today? How does your religious faith influence what you do in education?

Questions to ask a local campus ministry board member might include: What is your occupation? Why are you serving on a campus ministry board? Why do you think the church should be involved in ministry in higher education? What three specific programs would you like to see a campus minister do?

Questions to ask a campus minister or college chaplain might include: How long have you been in campus ministry? What special training or preparation did you have for this job? What do you enjoy most about your work? What is your relationship to the churches that sponsor your ministry? What, in your opinion, are the three most pressing issues on college campuses today? How is your campus ministry or college chaplaincy addressing those issues?

After each participant has made a presentation, invite the congregation to ask questions. Encourage discussion. At the end of the evening, ask two or three people to share some new insights and understandings. What might these understandings mean for your church's ministry in higher education?

# Our Church's Call to Be Involved in Higher Education

Every United Methodist in this country feels the impact of higher education. Graduates of colleges and universities make almost every major decision affecting life in our country. Most of the businesses and corporations of our nation and world are staffed and led by college graduates. Most pastors must graduate from both college and seminary. Higher education's influence in society is pervasive—it penetrates everything and touches everyone.

We're not only affected by higher education, we also have a stake in it. If colleges train our community's, nation's, and world's decision makers, we need to build Christian and humane values into those decisions. The church is called to witness to the love, compassion, and concern of God on the campus. The church must witness to the relationship of faith to knowledge and to the direct relationship between the intellectual and the moral.

We're involved in higher education because many of our neighbors and our church family go to college. Approximately 16 million people are enrolled in some kind of post-high-school education in the United States. Approximately 56 percent of college students are women; some 27 percent represent ethnic minority groups; almost 37 percent of college students in the United States are 25 years of age or older.

College is a time and place where people ask hard questions: Who am I? Who am I called to be? What should I do with my life? What is true? What is false? College includes the search for knowledge, for beauty, for a vision of what the world could be.

The student population in the United States today is wide and varied. A student body may have large numbers of single parents, women preparing to enter the job market for the first time, persons with disabilities, newly unemployed persons, workers needing additional skills in order to keep their jobs, and people who have found they want to explore new possibilities for their lives.

The pathway to success often goes through college. For some ethnic persons in the United States, that path has often been blocked by poverty or prejudice. As they begin the transition from prejudice to empowerment, ethnic persons turn to higher education.

As early as the mid-1700s, John Wesley and his Methodist friends began founding schools and tutoring children and others who otherwise were denied the opportunity to develop their God-given talent. It is this concern for people that brings United Methodists into ministry in higher education.

The United Methodist Church today continues a 250-year tradition of ministry in education. John Wesley began the Holy Club and the Methodist Society with a student at Kings College, Oxford University. The Methodist movement itself was born on a college campus. Wesley was a tireless reader, writer, translator, and book and pamphlet publisher. He founded Kingswood School, the first Methodist educational institution in England, in 1748.

When The Methodist Church began in the United States in 1784, one of its first acts was the creation of Cokesbury College. Members of The Evangelical United Brethren tradition were equally zealous educators, as the presence of Otterbein and Albright Colleges testifies. People of the Methodist tradition were challenged to bring educational opportunity to the frontier; as a result, the people established approximately 1,200 schools across the North American continent. In 1913, the first Wesley Foundation was founded on the campus of the University of Illinois.

At present, 122 schools, colleges, universities, seminaries, and professional schools—many with campus ministry units—are related to The United Methodist Church. These colleges and campus ministries represent the church's care and concern for people. They express the church's concern for learning, love, and enlightenment to take root and flourish in higher education.

United Methodists are organized to keep our involvement in higher education active and vital. In every local congregation, a person is selected to coordinate a program in ministry in higher education. Every annual conference has a Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry or equivalent structure to help local churches do their work and to work directly with schools, colleges, and campus ministries. The Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry coordinates and enlivens the denomination's mission in higher education nationally and internationally.

The church is involved in higher education—education for the common good, challenging faithful people to develop faithful minds for faithful life in the world.

# Commitments and Common Themes of United Methodists in Higher Education

The United Methodist Church has a historic and impressive history in higher learning. Today, the family of United Methodist-related institutions includes 10 major research universities, 13 seminaries, 82 liberal arts colleges, seven two-year colleges, one professional medical school, and 10 college preparatory schools. These are spread across the United States. The map on page 14 will help you locate them.

Our involvement in higher education reflects the social concerns of The United Methodist Church. Several institutions were founded especially for women. (In 1836, Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia, was the first college in the world chartered to grant baccalaureate degrees to women.) Others were founded for African Americans. (By 1867, two years after the Civil War ended, 59 institutions had been founded to educate freed slaves.) These institutions were founded during a time when it was neither popular nor widely expected that women and African Americans should have educational opportunities.

There are now 3 colleges for women and 11 historically Black colleges related to The United Methodist Church. A total of 122 currently in the family gives United Methodism the highest Protestant presence in higher education in the nation. The strong variety of institutions contributes significantly to student access, equity, and democracy in higher education in the United States.



# Campus Ministry

Campus ministry represents, in many ways, the “church beyond itself.” (See *Campus Ministry: The Church Beyond Itself* by Donald G. Shockley, former staff at the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; the resources list begins on page 33.) When the church reaches outside itself, it fulfills its mission to be involved fully in the life of the world. Ministry on campus is work that makes an impact both on the present-day lives of those on campus as well as on the future health of the church. Campus ministry is vital to both the church and the world.

United Methodist campus ministry is diverse. It takes many forms and offers many different programs. It is versatile, reaching a variety of student populations; and it is vital, reaching people who might not otherwise be touched by the church.

United Methodists sponsor campus ministry in at least four ways. First, we have Wesley Foundations—United Methodist campus ministry centers—on some publicly supported and independent college campuses. Second, we have ecumenical units—those we support together with other denominations—on other campuses. Third, college chaplains minister at United Methodist-related colleges and universities. Finally, many local congregations now extend their ministries to embrace nearby colleges.

What happens in campus ministry may look similar to what happens in other ministries: worship, Bible study, service projects, counseling, classes, and community events. Much time is spent with students in groups and one-on-one for spiritual development. However, as student populations become older and their needs change, the ministry with and to them also changes. Groups for singles, childcare facilities, and fellowship groups for international students are some additional facets of campus ministries.

Campus ministry focuses on students, but it also has a broader campus focus. Faculty, staff, and administrators are the most stable parts of the college population. Often, working with and through them, campus ministry is able to reach many more people. Through their work and friendship with college personnel, campus ministers are able to draw people into unique programs: teachers of engineering helping to rehabilitate low-income housing, medical educators working with those in our country and in other countries who cannot afford health care, and law students and faculty lending their services to persons who cannot afford legal counsel.

From student movements to faculty study, from prayer breakfasts to social service, from personal counseling to global concerns, campus ministry embodies the church’s mission in the world.

# United Methodist Student Movement (UMSM)

Christian students have a long history of leadership in the United Methodist Church spanning many generations.

The first Methodist Student Movement (MSM) was established in St. Louis in 1937; its last conference was held in Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1965. In the intervening years, opportunities for service were a significant part of the MSM. The lives of thousands of students were profoundly changed by these experiences, and a host of people went on to become recognized leaders in the church and in society, while countless others whose names are not generally known invested themselves in lives of witness and service.

In 1987, a national student conference was held, again in St. Louis. Following the success of that conference, national leadership training events—known as the Student Forum—were held. In 1996, during Student Forum at Oklahoma City University, a new student movement was created. The United Methodist Student Movement, a network of college students that extends across the United States, bridges ethnic and cultural boundaries and reaches out across the globe.

UMSM is open to college students active in campus ministries and in local church college student ministries who are seeking to play a strong role in The United Methodist Church.

Students are organized intercollegiately through statewide, annual conference, jurisdictional conference, and regional gatherings of UMSM. The movement is supported by staff of the Campus Ministry Section of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Every annual conference is encouraged to have an organized UMSM to bring students together from different campuses for retreats, service projects, and other conferencewide gatherings. Each annual conference has an adviser, usually a campus minister or college chaplain.

Student Forum is the annual leadership development and student conference of UMSM. Annual conferences, local churches, and campus ministries are invited to sponsor student participants and send voting delegates. While any college or university student may attend Student Forum, voting and alternate delegates must be designated by each annual conference.

At Student Forum, students learn leadership skills, participate in a wide range of workshops, worship together, have opportunities for spiritual growth and for service, and participate in a forum to express their concerns and hopes for The United Methodist church. The annual meeting of Student Forum is held each year at the end of May.

On the website for the United Methodist Student Movement ([www.umsm.org](http://www.umsm.org)), you will find more information, including information for your area. The site contains information about upcoming conferences, the annual Student Forum, a directory of UMSM advisers, a directory of United Methodist-related campus ministry programs, and the UMSM Internet online community where students can share comments and discuss current issues.

## Black College Fund

In 1865 when the Civil War ended, more than four million people who had been denied education were left to an unknown future. In a slavery system where it had been against the law to teach slaves to read and write, the quest for education, food, and shelter emerged as critical components for survival and progress.

In 1866, Bishop Davis W. Clark helped the Methodist Episcopal Church (a forerunner of The United Methodist Church) found the Freedmen's Aid Society dedicated to establishing schools and colleges for freed slaves in the South. By 1867, fifty-nine schools had been founded in ten states.

Fifty years after its founding, the Freedmen's Aid Society had started thirty-four colleges, academies, and theological schools. Often begun as small schoolrooms, these institutions grew to become well-established undergraduate colleges and universities located primarily in the South.

Eleven of these colleges continue as historically Black institutions related to The United Methodist Church: Bennett College for Women (Greensboro, North Carolina), Bethune-Cookman University (Daytona Beach, Florida), Claflin University (Orangeburg, South Carolina), Clark Atlanta University (Atlanta, Georgia), Dillard University (New Orleans, Louisiana), Huston-Tillotson University (Austin, Texas), Meharry Medical College (Nashville, Tennessee), Paine College (Augusta, Georgia), Philander Smith College (Little Rock, Arkansas), Rust College (Holly Springs, Mississippi), and Wiley College (Marshall, Texas).

These colleges and universities have produced a legacy of leadership. In 1956, Dr. Willa B. Player became the first African American woman to

serve as president of a four-year liberal arts college in the United States (Bennett College in North Carolina). Claflin University, the oldest historically Black college or university in South Carolina, was the first school in the state to welcome all students regardless of race or gender. Azie Taylor Morton, a graduate of Huston-Tillotson University in Texas, served as Treasurer of the United States in the Carter administration. She is the only African American to hold this office. Meharry Medical College, founded in 1876, was the first medical school for African Americans in the United States.

Through the Black College Fund apportionment, United Methodists continue their significant and long-standing tradition of providing educational opportunities to an important segment of the U.S. population. The United Methodist Church supports the largest number of Black colleges and universities of any church body in the United States.

The colleges supported by the fund provide direct access, nurture, and professional and spiritual training and guidance to a student population that, in the main, would remain underserved without them. Of the approximately 16,000 students enrolled in these colleges, 90 percent qualify for financial aid. Tuition is kept relatively low so students with low incomes may attend. And, these colleges are and always have been open to all.

Because of The United Methodist Church's historic commitment through the Black College Fund, educational access and academic and professional accomplishments continue to become realities for thousands of students of promise.

## **Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development**

In countries around the world, Christian congregations are growing rapidly. In Africa, 46 percent of the population is Christian. In Latin America, the number is 34 percent. In Asia, 22 percent are Christian. Christian churches welcome more than 1.4 billion members worldwide.

Leadership development for these growing churches is the goal of the Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development. By providing resources to meet the growing needs of these churches and people, we can also help guide the communities in which they are located. We have the opportunity to foster a sense of global connectedness that could allow millions of Methodists to share their knowledge, their energy, and their faith.

The developing worldwide network of Methodist schools, colleges, universities, and theological schools training future leaders requires continuing nurture. Today, there are more than 775 Methodist educational institutions in 67 nations that work with Methodist congregations “to give the key of knowledge” to those who have very limited access to education.

The Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development uses United Methodism’s worldwide educational network to nurture the development of leaders who will foster local and worldwide communities that are peaceful, tolerant, and value-based. The fund is a unique opportunity to invest in the global community.

For more information, visit the website at [www.gbhem.org/mgef](http://www.gbhem.org/mgef), or contact the Division of Higher Education by e-mail [scu@gbhem.org](mailto:scu@gbhem.org) or phone 615-340-7402.

## Africa University

Africa University, located in Old Mutare, opened in March 1992 as the first private, international university in Zimbabwe. This United Methodist-related university on the African continent was established by action of the 1988 General Conference. The university opened for classes with 40 students from a dozen African countries. Africa University currently has an enrollment of more than 1,300.

There are six faculties or colleges: theology, education, agriculture and natural resources, humanities and social sciences, health sciences, and management and administration. There are five postgraduate faculties: agriculture and natural resources; management and administration; theology; health sciences; and peace, leadership, and governance. The campus consists of five academic buildings, the university chapel, the library, a student union building, twelve residence halls, and ten faculty and staff houses.

Congregations and individuals across The United Methodist Church support Africa University. The university is a tangible witness to what The United Methodist Church can do to free people from poverty and transform people into leaders. One way your congregation can support Africa University is by paying 100 percent of the Africa University Fund apportionment. For more information about the Africa University Fund, visit [www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org).

For more information about the university, contact the Africa University Development Office by e-mail at [audevoffice@gbhem.org](mailto:audevoffice@gbhem.org) or by phone at 615-340-7438. Visit their website at [www.supportafricanuniversity.org](http://www.supportafricanuniversity.org). The Africa University website is at [www.africau.edu](http://www.africau.edu).

## Office of Loans and Scholarships

The United Methodist Church Student Loan Program is the oldest and largest program of its type in America, serving students in higher education for more than a century. More than a half million students have realized their vocational dreams with financial assistance from The United Methodist Student Loan and Scholarship Programs. The program made its first loan in 1872 to a student preparing for a lay vocation,

The loan program operates as a revolving fund. As recipients repay their loans, the money is lent to other United Methodist students. The loan fund has a remarkable repayment rate of 99.5 percent.

The United Methodist Scholarship Program provides scholarships church-wide to supplement the financial needs of today's students. Funding for these scholarships is provided through offerings, wills, annuities, and other designated gifts.

To qualify for a scholarship, a student must be a full, active member of The United Methodist Church for at least a year before applying and be enrolled in a degree program at an accredited institution, maintaining a grade average of 2.5 or higher. To qualify for a loan, a student must be a full, active member of The United Methodist Church for at least one year prior to applying and must be enrolled in a degree program at an accredited institution, maintaining at least a C average.

In addition to these two types of assistance, the Office of Loans and Scholarships also administers several specialized scholarships. For information, go to [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org). Some of these include:

- ***The Gift of Hope Scholars Program*** (for undergraduates who demonstrate strong leadership in the UMC)
- ***Ethnic Minority Scholarship*** (for undergraduates of Native American, Asian, African American, Hispanic, or Pacific Islander descent)
- ***Brandenburg Scholarship*** (for students thirty-five years of age or older)
- ***The Edith Allen Scholarship*** (for African American graduate or undergraduate students pursuing a degree in education, social work, medicine, or other health professions)
- ***HANA Scholarship*** (for students born of Hispanic, Asian, Native American, or Pacific Island parentage—either upper level undergraduate or graduate and doctoral students)
- ***The Bishop James Baker Award*** (for campus ministers)
- ***The Rosalie Bentzinger Scholarship*** (for deacons pursuing the Ph.D. in Christian education)

- ***The Special Seminary Scholarship*** for students thirty years of age and under pursuing an M.Div. degree at a United Methodist-related seminary or theological school.

Be sure to support these scholarships by observing United Methodist Student Day with an offering. Each year, this offering is a major source of funds for loans and scholarships. Ten percent of the Student Day offering is rebated each year to annual conferences participating in the Conference Merit Award Program.

In addition, thirty-five percent of the World Communion Sunday offering supports the Ethnic Minority Scholarship Fund. A portion of the offering receipts from Native American Ministries Sunday provides scholarships to Native-American United Methodist students pursuing a degree at a University Senate-approved school of theology.

Your students can apply for a loan or scholarship by contacting the Office of Loans and Scholarships, PO Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203; or by calling 615-340-7346 (loans) or 615-340-7344 (scholarships); or by visiting the website at [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org). Persons who wish to endow a scholarship or loan in memory of a loved one may contact the Office of Loans and Scholarships at 615-340-7341.

## United Methodist Higher Education Foundation

Founded in 1965, the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation (UMHEF) is dedicated to helping students achieve their dreams. UMHEF provides scholarship aid for United Methodist students attending the 122 United Methodist-related institutions. Its vision is to make it economically possible for any qualified United Methodist student to be educated at a United Methodist-related college or university.

Some UMHEF programs include:

- ***United Methodist Dollars for Scholars*** (The Foundation provides a \$1,000 matching scholarship for churches that raise and provide \$1,000 on behalf of student congregational members enrolled or planning to enroll in a United Methodist-related college, university or seminary. In addition, there are ***Triple Your Dollars*** and ***Quadruple Your Dollars*** programs.)
- ***United Methodist Leadership Scholars*** (sponsored by United Methodist churches in the southeast and many United Methodist-related colleges and universities; designed to encourage active United Methodist students

to attend a United Methodist-related college by offering up to \$3,000 in scholarship funds)

- *The September 11th Memorial Fund* (designed to provide assistance for surviving victims and dependents of victims of the terrorist attacks on September 11)

In addition, there is the “Named Scholarships” program that allows annual conferences, local churches, and other groups or individuals to establish a scholarship in honor or memory of a person. These gifts help young minds in the church acquire tools for a promising future, and make value-centered education accessible to all students. For information about making a gift to the Foundation, please visit the website at [www.umhef.org](http://www.umhef.org). To speak with someone about making a gift, call 800-811-8110.

For more information, write the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation, PO Box 340005, Nashville, TN 37203-0005. Or call 800-811-8110. Visit the website at [www.umhef.org](http://www.umhef.org).

## Higher Education, Campus Ministry, and Your Local Church

There are countless ways your local church can have a vital and exciting ministry in higher education. In order to make this happen, be sure to keep the church council aware of the concerns of colleges, universities, and campus ministries. Interpret this ministry by personalizing it. As you describe programs, institutions, and causes, cite persons in your own congregation who have been affected by them.

Some members of your congregation may work for or be graduates of United Methodist schools and colleges, serve on their boards, or be members of the board of directors of a campus ministry. Identify members of your district or annual conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. Pay attention to the students in your congregation, some of whom worship with you and others who attend school away from home. Listen to these people. Share their stories with the congregation and invite them to talk with others. They may have ideas for programs as well as helpful information to share with you and your local church.

## STUDENT FORUM OF THE UNITED METHODIST STUDENT MOVEMENT

Student Forum is the annual United Methodist Student Movement gathering and leadership training conference. Students representing annual conferences from across the U.S. meet each year in May on different college campuses. Student Forum is open to all college students, whether they serve as an official representative of their annual conference, attend with a campus ministry group, or come independently. Key pieces of the event include leadership training, theological reflection, spiritual formation, worship, voluntary service, and education about social issues. It's a forum for ecumenical involvement as well as a place for students to explore their vision for The United Methodist Church. To find out more, go to [www.umsm.org](http://www.umsm.org).

### Some Ideas for Action

Below is a list of practical ideas for your work as chair of higher education and campus ministry in your church. You will, no doubt, have many ideas of your own. Consider the list below as a way to brainstorm and get started. A suggested calendar of activities is also included here.

### Linking Your Church and Higher Education

Request materials from the Division of Higher Education for your college-bound students (See the "Resources" section on page 33). These could include copies of *College Bound*, loans and scholarship information, maps and directories that locate United Methodist colleges and universities, information on the UM-related historically Black colleges, the *Handbook of United Methodist Schools, Colleges, Universities, and Theological Schools*, and information about campus ministries and the United Methodist Student Movement.

- Send names and addresses of high school sophomores and juniors in your church to United Methodist colleges and universities in and near your conference.
- Encourage prospective students to visit United Methodist colleges. In the fall or spring of their junior year, organize a small group of students to visit one of the colleges. The admissions director at the college will be glad to arrange your visit. Three or four weeks in advance should be enough notice for the admissions director to prepare for your visit.
- Contact high school guidance counselors to be sure they have up-to-date catalogs or admissions CD-ROMs or videotapes from United Methodist colleges and universities.
- Invite campus ministers and chaplains to lead programs for youth groups.
- Let your students know about *Orientation Online*. Formerly an award-winning magazine for graduating high school seniors and first-year

college students, it is now a Web resource. The best of *Orientation*—a selection of both new articles and past favorites, prayers, and links to United Methodist loans and scholarships, programs, and events—is at [www.gbhem.org/orientation](http://www.gbhem.org/orientation). You may also order printed copies of the magazine for your students. These are available for order online only at the *Orientation Online* website.

- Hold a recognition service for persons in your church connected with higher education. Include those graduating from high school as well as college students, administrators, faculty, staff members, and trustees.
- Give students information about loans and scholarships from GBHEM's Office of Loans and Scholarships.
- Submit the name of a qualified candidate to your annual conference Merit Scholarship Program. For specific information and guidelines, check with the chairperson of your annual conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry.
- Help students connect with a campus ministry at the college they plan to attend. Call 615-340-7404 for assistance.
- Consider making a covenant with a local campus ministry or United Methodist college. This covenant would be a pledge between your local church and the campus ministry or college to be supportive of one another's ministry. Examples of such covenants are available from the Division of Higher Education.

## Keeping in Touch With College Students Away From Home

- Send the names of all college students, including commuting and part-time students, to the Wesley Foundation director, campus minister, or college chaplain at the school they attend. Do this early in the summer to give the campus pastor time to correspond with the students before school starts. Call 615-340-7404 for more information.
- Develop a plan to make contact with your congregation's college students. Assign one student to a family, and ask that family to keep in touch throughout the year. Special notes, "goody" boxes, care packages, news from home, contact with the student's parents—all these are gifts that a family of friends-in-faith could give to a student away from home, in the name of the entire congregation.
- Send college students your church's newsletter or a collection of worship bulletins once a month. This is an easy and important contact.
- Send a personal greeting to each student in your congregation who is away at college on his or her birthday.
- Send notes, a bookmark, or words of encouragement to your students throughout the year. Students love getting mail.

- Plan celebrations and gatherings when students are home—during fall or spring breaks, over the summer, at the Christmas holidays. Publicize these as times for students to gather over a free dinner or snacks to catch up on news of one another. Include students in the planning of the event.
- Involve students in worship leadership when they are home on a visit. Greet them in church so that the congregation recognizes them. Let them know they still have a place in their home church.
- Establish a job pool for college students for summer and part-time holiday jobs. Contact people in the congregation and in the community for job opportunities and make these known to college students related to your church.

## Welcoming College Students in the Area to Your Church

- Let college students know what’s going on at your church. Develop a flyer describing your church and post it at appropriate places around campus. In addition, a creative ad campaign in the campus or town newspaper geared toward students will let students know your church’s doors are open to them.
- Make a point to meet and speak to college students when they come to church. Feeling welcomed is the number one concern of students who attend a new church.
- Invite students to sit with you during worship so they don’t sit alone.
- Treat a student to lunch after worship. Whether it’s at a local restaurant or in someone’s home, students will appreciate an invitation to talk and eat a meal that wasn’t prepared at the campus dining hall.
- Take a student for coffee during the week following their visit at church.
- Offer to drive students to worship. Or, if your church has a van or bus, use it to pick students up on campus and bring them to worship.
- Include students in family holiday activities. Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter are hard times to be away from home.
- If you have a gym, offer an open gym night for students. Offer use of the church for student groups to meet, free of charge. During midterm and final exam times, open the church—for a quiet place to study, for snacks during study breaks, for prayer and meditation time.
- Invite faculty and staff recommended by students to a “Meet and Eat” night—dinner and discussion about a topic of interest to students.
- Welcome college students to worship by giving them a dozen cookies to take back to the residence hall.
- Invite international students to help you plan an ethnic dinner and celebration for your local church. Follow dinner with discussions about customs in the students’ home countries.

- Check with the campus minister or student affairs officer to learn of students' needs that your church could assist in meeting. On many campuses there is a need among students for childcare. Sometimes commuter students need a place to rest and study between classes.
- Encourage your pastor and the local campus minister to set up a person-to-person program. Adopt-a-Family, Adopt-a Student, and Adopt-a-Grandparent programs allow students and church members to interact.

## Making Contact With the Campus for Resources

Whether or not your church is near a campus, you can draw on the resources of higher education to enhance the life of your church.

- Invite campus ministers or college chaplains to bring musical groups, drama groups, or other performance groups to perform in your church.
- Approach faculty and staff at area colleges about conducting workshops in teacher training, managing volunteers, family life education, religious history, art and architecture, financial management, computers, and so forth.
- Ask college faculty, staff, and campus ministers to help address community and congregational problems such as business ethics, politics and government, faith and technology, prison reform, and health care.
- Use college library and audiovisual resources for programming in your church.
- Ask college admissions and counseling personnel to meet with high school students, church members who are considering returning to school, and those who need vocational counseling.
- Request program resources. Share your current concerns and program needs with campus ministers and college administrators. Often they will know someone on campus who may be able to meet those needs.

## Making Contact With the Campus for Understanding

You can draw your church into closer relationship with higher education by offering opportunities for church members to interact with people from college campuses.

- Encourage church members of all ages to attend special events and activities held on campus for the community. Include announcements of these in church bulletins and newsletters.
- Conduct a "college weekend" for church members who often don't have contact with the campus. Arrange with a college in your area to host church members on campus for a weekend. Invite them to live in the

residence halls (if it is a residential college) and take part in programmed and casual conversation with students, staff, and faculty. This weekend will provide an in-depth, though brief study of life on a college campus. You might also want to take a group to a community college to compare the two settings.

- Create interpretive programs about ministry in higher education that can be used in Sunday school classes, with United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women, and for churchwide programs. Campus ministers, college chaplains, and administrators at colleges are good resource persons for these programs.

## Working Your Way Through the Year

### A Sample Calendar of Activities

Here are some ideas, month-by-month, for guiding your church's ministry in higher education. All resources mentioned are more fully described in the "Resources" section on page 32.

#### AUGUST

- Gather the names of students from your congregation who will be attending college and a university this year. Share these with the campus minister or chaplain at the colleges where these students are enrolled.
- Contact your annual conference UMSM adviser to find out about student retreats and events in your area.
- Dedicate a section of your bulletin board or website to the apportionments of The United Methodist Church. Designate a time to emphasize the Black College Fund. Highlight any colleges with which your church has a relationship and include information about each of these schools, as well as the other United Methodist-related higher education institutions.
- Send the brochure *So . . . What About God Now That You're Off to College?* along with a note from you or your ministry team to all students from your church.
- Send first-year college students the Web address ([www.gbhem.org/orientation](http://www.gbhem.org/orientation)) for *Orientation Online*. Or, go to the website and order printed copies of *Orientation*, along with a note about the website for the online faith resource.

## SEPTEMBER

- Obtain the college address (and/or e-mail address) for each student attending college away from home. Place students on the mailing list for the church newsletter.
- Assign these students to church members who agree to keep in touch with them throughout the school year.
- Present information about Africa University to the congregation.
- Send the names of high school juniors and seniors to United Methodist-related colleges.
- Invite a United Methodist college or campus ministry to present a program at your church in November or at another time during the year.
- Invite a faculty, staff member, or student from one or more of the United Methodist-related colleges and universities to talk with your students, offer a workshop on financial aid, participate in worship, or lead a seminar on a topic of your choice.
- Invite a student from a UM-related Black college to speak to your Sunday school class.
- Create a bulletin board with the names and pictures of members of your congregation attending college. Include a map giving the locations of their schools. If your church has a website, you might also post this on the site.
- Prepare to observe World Communion Sunday by giving your congregation information about the Crusade Scholarships, the Ethnic Scholarship Program and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program. (Obtain offering envelopes, bulletin inserts and posters from United Methodist Communications.)
- Encourage your church to be aware of and welcoming toward college students who may be visiting your church for the first time.

## OCTOBER

- Promote the World Communion Sunday offering.
- Send a letter to all high school seniors in your church summarizing all United Methodist scholarships that are available from the local church, annual conference, and the general church.
- Prepare to observe United Methodist Student Day in November. Visit with your pastor about ways to interpret and promote the United Methodist Student Loans and Scholarships Programs. (Obtain offering envelopes, bulletin inserts, and posters from United Methodist Communications.)
- Coordinate a visit by your church's high school youth to a nearby United Methodist college or campus ministry. (Many colleges plan a student day in the fall. Contact the admissions director for more information.)

- Include brochures, posters, and other information in a Black College Fund display.
- List the names and addresses of your students in the church newsletter. Invite members of your church to make contact with them. Take note-cards addressed to each student to different Sunday school classes and ask class members to write a short greeting to send out to students.
- If your church has a prayer chain, invite the coordinator to have the chain pray for one student each week. Send the student a note telling him or her of your prayers and support.

## **NOVEMBER**

- Promote the Student Day offering.
- Share information and stories about how the United Methodist Student Loans and Scholarships Programs have benefited present and former students from your congregation.
- Send a note of encouragement to a student you have met from a Black College Fund school. If you have not had an opportunity to meet individual students, send a message to the president, chaplain, or student affairs office. Request that the letter be shared in chapel, the campus newsletter or website, or other appropriate venue. Or arrange a visit to a Black College Fund school for your congregation.
- Send a copy of the campus ministry Advent meditation booklet to college students. (See “Resources” on page 33.)
- Host a program by students at a United Methodist college or campus ministry.
- Coordinate a study group during the Sunday school hour or at another time on the church’s concern for ministry in higher education. Invite area leaders in higher education to speak about issues facing higher education today.

## **DECEMBER**

- Ask a Sunday school class, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, or your higher education work area members to put together care packages for students approaching finals. Include snacks, bookmarks, a note, and simple tension relievers such as stress-squeeze balls. Let students know your church is praying for them during final exams.
- Invite a Black College Fund student to share a home-cooked meal with you to get acquainted.
- If your church is near a campus, contact the international student office to see if there are students who won’t be going home for Christmas. Offer hospitality—Christmas dinner, time with a church family—to them.

- Host a gathering for your church's college students who are back home during the Christmas holidays.

## **JANUARY**

- Host a college night for your congregation and other churches to introduce students and families to the United Methodist colleges and universities, and to United Methodist financial aid options for all college students. Contact an area United Methodist college or campus minister for leadership.
- Develop a display about United Methodist ministries in higher education for your church. Include brochures and pictures about colleges and about campus ministries. If your church has a website, post information there.
- Encourage high school seniors and college students to apply for a United Methodist scholarship. (See [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org).)

## **FEBRUARY**

- Alert students to the upcoming Student Forum, held Memorial Day weekend. Begin helping raise funds for travel expenses. Encourage students to visit [www.umsm.org](http://www.umsm.org) for information about the event
- Send a midterm letter of encouragement to students. Include a copy of the Lenten meditation booklet, or share the website address so students can sign up to receive the meditations by e-mail.
- Prepare to observe Native American Ministries Sunday in April. Visit with your pastor about ways to interpret the offering, which goes to support Native American ministries and provide scholarships for Native American students. (Obtain offering envelopes, bulletin inserts, and posters from United Methodist Communications.)

## **MARCH**

- In cooperation with your pastor, invite a college president, college chaplain, or campus minister to speak in a worship service. Invite the guest to visit with a Sunday school class too.
- Encourage your annual conference to invite a Lina H. McCord summer intern or ambassador to speak about their experience as a student at a United Methodist-related college and about the importance of the Black College Fund apportionment. Contact the Black College Fund Office, 615-340-7378.
- Public policy issues—such as who has access to higher education, how higher education is funded, what federal and state financial aid is available, daycare legislation for single parents who are students, tuition grant programs—are important issues for the church to understand. Ask someone from a local college or from your state legislature to come to your church and discuss public policy and higher education.

## APRIL

- Promote the Native American Ministries Sunday offering.
- With your pastor, begin to plan a “welcome home” service for students in your congregation who have been away at college. Involve students in planning and carrying out the service.
- Start plans for a special study and fellowship group for college students who will be home for the summer. Consult students to see what format, day, and place would be appropriate for such a group. If the group wishes to meet over a meal, ask members of the congregation to take turns helping provide the food.
- Give graduating seniors the Web address for *Orientation Online*, the online resource for graduating high school seniors. (If you wish, you can go to the *Orientation Online* website at [www.gbhem.org/orientation](http://www.gbhem.org/orientation) and order printed copies of the magazine.)

## MAY

- Support college students from your church who are attending Student Forum during Memorial Day weekend.
- At exam time, send a “survival kit” to college students. Include prayers or a book of meditations, light snacks and homemade cookies, juice boxes, highlighters and pens, and an inexpensive fun toy. Let students know your congregation is thinking of them and praying for them during the stressful end of the school year.
- Send congratulatory letters to students graduating from college and to students graduating from high school.
- Post photos of graduates along with information about their future plans on display boards, in your newsletter, or on your church’s website.
- Host a reception for new graduates following church. Recognize all persons in your congregation who are involved in higher education—faculty, staff, and administrators as well.

## JUNE

- Plan, along with students, a weekend retreat for college students. The focus might be vocational discernment and understanding calling. Provide any support—financial and otherwise—students might need to attend.
- With your pastor, be sure to include college students who are at home during the summer in worship and other aspects of church life.
- Find out which students from your congregation are away from home during the summer. Write them notes telling them their home congregation is remembering them with prayer and good wishes.

## **JULY**

- As high school graduates in your church begin to get ready to leave for college, offer to pair them up with an older student who can help answer their questions and support them.
- Send notes to campus ministers and college chaplains expressing your thanks for the work they do on campus and telling them you will keep them in your prayers as they approach a new school year.

# Resources

## GENERAL RESOURCES

Unless otherwise noted, the following resources can be ordered from the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, PO Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007; or call 615-340-7402. Some of these are also available on the Web at [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org).

- *College Bound*. A guide to selecting a college, with information about United Methodist schools, colleges, and universities as well as loan and scholarship information. Available from Cokesbury at 800-672-1789, or go to [www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com).
- *Annual Conference Higher Education Support Data*. An annual compilation of annual conference financial support of campus ministry, the Black College Fund, colleges and universities, and loans and scholarships. To find out about your annual conference's contributions, contact the Division of Higher Education.

## RESOURCES BY MINISTRY AREA

### The Black College Fund

Unless otherwise indicated, resources are available through United Methodist Communications at 888-UMC-3242. Please provide the code and quantity needed when calling.

- *The Black College Fund brochure*. Includes information and location of all United Methodist-related Black colleges and universities, along with ten reasons to attend a historically Black college.
- *The Black College Fund bookmark*. Lists facts and information about the eleven UM-related historically Black colleges and universities.
- *Black College Fund bulletin inserts* (#85800306). "Contribute to the Legacy" is a celebration of the history of the Black College Fund. Available from United Methodist Communications (888-346-3862) or online at [www.umcsgiving.org](http://www.umcsgiving.org).
- *Invite Someone Special to Your Annual Conference brochure*. Four-color brochure with a tear-off interest request card. Available from the Black College Fund Office, PO Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007, or call 615-340-7378.
- *Instruments of Change DVD*. This thirteen-minute DVD highlights some of the world's best and brightest students, their groundbreaking research, and forward-thinking majors. The eleven UM-related historically Black colleges and universities supported by the Black College Fund are put in

historical context through interviews with families, professors and students. Their inspirational testimonies provide a rich portrait of the vitality and importance of these institutions. Available from the Black College Fund Office or from United Methodist Communications (888-346-3862) or online at [www.umcom.org](http://www.umcom.org).

- *Operation Athletic Ambassador*. A program in which your church hosts a visiting sports team from one of the historically Black colleges. Contact the Black College Fund Office at 615-340-7378.

## EXPLORATION

Here's a chance for students in your church to spend three days with other young people—high-school seniors through age twenty-four—who are exploring ordained ministry. EXPLORATION is an informative and discerning weekend of worship, Bible study, prayer, workshops, and small group discussions. The event is held on a regular basis, as a national event in some years and by jurisdiction in other years. If you know students who are interested in ministry, tell them about EXPLORATION and help send them to the event. For information, visit [www.gbhem.org/exploration](http://www.gbhem.org/exploration).

## Campus Ministry

Unless otherwise noted, the following resources can be ordered from the Campus Ministry Section, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, PO Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007; or call 615-340-7404; or visit the website at [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org).

- *17 Ways to Welcome College Students*. This flyer provides tried-and-true suggestions for your congregation to become a more welcoming place for college and university students. Free. Available in English, Spanish, and Korean.
- *So... What About God Now That You Are Off to College?* (#740410). A brochure that encourages graduating high-school/first year students to prepare for their continued walk with God while attending college. Available in English and Spanish. Order from Cokesbury at 800-672-1789 or online at [www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com).
- *Cartas del Corazon: Reflexiones sobre los Salmos*. Estas reflexiones y oraciones sobre varios Salmos fueron escritas por alumnos universitarios y clérigos asignados a la tarea de la labor pastoral con alumnos universitarios auspiciado por la Iglesia Metodista Unida. Available in print from the Campus Ministry Section or online at [www.gbhem.org/campus\\_ministry](http://www.gbhem.org/campus_ministry).
- *Letters from the Heart: Reflections on the Psalms*. These reflections and prayers on various Psalms were written by college and university students, as well as a campus minister, who are involved in campus ministries spon-

- sored by The United Methodist Church. Available in print from the Campus Ministry Section or online at [www.gbhem.org/campusministry.org](http://www.gbhem.org/campusministry.org).
- *Lenten Meditation Guide and Advent Devotional Guide*. New each year, these guides are geared for students and their spiritual journeys during these seasons of the church. Go to the Higher Education Ministries Arena website at [www.higheredmin.org/meditation.html](http://www.higheredmin.org/meditation.html). This comes as a daily e-mail free to subscribers (just send students the Web address), or you may go to the site and download a copy to send them.
  - *UMSM brochure*. A full-color brochure offering information about the United Methodist Student Movement.
  - *Orientation Online*. A Web resource for graduating high school seniors and first year college students, as well as faith communities on campus. Orientation is an e-zine; you may also order a print copy of Orientation magazine at [www.gbhem.org/orientation](http://www.gbhem.org/orientation).
  - *Campus Ministry: The Church Beyond Itself* by Donald G. Shockley. This book gives an overview of campus ministry, outlines a theology of campus ministry, and makes the case for campus ministry as mission. Westminster/John Knox Press, 1989.
  - *Campus Ministry Matters*. E-newsletter produced by the Campus Ministry Section. For campus ministers, college chaplains, annual conference leaders, and other interested persons. Subscribe by contacting the Campus Ministry Section at 615-340-7404.
  - *ExploreCalling.org*. A website for high school students, college students, seminarians, and other young adults interested in exploring God's call in their lives. Includes resources, tools for spiritual formation, and upcoming events. A resource CD-Rom is also available. Request it by e-mail at [explore@gbhem.org](mailto:explore@gbhem.org) or at [www.ExploreCalling.org](http://www.ExploreCalling.org).
  - *The Christian as Minister: An Exploration Into the Meaning of God's Call*, edited by Robert F. Kohler and Sharon Rubey. An introduction into the meaning of God's call to ministry, the vision for that ministry, and the opportunities The United Methodist Church offers to live out that call. ISBN 978-0-938162-98-8. Available from Cokesbury at 800-672-1789 or online at [www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com).
  - *Answering God's Call for Your Life: A Look at Christian Calls and Church Vocations* by Robert Roth. A guide to help young people listen, discern, and understand God's call in their life and its meaning for their life's work. ISBN 978-0-938162-94-0. Available from Cokesbury at 800-672-1789 or online at [www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com).
  - *Awakened to a Calling: Reflections on the Vocation of Ministry*, by Ann Svennungsen and Melissa Wiginton (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2005. ISBN 978-068705-390-2). Eight sermons on vocation offer an important resource for high school and college students making vocational decisions.

## Schools, Colleges, and Universities

Unless otherwise noted, the following resources can be ordered from the Division of Higher Education, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, PO Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007; or call 615-340-7402; or visit the website at [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org).

- *Schools, Colleges, and Universities of The United Methodist Church*. A complete listing of higher education institutions related to The United Methodist Church. Includes a map of their locations. Available from the Division of Higher Education; also available on the website: [www.gbhem.org/education](http://www.gbhem.org/education).
- *Directory of the International Association of Methodist-Related Schools, Colleges, and Universities*. Lists over 750 institutions, representing 67 nations, related to the World Methodist Council. Free online at [www.gbhem.org/gbhem/iamscu.html](http://www.gbhem.org/gbhem/iamscu.html).
- *EXPLORATION*. A three-day event for young adults (high school seniors through age 24) considering ordained ministry in The United Methodist Church. For information, go to [www.gbhem.org/exploration](http://www.gbhem.org/exploration).

### EXPLORECALLING.ORG

Explorecalling.org is a bridge between those exploring ministry as vocation and those who work as leaders or mentors in discernment and leadership development. The website invites people to consider God's call in their lives, and provides answers to questions about candidacy and ministry in The United Methodist Church. ExploreCalling.org has the latest resources for those who work with youth and young adults. Visitors to the site may sign up to receive updated information and highlighted features.

## Africa University

- *Africa University Fund "Hope" bulletin inserts* (86000206). Postcard bulletin inserts share the stories of three Africa University students and how studying at Africa University has helped them to discover hope for the future. Available from United Methodist Communications (888-346-3862) or online at [www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org).
- *Africa University Fund "Hope" brochures* (86000407). Features students from Africa University, the only United Methodist degree-granting university in Africa. Available from United Methodist Communications (888-346-3862) or online at [www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org).
- *Africa University Today*. A periodic newsletter highlighting the connection between Africa University and United Methodist congregations. Available from the Africa University Development Office at 615-340-7438 or by e-mail at [audevoffice@gbhem.org](mailto:audevoffice@gbhem.org).

- *Africa University on the Web*. To find out more about Africa University, visit the [www.support-africanuniversity.org](http://www.support-africanuniversity.org).

## **Loans and Scholarships**

Unless otherwise noted, the following resources can be ordered from the Office of Loans and Scholarships, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, PO Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007; or call 615-340-7346 (for loans) or 615-340-7344 (for scholarships); or visit the website at [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org).

- *United Methodist Loans and Scholarships Handbook*. Lists all loans and scholarships available, including criteria, deadlines, and applications. Includes loans and scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students. Also lists links with other United Methodist agencies and organizations that offer scholarships.
- *Loan and Scholarship Special Offering Days Envelopes and Posters*. Envelopes and posters for each of the UM special days: Native American Awareness Sunday, World Communion Sunday, and UM Student Day Sunday. These may be ordered from United Methodist Communications at 888-346-3862, or online at [www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org).
- *Women of Color brochure*. Outlines scholarships available to women of color who are Ph.D. or Th.D. students.

## **Places and People Who Offer Further Help**

If you need information or help you cannot find in these *Guidelines*, there are places and people who can offer help.

- *Your nearby campus minister or chaplain* will be pleased to answer questions or visit your church to help.
- *Your annual conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry* (or equivalent structure) will know the facts relating to higher education institutions and campus ministries in your conference. You can get the name of the chairperson from your pastor.
- *Your annual conference UMSM adviser* can help your students get involved in the United Methodist Student Movement.
- *The church relations officer or chaplain* of the United Methodist-related colleges or universities in your annual conference can provide more information about those institutions.
- *The Division of Higher Education*, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, offers information and publications from a national perspective. You can contact the division at PO Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007; or call 615-340-7402; or visit the website at [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org).

- *The United Methodist Higher Education Foundation* offers special scholarships as well as information and help in setting up foundations from wills and bequests. You can contact them at PO Box 340005, Nashville, TN 37203-0005; call 615-340-7385; or visit the website at [www.umhef.org](http://www.umhef.org).

## **YOUNG ADULT SEMINARIANS NETWORK**

Young Adult Seminarians Network (YASN) is a network of United Methodist seminarians ages thirty-five and younger. YASN hosts a national gathering of young adult seminarians each May in conjunction with the United Methodist Student Forum. YASN is dedicated to helping members grow in the faith, deepening their relationship with Jesus Christ, supporting each other in the faith journey, being advocates for social justice, and taking an active role in The United Methodist Church. Visit their website and contact them at [www.yasn.org](http://www.yasn.org).

## **Important Web Sites**

[www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org)—website of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

[www.gbhem.org/education](http://www.gbhem.org/education)—Division of Higher Education Web pages

**The Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry Web pages provide information about and links to the following:**

**United Methodist-Related Schools, Colleges, Universities, and UM Theological Schools (with links to institutions' Web pages)**

[www.gbhem.org/education](http://www.gbhem.org/education)

**Higher Education and Public Policy**

[www.gbhem.org/education](http://www.gbhem.org/education)

[www.naicu.edu](http://www.naicu.edu)

**United Methodist-Related Campus Ministries and Chaplaincies**

[www.gbhem.org/campusministry](http://www.gbhem.org/campusministry)

**United Methodist Loans and Scholarship Program**

[www.gbhem.org/loansandscholarships](http://www.gbhem.org/loansandscholarships)

**Special Sundays With Offerings**

[www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org)

**The Black College Fund**

[www.gbhem.org/bcf](http://www.gbhem.org/bcf)

**The United Methodist Student Movement (UMSM)**

[www.umsm.org](http://www.umsm.org)

**Higher Education Ministries Arena**

[www.higheredmin.org](http://www.higheredmin.org)

***Orientation Online***

[www.gbhem.org/orientation](http://www.gbhem.org/orientation)

**ExploreCalling**

[www.ExploreCalling.org](http://www.ExploreCalling.org)

**Africa University**

[www.africau.edu](http://www.africau.edu)

[www.support-africanuniversity.org](http://www.support-africanuniversity.org)

[www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org)

**The United Methodist Higher Education Foundation**

[www.umhef.org](http://www.umhef.org)

***Interpreter Magazine***

[www.interpretermagazine.org](http://www.interpretermagazine.org)

