Section IV

Connection Ministry Updates

Connectional Ministries and Communications

The Office of Connectional Ministries focuses and guides the mission and ministry of the Mississippi Conference. This group is led by the Director of Connectional Ministries and Communications.

Committees include: Mississippi Partnerships; Wesley Pines Conference; Camping and Retreat Center; Camp Lake Stephens; Seashore United Methodist Assembly; Gulfside Association; Methodist Children’s Homes of Mississippi; Choctaw Mission; Good Shepherd Community Center; Edwards Street Fellowship Center; Moore Community House; Wesley House Community Center; Bethlehem Center; St. Andrew’s Mission; United Methodist Hour; Delta Grace; United Methodist Women; United Methodist Men; Church and Society; Board of Global Ministries (Missions, United Methodist Committee on Relief, United Methodist Volunteers in Mission and Health and Welfare); Youth Ministries; Discipleship Ministries; Commission on Communication; Vital Congregations Committee; Annual Conference Planning Committee and Discipleship. Other areas of care include: Safe Sanctuaries, Domestic Violence Task Group, Personnel Committee, Journal Resolutions and Petitions and Standing Rules.

The Office of Connectional Ministries coordinates staff, boards, agencies and committees to uphold and promote shared ministries of the Annual Conference, Jurisdictional Conference, General Conference as each local church lives out our Core Values.

The Office of Communications inspires, informs, and engages the people of the United Methodist Church. Communications seeks to increase awareness and visibility of the denomination in communities while also offering services, tools, products and resources for communications ministry to the local church through their district offices. The Office of Communications reports the vision for “Living Out the POWER of We” and is led by the commission on communication. The Book Discipline (646) requires that “the commission shall be a service agency to meet the communication, publication, multimedia, public and media relations, interpretation, and promotional needs of the annual conference.

United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network

We envision a society where all people in Appalachia are valued. One in which all are offered discipleship for Jesus Christ and where all have the opportunity to realize God-centered spiritual, social, and economic potential. The mission of the United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network is to advocate for Appalachia within the structure of the United Methodist Church and to empower social justice through leadership development and collaboration with ministries and organizations that serve the region.

Spring Board Meeting was held in April in Steubenville Ohio at the UMAMN office located inside the Urban Mission Ministries. The board awarded $4500 in ‘Hunger and Poverty’ grants (details below). In line with UMAMN goals set by the board in 2017, 2018 was a year of advocacy and education. UMAMN partnered with local churches to address concerns focusing on hunger and poverty. As a result, UMAMN identified three major concerns: opioid addiction, affordable housing/homelessness and human trafficking. UMAMN hosted a workshop for clergy and the UMAMN board members. This workshop provided training for church leaders to address the growing epidemics in the rural Appalachian areas. Three presentations were given address how the church can respond to the opiate crisis, address the lack of affordable housing and assist local law enforcement by provide access to human and sex trafficking recovery agencies. The training was free and open to all East Ohio, West Ohio and West Virginia Conferences.

Fall Board Meeting was held October 25, 2019 at Belmont UMC in Belmont, MS. The board awarded $4000 in ‘Hunger and Poverty’ grants (details below). A presentation was given by Belmont
Food Pantry Staff and Volunteers. The Belmont food pantry was a 2017 ‘Hunger and Poverty’ grant recipient. Belmont UMC demonstrated how local business and individuals can support projects after funding. (Sustainably is a requirement of funded projects). Along with UMAMN board members, New Albany District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Raigain Miskelly, was in attendance.

2018 Hunger and Poverty Grants A total of total of 115 participants and 188 families were served from the four funded hunger and poverty grants. Grant breakdown: 35 individuals were provided assistance through the liquid nutrition program in Big Stone Gap, VA ($1500 grant awarded). 80 low income or home bound seniors were served daily by the meal delivery program in Mooreseburg, TN ($2500 grant awardee). 186 families were given food assistance in Frakes, KY ($2000 grant awarded). And two families received solar panels on their home in Somerset, PA ($2500. Grant awarded).

Executive Board Members: Rev. John Baney, Board Chair, Susquehanna Conference; Rev. Joy Wigal, Recording Secretary, West Ohio Conference; Sharon Kirtdoll, Finance Secretary, East Ohio Conference; Sue Rogers, Treasurer, East Ohio Conferences; Deaconess Erie Stuckett, Membership Chair, Mississippi Conference; Rev. Lee Ann Dunlap, West Ohio Conference; and Gayle Leasure, West Virginia Conference

A copy of the 2018 budget and audit will be provided to all conferences.

2018 Advance Special Contributions: $5241.69

Baddour Center

Greetings to our friends in the Mississippi Conference from everyone at Baddour Center! We celebrated our 40th anniversary on December 12, 2018; and, without hesitation, THANK YOU – corporately and individually – for your open doors, love, support, and prayers through the years. The Conference has helped us touch countless lives through this ministry, including residents and their families as well as employees and friends, many of which are counted among your congregations.

We often say that while many things have changed, or are changing, one thing that has not changed is our mission. Baddour Center still provides a loving and nurturing community through which approximately 150 women and men from across our nation, in short, “live, learn, work, worship, and play.” Every day, we seek to help residents reach their God-given potential, doing so in a safe yet relatively independent environment.

Baddour serves residents through four primary program areas: Residential Services, Vocational Services, Community Life, and Education and Behavior Supports. We provide all services, including health services, spiritual growth, horticulture, Special Olympics, and the performing and creative arts, among others, within this framework.

To remain competitive nationally, and uphold the word model in our mission, we must constantly assess our services and our systems for service delivery. We shared last year that serving persons with intellectual disabilities is increasingly complex, as opportunities and expectations grow, along with the number of persons needing services; and, this requires more creative and strategic thinking and planning.

God continues to bless us immeasurably. Here are a few examples.

In response to an aging infrastructure, we are fully engaged with executing our campus master plan, having last year renovated the Chapel, two resident homes, the library, the vocational administration suite, and repaving all roads, among other things. We anticipate renovating two of the original nine homes and building two new homes this year, among other actions. All actions include greater cost- and energy-efficiency measures.

We also introduced and opened last year a new and separate community-based operation to provide Mississipians home- and community-based services under the Medicaid Waiver. CLIMB (or Community Living in Mississippi – Baddour) served four persons through its Day Services program and purchased a home in downtown Senatobia, for which we are currently seeking three residents. We are patiently building and very excited about this new venture, as it permits us to share our blessings beyond previous limits. Please contact us if you know someone who might benefit from the program.
A favorite example, and one we know you will especially appreciate, is the “Baddour Bible Bunch,” a group of approximately ten residents who are members at Independence United Methodist Church. The joy these residents experience being a part of this church body is incredible, and the church’s acceptance and love for them in return is inspiring. While this program started more than a year ago, this church has become, without question, these residents’ church.

We can share many wonderful and exciting examples of God’s provision, however, what happens here is not obstacle- and stress-free. Baddour Center continues operating as a privately-funded, faith-based operation. As we shared last year, we remain fully committed to preserving the fundamental elements that make Baddour such a special place while also diversifying our business model and successfully growing these new initiatives. We covet your prayers and seek wisdom and discernment in all decisions.

Baddour remains blessed financially, showing a net profit for the past fiscal year. We strive to be good stewards of the funds entrusted to us, spending approximately 85% of our annual budget on programs and services and 15% on administrative and fundraising costs. The Conference continues to partner with Baddour, as do churches, Sunday School classes, and circles. The Conference, through its many churches, also helps us raise awareness through hosting The Miracles. This gifted bunch of residents are tremendous ambassadors for Christ and Baddour.

This report is a sample of The Baddour Center’s recent activity. Please note that you are always welcome to visit. We love visitors so that they too can experience first-hand the blessing that we are privileged to enjoy daily. We believe the Lord has done and will continue to do wonderful things at Baddour, and we thank you for being a part (and welcome those who want to be a part)! For more information about our mission and ministry, contact The Baddour Center at 1-888-4BADDOUR. You might also visit our website, www.baddour.org.

2018-2019 TRUSTEES FOR THE BADDOUR CENTER

Mr. Jim Ainsworth Mr. Tom Hunt Mrs. Judy Starkey
Rev. Mark Allen Mr. Steve Nelson Bishop James E. Swanson
Mr. Don Baddour Mr. Robert Paine Mr. Phil Swift
Mr. Paul Baddour Mr. David Peck Mrs. Shea Veazey
Mrs. Margy Graham Mr. Parke Pepper Rev. Vickie White
Dr. Carole Haney Mr. Don Scipper Mr. Press York
Rev. Rickey Haynes Mr. John Spooner

Bethlehem Center, Inc.

Bethlehem Center has entered into its 42nd year of existence. Our mission is achieved by providing quality education and service to the families we serve through a spiritual aspect.

Some of the services we offer is:

- Daily childcare with a guided learning environment and after-school care with homework assistance.
- Annual free tax preparation
- Monthly birthday parties hosted by UMW
- Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for the community to enjoy

Bethlehem Center is in process of launching a new project “Alzheimer Outreach and Awareness. This project is in the making stage and will be partner with local churches and communities to educate how to deal with the situation if you are a caregiver, we are looking forward to working with other on this project.

Without the support of Mission Shares, we would not have been able to provide the quality education to over 82 students.

There is a lot of valuable information and resource the Annual Conference provide to us. Bethlehem Center welcome their support.
Camp Lake Stephens

Camp Lake Stephens celebrated 73 years of providing quality Christian education for people of all ages of Mississippi and beyond. We continue to focus on our mission statement: Committed to being a place where children, youth, and adults can encounter God and respond in faith to God’s call to transform the world. 2018 was yet another exceptional year for our ministry and expanding our campers and guests faith life.

Program Statistics

- Over 1,300 residential summer campers in 60+ summer programs grew in faith and community formation
- Many second, third and quite a few fourth generation families experienced CLS
- The LIT/CIT program continues to max out and provide leadership and discerning experiences for our older campers.
- 400 day campers started their camping career at Camp Lake Stephens
- Traveling Day Camp Sites hosted over 400 youth in direct partnership with eight congregations and the Mississippi Conference.
- 60 amazing college and high school students served as summer staff leaders. When totaled up, they had over 250 summers of Camp Lake Stephens’ experiences. 15 served in a church/mission/Wesley Foundation in a leadership role after camp.
- Nearly 650 youth participants in our retreat programs
- Over 40 retreat groups and meetings that brought over 1,700 people to CLS!

Leadership Transition

Following Darrell Whitaker's service of 14 years as the Executive Director, Rich Swartwood became the Executive Director at CLS, with over 25 years of outdoor ministry experience. In September, Wes Partin joined our staff as Facility Director. We also added five seasonal program specialists (interns) to our staff this fall. Two are full-time and three are part time. All five are assisting in program, facility, and office tasks.

We are blessed with incredible staff that continues to provide quality programming and hospitality. Chap Fenwick was promoted to Assistant Director in the fall as he takes on new leadership roles. Sally Lott McLellan continues to be the voice and backbone of the office as our Office Manager. Linda Fleming is our amazing Food Service Director who provides our year-round food service needs, and well as a warm smile to those who visit.

CLS Loves Volunteers!

Amazing volunteers donated 3,052 hours of labor in 2018! Volunteers groups included: several work groups, two sessions of NOMADS, four AmeriCorps events and many incredible. Those hours amounted to over $61,000 in labor savings if we were to pay for that work. The following are the highlights of what they accomplished:

- Pool renovation included increased circulation, added outdoor showers, upgraded electrical, renovation of chlorination system and removal of the barbed wire
- Painted the front wall and replaced two windows and the front door of the dining hall
- Relocated the gazebo by Quay's Place and added a sun shade structure in its place
Renovated Cabin .5 to the “Resting Place” for clergy and individual spiritual retreats
Moved the maintenance area to the barn with plans to add a Nature Center area in the old building
Replaced the HVAC system in the Chapel with a high efficiency heat pump system
Removed mobile home from site
Replaced the zip line and harnesses
Removed graffiti and added curtains in the cabins
Replaced Chapel lights

Significant energy was spent in reconnecting with people who love Camp Lake Stephens. We partnered with over 220 individuals and congregations (114 new donors) for financial gifts for both operating funds and designated gifts. Over $127,000 for the annual budget and $11,750 for scholarships was received in 2018. Our Micro-Fundraiser for the zip line raised over $5,000, the Giving Tuesday exceeded our $15,000 matching gift with $16,750 in total gifts. Additionally, we received over $142,000 in designated gifts for the pool, dining hall, and other projects.

The Mississippi Conference Funding of $113,263 (12% of our operating budget) provides vital support to our ministry. These funds make it possible to support the diverse programming that allows us to enrich and empower our campers, staff and guests to see and feel God's presence in their lives in the intentional community and take that experience to help them transform their world into a stronger, more positive place.

Parent Quote:
“[It’s] been a long long time ago back in the 70s. Charles Morrison was the camp director, and things were a lot different! But it was the best time I think I ever had. I couldn’t wait to go. I went on a 10-day canoe trip one year. I just love that my son loves it as much as me. He looks forward every year. And I always feel safe sending him because I know he will be taken care of. That means a lot to a parent.”

Camper Quotes:
“I will definitely go to camp next year and the year after that and the year after that and the, well you get it! I will go to camp until I’m old enough to be a counselor, and then I’ll be a counselor until I’m too old to do that, and then I’ll get a job there as a nurse in the infirmary or a lunch lady or something.”

“I learned that God always loves you no matter what and God is present everywhere and in everything.”

“God is stronger than my fears.”

Camp Lake Stephens Board Members
Richard Barrett Laura Gilliom Rich Swartwood
Joey Lott Dexter Haynes Raigan Miskelly
Chris McAlilly Linda Leatherwood Andy Stoddard
Corey Truett Erin Grant Bishop James Swanson Sr.
Abbey Bridges Virginia McLaurin
Paulette Buford-James Audrey Jordan

Edwards Street Fellowship Center
1979 to 2019. For forty years, Edwards Street Fellowship Center has been shining the light of God’s love across the Pine Belt!

Mission: To shine the light of God’s love.

Purpose: To provide a helping hand to the poor, the underserved, the suffering in the greater Hattiesburg area.

Values: ESFC respects the dignity and value of clients, volunteers, and staff. Core values are trust, open communication, justice, and fiscal responsibility in the spirit of the love and compassion of Jesus
Christ. We are welcoming to people of all beliefs and respectful of their individual needs. We are compassionate, nurturing the health, well-being and dignity of each other and those we serve. We are collaborative, seeking and sharing best practices and respecting the mutual contributions we make in fulfilling our mission. We are innovative, challenging ourselves and our partners to improve the ways we work and serve. We are passionate in the pursuit of our mission. We serve all equally, with integrity and openness, breaking down barriers that build injustice.

**Love:** Prayer request/suggestion/feedback cards are provided at the ESFC food pantry, medical clinic, and thrift store. Sunday school members at a local dementia care senior living facility lift up the prayer requests weekly. Fruits and vegetables grown in ESFC’s community gardens are distributed through the food pantry.

**Generosity:** The ESFC food pantry supplies emergency and supplemental food to over 1,500 households per month. In 2018, 230 tons of food were distributed to residents of a seven-county area. Fellowship Health Clinic offers free medical, pharmaceutical, dental, medical lab, social work, and physical therapy services to uninsured and underinsured adults from Forrest and Lamar counties. Fellowship Health Clinic’s impact in 2018 includes 813 patient encounters with medical providers; 5,456 prescriptions filled for 107 patients; 685 lab tests processed by LabCorp; 108 referrals for tooth extractions, dental cleanings, and X-rays; and 370 social work interviews.

**Justice:** Community partners offer free services in food pantry lobby, such as free HIV testing and wellness check-ups and education. The ESFC Thrift Store serves as a workfare site for the DHS SNAP program and various rehab/recovery programs. New initiatives launched in the spring of 2019 include the Pine Belt Diaper Bank and Wheels of Glory, a referral program for free bicycles for those exhibiting need for reliable transportation.

**Apprenticeship:** Relationships are built with neighbors of all ages. Senior adult ladies gather weekly for Bible study and a meal. Children’s programs include Boy Scouts, in-school tutoring, and Junior Auxiliary’s Smart Art, Coat Giveaway, and Family Affair.

**UM Connections:**

1. **Mission Shares.** ESFC is overwhelmingly grateful for mission share funding, which helps us provide vital programming for our community in an atmosphere of respect, dignity, compassion, and Christian love. Mission share dollars are used in all programming aspects of our ministry: food pantry, medical clinic, thrift store, Boy Scouts, community gardens, senior ladies’ Bible fellowship, woodlands area, and special events.

2. **Local Churches.** In the past year, ESFC directors have shared at UM churches (Eminence, Heritage, Parkway Heights, and Purvis) and the MS Annual Conference session mission booth. ESFC is abundantly grateful for the service of volunteers this year from local UM churches (Asbury, Bentley Chapel, Ellisville First, Heritage, Laurel First, Main Street, Moselle, Oak Grove, Parkway Heights, Petal, Purvis, St. Paul-Hattiesburg, Talawah, USM Wesley Foundation, William Chapel, and Williamsburg). Churches take ESFC’s mission to their site when ESFC provides 50-pound bags of rice or beans and cases of Ziploc bags to repackage commodities for food pantry distribution. Church groups also decorate the pantry’s paper grocery bags with verses of scripture and encouraging messages. ESFC board members (who represent nine Hattiesburg District UM churches) receive bulletin / newsletter blurbs at board meetings so they can easily share ESFC news with their church offices.

**Community Connections:**

1. **Community Partners.** A small sampling of ESFC’s community partners includes the Asbury Foundation, Camp Shelby Youth ChallengeNGe, E&B Discount Grocery, Forrest General Hospital, Hattiesburg Clinic, Mississippi Food Network, Pearl River Community College, Sanderson Farms, St. Vincent de Paul Community Pharmacy, United Way of Southeast Mississippi, the University of Southern Mississippi, Walmart, and William Carey University.

2. **Media.** ESFC has an active social media presence (three FB pages and one Twitter account), as well as two websites, www.EdwardsStreetFellowship.org and www.FellowshipClinic.org. Local television stations and newspapers regularly highlight ESFC’s programs and events.
Testimonial - Fellowship Health Clinic: “Carol” is a 56-year-old female who weighed 344 pounds when she entered Fellowship Health Clinic in February of 2018. Her blood pressure was in the “urgent” hypertensive range of 180/110. At her first clinic appointment, Carol was prescribed blood pressure meds that she received through the free clinic. Because transportation is a barrier for Carol, FHC also provided her with a blood pressure cuff, log book, and educational tips for home monitoring. Carol takes full advantage of FHC’s services, participating in weekly physical therapy sessions for her knee pain, attending educational Lunch & Learn sessions each month, and enrolling in the Family Y Group Lifestyle Balance (a partner program for clinic patients). The water aerobics class is her favorite activity at the Family Y, and it complements the exercises she does in physical therapy at FHC. One year later, Carol’s weight is down 10% to 311 pounds. Her blood pressure is at a much safer level of 138/76. With improved health, Carol has obtained a job as a sitter for a home health agency. Carol is excited to report, “Now that I have a job, I can purchase my own personal hygiene items! I depended on other people to buy these things for me before, but I didn’t always get them. I’m so happy now!”

EDWARDS STREET FELLOWSHIP CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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<th>Class of 2019</th>
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<th>Class of 2021</th>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Bethley</td>
<td>Carolyn Hood</td>
<td>Gwendolyn Davis</td>
<td>Gene Carothers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ricky Hagenson</td>
<td>Cecelia Jones</td>
<td>Willie Macko, Treasurer</td>
<td>Joan Holland, Vice Chair</td>
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<td>David McGowin</td>
<td>Carol Williams</td>
<td>Clay Rasco</td>
<td>Marcia Line</td>
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<td>Sessions Polk</td>
<td>Bill Youngblood, Chair</td>
<td>Matthew Shoemaker</td>
<td>Corey Proctor, Secretary</td>
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Life Members:
Iva Brown, Lonette Cliburn, Peggy Gates, Anne Hutto, Lelia Wilson

Ex Officio Members:
Henrietta Brown, Cynthia Cross, Lauren Mason, Ann McCullen, Brandi McKay-Ruffin, Angela Neal, Marvin Strahan, Bishop James Swanson, Julie Talbot, Vickie White

Good Shepherd Community Center, Inc.

The primary Ministry of the Good Shepherd Community Center is to reach out in our community and surrounding areas to improve the lives of children, youth, adults, and families. We do this by providing affordable Daycare to working parents, a GED program where adults can complete their High School Education, a free Medical Clinic, After School tutoring for elementary aged children, as well as providing food for over 500 people at Thanksgiving and clothing and toys to 500+ children for Christmas each year.

1. Our Daycare program took in a family in June with two children. The three-year-old boy did not speak. He only pointed and made grunting sounds. His parents just thought he was behind but we realized immediately that this child needed much more help than we could offer alone. We contacted the Vicksburg/Warren School District special education office and the Vicksburg Family Development Services. This child was given a full examination and we were able to get him into a specialized speech and hearing program. His parents have been amazed. They thought nothing was wrong but now this child is speaking, he has come out of his shell (way to much some days), and is well on his way to catching up on the skills he should have at this age and move forward with his class. Because of funding from the Mississippi Annual Conference Mission Shares we were able to offer all of these services at no cost to the family. Making a difference in the life of this child has given the entire family hope and a better outlook on their future.

2. Almost on a daily basis we offer volunteer opportunities for people to come and visit our ministry to see what we are doing and work with those in our facility. This gives them a hands on experience and shows them that they can make a difference in someone else’s life. Through their gift of love to others, they become more generous with their time, their gifts and bring and inspire others to do the same. This makes them apprentices of their faith as they reach out in their faith communities to bring more people to become Disciples of Christ and transform the world. We have over 500 volunteers each year.
3. Our GED Program continues to reach out in our community to help those who did not get their High School diploma be prepared to take and pass their GED test. This year we have had 7 people pass their GED test with at least 4 more taking the test before the end of year. If all of these pass, we will move over 350 people who have gotten their GED through our program. But GED to us is more than just classes. Many of our students do not have transportation so we offer free transportation to and from class each day. Some of our students have children who need to be in a childcare program while they are in class so we work to put those children in our Daycare. When we do this, it only cost the parent $10 a month and our Mission Shares help pay this if the parent cannot.

Even before they graduate we take them to the WIN Job center to apply for employment and take them to the Hinds Community College and the Alcorn University Vicksburg branches to help them apply to further their education. We encourage them to go on by offering up to four $500 scholarships each year which are donated by a special individual in our community who used to volunteer with this program and gives her a chance to continue to be a part of changing lives.

**Gulfside “Assembly” Association**

The Gulfside Association Board of Trustees continues to regain a missional focus envisioned by Bishop Robert E. Jones. This year presented opportunities to define our purpose and key focal areas, setting our programmatic thrust, and board structure and functionality.

**Summary of Organizational Changes**

**Purpose:**

For nearly 100 years Gulfside has advocated and provided opportunities for underserved, excluded, and discriminated against people and communities. Today, we continue to engage in the ministry of advocacy by:

- inspiring people, churches and organizations to positively impact underserved communities
- training the next generation of multicultural advocates.

**Key Focal Areas:**

1. Revitalizing the Gulfside brand through storytelling and a vibrant online presence. Increasing name recognition and spreading a new narrative about Gulfside.
2. Maximizing the value of our board, staff and volunteers. Getting the right people involved, doing the right things at the right time.
3. Establishing and executing strategic goals and impactful programming. Pursuing partnership as a key strategy and financial self-sufficiency for programmatic offerings.
4. Pursuing greater financial stability, making Gulfside a viable ministry partner for years to come. Increasing giving by rejuvenating and increase size of database and volunteer database. Creating a long-range plan (10+ years) for facilities and income generation.

**Strategies:**

1. Rev. Dr. Terry Lynn Hilliard appointed Interim Executive Director
2. By-Law Revisions
3. Development of assessment tools
4. Development and Implementation
   a. Memoranda of Understandings with each partner
   b. Signature Program: Emerging Clergy and Laity Leadership Development Initiative for social and personal holiness for people of color and African descent
   c. Development/Institutional Advancement Committee
   d. Creation of media and historical display
   e. Establish grant portfolio
   f. Organize local and conference volunteers for missional engagement with Gulfside
We believe these efforts will move Gulfside into a stronger future with vibrant partnerships and ministries on the Gulf and in the world.

**Gulfside Association Board of Directors**

Rev. Elijah Stansell, Chair  
Rev. Dr. Terry Lynn Hilliard,  
Interim Executive Director  
Rev. Dr. Vincent Harris, Planning and Resource Committee  
Rev. Dr. Joe Connelly, Assessment Committee  
Bishop James E. Swanson  
Ms. Vera Thomas  
Ms. Ora Franklin-Rodgers  
Rev. James Salley  
Mr. David Stotts  
Rev. Dr. Jackie Rose-Tucker  
Ms. Cheryl Thompson  
Ms. Stella Beene-venson  
Ms. Erin Hawkins  
Rev. Lindsey Robinson  
Dr. David Beckley  
Rev. Dr. Ouida Lee  
Ms. Jasmine Haynes

**Mississippi Methodist Senior Services, Inc.**

2018 was a good year for Mississippi Methodist Senior Services, Inc! We continued to be strong as we served older adults in the spirit of Christian love all across the state on behalf of United Methodists. With an annual budget of over $65 million and 1,000 employees serving over 1,450 residents, we are blessed to be related to the United Methodist Church.

Here are some of the highlights:

- **Aldersgate, (Meridian) has continued its strategic planning.** It will be conducting a fundraising campaign feasibility study this quarter to determine the likelihood of a successful $4 million capital campaign for several major projects, including a Green House home.

- **Wesley Meadows’ (Hernando) capital campaign continues to progress.** Still in its “silent phase” Donors have pledged and given over $679,000 toward its Green House home and maintenance endowment.

- **NextAge Mississippi has taken its next step forward** with the hiring of its first Executive Director, Kim Easterling! She is already making an impact as she “learns the ropes” and embraces the NextAge vision. Housekeeping and handyman services have been added in Lee County. These complement Meals on Wheels and our internet-based information portal and toll-free number.

- **The 2019 Strategic Plan, which began development at our retreat last fall, has taken shape.** We are excited about the direction it is leading us for the next five years. It was formally adopted at our Annual Meeting of the Membership in February. It is the most significant strategic plan tool that we have had in over 25 years.

- **One of our strategies is to develop a “Leadership Academy” modeled after the LeadingAge Leadership Academy.** It will be a “masters-level” course for our leadership teams that will consist of a year-long course of reading, projects and meeting (four times). It will be initially designed and taught in collaboration with Dr. Michele Holleran, PhD, a nationally known consultant who designed and taught the first LeadingAge Leadership Academies. We have received a wonderful pledge to underwrite the initial costs for the development and first year that we will formally announce at our meeting.

- **We recently received the results from our 2018 Resident Engagement Study.** Holleran Consulting is our vendor for these surveys. We were very pleased that several of our campuses achieved levels of engagement that significantly exceeded Holleran’s national benchmarks and received Holleran’s “Choice Community Award.” Aldersgate was one of only two campuses nationally which were recognized for their highest results for both employee and resident engagement surveys. In addition to Aldersgate, Flowers Manor (Clarksdale), Martha Coker (Yazoo City), and Wesley Manor (Hattiesburg) received the Choice Community recognition for their resident survey results!

- **As you know, the Sunday Fund provides needed financial assistance to elders who have out-lived their resources.** We provided over $234,000 support during the last twelve months. Last year’s gifts set a record—over $384,000 was given to this most important fund!
United Methodist Senior Services of Mississippi, Inc.

**MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION**

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<td>Randy Burchfield</td>
<td>Hargie Crenshaw</td>
<td>Rev. Jimmy E. Criddle</td>
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<td>Rev. Dwight Prowell</td>
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<td>Van Ray</td>
<td>Ann Milam</td>
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<td>Richard Topp</td>
<td>Rev. Neville Vanderburg</td>
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<td>Polly Bailey</td>
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<td>Alice Gorman</td>
<td>Paula E. Drungole</td>
<td>Rev. Jimmy E. Criddle</td>
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<td>Rev. Joe May</td>
<td>Van Ray</td>
<td>Rev. Claire E. Dobbs</td>
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<td>Cynthia Parker</td>
<td>Frank A. Riley, Jr.</td>
<td>Juanita Floyd</td>
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<td>Rev. Chris Young</td>
<td>Bill H. West</td>
<td>David Vincent</td>
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**Officers**

- Chair: Cynthia Parker
- Vice-Chair: Van Ray
- Secretary: Bill H. West

United Methodist Senior Services of Tupelo Area, Inc.

**United Methodist Senior Services Health Care, Inc.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class of 2019</th>
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<td>Bill Hines</td>
<td>Marshall Briscoe</td>
<td>Kathryn Barrow</td>
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<td>Amy McFerrin</td>
<td>Dana Foster</td>
<td>David Brevard</td>
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<td>Ann Milam</td>
<td>Paul Mize III</td>
<td>Randy Burchfield</td>
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<td>Sally Enos Williams</td>
<td>Tom Murry</td>
<td>Kay Collins</td>
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<td>Sandra Wright</td>
<td>Lowell Walker, Jr.</td>
<td>Dana Finch</td>
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**Ex-Officio Members**

- Cynthia Parker, Chairman, MMSS
- Stephen L. McAlilly, President/CEO
- Alan Brown, Vice Pres./Chief Operating Officer
- Jon Stirewalt, Executive Director

United Methodist Senior Services of Clarksdale Area, Inc.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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<td>Diane Eubanks</td>
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<td>Anthony J. Murray</td>
<td>Pat Robinette</td>
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<td>Ed Peacock III</td>
<td>Rodge Rogers</td>
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<td>Tom Ross</td>
<td>Neville Vanderburg</td>
<td>Ellington Massey</td>
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- Monica Jennings, Executive Director
### United Methodist Senior Services of Columbus Area, Inc.

**United Methodist Senior Services of the Golden Triangle Area, Inc.**

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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<td>Jimmy Criddle</td>
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<td>Debbie Gard</td>
<td>George Irby</td>
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<td>Ellender McClure</td>
<td>Dennis Holliman</td>
<td>Theresa Miley</td>
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<td>Bill West</td>
<td>Sammy Townsend</td>
<td>Sarah Sanders</td>
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<td>Jay Wiygul</td>
<td>Tom Waller</td>
<td>Sandra Woodard</td>
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**Ex-Officio Members**

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- Craig Hill, Executive Director

### Aldersgate Retirement Community, Inc. – Lauderdale Senior Services, Inc.

**Meridian Senior Services, Inc. – Aldersgate Personal Care, Inc.**

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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<td>Tony Fouts</td>
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<td>Wanda Hastings</td>
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<td>Chris Lauderdale</td>
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<td>Jo Beth Maranto</td>
<td>Mark Scarborough</td>
<td>Ronnie Walton</td>
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<td>Larry Pupa</td>
<td>Mina Beth Tonini</td>
<td>Cay Wedgeworth</td>
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**Ex-Officio Members**

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- Stephen L. McAlilly, President/CEO
- Alan Brown, Vice Pres./Chief Operating officer
- Lawona Broadfoot, Executive Director & Regional Director – South

### Hattiesburg Area Senior Services, Inc.

**Wesley Manor Retirement Community, Inc.**

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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<td>Emily Ann Allen</td>
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<td>Michael H. Gilreath</td>
<td>John L. Lipscomb</td>
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<td>James “Pat” Smith</td>
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<td>Rufus M. Smith</td>
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<td>Jeff Lawson</td>
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**Ex-Officio Members**

- Cynthia Parker, Chairman, MMSS
- Stephen L. McAlilly, President/CEO
- Alan Brown, Vice Pres./Chief Operating officer
- Rebecca Anderson, Executive Director

### Seashore Campgrounds Retirement Home, Inc.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ex-Officio Members
Cynthia Parker, Chairman, MMSS
Stephen L. McAlilly, President/CEO
Alan Brown, Vice Pres./Chief Operating officer
Rebecca Anderson, Executive Director

Greene County Retirement Systems, Inc.

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Ex-Officio Members
Cynthia Parker, Chairman, MMSS
Stephen L. McAlilly, President/CEO
Alan Brown, Vice Pres./Chief Operating officer
Catherine Bradley, Executive Director

United Methodist Senior Services of Jackson Area, Inc.

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<td>Judy Bufkin</td>
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<td>Tom Kendall</td>
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<td>Marion Eifling</td>
<td>Vernon Muse</td>
<td>Frank Sutton</td>
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<td>Alice Gorman</td>
<td>Carol Walker</td>
<td>W. Allen Watson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isla Tullos</td>
<td>Lester Walls</td>
<td>Davis Watts</td>
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Stephen L. McAlilly, President/CEO
Alan Brown, Vice Pres./Chief Operating Officer
Executive Director

United Methodist Senior Services of Clay County, Inc.
Dugan Memorial Home, Inc.

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<td>Bucky Kellogg</td>
<td>Barbara Bryan</td>
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<td>Kay Coggins</td>
<td>Kim West</td>
<td>Edgar Harris</td>
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<td>Eluster Wicks</td>
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<td>Ben Rosenkrans</td>
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Ex-Officio Members
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Alan Brown, Vice Pres./Chief Operating Officer
Shelley Tuggle, Executive Director
United Methodist Senior Services of DeSoto County, Inc.

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Martha Coker Home, Inc.

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Julie Hoffman, Executive Director

Mississippi Choctaw United Methodist Mission

The Mississippi United Methodist Choctaw Mission (Choctaw Mission) has a longstanding historical tradition among the Choctaw people. The Choctaw Mission is a caring ministry working with Choctaw people to enrich lives of children, young people and families living in Neshoba and Leake Counties – Pearl River, Bogue Chitto, and Red Water Communities on the Indian Reservation. The Pearl River Community near Philadelphia, Mississippi is the largest populated Tribal Community and the location of the Choctaw Mission.

We envision a society where all Choctaw people are valued and their culture is preserved and respected. Therefore, our work strives to give hope to families through Christ-centered programs that encourage the Choctaw people to help develop programs and help determine the vision to advance the future of the Choctaw Mission. We visualize the Choctaw-based Mission Center to be known as a sacred space honoring the culture of the Choctaw people. We continue to work toward develop lasting relations with the Tribal Administration, Tribal Social Services, The Elderly Center, and the Tribal Communities to help build a brighter future for the Choctaw people.

We remain thankful for your faithful partnership as well as individuals, congregations, and United Methodist Women that have supported us over the four years as we transition from the Choctaw Mission comprised of three mission churches to a community and family outreach center working with the Choctaw people. Without the support of the Mission Shares, we could not be effective and would not be able to meet the needs of the Choctaw people. We are thankful for mission groups filling gaps when we don’t have financial resources or staff to do the ministry. We welcome church groups, United Methodist Women organizations, individual volunteers to help with our programs and services.

We have faced many obstacles over the years and continue to be challenged with limited funding, buildings needing major repairs and a need to remodel the Family Life Center for better usage to accommodate the programs and future endeavors we envision. With these challenges, we know God continues
to bless us with greatness.

While there have been many changes over the years both with the Choctaw Mission and the Choctaw Tribal Communities, we continue to strive to adapt to the ever evolving needs of the Choctaw people. But one thing that remains constant is our mission to provide programs and projects to supplement the Choctaw people to all-inclusive lives through community and family programs, spiritual enrichment and leadership development.

The following are some of the highlights:

**Family and Community**
- Clothes Closet: There continue to be a need for clothes, especially for young children. We expanded our hours to be open three days a week and will open for people needing clothes for emergencies, such as a fire, displacement, funerals and other needs. We serve an average of 106 families each month.
- Food Pantry: We serve an average of 92 families a month to supplement families with canned and non-perishable items.
- Saturday Morning Café is a place for elderly fellowship and a light breakfast for families in the community. We have an average of 70 adults and children each Saturday morning.
- Children and Family Projects and Festivals provide seasonal and holiday celebrations. Over 300 children attended the Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Celebration, 73 children came to the Back to School Fun Day, 132 children and families at the Fall Festival, 157 for the Holiday Luncheon and over 180 to attend the Annual Community Christmas Celebration.
- Elderly Ministry is a partnership with the Tribal Elderly Center. We have devotions, activities and prepare gifts of fruit and candy at Christmas for the Elders.
- Domestic Violence Kits were prepared for children and youth.
- Operation Christmas Gifts began in 2017 for children in Foster Care and children in Tribal Social Service. The first year we provided 96 children with a Christmas party and gifts on their wish list. This Christmas we had gifts and a party for 55 children.

**Spiritual Enrichment**
- The meaning of Advent and Lent are celebrated with Bible Readings.
- Vacation Bible School brings children together in the three Tribal Communities. With the help of mission teams we were able to provide VBS for a combined total in the three communities of 378 children and youth. In the Pearl River and Bogue Chitto Communities volunteers offered Bible Study for adults.

**Leadership Development**
- Leadership Building Blocks is a program helping individuals to gain knowledge and understand the purpose of the ministry of the church from a spiritual perspective. The expected outcome is to prepare leaders to be disciples to help grow the church through evangelism and nurturing ministries.
- Children and Youth Club, Dreamcatchers, is a Christ-centered children and youth club for ages 5 to 17 in the Bogue Chitto Community. They meet on Wednesday evenings with as many as 45 young people. The program goal is to reach young people to grow their faith, foster hope and love for self and others. The Dreamcatchers attend the Native American Cultural Workshop, “Moccasins Rock”, at Lake Benson Retreat Center, Bon Aqua, Tennessee. The Dreamcatchers’ choir, “Chata Alla Taloa”, on programs at the Meridian District United Methodist Women Annual Meeting, churches and United Methodist Women organizations across the Mississippi Conference and the Southeastern Jurisdiction. For the last four years the “Chata Alla Talö” is on program at the Native American Summer Conference at Lake Junaluska. The Dreamcatchers participate in Vacation Bible School during the summers, provide community service and participate in other events in the Choctaw Tribal Community.
- Workshops and Training Opportunities help to gain knowledge and understanding. The Longest Walk 5 runners provided workshops and events for the Choctaw Tribal Community. They are Native Americans of the American Native American Movement, Declaring War on Drugs, seeking cultural and spiritual solutions to end drug abuse and domestic violence. The National Alliance on Mental illness Meridian Affiliate– NAMI Meridian Affiliate – presented an event on mental health concerns.
This report reflects what we are doing, but it does not capture the splendor of the grounds and how God's love is a driving force where the Choctaw people can gather on "holy grounds" to give thanks and praise God's awesome wonder. We would love for you to visit to experience the culture of the Choctaw people. We know that God's grace and goodness have been with us throughout the years and will continue to guide us to do God's ministries at the Choctaw Mission.

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Fred Tubby  
Susie Alex, Vice President  
Gloria York, Secretary  

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Sybil Tubby  
Dayna Goff, Meridian District Superintendent  
Vickie White, Director of Communication and Connectional Ministries

**Moore Community House**

Moore Community House is your United Methodist mission agency serving families in east Biloxi. We have cared for children in low-income working families since we began in 1924. Over the years we have continued to support working parents by giving them the assistance of affordable child care and their children the educational head start resulting from quality early childhood education. MCH also offers job training to help women get into trade skill jobs where they can earn 3 to 4 times minimum wage – even in entry level jobs.

We have found it is most supportive for families when we can offer both programs: job training for moms coupled with child care for her children – so she can complete job training and know her children are getting the cared they need. This combination makes a huge difference in the lives of our families.

Our services are aimed at supporting families: we provide early childhood education and job training for the overall purpose of supporting families as they work to move toward economic self-sufficiency. Improving circumstances for moms results in improving circumstances for children, making a long-lasting impact.

We are blessed with the support of many of you and many volunteers from across the church and across our community. Your mission investment changes lives. You change the lives of families by supporting our Early Head Start program and in our Women in Construction program. You expand the horizon of opportunity for children. Your work is multiplied hundreds times over through our work.

Come visit and volunteer and participate in our work making a difference in the lives of families. You can learn more, and find out about how to become partners in our mission work at www.moorecommunityhouse.org.

Thank you for your support.

**Board of Directors**

Linda Lightsey, President  
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Clarissa Harris  
Joe Dawsey, Vice-president  
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Lisa Michiels  
Ann Smith, Secretary & Early Childhood Expert  
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Rev. Elijah Mitchell  
Kara Adams, Treasurer & Financial Expert  
Kiara Taite  
Annie Johnston, Legal Expert
Seashore United Methodist Assembly

The mission of Seashore United Methodist Assembly (SUMA) is to provide a Christian environment for learning, growth, and renewal, leading to spiritual wholeness. SUMA envisions individuals, families, and groups, who, because they have been touched by the redeeming love of Christ, are at peace with God, themselves, others, and all of God’s creation and are thus empowered to live in God’s will. The ministry shall emphasize education, spiritual development and renewal, and emotional rehabilitation and recreation for individuals, clergy/spouse, single parents, families, and other non-profit groups.

All areas of the ministry at SUMA are benefited from the mission shares received from the Annual Conference. They allow SUMA to offer a place of rest and relief to people needing temporary shelter after a natural disaster, or between jobs, or any other difficult time in their lives. SUMA is able to provide rooms at low or no cost to individuals in need. Mission Shares also means SUMA never lets any camper miss a retreat because of financial limitation. Shares allow SUMA to keep ministry at the forefront, and to minister all individuals. SUMA also offers space and resources to the Annual Conference and Local Districts for special events.

In helping people form spiritual wholeness, SUMA is living out God’s vision for the campus and aligning with the Conference vision to run our sights outward to create opportunities, expand our facilities and build community. SUMA is traveling to churches to work with pastors and leadership to discern fresh expressions of ministry for intentional discipleship. Relationships are being built with congregations, helping them to see how their mission shares are supporting the mission of creating disciples in camping ministries. SUMA has been raising scholarship funds to assist children wishing to experience camping ministries.

In the fall of 2019, SUMA will be participating in a Race and Reconciliation Pilgrimage – Wade in the Water, partnering with Gulfside Assembly, the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, the Department of Archives, and MGCCC Wesley Foundation in an effort to create an awareness of the much needed understanding and reconciliation of all races working together for the common goal of reaching others for Christ.

SUMA has been investing time in the Wesley Foundations of Mississippi to help create leaders for the future with a mindset on Camping Ministries. In the summer of 2019, SUMA will host a two night “WESLEY GETAWAY” for high school students. This will give high school students the opportunity to get a taste of what it is like to participate in the Wesley Foundation when they arrive at college. In partnering with the Wesley Foundations, SUMA is able to help train leaders as camp counselors for various camping activities.

The ministry at SUMA has been to provide a place for persons seeking a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, either as a first encounter, or a renewal of mind and spirit. It has also been a place for recreation, learning, and building relationships with others. Receiving of mission shares allows SUMA to provide school groups, church groups, individuals, and other groups a place to come and getaway while still being in an urban setting.

During the year 2019, SUMA has or will host approximately 75 groups, staying a total of 170 nights, with approximately 2,300 people. Approximately 25,000 meals will be served. Because of our mission shares, SUMA has been able to provide housing, meeting spaces, and meals at a reasonable expense.

SUMA will also be partnering with The Society of St. Andrews to host a camp this summer. “Harvest of Hope” is a mission program providing an opportunity to learn about hunger and what to do about it – gleaning – a commonsense biblical solution. Together they will glean fresh fruits and vegetables which will immediately find their way onto the table of those in need. The group will worship together, work together, and play together all while exploring what God wants us to do concerning our neighbors in need.

In July, 2018, our offices were moved into the newly renovated retreat house to accommodate for much needed space. The old office was converted into a nice one-bedroom cottage with a kitchenette. New flooring has been installed in our dormitory housing. We are also in the process of laying new flooring in Frazer Hall, our hotel style accommodations.
SUMA is communicating with local churches by meeting and talking with leaders, pastors, and others in the community to see where and how Seashore United Methodist Assembly can be an asset to the local church. Some ways of helping will be by hosting retreats for adults, youth, and children, and offering to be of service to the congregation in planning/coordinating these events. SUMA also notifies local congregations of events happening through the District newsletter, brochures, our website – www.seashoreassembly.org, and our Facebook page.

The following goals have been put in place to help meet needs of our local community, the MS Annual Conference, and the region:

1. Continue to add and renovate our existing facilities. We are in desperate need of larger and more modern meeting facilities. Housing will also be of a concern, because as we update our meeting spaces we will need to provide lodging for our guests to rest and relax. Also, we are looking at providing a space specifically for children to come and play while enjoying the campground.

2. Provide programs that will enhance the growth of United Methodists and others into a closer walk with the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. Provide assistance to persons who are in need of generosity and loving kindness that SUMA can assist. These may be persons who are down on their luck or in need of someone to help them along their path as they grow into spiritual wholeness.

Working with the MS Annual Conference, SUMA is able to offer retreats and programs to all areas of the state and also to those outside MS wishing to come to MS Gulf Coast. We are able to provide a setting that is welcoming and renewing to all ages, race, and backgrounds of people. The MS Gulf Coast has many opportunities for groups wishing to stay in this environment. As part of the MS Annual Conference, guests know and appreciate the United Methodist Church for opportunities offered in this location that may not be available to their group in other parts of the state or country.

Through the Holy Spirit and our United Methodist connection, SUMA is making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

**Board of Trustees**


**St. Andrew’s Mission**

This past year has been one of changes and renewal for St. Andrew’s Mission, Inc. We look forward to adding more innovative ideas due to these changes, to provide more fellowship and assistance to our communities’ ministries. Our staff is dedicated, faith-filled and truly believe in our mission, to improve our community one individual at a time.

While one of our support ministries has now grown to the point of being self-supportive and on its own, it leaves us to where we know it is an asset to the community in which it is located. By His grace we searched and gained another. He does provide opportunities when asked.

We are proud to be able to assist our beneficiaries through the support ministries (thrift stores), of which we now have five. Most are small, yet can be mighty. Some of the staff are those who have previously been a recipient of our services. The support ministries afford us opportunities to employ, clothe, provide housewares, and furnishings to those in dire straits. While there are too many for just us to assist, we do our best to provide support whenever necessary.

It has been voiced by beneficiaries that our ministries were the cornerstone that assisted them in growing forward in their lives. Sometimes in small ways, other times in larger ways. In this past year we have provided the ability to clothe several beneficiaries so they were able to appropriately seek employment. Some of those now have jobs that they are very proud of and that now support their families.
St. Andrew’s Mission has been working closely with other support agencies. A few of our joint beneficiaries have needed beds (a DHS requirement) in order to be reunited with their children and/or the children of their children. Thankfully, we were able to supply quite a few this past year. We are told those families are doing well and recovering from their circumstances quite nicely.

We have a ministry that fills in the gaps where other assistance programs do not. This ministry affords us the ability to help those who have no where else to turn. With this ministry we were able to assist with something as simple as fuel to get to a loved one, a necessary life supporting prescription, or help with the remaining funds needed to get a roof over their family’s head.

One of our ministries affords office space for a very minimal fee to those who have the dream of owning their own business. We assist them with guidance, financial advice from volunteers of local business men and women, as well as the means to consult with others that are also housed in the facility. This same ministry houses free GED classes through a local community college. This ministry is being developed and improved on constantly.

While we are extremely proud of all of our ministries, we know they wouldn’t be able to exist or assist without the generosity of benefactors and volunteers. We are most proud to call the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church one of those.

Ed Codding
Executive Director

The Mississippi United Methodist Foundation, Inc.

Stories are the way we understand our world, our hopes, and ourselves for the future. Christians celebrate and tell The Story of God’s love for us in Jesus Christ. The Foundation is here to assist you in telling The Story by ensuring that resources are available for today and tomorrow. Your church and ministries are at the heart of all that we do at the Foundation.

Your desire to leave a lasting legacy may be expressed in creating a ministry or scholarship endowment. We at the Foundation are here to help equip you in areas of planned and legacy giving through presentations and a variety of resources designed to assist you in telling The Story.

Please contact us: 601-948-8845 | info@ms-umf.org | https://ms-umf.org

With gratitude,
The Rev. Mike Hicks, Executive Director
The Mississippi United Methodist Foundation, Inc.

**Board Membership 2019-2020**

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<td>Mr. Turner Arant</td>
<td>Dr. Joe N. Bailey, III</td>
<td>Rev. Zachary Beasley</td>
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<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>Tupelo</td>
<td>Holly Springs</td>
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<td>Mr. Freddie J. Bagley</td>
<td>Rev. Anna Fleming-Jones</td>
<td>Mr. Howard E. Boone</td>
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<td>Brandon</td>
<td>Hazlehurst</td>
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<td>Rev. Mitchell B. Hedgepeth</td>
<td>Mr. Henry Holifield</td>
<td>Rev. Joe Landrum</td>
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<td>Mr. Charles Leggett, Jr.</td>
<td>Mr. Tom McCormick</td>
<td>Mr. Raymond Miller</td>
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<td>Hattiesburg</td>
<td>Gulfport</td>
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<td>Mrs. Kelly Riley</td>
<td>Mrs. Jan Hitt</td>
<td>Mr. Jesse L. Ross, Jr.</td>
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<td>Jackson</td>
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<td>Mr. Walker Sturdivant</td>
<td>Mr. John David Robinson</td>
<td>Dr. Ron Whitehead</td>
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<td>Rev. John Moore</td>
<td>Mr. Ben Walton</td>
<td>Rev. Jeff Shannon</td>
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<td>Mr. Wade Watts</td>
<td>Dr. Acie Whitlock, Jr.</td>
<td>Mr. Lester Myers</td>
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<td>Emeritus Members</td>
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<td>Mrs. Alveria Crump</td>
<td>Mr. Bryce Griffis</td>
<td>Mr. Joe Charles Sanders</td>
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<td>Mr. Sherman Muths</td>
<td>Mrs. RaLeen Haynes</td>
<td>Mr. O. B. Walton, Jr.</td>
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<td>Rev. Prentiss Gordon</td>
<td>Dr. Fred McDonnell</td>
<td>Rev. Rayford Woodrick</td>
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<td>Mr. James McRae</td>
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**Ex-Officio 2017-2018**

Bishop James Swanson, Chairperson  
Rev. Stephen Cook, District Superintendent  
Without Vote  
Mr. Brent Wilson, CFA Chairperson  
Without Vote  
Rev. Vickie White, Connectional Ministries  
Without Vote

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**The United Methodist Hour, Inc.**

The mission of The United Methodist Hour is to, through media and technology, proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and to resource the local church to live faithfully and boldly in the world.

The United Methodist Hour began as a radio program in 1971. The ministry is now a half-hour television program broadcast on 15 stations throughout Mississippi and other states in the Southeast. The Hour, Time that Makes the Difference currently has a viewing audience of over 20,000 weekly. Many of our viewers are homebound or in hospitals, nursing homes, and elder care facilities. Congregations that do not have regular weekly services also depend on The United Methodist Hour for regular worship and spiritual encouragement. We hear from many Sunday School leaders who use The Hour, Time that Makes the Difference, in helping prepare their lessons each Sunday.

The following is The United Methodist Hour's Statement of Faith:

We are a radio and television witness serving as an extension of the local church's mission and ministry for the glory of God. We pledge unceasingly to seek higher standards of excellence in presenting the
story of Jesus Christ with truth and clarity throughout the world so that “They may know the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom God sent.” (John 17:3) In carrying out our mission we acknowledge the futility of human efforts without the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We thank you, members of The United Methodist Annual Conference for your continued support of this servant ministry.

Steve Casteel, Executive Director

United Methodist Children’s Homes

Report will be added after 2019 AC Session

Wesley House Community Center, Inc.

The past year has been an exciting time of growth and restoration for the Wesley House Community Center. We completed the expansion of our Child Advocacy Center and are proud to see the results of healing and wholeness that is provided to survivors in our area. We are excited to see growth in the areas of Christian Relief and Education as well. Ultimately, we experience “glory” sightings while providing a “Hand Up” to the community.

During 2018 we experienced growth in all aspects of our Christian Relief program. Our distribution of food bags increased from 200 food bags per month to over 350 food bags per month. In this, we witnessed the outpouring of our community in response by providing greater amounts of canned items. In addition, we partnered with the Mississippi Food Network to provide more items in our food bags as well. We saw an increase in those seeking clothing from our clothes closet and a greater need for financial assistance as well in prescriptions, utilities, and rent/mortgage assistance. In many ways we see the community responding to the needs of others in so many great ways.

Our educational programs continue to produce great results. Our partnership with other agencies has helped to offer GED courses, Parenting classes, and financial planning assistance. Our pre-school continues to provide an excellent education for pre-kindergarten students at a very reasonable price. Our four year old students are ready for Kindergarten with knowledge of shapes and colors and reading. Through education we are able to see transformed lives.

The East Mississippi Sexual Assault Crisis Center and the East Mississippi Child Advocacy Center continue to expand and grow. We completed the remodel of this area in August of 2018 (totally funded by grants) and are proud to have an inviting facility for victims. With this expansion we completed 30% more forensic interviews while doubling the number of counseling sessions. We were proud to receive a 97% satisfaction rating from our clients through the Child Advocacy Center of Mississippi. Additionally, we were proud to host the Chaplains for Children program offering education on child abuse and how we as churches can respond.

We were proud to partner with UMCOR in response to several disasters in east Mississippi. UMCOR has an office in the Wesley House to serve in the rebuilding of our community from a recent tornado. We were able to respond to area flooding with flood buckets and hygiene kits. The partnership continues as we work to better the community around us.

We are excited to have taken over the space from the former Wesley church across the street. This space was invaluable to the work in distributing Christmas gifts to over 600 children this past year. We intend for this new Wesley House Community Room to be a resource for those in our community that need space for training and community events. Thus, our partnerships in the community continue.

We are honored to be the vessel through which others can serve the poor, the needy, and the oppressed in our community. We often see those with resources and those in need come together through the ministries of the Wesley House and it is through these that we see God glorified.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. David Schultz, Executive Director
**Wesley House Community Center Board of Directors:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2019</th>
<th>Class of 2020</th>
<th>Class of 2021</th>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<tr>
<td>David Hall</td>
<td>Jody Richardson</td>
<td>Justin Anders</td>
<td>Benny Dubose</td>
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<td>Francine Farrar</td>
<td>Robin Hull</td>
<td>Rindy Vaughan</td>
<td>Janet Barham</td>
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<td>Bobby Sims</td>
<td>Keith McCary</td>
<td>Pam Randall</td>
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<td>Julie Riley</td>
<td>Betty Evans</td>
<td>Ryan McGough</td>
<td>Tim Allred</td>
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<td>Aimee McWilliams</td>
<td>Mary Simpson</td>
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Advisory Board:
Betty Vise, Maurice Hall

Ex Officio Members:
Dayna Goff, Gloria McAlpine, Victoria White, David Schultz

**Wesley Pines Conference, Camping and Retreat Center**

Martin Luther once said, “God writes the gospel not in the Bible alone, but on trees, and flowers, and clouds, and stars.” .....he must have had Wesley Pines in mind!  .  A joyful aspect of what we do is to help persons hear and experience Jesus through the natural setting at Wesley Pines.....this is at our core as an extension ministry of every United Methodist Church in the MS annual conference.  Wesley Pines, is more than a place, it is an experiencing God center.  Our theme.... “get outdoors, get into Christ” speaks of our desire to incorporate the natural environment into Christian faith formation.

**Some very brief bullet points of information of how God has blessed Wesley Pines…**

- Wesley Pines is debt free!  We operate in the black!
- There were 313 first time professions of faith last summer, and many re-dedication.
- We celebrated over 10,000 persons as our guests in 2018 and fed just over 38,000 meals.
- With the help of many volunteer teams, we re-roof 11 buildings and put out over 1000 gallons of paint….the camp once was brown…it is now driftwood blue
- Completing a new pavilion on the north end of the activity field
- Continuing to improve our 1-mile prayer trail with a new bridge and many new cedar benches along with38 carved scriptures for encouragement.

**New plans and events for Wesley Pines…**

- New 4004 sq. feet flooring for the great room at Durr Wise Lodge Center.
- As Bro. Johnny retires, the board of Wesley Pines has hired Kaleidoscope (a company that assists camps in national searches for servants in the camping ministry) to find a new director by Sept. 1, 2019.