



September 30, 2021

## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

### SUBJECT: UMM THIRD QUARTER 2021 REPORT (Secretary)

**1. PURPOSE:** The purpose of this report is to provide the Executive Committee a summary of the activities that occurred in the Conference during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2021.

**2. The information listed below gives an overview** of actions or activities which occurred during the quarter and may be of interest to you:

- **The Color of Compromise:** During this quarter, President Odell and I participating in a small group study along with seven other individuals, using a book titled, “The Color of Compromise”: The Truth About The American Church’s Complicity in Racism. President Odell facilitated the study, and there was both laity and clergy on the study. On one session we had participation from the South Carolina Conference. The author of the book is Jemar Tisby, who received his M.Div. from Reformed Theological Seminary. The study was very informative and brought on some great discussions.
- **The Scout Ministry Continues Great Work:** Chris Karabinos and his team continue to do outstanding work with every aspect of scouting. Since my last report, Chris and his team directed another successful Philmont experience with about 50 people participating. With the advent of what is happening with the Boy Scouts of America, Chris is working directly with the Bishop to develop policy and guidance as what the Church’s relationship will be with the Boy Scouts of America going forward. A letter, prepared by Bishop Sue and Chris was sent out to the Conference on August 16, 2021.

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- **The Conference is A Major Player at the Southeastern Jurisdiction:** The North Georgia Conference United Methodist Men participate in all meetings called by the Southeastern Jurisdiction and has leadership at the table. Cary Loesing and Jerry Stillabower attended a meeting in September. There are indicators to suggest that the North Georgia Conference may be the pacesetter in the Jurisdiction when it comes to activities and programs.
- **Each of our Devotionals is a Mini-Bible Study:** At each of our Executive Committee Meetings, Jacque Williams inspires us with a devotional that substitutes as a mini-bible study. In July, he talked about **“Gratitude”** and used Philippians 4:6 as his scripture. In August, his tag line was **“The happiest people don’t necessarily have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything.”** The scripture for this devotional was Philippians 4:11-13. The September topic was **“To Grow Closer To God.”** **The scripture was Luke 8:4-15.** His work in the spiritual development arena continues to bring credit to the UMM and the North Georgia Conference.
- **Continuing our Search for District Leadership:** Our efforts to recruit men to serve in District Leadership roles continue. These efforts are long term in scope and are focused on training replacements for the future.
- **Push for Chartering:** As I indicated in my last report, there is a full-court press to try and increase the number of chartered units in the Conference. Each member of the Committee is encouraged to reach out to as many churches as possible to emphasize the importance of chartering. This is not a one Committee responsibility, but it is a function that each of us should take on as a self-appointed Chair. As you reach out to offer your assistance to a church, your actions will be the first step to inspire them to becoming a part of the Team.

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- **President Odell continues to keep the Committee informed** by providing emails on matters that relate to our Conference, the United Methodist Church, social issues, or item that will make us better leaders.
- **Visit Our Website Often.** It is a good source of information. Ike Moore updates the site; so if you have information that needs to get out to the Conference, Ike can help you in this regard.

Report Prayerfully Submitted,

John C. Holley  
Secretary, NGCUMM