



December 31, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: UMM 4TH 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 4th 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:

- **Monthly Devotionals:** During this quarter, **Jacque Williams continued his great work, by** providing inspirational monthly devotional during our Executive Committee sessions. During the **October meeting**, he featured **Paul giving Timothy his charge for his journey** and instructed him to invest in the word, to be truthful and steadfast in his faith, but warned him that he would be persecuted as he pursued a Godly life in Jesus Christ. **He recognized the passing of General Colin Powell** and recited his 13 Rules of Leadership. **In November**, his study was titled "**The Thanksgiving Factor**", and he asked us to give thanks in all our circumstances, for this is God's will for us in Christ Jesus. Finally, he closed the devotional with the story of Corrie Ten Boom and her family helping many Jewish people escape from the Nazis. **In December**, he closed out the year with thoughts on, "**Why Joy is Never Dependent on Our Circumstance.**" This devotional took him to a familiar scripture, Psalm 118:24, "**This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.**" At the end of each devotional, Jacque gave a prayer for our organization and for prayer requests asked for during the meeting.

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- **The Scout Ministry Kept Us Informed:** As always, Chris Karabinos kept the Committee updated on the BSA bankruptcy and the current lawsuit. He pointed out that much had gone on during the quarter and that there had been a settlement plan with a total payout of \$2.1 Billion. He pointed out that the plaintiffs want more. All churches who have ever chartered a Boy Scout unit have received a packet from BSA. The UMC is a part of the lawsuit. The Judge is scheduled to make a decision on the matter on January 22, 2022. Thanks, Chris, for all you do for scouting and for our beloved organization.
- **Chartering Report:** The leadership continues to encourage the local fellowships to charter their units and become fully connected with the General Commission. As of our last report, 184 units had been chartered. President Odell communicated with the General Commission on United Methodist Men concerning chartered units.
- **Conference Financial Status:** At each of our monthly meetings, Cary Loesing, the Conference Treasurer, provides a written report showing the revenue, expenses, and total assets for the organization. The total assets as of December 31, 2021 are \$13,454.13.
- **Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Jurisdiction:** The Southeastern Jurisdiction met for its Annual Meeting on 5-6 November 2021. Odell Hornes, Chris Karabinos, Jerry Stillabower, and Louis Johnson met virtually. Cary Loesing attended the meeting in person. It should be noted that Louis Johnson opened the meeting with a presentation on prayer. President Odell submitted a video on Radical Mentoring. In addition, President Odell gave a report of one goal, successes, and the challenges facing the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Men.
- **Social Issues:** During the quarter, President Odell submitted an article for publication to the United Methodist News Service.

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- **Prison Ministry**. John Heath continues with his enthusiastic work with the Prison Ministry. Although the pandemic has hampered his efforts, he kept the Committee informed of some of the initiatives he has in place. On the Jump Start Prison Ministry, he informed the Committee that information is now available and is going on our website. He informed the Committee about in-prison bible studies and about generational incarcerations. He gave the Committee information on some of the considerations he has planned as we move forward. Of course, this includes jobs, a place to stay, and support from the community. The Ministry will be working closely with the Department of Corrections.
- **Spiritual Development**: During the quarter, Jacque Williams shared information concerning **Radical Mentoring**. Two churches, Northside and Dunwoody, are well established with Radical Mentoring, and Peachtree Road has just started a program. Plans are in place for three **Walks to Emmaus sessions** to take place in the spring...February, March, and April. The push for **Small Group Sessions continues**. These can be bible studies or book studies. **President Odell completed a study** in October, using the book, **“The Color of Compromise: The Truth About The American Church’s Complicity In Racism.”** He is currently conducted another small group session, using the book, “Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes.” It is the hope of the Committee to expand these studies.
- **Presentation by Greg Arnold**: During the December Committee meeting, Greg Arnold, General Secretary of the Commission of United Methodist met with the Committee, via Zoom, and gave a presentation. This was his introductory meeting. He thanked the Committee for the invitation, committed himself for service, and asked for prayer.
- **Planning for Annual Conference**: The Committee has already begun its planning for Annual Conference. The planning includes for in-person attendance or for virtual participation.

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- **A Special Guest Presentation:** During our December meeting, Joel Devisser, the Director for the movie “Game Changer” gave an overview of his organization, Rock This World Production. He indicated that the organization is a 501(c) (3), non-profit studio, and is raising money for people in need. He is hoping to get 1000 churches involved in support of the organization’s mission.
- **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. Continue to visit our website.** 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