



March 31, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: NGCUMM 1st QUARTER 2022 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 1st Quarter 2022.

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

- **Conference Leadership: The Leadership Team of the Conference continues to provide purpose, direction and motivation to the Conference** as we work around the COVID-19 pandemic. Although there have been many situations that have kept us from face-to-face support for the churches across the Conference, we have provided the needed support. Communication has been a strong suit for the Leadership Team. President Odell has been a role model for other Conference Presidents to emulate. He has been on the leading edge of all aspects of Conference business and has insured that the Ministry Teams are kept informed, as well as the churches across the Conference. Even as he undergoes treatment for cancer, President Odell has set the standard for what a true leader looks like. Members of our Executive Committee attended the National Association of Conference President Meeting during this quarter. Also, during this quarter, the Committee participated in small group studies. President Odell led a session on **“How Africa Shaped The Christian Mind.”** The Team continues to prepare for the Annual Conference in June 2022. The Leadership Team conducts monthly Executive Committee Meeting to

Memorandum for Record

NGCUMM 1st Quarter 2022 Report (Secretary)

Page Two

insure planning and other matters associated with Conference operations are carried out in an orderly and efficient manner. President Odell communicated with the Conference Board of Laity, District Offices, Lay Leaders, Lay Servant Ministries Directors, UMM Executive Committee, UMM District Presidents, and UMM Local Church President about upcoming events during the quarter. Also, President Odell attended the General Conference delegation meeting at Dunwoody UMC and the Black Methodist for Church Renewal Black Church Summit.

- **The Scout Ministry Leads The Way For Other Scouting Programs: Chris Karabinos** continues his great work in all matters relating to scouting and the ongoing lawsuit against the Boy Scouts of America. He has been a major player as it relates to putting together documents and responses for the Conference and his coordination with the Boy Scouts of America. When it comes to matters relating to scouting in the church, Chris stands out. The Bishops depends upon his counsel in all matters relating to scouting. **Kudos to Chris for his professionalism and expertise.**
- **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, and we are hopeful that the reports will be more timely.
- **Conference Financial Status: Monthly, our Treasurer, Cary Loesing,** provides a written report showing the revenue, expenses, and total assets for the organization. The organization no longer has a contract for an office space. The Committee continues to push for financial support for the organization from churches and individuals within the Conference.
- **Annual Business Meeting: The Committee continues it planning for our Annual Business Meeting, on April 23.** The Nomination Committee is

Memorandum for Record

NGCUMM 1st Quarter 2022 Report (Secretary)

Page Three

developing a slate, and the election of officer will occur on that date. All members of the Committee are working with the Nomination Committee to assist in developing a slate.

- **Social Issues:** During the quarter, President Odell submitted an article for publication to the Firebrand Magazine. The title of the article was “**Theological Liberalism and United Methodist Decline.**” He also followed up on the article with a video from Matt Whitman on “**Higher Criticism and Liberal Theology.**”
- **Prison Ministry.** John Heath continues with his outstanding work with the Prison Ministry. Although the pandemic continues to hamper his efforts, he is seeing some light at the end of the tunnel. His website is well established and has updated information, showing where we serve and prison ministry opportunities, which includes **Kairos, Jumpstart, and Amachi** (which is coming soon). He has established his SMART goals and is sending out email blasts to inform individuals and churches of events and activities planned in the Conference. There is no doubt that John Heath will make the North Georgia Prison Ministry a model for other Conferences.
- **Spiritual Development:** During the quarter, Jacque Williams was an inspiration to the Committee with his devotionals at each of the monthly meetings. These devotionals were like mini-bible studies. For the January meeting, his topic was “**You’re Unique In Every Way.**” His scriptures were Psalm 139: 13-14, Matthew 10:29-31, and Ephesians 2:10. In the February meeting, his theme was “**Imitating Jesus’ Humility,**” and his scripture to support his presentation was Philippians 2:3-11. Finally, in March, he talked on “**How God Grows Our Faith.**” His scriptures were Colossians 2:7, Romans 10:17, and Jeremiah 29:11. It should be noted that Jacque continues his push for **Radical Mentoring, Small Group Sessions,** and the plans for **Walks to Emmaus.**

Memorandum for Record

UMM 1st Quarter 2022 Report (Secretary)

Page Four

- **Special Prayers:** During each of our meetings, members of the Committee are asking for prayers for friends and love ones who are going through some health crisis, death in the family or other matters. These prayers are an integral part of each of the meetings, and we consider follow-ups as essential components of our individual and corporate prayer life.
- **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 items that will make us better leaders.
- **Finally, our website is a resource for the men of the North Georgia Conference.** It is a good source of information. Ike Moore continues to updates the site on a regular basis. We ask that you visit often and provide feedback so we can better serve.

Report Prayerfully Submitted,

John C. Holley

Secretary, NGCUMM