California-Nevada Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church
2019 Annual Conference Session
2018 Annual Reports
Compilation 2 — June 3, 2019

Reporting Agency

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What, More Statistics?

Once again this year, it has been my privilege to work with local church pastors, secretaries and treasurers to gather the conference statistics. Thank you all for your cooperation and for putting up with my letters, emails and question for clarification. This is truly the work of everybody.

Statistics are never a particularly popular topic, of course, but the historical record they create stretches back for many years and is an invaluable tool for understanding the life of the annual conference.

In this report, I will present a summary of the 2018 statistics, and then look at some recent trends.

Summary

This year, we received full or partial statistical reports from 342 of the 353 churches in the conference which were due to report – 276 by the deadline, about the same as last year. We will continue a similar process for next year of sending initial requests by email and following up later by paper mail and telephone as necessary.

Looking first at church membership, we added 1,405 members during the year – 1,147 on profession or reaffirmation of faith (254 of which were by confirmation), 54 on net transfer from other UM churches, and 204 on net transfer from non-UM churches. This is slightly higher than in 2017.

Overall, though, conference membership continued to fall with 971 removed by death, 990 by charge conference action, 305 withdrawals, and 439 removed as a result of membership audits. At the end of 2018, conference membership stood at 69,704 – down 1,300 from last year's figure of 71,004.

Average worship attendance was down too, from 27,622 to 26,396 (including 1,178 worshiping online) – although if we take non-reporting churches into consideration (using their most recent reported data), the drop is less severe, from 27,911 to 27,530.

The detailed statistics are found elsewhere in the Conference Journal and on the conference web site.

Focusing In

In last year’s report, I took a broad look at the conference statistics over almost the whole life of the United Methodist Church. This year, I intend to focus in and look at the past 10 years.

Worship Attendance

Regular readers of the conference statistician’s report cannot fail to have noticed the downward trend in reported worship attendance in recent years. My report in 2016 focused on this topic in detail.

Reported worship attendance in 2009 was 37,424. Attendance in 2018 was 26,396, including worship attendance online – new since 2017. That is a fall of over 11,000 people – or 29.4%.

It will come as no surprise, therefore, to realize that the size of our congregations on a Sunday morning has fallen too. The chart on the next page shows the distribution (not the absolute number) of churches by reported worship attendance.
In 2009, 133 churches reported worship attendance of 50 or below – 37.1%. In 2018, however, that number had risen to 172 churches – 50.4%

In 2009, 13 churches reported worship attendance of more than 300. In 2018, only 4 churches.

How does this compare with the general population? Here are two interesting comparisons:

- Data from the California Legislative Analyst's office\(^1\) shows that over the 10 years from 2007 to 2016, the state lost about 1 million people (2.5%) of its population to domestic migration.

- Estimates of population from the US Census bureau\(^2\) are that the population of California increased from 37.3 million to 39.6 million between 2010 and 2018.

While those might be perceived as conflicting, they may well reflect differences of age group, ethnicity etc.

So, what about your local area? Has the population change (both numerical and other factors) matched changes in your local church? If not, why not and how could you change that?

**Staff Costs**

My report in 2015 looked at non-pastoral staff costs as a proportion of total income. With increasing costs of benefits (healthcare especially) and decreasing attendance, this is an appropriate year to look at overall staff costs.

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\(^1\) California Losing Residents Via Domestic Migration – Brian Uhler, Justin Garosi. [https://lao.ca.gov/LAOEconTax/Article/Detail/265](https://lao.ca.gov/LAOEconTax/Article/Detail/265), retrieved May 30, 2019.

The chart above (which is not zero-based) shows the total cost of staff – including appointed clergy with their associated pension and healthcare payments – as a proportion of the total operating income of churches. Once again, this is grouped by reported worship attendance.

Perhaps the most striking part of this chart is that there is no significant increase in the proportion of income spent on staff costs over the period of study (although there have been some blips!). In fact, for every group apart from churches with over 500 in attendance, staff costs have fallen as a proportion of operating income. The unusual behavior shown in the line for these largest churches is in the main the result of the decreasing number of such churches – and hence reporting changes and anomalies are more pronounced.

Of course, staff costs during this period have risen – from $34.6m in 2009 to $37.3m in 2018. That the dominance of staff costs for local churches has not increased may be attributed to two factors:

- An increase in operating income from $58.1m in 2009 to $64.6m in 2018 (11.2%)
- Changes in staff employment and clergy deployment in local churches and the conference in general.

By way of comparison, according to the California Department of Industrial Relations, the Consumer Price Index for urban consumers rose by 22.7% between February 2009 and December 2018.

So what about your local church? Have you made adjustments to staffing as a result of changes in the life of the church?

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Check Out [www.UMData.org](http://www.UMData.org)

There are many more interesting ways to view the statistics that we gather, and now there’s an easy way for you to explore past statistics. Check out the UMC’s new online directory and statistics site and let me know what aspects of your statistics you’d like to examine further.

**MissionInsite**

Don’t forget that the Annual Conference has a subscription to the “MissionInsite” demographics tool. That means that it is available to all churches without charge, which makes it very straightforward to generate a report of your local area by radius, zip code or some other area that you draw yourself! Check it out on the conference web site – you might be surprised what you find.

**In Conclusion**

I look forward to working further with local churches to explore trends and relate them to broader demographic information. You may have questions about changes in your local church statistics, or about comparisons with similar-sized churches across the conference, or you might just be curious about some other trend which you have observed. I would welcome your emails to discuss these topics further.

Finally, my thanks to Diane Knudsen in the conference office for assistance in gathering the statistics, to Cindy Buna, Claudia Trejo and Robyn Peterson for their persistence in encouraging churches to submit their statistics, and to Bishop Carcaño and the Cabinet for their invaluable insights and advice throughout the year.

Don’t forget, you can always find resources to help with your statistical analysis on the conference web site: [http://www.cnumc.org/statistics](http://www.cnumc.org/statistics)

I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming Annual Conference Session.
Conference Treasurer
Submitted by Diane Knudsen, Executive Director of Finance and Administration (dianek@calnevumc.org)

Shared Giving Report
December, 2018

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Goals for 2018

- Develop leaders in the conference that feel engaged and the best they can be in their leadership role.
- Provide outstanding trainings, programs and services whose outcomes that can be measured.

The California-Nevada Conference Lay Leadership Development Team (LLDT) set many goals for 2018. As a team we discussed more frequent meetings and a strategic plan that would support the activities of the four core focus areas of the conference while building a stronger intentional communication with the conveners of the mission focus areas of the conference.

As Conference Lay Leader I spent many hours partnering with Bishop Carcaño to perform church visits. Our visits were important to the laity and clergy throughout the conference.

Our message for 2018 was “Laity and Clergy...Together!”

Traveling together and building relationships throughout the conference is vital to our goal to connect as a leadership team.

My relationship with the Bishop is collaborative and over the year we have grown in our partnership as leaders of the conference. The Bishop provides me pastoral care, friendship and we are in prayer for each other.

The Bishop asked me to participate in a group that would review a new strategic planning process that would create alignment as we moved into 2019. We continue to work on this.

It was my honor to partner with the conference church staff on numerous projects:
- Communications Department-Website remodel/Stories of ministry
- Connectional Ministry – Review of strategy models
- Leadership Development- District visits and LLDT
- Congregational Development-Vocational Ministry, Spiritual Formation of leaders
- Youth and Young Adults-Mentoring 2 Young Adults in the conference through connection/prayer/support

Partnering with Leadership

Executive Director of Leadership Development Gere Reist and I were able to participate in the clergy and leadership orientation. This activity provided a great opportunity for communication and fellowship. Gere and I had the opportunity to partner in Sparks, Nevada. Our joint sermon on the “Priesthood of Believers” was received very well.

Young Adult Francisca Smith is a product of seed planted in Sparks. As a young adult in our conference she has a great number of questions about the conference. Ms. Smith had an opportunity to speak with the Bishop during an Episcopal visit held in South Reno after General Conference.
Many partnerships have been formed from these interactions. As conference Lay Leader, I have supported the conference through pulpit supply.

Preaching throughout the conference has been one the areas where I have grown this past year. AMEN!!

Lay Leadership Development Committee

The California-Nevada Conference Lay Leadership Development Committee had the following overarching goal: To assist Conference Churches to use the District and Circuit model to train, worship, and serve together. The LLDT supports the efforts of the CLM program by identifying trainers and local leaders who might be interested in lay leadership. The LLDT will propose ideas from Discipleship Ministries with the idea that every congregation member is a lay servant.

The Lay Leadership Development Committee meet monthly for the entire year through Zoom to accommodate the geography of our conference. The group met face-to face after annual conference to establish goals and to create a laity strategy for the conference that will ensure the inclusion of not only the laity that are in leadership but those who sit in the pews every Sunday.

The Lay Leadership Development Committee has been able to strengthen the connection between laity and conference through outreach strategies:

1. Strengthen the connections between laity and conference through outreach strategies that include face to face connections; workshops and worship

2. Advance California-Nevada Conference Train the Trainer curriculum

3. Expand opportunities for laity leadership…promote diversity

4. Improve information systems by working with the conference communications department to create laity newsletter, dashboard and archive of training documents

5. Facilitate and promote access to Discipleship Ministries on-line trainings

6. Track Outcomes and performance metrics-LLDT will be accountable and transparent in our practices to deliver

7. Advance and foster youth and young adult leadership in the hope of foster permanency of younger leadership within the California-Nevada Conference

8. Work towards achieving racial equity within the California-Nevada Conference lay leadership

Lay Servant Ministries

During annual conference year 2018 the LLDT, with much support from Aksa Fakava, significantly increased the number of Lay Servant trainings that were available throughout the conference in addition to developing some structure there that had been missing for some time. Much of our work has been trying to support those efforts and is one of the activities that is actually measurable.
CLM

From July 1, 2018 to date we have trained 8 Lay Ministers that are ready to serve the California-Nevada Conference. We will have 5 CLM certificates to present at Annual Conference for those who have taken the program and will be serving churches this year. The program is developing and evolving. We will have 2 one-week intensive trainings in the 2019-2020 appointment year. The first one will be September 2-6 AND November 14-18 in Lemoore, CA (Central Valley District) and we will have one next spring either somewhere in the Great Northern District or at the Conference Center in West Sacramento.
In our faithful witness and service to the church, community and the world with our mission, that is, “Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world,” the CCYPM is grateful to report the following ministries:

1. **Bishop’s Confirmation Rally**

   One of the Four Areas of Ministry Focus of the United Methodist Church is “Developing principled Christian leaders.” (umc.org) The California-Nevada Annual Conference is very intentional in “Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world” by developing principled youth and young adult Christian leaders. The California-Nevada Annual Conference has a very rich history of working with local churches in the connection in supporting and providing resources to help develop principled young disciples of Jesus Christ through the Bishop's Confirmation Retreat.

   In a very fast-growing diverse population of our congregations with children and youth in the conference and a growing multi-cultural context of ministries, the California-Nevada Annual Conference through the Office of Bishop Minerva Carcaño with the support of the Office of Young People’s Ministry is offering the Bishop’s Confirmation Rally, which is a one-day event that has emerged from the Bishop’s Confirmation Retreat held previously as a two-day weekend event.

   The Bishop’s Confirmation Rally aims to reach out to children and young confirmands in the connection of the California-Nevada Annual Conference with the collaboration of the Office of Young People’s Ministry and all the and the five District Superintendents and District Lay Leaders by providing additional resources and spiritual activities in their spiritual journeys. The greatest objective is to have Bishop’s Confirmation Rallies as a way to affirm and strengthen confirmands and build connectional relationships with them.

   The Bishop’s Confirmation Rally may be used as a grounding to organize local church United Methodist Youth and District United Methodist Youth and Cal-Nev Annual Conference United Methodist Youth.

   It is the vision to develop a strong strategic plan to follow up the youth who have attended Bishop’s Confirmation Retreat or who have completed their confirmation classes to transition to UNITED METHODIST. The intentional plan is to create a culture of preparedness and participation to the UNITED METHODIST YOUTH MOVEMENT in their active participation at the California-Nevada Annual Conference session.

   There were three rallies held:
   
   Central Valley District hosted the Bishop’s Confirmation Rally on February 16, 2019 at United Japanese Christian Church in Clovis, California. There were 61 in total attendance of confirmands, mentors and clergy.

   Great Northern District hosted the Bishop’s Confirmation Rally on March 30, 2019 at Lake Tahoe UMC, Kings Beach, California. There were 31 in total attendance of confirmands, mentors and clergy.
El Camino Real District hosted the Bishop’s Confirmation Rally on April 27, 2019 at Almaden Hills UMC, San Jose, California. There were 44 in total attendance of confirmands, mentors and clergy.

2. Youth and Young Adults’ Gathering 2019

There were goals set in gathering the youth and young adults in the conference:

- Gather youth and young adults in racial inter-ethnic- events like Pre-YOUTH 2019 that focus on the celebration of Wesleyan faith, embrace diversity, equip and develop new leaders.

- Gather and prepare for orientation youth and adult chaperones that are attending National YOUTH 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri.

- Provide education and training for organization of local, district and annual conference United Methodist Youth and Young Adult Fellowship

- Empower youth and young adults to identify from among them to nominate for membership on Conference Committee on Young People’s Ministry and election to General Conference 2020 and Jurisdictional Conference 2020 Delegation.

The youth and young adults of the California-Nevada Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church generated a statement of support for members of the UMC community “failed” and “harmed” by the recent actions of the General Conference. The three dozen+ persons who signed, including Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño and other youth and young adult leaders along with the young people themselves, also promised, “We will stand by you on the difficult road ahead and we will support and affirm God’s love for you through the unforeseeable future.” Young People’s Statement Is Now Available for You to Sign

3. FaithXtreme 5

There were 97 in total attendance of youth, mentors and clergy at Mt. Hermon Conference Center for the FaithXtreme 5 held on September 14-16, 2018. The gathering designed in a format of a weekend retreat for the youth featured the First Tongan UMC of San Bruno which led the very dynamic praise and worship. The theme was, “Remember Me, “based on Ecclesiastes 12:1, “Remember your creator in the days of your youth.” The Rev. Kristen Marshall, pastor of First UMC in Reno, Nevada gave heart and soul searching messages and challenged the youth to make a commitment in following Jesus.

FaithXtreme is transitioning to FAITH SERVICE XTREME! The dates are September 13-15, 2019 at Point Pleasant United Methodist Church, 3329 Point Pleasant Road, Elk Grove CA 95757. Point Pleasant UMC is welcoming the youth with Radical Hospitality. FaithServiceXtreme is a spiritual formation event among youth and adult mentors that is SERVICE ORIENTED. It is a weekend that will consist of multimedia worship and music, inspiring speakers, sports, games and work service opportunity. The work service opportunity is a partnership and collaboration with the Fijian congregation that has moved to Wesley UMC, 5010 15th Avenue, Sacramento CA 95820. The youth will be engaged in a full day service on Saturday through a collective effort of painting, nailing, repairing as guided by experienced adults. The youth and young adults of Wesley UMC are joining in this service and labor of love. It is not required for the youth to have an experience of doing church property repair for they will be guided by experienced adults.

FaithServiceXtreme has been inspired by the words of Jesus in the Beatitudes, Matthew 5:9, “You’re blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That’s when you discover who you really are, and your place in God’s family.” (The Message translation by Eugene Peterson)
The 2019 FAITHSERVICEEXTREME theme is, "BLESSED TO SERVE: WE'RE NEIGHBORS"
Invitation: John Wesley experienced a heart-warming assurance of redemption being embraced by the love of God. Our young people are invited to live a life of commitment to Jesus and then be inspired and empowered by the Holy Spirit to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

4. **Youth and Young Adult Delegation to the 2019 Annual Conference Session**

The Office of Young People’s Ministry on behalf of the Conference Committee on Young People’s Ministry wrote an article right after the Special Called Session General Conference on February 23-26, 2019 which was published through our conference website and the Instant Connection. The “Voice and Vote We Have a Place for Them,” has served as an invitation for more engagement and involvement of the youth and young adults in the life of the California-Nevada Annual Conference. The Standing Rules, Division III. Conference Membership, 2018 Conference Journal and Yearbook was studied very carefully for a correct interpretation on the selection process of the youth and young adult delegates. The previous practice of the registration online for application to serve on the youth and young adult delegation to the Annual Conference Session has been changed into “registration for nomination.” The Standing Rules is very explicit in stating that the districts elect the youth and young adult delegation coming from their districts. Their nominations were facilitated by the Conference Committee on Young People’s Ministry, and the District Conferences elect the youth and young adults to serve on the Youth and Young Adult Delegation for the 2019 Annual Conference Session (ACS) of the California-Nevada Conference of The United Methodist Church.

The youth and young adults’ inclusion and participation in the Annual Conference Session is a radical way to make The United Methodist Church the faith community where young people can grow as disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

The presence of the Youth and Young Adults with their Voice and Vote at the 2019 Annual Conference Session is stronger with their total number of 27 Youth Voting Delegates and 28 Young Adults voting delegates.
Conference Committee on New and Vital Congregations

Number on Agency: 9 Number voting when adopted: 6
Number voting for: 6 Number voting against: 0 Number abstaining: 0
Date of first meeting: May 1, 2018 Number of meetings held: 8
Date adopted: May 21, 2019
Submitted by: Matt Smith, Chairperson

Following a year of significant transition, the Conference Committee on New and Vital Congregations (CNVC) completed a strategic planning process in 2018. CNVC established measurable goals for 2024 in three focus areas: Preparing People, Cultivating Places, and Aligning Resources. In order to reach the 2024 goals, CNVC also developed the following incremental goals for 2019:

**Preparing People**
- 8-12 people grow in their spiritual leadership and develop a concrete Ministry Action Plan for reaching new people in new or existing places within one year.
- Develop plan to train & equip pastors for coaching and mentoring others in starting new things.
- Develop plan to train & equip lay people equipped to partner in starting new things.

**Cultivating Places**
- Develop pathways for local churches to contribute resources in support of new churches.
- Offer 3 trainings to curate learning and growth postures among churches.
- Identify 5 new places as high potential opportunities for new church starts.

**Aligning Resources**
- Investigate opportunities and challenges with loan to South Reno UMC.
- Identify 6-8 lay people in each District for leading legacy process with historic congregations.
- Identify 2 historic churches for legacy possibilities in each District.
- Develop process for legacy assessment of historic congregations.
- Develop clear pathways for partnership with Extension Societies.
- Support Extension Societies and District Superintendents in exploring options for professional real estate management.

Additionally, CNVC continued to provide funding totaling $14,250 for two ongoing ministry projects. Embrace received a grant in the amount of $7,500 for ministry in Oakland, and San Jose, First UMC received a grant in the amount of $6,750 for Spanish Extension ministry in San Jose.
Conference Committee on Ethnic Ministry and Outreach

Number on Agency: 15  Number voting when adopted: 15
Number voting for: 12  Number voting against: 0  Number abstaining: 3
Date of first meeting: February 1, 2018  Number of meetings held: 4
Date adopted: May 21, 2019
Submitted by: Anthony Jenkins, Chairperson

Ethnic Ministry and Outreach is a Ministry to develop and keep the vision of ethnic local church concerns before the Annual Conference and maintain connectional relationships with diverse ethnic constituencies.

The California-Nevada Conference is placed within a mission field that is rich in its ethnic diversity. Together, we are committed to helping congregations reach out to all people for the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

One of the ways in which we do that is through our committees on ethnic ministry and our ethnic caucuses.

The Conference Committee on Ethnic Ministry and Outreach (CEMO) meets quarterly to discuss current events, gatherings, and challenges for Ethnic Ministries. We also discuss our excitement concerning different avenues of sustainability and growth of Ethnic Ministries!

### CEMO Members

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<th>Clergy/Lay</th>
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Representative of Ethnic Groups and Staff (with voice and no vote)

Jorge Dominguez  Clergy  M  Hispanic/Latino  7/01/18  6/30/20

During the 2018 calendar year we approved four grants:

1. May 17, 2018

Korean Caucus grant application of $2,500 was unanimously approved. Leadership Seminar & Workshop held by Western Jurisdiction Korean United Methodist Church Association (1) to support developing their transformational leadership in the local churches, (2) to share their resources for
ministries, and (3) to encourage supportive system among Korean Pastors & Spouses in regards of their special roles and effectiveness in the vitality of Korean ethnic ministries. Attended by 42 Korean Pastors and their families. Total number of participants were 119 and guest speaker.

2. September 13, 2018

The Movement UMC application of $2,500 was unanimously approved. The grant was to help “The Movement UMC” hire talented musicians in its first year of church planting was. The Movement is a new church start whose mission is to proclaim the prophetic gospel of Jesus Christ to the black community of Sacramento.

3. October 7, 2018

Bishop’s consultation for Prison Ministry was unanimously approved for $1,200. This is a new ministry that would benefit all of the churches in the California-Annual Conference. A representative from California-Nevada Annual Conference would attend the National Prison Summit on Mass Incarceration held in Nashville, Tennessee on October 24-27, 2018.

4. November 20, 2018

Pacific Islander Ministry Workshop application for grant was unanimously approved for $1,000. The funding was for Tongan UMC, Samoan UMC and Fijian UMC for “An Awareness Creation Workshop” held on November 21, 2018 at the Laurel UMC, 3525 Kansas Drive, Oakland, CA attended by a minimum of 50 Pacific Islander Ministries Leaders which will include youths and women.
Achievements of 2018:

1. A workshop of Pacific Islanders Ministry Committee members was organized on Saturday August 11, 2018. This was conducted by Rev. Dr. Amy Valdez-Barker, the Executive Director of Global Mission Connections. Dr Barker shared details of the Pacific Islanders Ministry Comprehensive Plan, under GBGM, with its seven (7) pillars as ways to assist pacific islanders within the church through leadership development, youth and young adults, ministry to the poor, health, congregational development, language resources and church and community. The workshop helped the leaders with a better understanding of the plan and all that it entails.

2. A ‘Talanoa’ (Conversation) Session of Pacific Islanders Ministry leaders was conducted by Rev. Dr. Jeffery Kuan, President of Claremont School of Theology, and Rev. Jorge Domingues, Executive Director of Connectional Ministries of the California-Nevada Conference, on Wednesday November 22, 2018. The workshop focused on issues of the Called Special General Conference of the UMC, which was to be held in February, 2019. The ‘Talanoa’ (conversation) was held at Laurel UMC, Oakland, and attracted healthy conversations among participants.

3. Our Pacific Island Ministries (Tongan, Fijian and Samoan) conducted their individual combined worships during the year according to their respective calendars. For the Tongans, their first Sunday of the year worship with the Bishop is always an important event. Apart from this, they have a wide range of activities that they participate in during the year, which range from their annual church giving events (Misinale) to support their individual church ministries, to their children’s Sunday and mothers’ Sunday worships. The Tongan pastors also get together on a monthly basis to check-in on their ministries and exchange information on growing their ministries. The Fijians continue to have their quarterly combined services with their monthly pulpit exchange. Their quarterly combined worships are always preceded by their Lay leaders’ meetings. The annual Fijian summer camp continues to attract more young people even from beyond the Fijian community. The Fijian women annual retreat has been successfully organized and is attracting more and more participants. Our Samoan brothers and sisters’ ministries are mostly centered around the Bay Area and they have a new Masters in Divinity student who is completing his first year at the Claremont School of Theology. The elders in these ministries are working closely with their young people in guiding them in their faith journey.
The Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry had a productive year. The Board consists of 15 members; 7 members “at large”, and 8 members who are the Campus Ministers of the ministries supported by the Annual Conference. One member was not able to continue this year, two Campus Ministers began with the 2017 Fall semester, and two Campus Ministers began at the end of the 2018 Fall semester. While we are thankful for some stability on the Board, we are also looking forward to growth and energy the new Campus Ministers bring.

The Campus Ministries at San Francisco State University (EcHouse), UC Davis (CA House) and UC Merced and Merced College (Wesley Foundation of Merced) and San Jose State University (The Wesley Club) each boast strong leadership and dynamic programs. The Annual Conference funding for these campus ministries has remained stable, which has been central to the successful ministries. The Annual Conference has also provided funding for the Campus Ministries at the University of the Pacific and Delta Wesley through Central UMC Stockton, and UC Santa Cruz (The Feast). Wesley UMC Palo Alto provides support and space for Campus Ministry at Stanford University.

The Wesley Foundation of Merced provides ministry to UC Merced, Merced College and at the Wesley House, a 9 student intentional Christian community. Bible Study and “Journey Conversations” small group program are offered to deepen Christian faith and to equip students with resources to meaningfully address and engage relevant issues that students are facing today: anxiety, depression, suicidality, economic insecurity, climate instability, gun safety, church and homosexuality, partisan politics, and navigating the chaos and information overload from social media. We learn to ask “beautiful questions”: How do we distinguish between healthy religion from toxic religion? How do we live out our Christian faith in an increasingly polarized culture where people are retreating into their own “eco chambers”? Rather than view conflict as one side pitted against the other, there is a “third side” as William Ury calls it. It’s the power of coming together in community and creating a new perspective. In addition, we offer monthly worship service, meditation workshop and discussion forum on campus. Our Campus Minister John Song offers free pastoral counseling and Spiritual Direction to students.

The Cal Aggie Christian Association (CA House) at UC Davis has continued and expanded it primary programs, including a weekly Christian student fellowship and “Open Table”, a Multi-faith program that allows a space for students of diverse religious traditions to gather around a common table for conversation. And, the newest addition to the CA House offerings is the “Nourish” Food Pantry. "Nourish is a radical intracommunity food pantry system designed to address food insecurity among university students in the Davis community. CA House is working to establish a food pantry system that can meet the needs of the student community while offering a variety of healthy food options.

The EcHouse at San Francisco State is an intentional living community for six residents. The Campus Minister serves as a mentor and guide as these residents discern and create their ministry to the campus and community. There is a “family dinner” each week that includes between 10-15 students. EcHouse has shared in the Shabbat services with the Campus Hillel group and co-sponsored event on interfaith work. Twice a week free coffee and sandwiches are provided to 100-120 students each day, many returning week after week.
This provides an opportunity connect with volunteers and link students with community gardens, food recovery, food pantries and coordinated benefits access programs in the neighborhoods where the students live. Homelessness among students is an urgent issue and one that EcHouse is looking to include in its ministry.

At the University of the Pacific and Central UMC Stockton, a group of devoted United Methodist Students meet weekly on campus for “Open Door” United Methodist Ministries for community and discipleship. Students discuss Wesleyan spirituality and enjoy a meal together. Open Door members often have off-campus gathering and events. The Campus Ministries at Stanford and at UC Santa Cruz (The Feast) have just welcomed new Campus Ministers, and are refining their programs and focus. As a Board, we are excited that they have strong support from their local communities and are building relationships with their campuses.

Funding for these critical ministries continues to be an issue. And, there are significant areas in the Annual Conference that have thriving college communities, but no Campus Ministry. The Board is working towards a stable funding model and expansion of Campus Ministry in the Annual Conference.
In July 2018 the we welcomed Rev. Jorge Domingues as new staff resource to our committee with his new position as Executive Director of Connectional Ministries.

In April 2018 our committee organized a conference wide event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the death of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with focus on the triple evils of militarism, racism, and poverty. The event was a great success with over 200 in attendance. The issues King addressed in 1967 regarding inequity in resources for basic human needs in local communities while huge profits are generated for and by the military industrial complex continue to resonate in today’s world. The event also was successful in creating intersectional relationships with different task forces represented on the committee. In particular, the Israel-Palestine Task Force, Philippines Solidarity Task Force, Immigration Task Force, Disability Task Force, and Korean Peace Task Force all worked together well in drawing connections between their specific issues within the framework of the triple evils of militarism, racism, and poverty. A new insight has emerged with an understanding of the extension of the military industrial complex to now include the prison industrial complex and security industrial complex with proliferation of detention centers, prisons, and proposal of border walls in the U.S. as modeled on Israeli tools of military occupation. We continue education and training on this framework and plan to have a vigil at Annual Conference 2019 to bring attention to how children are being impacted by these issues.

We have invested in leadership training this past year sponsoring two clergy to attend the General Board of Church and Society – “Young Clergy Forum” in Washington D.C. this past January. We also sponsored young adult participation in the Ecumenical Advocacy days in Washington D.C. in April. EAD is an annual ecumenical event which involved workshops, trainings, and advocacy at Capitol Hill.

This past year we named Jean Reynolds as our new Peace and Justice Coordinator. The P & J Coordinator participates in national trainings and is our liaison to the national P & J network through the General Board of Church and Society.

We held a consultation with GBCS staff to better coordinate the work and resources of the agency with our conference ministry and will continue to plan together.

We continue to support the work of representative task forces on the committee. Each task force carries out their own specific activities within the conference and national networks while we are strengthening the collective work together.
The Conference Mission Service Committee has a threefold purpose:

1. To envision and engage in imaginative new forms of mission appropriate to changing needs;
2. To coordinate implementation of Conference strategy for outreach and mission; and
3. To resource congregations for mission outreach.

Accomplishments:

- Continued to nurture and grow our missional partnerships with Cambodia and West Angola. In Cambodia our focus has been to grow and strengthen Methodist congregations in country. Our West Angola partnership has centered around partnering with the West Angola Conference on ways to strengthen health initiatives in Angola.

- We continue to support our bilateral covenant relationships with the Methodist Churches of Fiji and Tonga.

- We continue to partner with the Conference Committee on Children and Poverty to support NetworX, a project with the goal of building relationships across class lines to walk people out of poverty.

- United Methodist Volunteers-in-Mission (UMVIM): in 2018 we deployed 22 local church volunteer groups both domestically and abroad. The work of these 193 people included fire relief work, running medical clinics, and constructing homes and churches.

- Sent representatives to the Mission Ambassadors Summit, December 1-3, in Atlanta GA. The summit was to celebrate our United Methodist mission work throughout the world and to introduce conference mission representatives to the new General Board of Global Ministries offices in Atlanta.

Finally, 2019 marks the bicentennial of our United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. We too celebrate our long Methodist legacy of working in the name of Jesus Christ to alleviate suffering and uplift people throughout the world.
In 2018, four Global Ministries missionaries from the annual conference were in active missionary service: Marilyn Chan (Cambodia), Claudia Genung (Japan), Katherine Parker (Nepal), and Josh Van (Malaysia). Margaret Lohmeyer served within the annual conference as a Global Missions Fellow for part of the year.

In addition to these five, and in the spirit of missionary service being “From Everywhere to Everywhere,” these six other Global Ministries missionaries also received significant conference support through The Advance: Eun Ha Choi, Ken Cruz, Paul Jeffrey, Larry Kies, Jane Kies, and Hyo-Won Park. Missionaries Teri and Evelyn Eberle served as Mission Advocates for the Western Jurisdiction. For 2018, the total conference missionary support was about $70,000. The total conference support through the Advance for all global ministries, including UMCOR, other projects, and missionaries, was about $340,000 for the year.

In 2018, these 32 conference churches provided significant missionary financial support:
Conference Commission on Religion and Race

Number on Agency: 13 Number voting when adopted: 11
Number voting for: 11 Number voting against: 0 Number abstaining: 0
Date of first meeting: September 14, 2018 Number of meetings held: 5
Date adopted: May 31, 2019
Submitted by: Tikiko Lesuma, Chair

Achievements of 2018:

It has been a successful year for the Conference Commission on Religion and Race. CCORR has collaboratively worked with its partners addressing the concern of inclusiveness. Our Annual Conference is rich with cultural diversity and continuously pursues to be inclusive in all its different facets of ministry. Last Annual Conference Session CCORR valued and appreciated the action taken by the ACS to include full participation of Ethnic delegates. We suspended the Standing Rules, Division I, Section C. 7. K (1) at the last ACS and we will do the same at the beginning of this year’s ACS which allows Ethnic delegates to speak in their native language during the plenary session to set the time to speak for or against a question from two to five minutes. This action was the result of the collaborative work done by the Conference Committee of Ethnic Ministry and Outreach (CCEMO) and CCORR in 2018.

CCORR has also been advocating for more inclusive worship for the past two years. We strongly urged exposing others to our diversity and including our ethnic sisters and brothers in such a way and not limiting them to evening services where attendance is often low except at the Ordination service. Further, as we recognized our commonalities while celebrating our differences; a more inclusive worship could raise our spirit to new heights and move us deeper into unity and this is what we will be experiencing at this year’s Annual Conference Session and for that we will be thankful.

CCORR have changed the deadlines to grants from one cycle in the Spring to two cycles, one on January 25th and the second cycle on July 25th.

CCORR, in partnership with I-Relate, provided a cultural competency training for the Los Rios District Board of Ordained Ministry and will continue to work with the District Superintendents to explore best practices for congregations to honor diversity and work towards inclusion. CCORR in collaboration with I-Relate plan to facilitate more cultural competency training for the Central Valley, Bay, Great Northern and the El Camino Real District Committees of Ordained Ministries. CCORR also plans to have future Ethnic Gatherings to celebrate diversity and invites all the various Ethnic groups and Caucuses to participate so that our work towards creating a Much-loved Community in our Conference where all voices are heard and the richness of our diversity highlighted or uplifted.

CCORR has collaboratively worked with all the Ethnic Caucuses supporting them and this year, CCORR in partnership with the Conference Committee of Ethnic Ministry Outreach and with the Conference Committee of Pacific Island Ministry has submitted two Resolutions; the first is to start one new Samoan Congregation by 2021 and the second is to start three new Fijian Congregations by 2025.
CORR worked with Conference staff to update pages 3 and 69 in the 2010 General Commission on Religion and Race On-Site Review Official Report posted on the conference website.

CCORR will strive to enhance full inclusion of all persons in the ministries of our Annual Conference and by God’s grace will continue to be an advocate of Racial justice and invites the members of our Annual Conference to complement and take advantage of the richness and uniqueness of our ethnic and cultural diversity as the body of Christ. We are excited and look forward to see where and what God has planned for Annual Conference as we move towards the future as a Cultural Diverse Annual Conference.
The Council on Finance and Administration (CFA) celebrates the people of California-Nevada for your faithfulness in tithing and giving. For the second year in a row, California-Nevada has paid our general and jurisdictional apportionments in full in 2018! Through increased tithing, a special appeal to the annual conference at the end of the year, and the utilization of stored funds and operating reserves, California-Nevada has been a full partner in the ministries of justice, healing and hope across our global connection.

The collections for 2018 increased by $113,493 or 2% compared with 2017, exceeding the Council’s budgeted revenue target amount. Spending was below budget by $394,614.

At the close of 2018, the balance of the conference operating fund was $1,429,485 or 2.95 months’ reserve. By standing rule, the Council targets a fund balance between 2.5 and 3 months’ reserve.

The CFA brought a 2019 budget recommendation to the 2018 Annual Conference Session. The aspirational budget $6,476,000 was passed as recommended. The CFA has historically recommended a budget based on an expectation of 100% tithing, though tithing has not yet reached the 100% level. While we believe 100% tithing is possible, the difference between actual tithing and 100% creates an annual structural deficit. The CFA has taken steps to remedy this structural deficit, which is reflected in the 2020 proposed budget.

The CFA’s president actively participated in the Core Team meetings during 2018. With Bishop Carcaño, the extended cabinet, and Core Team, CFA provided leadership in recommendations of the FACT report related to tithing sustainability, conference-wide coordinated financial processes and statements, and communications relating to finance and administration. Additionally, the Council was represented on the California-Nevada United Methodist Foundation’s investment committee.

The Unit Insurance committee of CFA continued to contract with Philadelphia Insurance Company for the program’s property and liability insurance. The committee monitors the claims experience of our churches while seeking to maximize coverage at the lowest cost possible. The net asset balance of this fund was $178,981 on December 31, 2018. The net asset balance of the earthquake relief grant fund was $1,434,643.

The CFA and the Conference Personnel Committee began a new performance evaluation process, followed by work with PayScale to establish pay ranges for our staff positions. The CFA moved into a system that awarded merit bonuses during 2018, effective for 2019 pay.

A line of credit was approved on request from the Conference Board of Trustees related to legal expenses concerned Glide Memorial United Methodist Church.

The 2017 audit of the Council on Finance and Administration of the California-Nevada Annual Conference was received from Gilbert Associates, public accountants and approved by CFA. The audit received an unqualified opinion from Gilbert Associates, meaning that the conference’s fund balances and financial processes were reviewed and affirmed.
CFA monitored the financial condition of the conference with the help of financial reports prepared by conference staff Karen Foster, Lesya Susid and Ajesh Kumar. The Council thanks the staff and particularly Diane Knudsen for carrying out her broad range of duties for the last 24 years as our Conference Treasurer and Executive Director of Finance and Administration.
Conference Committee on Episcopacy

Number on Agency: 10  Number voting when adopted: 10
Number voting for: 10  Number voting against: 0  Number abstaining: 0
Date of first meeting: December 8, 2018  Number of meetings held: 2
Date adopted: April 30, 2019
Submitted by: Lisa A. Brown, Chairperson

According to The Book of Discipline (2016) of the United Methodist Church (¶ 637), the committee shall meet at least annually. It shall be convened by the bishop and shall elect a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and a secretary. The bishop and/or chairperson are authorized to call additional meetings when desired.

The current committee members are as follows:
  Lisa A. Brown (clergy-chairperson)
  Oscar Ochoa (layperson-vice chair)
  Kris Marshall (clergy-secretary)
  JB Brayfindexley (lay person)
  Micheal Pope (conference lay leader)
  Dawn Blundell (clergy)
  Vathanak Heang (clergy)
  Ofa Uepi (clergy)
  Emily Allen (Western Jurisdiction lay person)
  Jeffery Kuan (Western Jurisdiction clergy)

One of the committee’s responsibilities is to engage in annual consultation and appraisal of the balance of the bishop’s relationship and responsibilities to the area and annual conferences, the jurisdiction, general Church boards and agencies, and other areas of specialized ministry… (¶637.3.f.).

During December, 2018, we reviewed the membership of the Conference Committee on Episcopacy. The following information was brought to the chairperson’s attention:

According to the Book of Discipline, this Committee on the Episcopacy shall be between seven and seventeen members, comprised of 1/3 lay women, 1/3 lay men, 1/3 clergy.

To meet these requirements, we would need to add three more lay women, and four more lay men. The Bishop is responsible for nominating 1/5 of the committee. No current committee members should be omitted for inactivity (which is missing two meetings in a row).

During the March, 2019 meeting, recommendations were made to meet the recommended requirements. It is our understanding these recommendations are now being processed through the work of the Conference Committee on Nominations and Connectional Leadership Development.

Lastly, our committee met twice since the last Annual Conference Session and discussed ways to support and care for our Bishop as she works effectively with all of the diverse communities in our Episcopal area to cast vision for the future, respond to the concerns of the FACT Engagement, and develop leaders for today’s church.
Conference Board of Trustees

Number on Agency: 9  Number voting when adopted: 8
Number voting for: 8  Number voting against: 0  Number abstaining: 0
Date of first meeting: February 24, 2018  Number of meetings held: 5
Date adopted: March 25, 2019
Submitted by: Harold Caudle, President

Property Management:

The Conference Board of Trustees continues to hold title to and maintains five district parsonages, one episcopal residence, and the United Methodist Center. The Board also holds in trust the Ashbury parsonage of the former Hamilton UMC of San Francisco.

During the calendar year 2018, three of the district properties, Chico, Fresno, and Sacramento were managed by the conference. The other two district properties, Reno and San Jose, the Ashbury parsonage in San Francisco, and the episcopal residence in West Sacramento were managed by professional property managers. Most of the net rental income of the district parsonages is used to fund housing allowances for the five district superintendents.

The episcopal residence continues to be rented out with the net proceeds applied to the bishop’s housing allowance.

Most of the net rental income from the Ashbury parsonage is used to pay down the debt accrued from Hamilton UMC of San Francisco.

Glide:

The Conference Board of Trustees began a process, on the recommendation of Bishop Minerva Carcaño, to enforce the United Methodist Trust Clause and the Lizzie Glide Trust of the Glide Foundation.

The Board of Trustees requested a line of credit with the Council on Finance and Administration for the purpose of financing legal costs related to actions taken.

The Board of Trustees moved to authorize Diane Knudsen, Executive Director of Finance and Administration of the California-Nevada Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, to represent the members of the Board of Trustees, in consultation with Bishop Minerva Carcaño; to sign the Letter of Engagement with the law firm Bryan Cave Leighton and Paisner.

2018 Annual Conference Legislation:

The 2018 annual conference session approved two pieces of legislation submitted by the Board of Trustees:

1. To deed the real property of the former First United Methodist Church of Orangevale to the Cho-Un Korean United Methodist Church.
2. To delete the employee loan program from the Standing Rule X.D. Annual Conference Staff Housing.
United Methodist Center:

New rain gutters and downspouts were installed around the United Methodist Center along with some eave/rafter tail work.

Phase II of the United Methodist Center improvements is nearing completion with work yet to be completed on the new display area at the conference center and adding a little more interior design in the conference rooms.

Trustees are looking into ADA improvements at the United Methodist Center and are currently reviewing quotes for ADA doors leading into the restrooms and lobby.

Methodist Homes:

The Conference Board of Trustees received a request from California-Nevada Methodist Homes, a California non-profit corporation, to terminate its health and welfare organization’s relationship with this annual conference. After receiving input from the Conference Chancellor’s office, a discussion was held on the nature of this annual conference’s relationship with this health and welfare institution. The Board of Trustees passed a motion to affirm the decision of the California-Nevada Methodist Homes to terminate this relationship and, pursuant to ¶2517.6 of The Book of Discipline (2016), this action is hereby reported to the Annual Conference.

Finance:

The Board has reviewed financial statements as presented by the Conference Treasurer and has approved planned maintenance and repair items on the aforementioned properties.

The Board has fulfilled its responsibilities as defined in The Book of Discipline.
1. The Board is the agent for the United Methodist Church and the California-Nevada Annual Conference in a significant economic ministry: providing adequate benefits for clergy and lay participants, their dependents and their survivors.

During calendar year 2018, congregations and agencies of the conference paid $2,803,773 for Current Service Pension Funding (CRSP/CPP) and $3,048,642 for active employee health care benefits. Additionally, retiree health care subsidy support was provided to over 300 retired clergy, spouses, and surviving spouses. Other benefits provided by the Board of Pensions include Death, Disability and Life Insurance Benefits through UNUM for Conference lay staff.

The Board of Pensions used $1,913,898 from the Past Service Reserve Fund to pay for pre-1982 pension obligations. This included a 3% increase to the 2019 PSR rate ($887 per year of service).

Paul Extrum-Fernandez serves as the Executive Officer and Conference Benefits Officer to work with Wespath (formerly the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits), Health Insurance Plan providers, the Cabinet, the Ministry Staff, the Endowment Board, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and individual constituents within the Annual Conference. He also administers reserve funds held by Wespath and makes regular reports to the Board.

The Board also employs Brian Grimmer as its Assistant Benefits Manager and Andrea Winchester as its Office Manager.

2. During 2018, staff continued to promote the importance to pastors and lay workers of the denomination’s Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP) and continued to assist pastors with payroll matters and compliance testing on the current 403(b) ‘elective deferral’ limits.

3. The Board of Pensions continues to provide a Kaiser HMO health insurance plan and Blue Shield PPO health insurance options for active participants. MetLife was also continued as our dental plan. MES Vision is also provided for vision coverage. Board of Pensions staff continued to counsel and assist constituents in the use of these managed care programs. The Board continues to monitor the health care programs and costs closely.

4. The Board of Pensions also administers four different retiree Health Care Programs (Blue Shield PPO, Blue Shield HMO, UnitedHealthCare, and Kaiser Senior Advantage) for approximately 300 retired clergy, spouses and surviving dependents. Retired participants are eligible for a premium subsidy determined by years of service.

5. Since 1944, the Board of Pensions has administered the Death Benefit Program and/or the Death Benefit-Plus Program, providing term life insurance coverage for as many as 600 Conference constituents each year, both clergy and lay employees. By General Conference action, these formerly separate programs were made part of the “Comprehensive Protection Plan” (‘CPP’, for clergy) and the “Basic Protection Plan” (‘BPP’, for lay employees). During 2018, the Board of Pensions continued to work directly with the beneficiaries and
survivors of those covered by these benefits, as well as administer the current coverage for the full-time lay employees of the Annual conference.

6. The Board of Pensions continues to operate a student housing facility adjacent to the campus of the University of California, Berkeley. Over 80 students from across the country and abroad utilize the group living accommodations.

7. The Board of Pensions remains grateful for the Conference Claimants Endowment Board (CCEB), which continued its strong work in support of retired clergy benefits, and related services for retired clergy and surviving dependents. The Board recognizes the tremendous value of the $1.7 Million annual gift from the Endowment Board, which now provides 100% of the Annual Conference-related funding for the Retiree health care plans. During 2015, Conference Claimants received up to a $3,800 (single)/$7,600 (couple) subsidy in their health care premiums, thanks to the Endowment Board contribution. The Board of Pensions encourages all persons to become acquainted with the programs of the Endowment Board, and to support that Board in their work to help fund the Conference retiree benefit programs.

8. The Board carries out its work with the help of the following standing committees:

A. The Executive Committee
B. The Health Insurance Committee
C. The Joint Committee on Medical Leave
D. The Investment Committee
E. The Personnel Committee

9. The Board of Pensions operates in accordance with the requirements of The Book of Discipline (2016). Authorization has been given to deposit funds with the Conference Treasurer, the Conference Claimants Endowment Board, the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, and a local financial institution used for daily transactions, presently the Bank of the West. The Treasurers related to the Annual Conference are bonded.
Introduction:
*The Book of Discipline* (2012) ¶ 1506.6 requires that each annual conference develop, adopt and implement a formal comprehensive funding plan for funding all its benefit obligations. The funding plan shall be submitted annually to Wespath Benefits and Investments (Wespath) for review and be approved annually by the annual conference, following the receipt and inclusion of a favorable written opinion from Wespath. This document is only a summary of the information contained in the actual signed funding plan and does not contain all the information required for a comprehensive view of the conference’s benefit obligations. You may request the full contents of the 2020 comprehensive benefit funding plan from the Board of Pensions office.

**Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP)**

**Defined Benefit (DB) and Defined Contribution (DC)**

**Program overview:**
The Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) is an Internal Revenue Code section 403(b) retirement program providing lifetime income and account flexibility designed for those who serve as clergy of The United Methodist Church. The program is designed to provide participants with one portion of their overall retirement benefits. CRSP replaced the Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP) effective January 1, 2007, which had previously replaced the Pre-82 Plan for service rendered prior to January 1, 1982.

CRSP consists of both a defined benefit (DB) plan, which provides a monthly benefit at retirement based upon years of credited service to The United Methodist Church, and a defined contribution (DC) plan, which provides a retirement account balance established and funded by the annual conferences.

**Current funding plan information:**
The Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP DB) annuities total liability as of January 1, 2018, is ($1,740,019,798), while total plan assets are $1,904,387,237, resulting in a current plan funded ratio of 109%. The California-Nevada Conference portion of the liability is 1.4576% and the 2020 contribution is $1,378,998. The conference anticipates that the amount will be funded by Direct Billing. Additionally, General Conference 2012 approved a change to CRSP that provides each annual conference the discretion to determine whether to cover three-quarter and/or half-time clergy. The California-Nevada Conference has elected to cover clergy serving 50%+ under CRSP effective January 1, 2020.

Effective January 1, 2014, the CRSP DC plan was reduced from a 3% to a 2% of plan compensation non-matching contribution. Clergy can earn up to an additional 1% CRSP DC contribution by contributing at least 1% of their plan compensation to UMPIP; therefore, if a participant contributes at least 1% of plan compensation to UMPIP, the individual will receive a contribution of 3% to CRSP DC. The 2020 CRSP DC contribution is anticipated to be $526,320 and will be funded by Direct Billing.

**Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP)**

**Plan overview:**
Supplement Three to the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP), also known as the Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP), provides clergy with a pension benefit for their years of ministry with The United Methodist Church from 1982 through 2006. MPP is an Internal Revenue Code section 403(b) retirement plan. MPP requires that
exactly 65% of the account balance must be annuitized when the funds are to be distributed. The remainder may be rolled over to UMPIP, another qualified plan or an IRA, or it may be paid in a lump sum.

**Current funding plan information:**
The Ministerial Pension Plan (MPP) annuities’ total liability as of January 1, 2018 is ($3,606,807,509), while total plan assets are $3,885,277,143, resulting in a current plan funded ratio of 108%. The required contribution for 2020 is $0. The California-Nevada Conference’s percentage of the total liability is 1.7142%. Future MPP annuitants have a total account balance of $3,803,548,721 and the California-Nevada Conference’s portion of that balance is $59,112,003 or 1.55% of the total.

**Pre-82 Plan**
**Plan overview:**
Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP), also known as the Pre-82 Plan, provides clergy with a pension benefit for their years of ministry with The United Methodist Church prior to 1982. The Pre-82 Plan was replaced by MPP effective January 1, 1982. If a clergyperson retires within the Conference (and does not terminate), the minimum benefit payable is based on two factors:
1) Years of service with pension credit-approved by each conference on the recommendation of the Conference Board of Pensions (CBOP) in accordance with plan provisions and *The Book of Discipline*.
2) The conference pension rate (past service rate) - the dollar amount chosen by the conference as the amount payable for each approved year of service with pension credit (may change from year to year).

The number of years of service with pension credit is multiplied by the pension rate, and the product is the minimum annual benefit payable to those clergy eligible for Pre-82 Plan benefits. In certain situations, the benefit received from the Pre-82 plan may vary based on the applicability of what is referred to as Defined Benefit Service Money (DBSM), which is the defined contribution feature of the Pre-82 Plan. At the time that a participant retires, the DBSM account is converted to a life-based benefit and, at that point, the clergy’s benefit is the greater of the PSR or DBSM benefit. If the conference increases the PSR, the clergy’s benefit is recalculated; but the DBSM-based benefit does not change.

**Current funding plan information:**
The 2020 PSR recommended to the California-Nevada Conference will be $903, representing a 2% increase from the 2019 rate. The conference expects future annual increases to be approximately 1.00%.

The contingent annuitant percentage will remain at the 75% level.

**Active Health Benefit Program**
**Program Overview**
The California-Nevada Conference offers the following active health benefits to its active eligible participants:
Insurance: Kaiser HMO or Blue Shield PPO.

**Current funding plan information:**
The total cost of the program for 2020 is anticipated to be $3,804,100 and will be funded by Direct Billing. It is anticipated that increases for future years will average 9.00%.

Although there was a decrease in expenses in 2018, our Blue Shield rates went up 25% in 2019. Fortunately, we had modest increases in our Kaiser plans. We are anticipating a 9% change for our active plans in 2020 based on projected changes regarding vendors.
Additional Conference-Sponsored Coverage (if applicable)
The California-Nevada Conference has elected to provide health benefits coverage to the following groups during periods where without plan sponsor-funded premiums--the participants would not be provided coverage or benefits (all figures as of 12/31/2018):

1. Clergy or lay on disability (including pending disability): 3 participants at an estimated cost of $60,480. The projected annual cost as of 12/31/2020 for additional plan sponsor funded coverage is $12,318.

Post-Retirement Medical Benefit Program (PRM)
Program Overview:
The California-Nevada Conference currently offers Insurance for Post-Retirement Medical (PRM) coverage.

Current funding plan information:
The plan sponsor’s intention for 2020 is to retain its current plans. PRM benefits provided are as follows: A subsidy is provided to retirees based on years of service appointed to a local church. The source of the subsidy is from the Endowment Board.

The projected annual plan benefit (fully funded by a contribution from the Endowment Board) cost for 2020 (subsidies, HRAs, claims or premiums) is $1,200,000.

Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP)
Plan Overview:
The Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) provides death, long-term disability and other welfare benefits for eligible clergy of The United Methodist Church and their families. It is an Internal Revenue Code 414(e) “church plan” funded by plan sponsor insurance premiums. Generally, clergy are eligible to participate in CPP if they satisfy the eligibility requirements, including full-time appointment with plan compensation of at least 25% of the Denominational Average Compensation (DAC). Plan sponsors may elect to cover participants with three-quarter time appointments and/or to continue to cover clergy who, due to certain leaves or appointments, are not otherwise eligible to continue coverage.

The CPP adoption agreement executed by the California-Nevada Conference contains its elections to cover three-quarter time and fulltime appointments.

Current funding plan information:
For 2020, the California-Nevada Conference has an expected required contribution to the Comprehensive Protection Plan of $513,000, which is anticipated to be funded by Direct Billing. The anticipated average increase in future years is expected to be 2.00% per year.

United Methodist Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP) for Lay and Clergy
Plan Overview:
The United Methodist Personal Investment Plan (UMPIP) is an Internal Revenue Code section 403(b) defined contribution retirement savings plan for clergy and lay employees of The United Methodist Church and affiliated organizations. Participants may make before-tax, Roth and/or after-tax contributions through payroll deductions. Participant contributions, various optional plan sponsor contributions and investment earnings comprise the individual’s retirement account balance.

Current funding plan information:
Conference office lay employees working an average of 20 hours per week or more are eligible for a plan sponsor-funded pension contribution of 12% of salary. Lay employees are encouraged to make contributions
toward their retirement through payroll deductions to the UMPIP. The conference’s estimated contribution for 2020 is $62,346 and will be funded via Apportionments.

**Other Defined Contribution (DC) Obligations**

**Plan Overview:**
The California-Nevada currently offers the following DC benefit(s): **UM Life for Eligible Conference Lay Employees.** The estimated contribution for 2020 is $3,606 with the funding sources to be Apportionments. The anticipated average increase in future years is expected to be 1.00% per year.

**Plan Overview:**
The California-Nevada currently offers the following DC benefit(s): **Moving Costs for Clergy Retirees.** The estimated contribution for 2020 is $100,000 with the funding sources to be Apportionments. The anticipated average increase in future years is expected to be 1.00% per year.

**Plan Overview:**
The California-Nevada currently offers the following DC benefit(s): **LTD for Eligible Conference Lay Employees.** The estimated contribution for 2020 is $8,118 with the funding sources to be Apportionments. The anticipated average increase in future years is expected to be 2.00% per year.

**Conclusion:**
The 2020 Comprehensive Benefit Funding Plan and this summary document incorporates, to the best of our understanding, the California-Nevada’ s obligations and funding requirements of the benefits provided to the clergy and laity of the California-Nevada Conference.
Conference Commission on Archives and History

Number on Agency: 4  Number voting when adopted: 2
Number voting for: 2  Number voting against: 0  Number abstaining: 0
Date of first meeting: December 7, 2018  Number of meetings held: 1
Date adopted: May 20, 2019
Submitted by: Stephen Yale, Chair

Achievements of 2018:

The Commission met once during 2018 at the Conference Center in West Sacramento.

The Commission continued discussions about moving the archives of the Annual Conference from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley. The Commission is working with Conference staff and the Board of Trustees to identify an appropriate new location. The Commission intends to retain the storage space mainly for books and serials at the Waller Center in San Francisco.

The Commission has been consulting with the First United Methodist Church of Lodi which is seeking to be designated a Historic Site of the Annual Conference. The Commission expects to present a resolution at Annual Conference in June of 2019.

The Commission decided not to continue the book exchange at Annual Conference.

Space provided by Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley for the Conference archives also houses the archival collection of the Western Jurisdictional Conference which includes minutes, journals and other records and secondary resources of the current and former conferences and missions within the bounds of the Western Jurisdiction as well as the Western Jurisdictional Conference itself.

The chair of the Commission manages the archives of the Annual Conference and of the Western Jurisdiction, provides access to the archives and responds to requests for information.

During the past year long-term faithful members Larry Staley and Naoma Bodin retired from the Commission; the Commission deeply appreciates their dedication in this ministry of memory.
Achievements of 2018:

The Core Team provides focus and guidance for the work of the Annual Conference in collaboration with the Bishop and Extended Cabinet.

The Core Team met four times during the 2018-19 year to fulfill its responsibility for the following functions:

- Oversight of the mission and vision of the Annual Conference;
- The setting of priorities, allocation of available resources, provision of guidance and the establishment of assignments related to mission implementation within each of the four mission areas (Leadership Development, Congregational Development, Compassion and Justice, and Partners in Ministry) and the committees in those mission focus areas;
- Identifying opportunities for collaboration between each of the four mission focus areas;
- Collaboration with the Bishop and CFA in aligning resources.

Much of our focus this year was on readiness for the Special General Conference, a coherent response to it, and readying the Annual Conference for visioning and strategic planning, to take place in 2019-20, with a new strategic plan to be put in place for the 2021-2024 quadrennium.
Retired Clergy Association

Number on Agency: 10  Number voting when adopted: 17
Number voting for: 17  Number voting against: 0  Number abstaining: 0
Date of first meeting: August 22, 2018  Number of meetings held: 3
Date adopted: March 13, 2019

The purpose of the Retired Clergy Association of the California-Nevada Annual Conference is to maintain a supportive relationship with each other and strengthen its relationship with the Annual Conference by continuing to be of service to the church and the world. We do this through various service projects offered to retirees, spouses, and surviving spouses. Retirees serve the churches of the Annual Conference through pulpit supply, short and long term, as well as participating in the Sacraments. Members of the Association participate in mission projects which seek to alleviate hardships suffered by others, locally and globally.

Our Executive Officer, Nancy Daley, maintains a database, mailing lists, meeting records, and a website for more than 700 persons, which keeps the membership informed of all aspects of the Association.

The Conference Claimants’ Endowment Board, through its generous support, helps the Association maintain a visible presence in the lives of the membership. Through financial support, the Association is able to send teams on VIM trips, provide a per diem for retirees, spouses, and surviving spouses to attend the Annual Conference Session, and assist clergy to attend the Gathering of the Orders. The Board of Pensions is very supportive of retirees, spouses, and surviving spouses by keeping us informed of, and connected to, quality health care at as reasonable a cost as possible.

The Association is committed to offering high quality programs that will benefit the membership, spiritually, physically, socially, and emotionally. The Association is also able to connect to future clergy by providing, through member donations, scholarships to seminarians and course of study students.

We are currently developing programs that will further connect each person with a personal visit (within the bounds of the Annual Conference) seeking to find out how it is with each other’s soul and to prevent persons from “falling through the cracks.”

Thanks are in order for all who have answered the call to serve as the Board of Directors of the Association.
Conference United Methodist Women

Number on Agency: 20  Number voting when adopted:
Number voting for:  Number voting against:  Number abstaining:
Date of first meeting: January 12-14, 2018  Number of meetings held: 4
Date adopted:
Submitted by: Marlene Ward, President

Achievements of 2018:

— CA-NV Conference UMW, in 2018, maintained FOUR Districts in order to establish leadership teams. Five districts (to align with the Annual Conference) will be in place as of January 2019.
— January 12, 2018: Began 2018 with Leadership Team Retreat – Conference Center, Sacramento
— January 12, 13, 14, 2018: Leadership Team Meeting – Conference Center, Sacramento
— April 14, 2018: Conference Social Action Event – Sacramento First UMC, Sacramento
— April 14, 15, 2018: Leadership Team Meeting – Conference Center, Sacramento
— May 17, 18, 19, 20: UMW Assembly in Columbus, OH – 200 CA-NV UMW attended
  (Over 6,000 UMW from across the country and abroad were in attendance!!!)
— May 29, 2018: Delegation of CA-NV UMW went to Chevron to present over 1,200 letters from UMW across the nation and abroad concerning gas emissions from Chevron facilities.
— June 20, 22, 23, 2018: UMW participated in CA-NV Annual Conference, Modesto
— June 23, 2018: UMW celebrated their Breakfast at Annual Conference, Modesto
— July 14, 15, 2018: Leadership Team Meeting – Conference Center, Sacramento
— August 4, 2018: Conference UMW One-Day Mission u Event, Korean UMC, Santa Clara Valley, San Jose
— August 10, 11, 2018: Conference UMW Two-Day Mission u Event, Trinity UMC, Chico
— August 17, 18, 19, 2018: Conference UMW Three-Day Mission u Event, Wesley UMC, Fresno
— CA-NV UMWs participated in the Global Climate Action Summit multi-day event in San Francisco
  (People’s Climate March, two workshops, Multi-Faith Service)
— October 19, 2018: Conference UMW District Leadership Training Event, Campbell UMC, Campbell
— October 20, 2018: Conference UMW Annual Celebration, Campbell UMC, Campbell
  (Shannon Priddy, UMW National President, was keynote speaker!!!)

Throughout the year, Conference UMW, under the leadership of Juliet Maliksi, managed the Beulah Foundation funds and received applications for and approved grants for projects working with Seniors.

Throughout the year, UMW served on the Boards of Mary Elizabeth Inn and Gum Moon (women’s facilities – National UMW Institutes), both located in San Francisco.

Throughout the year, UMW served on various UMC Conference committees as ex-officio members.

Finally… throughout the year, UMW were called on to conduct sessions to acquaint women of the CA-NV Conference with A Way Forward … to promote conversation and prayer around the issues facing the 2019 Special General Conference.
Africa University

Africa University thrives in ministry because of the steadfast support of the local congregations of The United Methodist Church. The students, faculty, administrators, trustees, and alumni are grateful to the leaders and members of the California-Nevada Conference for prioritizing Africa University with the contribution of 100 percent of the asking to the Africa University Fund (AUF) apportionment in 2018. The university community values every gift and is humbled by the sacrifices that are being made by California-Nevada United Methodists to maintain a tradition of 100 percent support for the AUF.

Through its investment in the Africa University Fund, the California-Nevada Conference continues to affirm the university’s core mission of nurturing leaders who help communities to know Jesus Christ and to experience peace, sustainable livelihoods, food security, and abundant health. Thank you, California-Nevada United Methodists, for your steadfast commitment and strong support.

Institutional Update:

- Africa University remains a top choice for African young people who are seeking a relevant and life-changing educational experience. In 2018, Africa University enrolled more than 700 new students and maintained an overall enrollment of around 2,000 students. There were 25 African countries represented in the student body. Women made up 53 percent of the student population, which is almost twice the average for African higher education institutions.

- Throughout 2018, Africa University weathered the challenges of Zimbabwe’s depressed and uncertain socio-economic environment with creativity and prudence. The university delivered teaching, learning and community service activities of high-quality without interruption, while also renewing and expanding its infrastructure. Key enhancements in 2018 included the refurbishment of three residence halls for women students and the full implementation of an ERP software system to integrate and manage all facets of the university’s operations.

- For the first time in five years, there is new construction on the Africa University campus thanks to a 25th anniversary gift from Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas, TX. In December 2018, work began on the foundation for a new residence hall. The university subsequently broke ground for the construction of phase two of its Student Union and Cafeteria building. Both projects are progressing well and are expected to be fully in use by August 2020.

- With conflict, poverty, and the impact of climate change persisting as the key drivers of food insecurity and the rise in internal displacement, migration, and refugeehood in Africa, the university consolidated its position as a trailblazer by offering new graduate training and research opportunities. Africa University has also continued to provide scholarships for refugee women so that their experiences, talents and ideas are integrated into the search for sustainable solutions.

- Africa University delivered critical data for reducing malaria deaths in southern Africa and controlling the spread of insect-borne diseases world-wide. AU’s insectary—a laboratory for rearing and studying live insects, such as mosquitos—shares its findings through the Southern Africa Centers of Excellence for Malaria Research. This data informs regional policies, practices and malaria control efforts.

The students, faculty, administrators, and trustees of Africa University thank the members of the California-Nevada Conference for their prayers and support, which continue to grow and sustain this ministry. Thank you for opening doors and equipping young people to be difference-makers.
Thank you for all that you have sown into Africa University over the past 27 years. As Africa University and the California-Nevada Conference move forward together in missional engagement, we trust in God's unending grace for the increase.

James H. Salley
Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement
Africa University Development Office
jsalley@gbhem.org
615.340.7438
Greetings from Boston University School of Theology (BUSTH) as we seek to be faithful and courageous disciples in a hurt-filled world!

News From the School:

- **Faculty**: We welcomed two amazing faculty this year: Shively Smith as Asst. Professor of New Testament, and Nicolette Manglos-Weber as Asst. Professor of Religion and Society. In the coming year, we welcome Filipe Maia as Asst. Professor of Theology and Luis Menéndez-Antuña as Asst. Professor of New Testament.
- **Scholarships**: We continue to offer free tuition to UMC registered candidates for ordained ministry. We also offer new Korean and African Student Scholarships, and four Leadership Fellowships: Raíces Latinas for Latinx leaders, Sacred Worth for persons who lead in the LGBTQIA+ community, Howard Thurman for African-American leaders, and Indigenous Studies Fellowships.
- **Faith and Ecological Justice Program**: This new program sponsors events and initiatives to increase ecological awareness, education, research, and activism in ecological justice.
- **Grants**: Henry Luce Foundation has awarded a 3-year grant to support the Educating Effective Chaplains Project. The grant supports work with other seminaries to develop models that can better prepare chaplains for effective ministry.
- **Website**: A new School website will launch in Fall 2019.
- **2019 marks the 180th year of the School of Theology, originally founded as the Newbury Bible Institute in 1839.**
- **The BUSTH development campaign will end in September 2019, and we continue working toward a strong completion to support future generations and contribute to the vitality of your ministries.**

Partnering for Ministry and Transformation:

- **Creative Callings**: Our vocational project is an exciting partnership with local churches, seeking to create “a culture of call.” It is sponsored through a grant from the Lilly Endowment.
- **Engagement with the UMC**: Many of our students and alums were delegates and participants in General Conference 2019, and in reflection sessions and actions that have followed; they continue their discerning work for transformation.
- **Congregational courses**: The Continuing Scholar program offers current BUSTH courses to alums and local clergy as continuing education credit for a small fee per course.
- **Doctor of Ministry**: The DMin in Transformational Leadership is soaring with lively student cohorts that are broadly ecumenical, culturally diverse, and global. The model includes intensives, online courses, and faculty mentoring.
- **Religion and Conflict Transformation Clinic**: The Clinic provides internships and workshops that foster justice and peace.
- **Travel seminars**: These courses engage students with immersion journeys to the Arizona-Mexican border, Israel and Palestine, Argentina, Mexico, and other sites of learning and ministry. Attendees from the recent Serbia and Croatia Seminar presented to the 2018 Parliament of the World’s Religions in Toronto, Canada.
- **Ecumenical partnerships**: We continue to build robust Communities of Learning with the Episcopal Church and United Church of Christ, and to develop others.
- **Partnership with Hebrew College**: Together we are able to enrich interreligious learning through joint courses and public events and to co-sponsor the *Journal of Interreligious Studies* and the *State of Formation* blogging cohort.

Taking Action Globally and Locally:

- **Campus action**: Work to improve accessibility and sustainability. BUSTH is the first certified Green School in BU, and the school participates actively in the Green Seminary Initiative. It has also been named as one of the "Seminaries that Change the World" for the second consecutive year.
- **Internships in global service and peacemaking**: We provide internships that support students who engage in ministry with churches and service organizations across the world.
Commitment to Justice: Celebrating differences while joining in action.

- Faculty and students have led and participated in UMCOR; support efforts with victims of hurricanes and fires in Puerto Rico, Texas, California, and Florida; protests against white supremacist acts of violence; support services with immigrants and DACA young people; and ecumenical and interreligious witnesses for justice in the city of Boston.

- Through student-led Town Hall meetings, the community has had deep conversations on issues that divide (including theological differences). We seek to foster respectful listening that builds community life and communal action, while continuing to build our prophetic witness.

As BUSTH looks to the future, we celebrate transformational leaders of the United Methodist Church. Your living legacy and faithful witness give us hope and courage for the future.

Blessings and gratitude,

Mary Elizabeth Moore, Dean
Candler School of Theology

For more than 100 years, Candler School of Theology at Emory University has prepared real people to make a real difference in the real world. Since our founding in 1914, more than 10,000 students have graduated from Candler, where they have been shaped as thoughtful, principled, and courageous leaders dedicated to transforming the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

This is especially important to note amid the current uncertainty in our denomination. It is an honor and a privilege for Candler to be one of 13 official seminaries of The United Methodist Church. Yet true to the Methodist tradition of ecumenical openness, Candler has enthusiastically welcomed the entire Wesleyan family to our community for generations. Faculty, staff, and students from the AME Church, the AMEZ Church, the CME Church, Free Methodists, Nazarenes, and others have worked, worshiped, learned, and prayed alongside United Methodists, and have been a vital part of shaping Candler and our mission. This diversity has been a wonderful gift and a rich blessing. As we move forward from the Special Session of General Conference, we will continue to invite and welcome wholeheartedly those from all expressions of the Wesleyan tradition. Indeed, we will continue to welcome all those who follow Jesus Christ.

Candler is also privileged to be one of seven graduate professional schools of Emory University in Atlanta. With the resources of a top-tier research institution and the reach of a global city, our students benefit from a rich academic and hands-on learning environment: The General Board of Global Ministries is in Atlanta, as are numerous public health, international development, and social service organizations. Candler’s intentional involvement with our surrounding community has contributed to our inclusion on a list of “Seminaries that Change the World” for six years running. In short, there is no better place to prepare for ministry that engages our major denominational priorities: developing leaders, starting and growing churches, ministry with the poor, and improving global health.

In order to keep pace with the needs of the church and the world, Candler offers 16 degrees: six single degrees and ten dual degrees pairing theology with bioethics, business, international development, law, public health, and social work. Our Doctor of Ministry degree is 90 percent online, so students can remain in their places of ministry and immediately apply to their context what they learn in class. Our Teaching Parish program allows eligible United Methodist students to serve as pastors in local churches while they’re enrolled—they earn a salary as they earn course credit and pastoral experience, plus they are mentored by an experienced United Methodist elder.

Candler’s student body continues to reflect the diversity and breadth of the Christian faithful, with an enrollment of 453, reflecting 51 percent women, 39 percent people of color (U.S.), and a median age of 27 among MDivs. Students represent 44 denominations, with half coming from the Methodist family.

Candler has a deep commitment to alleviating student debt and promoting financial literacy. In 2018-2019, we awarded $5.8 million in Candler scholarships, with 100 percent of MDiv students receiving aid. Plus, our comprehensive “Faith & Finance” program teaches money management skills that serve our students now and will continue to serve them—and the churches they lead—well into the future.

Candler draws considerable strength and inspiration from its relationship with The United Methodist Church. Our ability to fulfill our mission of educating faithful and creative leaders for the church’s ministries throughout the world depends upon your prayers, partnership, and support. Thank you for the countless ways you advance this vital ministry in the life of our denomination. Visit us in person or online at candler.emory.edu to see firsthand how Candler prepares real people to make a real difference in the real world.
— Jan Love
Mary Lee Hardin Willard Dean and Professor of Christianity and World Politics
Candler School of Theology
CST values its connection to The United Methodist Church, and we are thankful for your prayers, presence, gifts, and service to our community. Since 1885, CST has existed to prepare students to become agents of transformation and healing in churches, local communities, schools, non-profit institutions, and the world at large. This work continues, in part, by your support.

In 2015, CST developed a five-year strategic plan based on three goals: promoting transformative education, engaging local and global communities, and achieving long-term institutional stability. CST’s groundbreaking approach to theological education is leading the way.

We are still seeing record-breaking enrollment numbers, and advancement numbers remain steady, yet we are running a budget deficit. Many other freestanding seminaries are experiencing this problem, too. One way of ensuring a healthy future is to embed in a like-minded university, so our work with Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, continues as we endeavor toward an affiliation agreement. This agreement will move us another step closer to reaching long-term institutional sustainability.

Willamette is one of a few United Methodist-related universities in the western U.S., which makes it possible for CST to retain both its affiliation as a United Methodist seminary and its reputation as an excellent theological school with renowned programs. Further, partnering with Willamette provides a number of interesting opportunities to strengthen both institutions – including dual degree programs, joint degree programs with Willamette’s current graduate schools (Atkinson Graduate School of Management and the College of Law), and coursework for Willamette undergraduates. CST has always met challenges with courage: from its founding in the San Fernando Valley to its affiliation with and later break from University of Southern California, to its 60+ years in Claremont, CST’s mission has always survived. Embedding within Willamette allows us the opportunity to thrive in a new way.

Even after announcing a possible move, CST’s alumni/ae and friends have been supportive – as evidenced by a steady increase in giving from alumni/ae and friends in the first six months of the 2018-19 fiscal year, compared to the same period of time in the 2017-18 fiscal year. We believe this is an indication of the continued support of our mission and students, and we see this as a vote of confidence in our efforts to create a stable financial model able to sustain the CST mission for years to come.

Additionally, our 2018-19 Fall enrollment of 431 students was the highest in CST history, demonstrating that the potential move has not deterred students from seeking the transformative education offered by CST. In addition, our M.Div. student enrollment was also our highest in history! And this May we graduated our largest class in history – 106 students who represented thirteen different countries. Further, CST’s student body continues to be one of the most diverse among Methodist-affiliated seminaries:

- Our youngest student is 21, and our oldest is 83, with an average age of 41
- Our student body is 29% Methodist, 46% other Christian, 15% non-Christian traditions, 2% non-religious, and 8% unaffiliated/undeclared
- Nearly 60% of our students identify as people of color (14% black/African American, 17% Asian, 11% international/non-resident, 5% Hispanic, 5% Pacific islander/native Hawaiian, 3% two or more races, along with 6% undeclared, and 37% white)

In a world rife with division, our students, professors, and alumni/ae are agents of healing who model peace with justice. CST is made up of people who are engaging local and global communities on a variety of issues, from environmental justice and immigration reform to confronting Islamophobia and peace-building. We could not do this critical work without you.
Although the last year has had its challenges, 2018 also held some significant achievements for CST that serve to further our three goals. First, in cooperation with librarians from other seminaries, the CST librarians led the development of the world’s first entirely open access library in religious studies, boasting more than 180,000 ebooks and hundreds of thousands of articles. The Open Access Digital Theological Library’s (OADTL) mission is to make all content discoverable to the global community through a single curated search experience, and in just its first semester of use, we have had 12,000 unique users logging in regularly in over 120 countries. The library is free for any user anywhere in the world.

Second, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Chang Jung Christian University (CJCU) on collaboration for a Ph.D. program in Contextual Theology in Taiwan. Our relationship with CJCU began in 2014, and this MOU strengthens the development of our academic and cultural interchanges between students and faculty.

Third, CST created a new position: Vice President for International Relations. This position is designed to lead CST to build relations with alumni/ae, churches, donors, and friends in a global context, particularly in Korea where CST has a critical mass of alumni/ae.

Thank you again for supporting Claremont School of Theology as we continue to provide cutting-edge theological education for the real world... and for the world we want to be real. We invite you to stay connected by visiting us at cst.edu, on Facebook, and/or on Twitter @CST_News, and to sign up for our e-newsletter at https://cst.edu/cst-newsletter.

Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan
President and Professor of Hebrew Bible
Drew University Theological School

Drew University Theological School continued its multi-year self-transformation by launching its new curriculum for the Master of Divinity in the fall of 2018. This entirely reconceived degree seeks to form graduates that are rooted in the Christian story and traditions, capable of effective and creative leadership, and spiritually and socially resourceful for cultivating the transformative gospel of Jesus Christ in, with and for the church and the world.

A new two-year degree, the Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry also launched, and offers students the opportunity to prepare for public leadership or a specialized vocation through deep theological and ethical reflection informed by biblical, historical, theological and practical sources.

New pathways in the Master of Arts, the Master of Sacred Theology, and the Doctor of Ministry were also created as part of the curriculum transformation process which seeks to more intentionally focus the school’s service to the church, as well as to the academy and civil society.

Drew welcomed 145 entering students this academic year, its largest entering class in over a decade, with an overall enrollment of 350 for the current academic year.

In the coming year a new 5-year strategic plan will be developed, new degree delivery options that increase accessibility and affordability for prospective students, as well as new partnerships with annual conferences, other church bodies, and values-based organizations that share and strengthen Drew’s mission to advance peace, justice, love of God, neighbor, and the earth.

Submitted by: Christy Hartigan, Executive Administrative Assistant
For the office of Javier A. Viera, Vice Provost – Dean of the Theological School
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As the leadership development agency of The United Methodist Church, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) builds capacity for United Methodist lay and clergy leaders to discover, claim and flourish in Christ’s calling in their lives. The agency creates connections and provides resources to aid in recruitment, education, professional development and spiritual formation. Every elder, deacon and licensed local pastor benefits from our training and candidacy programs. Many young adults find help in clarifying God’s call in their lives through our discernment opportunities.

Through its Office of Strategic Leadership, GBHEM refined plans for a center for leadership development and spiritual formation. It is drawing on research to plan the expansion of leadership training offerings to churches and communities through a range of means such as face-to-face training, online conferencing, consulting, and recommending resources and experts.

The Division of Ordained Ministry (DOM), using extensive research on the components of effective ministry, introduced a new formation process, Effective Ministry 360 (EM360), which guides pastors and congregations to plan and execute mission and ministry objectives. EM360 also offers assessment modules for candidacy, district superintendents, eight-year clergy assessment and Course of Study. DOM provides introduction and orientation sessions about the process.

The Division of Higher Education (DHE) has initiated research to inform a “leadership pipeline” process for university leaders on United Methodist campuses. Among the books GBHEM published this year, “Missio Dei and the United States: Toward a Faithful United Methodist Witness” (book and study guide) exhibits the best of church and academy collaboration. Contributors explore how the church can reengage its Wesleyan heritage as it participates in God’s mission.

The Office of Loans and Scholarships announced an increase in the maximum amount of money United Methodist students can borrow to pursue their education. The annual maximum is $10,000, with a lifetime maximum of $40,000. On average, the agency distributes $5.5 million in scholarships annually.

Partnering with churches and institutions, GBHEM has promoted projects, programs, initiatives, education and leadership development in various cultural contexts within United Methodism and in pan-Methodist relationships. The agency expanded the Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development, supported the work of regional networks with the International Association of Methodist Schools, Colleges, and Universities, and established Regional Hubs for Leadership, Education and Development. In 2018, hubs were active in nations in Africa, Asia, Europe and England, North America and South America.

Submitted by: Cynthia Howard
Executive Director of Marketing and Communications
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry
Dear 2019 California-Nevada Annual Conference Session participants:

Easter greetings on behalf of Pacific School of Religion as the Annual Conference gathers “in the boat of our life as United Methodists with Jesus.” We are grateful for our partnership with the California-Nevada Annual Conference, which is lived out in the preparation of students for leadership in the church, the gifts of our Methodist faculty and staff, the leadership of our alumni in throughout the church, the mutual support and resourcing of congregations, and the shared witness on behalf of the Gospel through the work of peace and justice in the world. Perhaps the most tangible expression of our shared ministry is in the leadership and ministry of our alums, who make up close to 60% of the clergy serving congregations throughout the Annual Conference. Thank you!

As we journey through stormy waters—not only with the church, but certainly also in our broader society—we recognize the critical importance of preparing leaders with the vision, resilience, and skill to create a world where all can thrive. We remain committed to doing this task right here in the midst of the territory of the California-Nevada Annual Conference, in a way that is rooted in tradition while also reflective of our dynamic and creative innovation of our context. The teaching and the living out of the United Methodist tradition at PSR echo our commitment to preparing people for ministries of justice and compassion in an ever-changing world. Our United Methodist students are invited to approach the Wesleyan tradition through the lens of the category of social holiness and John Wesley’s constant focus that “there is no holiness but social holiness.” The fusion of vital piety and just living is the core of the Wesleyan tradition and PSR strives to support our United Methodists, congregations, and partners to live out this calling. We believe that the complexity of the challenges faced by the church and the broader society requires that leaders draw from a deep well of spirituality that both sustains their callings and informs their theological imagination. Through its vision, PSR understands itself as guiding those preparing for ministry to reimagine roles and models of pastoral ministries. In their time at PSR, United Methodist students learn about the tradition—its theology, history and polity—while rethinking the future of the faith and possible shapes ministry can take for the 21st century.

PSR’s new, first-of-its-kind Stackable Curriculum brings rigor, innovation, and practical application to the preparation of our students. Through a cohort model, students begin their first year by completing a Certificate of Spirituality and Social Change, which serves as the foundation of their theological, spiritual, and ministerial work towards social transformation. In their second year, they hone their pastoral and leadership skills and learn theories to support their vision for ministry—both in the classroom and through a broad and diverse set of field placement opportunities. Finally, in the third year, students have a chance to complete their education with classes focused on specific areas of ministry, divided into three concentrations: congregational leadership, social innovation and non-profit leadership, and spiritual care and chaplaincy. While the new curriculum maintains the core of theological education (biblical studies, history, theology, ethics, pastoral care, and do on), it does so with a focus on practical issues and with an eye towards innovative forms of ministry. PSR’s relations to social entrepreneurship agencies and experts through the Ignite Institute and our geographical proximity to Silicon Valley affords exciting opportunities for new modes of ministry.

Key to our ability to serve the church in this critical moment is the strength of our diversity. PSR has one of the most diverse faculty and staff, including administration, among schools and seminaries accredited by ATS. According to ATS’ most recent accreditation report, PSR’s “institutional commitment to and embodiment of diversity… permeates the institution, as demonstrated by the senior leadership, faculty, students, and other
stakeholders. This diversity not only extends to race but also global representation, gender, gender identity, sexual identity, and socio-economic status, in ways that are rarely seen in graduate theological education.”

Diversity is embodied also in our United Methodist faculty, staff, and trustees at PSR. With Methodist roots in the United States, Brazil, India, the Philippines, our faculty reflect precisely the type of global and diverse perspective needed for this moment in the church, and includes:

- Joyce del Rosario  
  Practice of Ministry and Director of Community Engaged Learning

- Randall Miller  
  United Methodist Studies, Ethics, and Leadership

- Yohana Junker  
  Theology, Spirituality, and Arts

- Sharon Jacob  
  New Testament

Our immersion class to the Special Called Session of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church in St. Louis, MO is a perfect example of our contextual approach to education. PSR students and other members of the Annual Conference had an opportunity to witness to the deliberations that took place at General Conference. PSR’s Office of Institutional Advancement organized a special fundraiser that collected funds that covered all expenses associated with travel, lodging, and food for PSR’s United Methodist students. Participants in the immersion had a chance to engage in discussion with other United Methodist seminarians across the connection; met with delegates from the California-Nevada Annual Conference, our Episcopal leader, Bishop Minerva Carcaño; and were asked to report their experience on a blog that can be accessed through PSR’s website at https://psr.edu/academics/contextual-learning/immersion-blogs/umc-immersionblog/. As reported by several students, PSR’s presence at General Conference confirmed their commitment to the United Methodist Church even in a time of grave confusion and tensions in the life of our communities.

Visit www.psr.edu/future to learn about how our strategic initiatives around our campus, programs, and partnerships are securing the needed long term stability and innovation for the critical work we share in with you right here in Northern California. Together with you, we will continue to bear witness to a vision of the church that is at once deeply rooted and broadly engaged with the world.

Rev. Dr. David Vásquez-Levy  
President