



UNITED METHODIST  
**FOUNDATION**  
ALABAMA • WEST FLORIDA

**The Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation (ALWFUMF)**

Our mission is to encourage generosity as a way of life, foster planned giving, develop successful endowment programs, and manage funds in order to strengthen the work of Christ's church. Our AWF Development Fund also supports church growth by providing loan services for building, renovating, or purchasing property.

Our purpose is to help individuals and the church by encouraging generosity through education, consulting, development and financial services.

**Services**

AWF Development Fund Services:

- Loans (3.5%)
- Deposit Accounts for individuals and churches (1.0%)

**Foundation Services:**

- Generosity Development/Workshops
- Consulting
- Fund Administration
- Investment Services
- Church Endowment Program
- Digital and Printable Resources
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Monthly E-Newsletters
- Weekly Social Media Posts

UNITED METHODIST  
**DEVELOPMENT FUND**

ALABAMA • WEST FLORIDA

# Generosity Matters

*"Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity." Luke 6:38*

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UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION | Summer 2017

## Imagine... A Generosity Ministry

*"Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back." Luke 6:38 (NLT)*



**Bishop Carl Sanders (left), Harry P. Hall, and James Y. Carroll at the 1979 Foundation organizational meeting.**

The theme of the 2017 Annual Conference was "Imagine; By Faith It Can Happen." Just as our conference imagines and dreams of new ideas and strategies for the churches and agencies within the AWF Conference, we at the **Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation** continue to have a vision for new services and resources that can be used to better serve our conference.

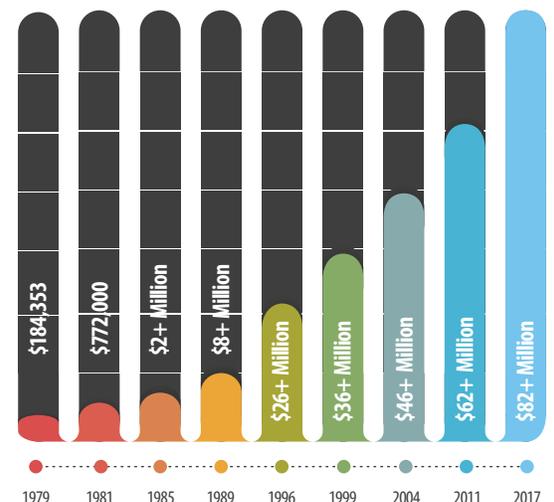
A vision for a **United Methodist Foundation** in the AWF Conference started among a group of dedicated United Methodist men and women. The dream was for an agency that would bridge the gap between the mission and financial needs of the church both presently and into the future.

Founding members began to lay the groundwork for the **Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation**, and the agency was approved at the 1978 AWF Annual Conference. The founding members were so passionate about

the mission and ministry the **Foundation** could accomplish, that they each pledged to give \$5,000 in seed money over the course of 5 years to help start its work.

This new agency would accept deposits from both United Methodist churches and agencies, make loans to churches for building renovation and expansion, manage invested funds, and could be named fiduciary of bequests and trustee of trust funds. Gifts accepted could include cash, stocks, mutual funds, real estate, wills, insurance policies, trust funds, etc.

January 11, 1979, the dream for the **Foundation** became a reality, and the **Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation** was born. Thirty-six lay directors and nine district superintendents met to finalize organizational aspects of the new **Foundation** and approve the by-laws. At this meeting the Board of Directors chose its leadership: Harry P. Hall, President, Edward J. Woods, Vice President, and James Y. Carroll, Secretary-Treasurer. **Continued on page 2**





**1979 Foundation organizational meeting**

With a Board of Directors, leadership in place, and assets totaling \$184,353 the first **Foundation** office was opened in downtown Dothan, Alabama June of 1979. The Board of Directors and staff worked tirelessly to spread the word about the **Foundation**, and as a testament to its success James Y. Carroll, referring to the 1980 financial report, stated: “great things have been happening, but this is only the beginning.” By 1981 the **Foundation** already had deposits from twenty-nine churches, two districts, and several AWF Conference agencies totaling \$772,000.

Before 1991 the **Foundation** had met its goals to raise \$10 million in assets, be one of the few self-sustaining Foundations in the country, and was ranked in the top 20% of all United Methodist Foundations regarding assets under management. Word about the **Foundation** continued to spread, and its services continued to evolve, including the creation of printed resources for churches on financial and estate planning (2002), the creation of a **Foundation** website (2003), and the addition of the charitable gift annuity as a new way for donors to give (2006).

Under the leadership of the founding Board of Directors, the **Foundation** flourished. Since 1979, directors have followed in the footsteps of the founding members with their dedication and passion for the **Foundation's** ministry. The work of the **Foundation** truly is “a ministry of generosity,” and we owe a debt of gratitude to all who have had a hand in the **Foundation's** work (Aubrey Stabler, President 2013-2017).

The **Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation** will celebrate

its 40th anniversary in 2019 and currently manages over \$82 million in assets. Through the years the mission of the **Foundation** has remained the same. Our services have grown and expanded to cover a variety of financial planning and stewardship areas, including the Endowment Fund Program, investment management and administration, free resources and generosity workshops, and assisting donors and their advisors in completing various gift vehicles.

With the generosity of donors, churches, and agencies, the **Foundation** has been able to return \$76 million back into the AWF Conference since 1979. These funds have supported churches and ministries in many ways, such as building projects, general church maintenance, missions, United Methodist colleges and agencies, scholarships, cemetery maintenance, programming, and hundreds of other ministry programs as unique and promising as the donors themselves.



**District Superintendents: Rev. Ed Sells (left), Rev. Walter Ellisor, Kent Hall, and Rev. Langdon Garrison**

The ministry, services, and work of the **Foundation** would not be possible without the support of the AWF Conference, the **Foundation** Board of Directors, donors, pastors, professional advisors, and the churches and agencies within the AWF Conference. We are grateful for the vision and commitment of our Board of Directors, past and present, and look forward to what God will do through the **Foundation** in the years to come.

## Founding Board Members

Please e-mail [foundation@alwfumf.org](mailto:foundation@alwfumf.org) if you know of any surviving board members (right). We are interested in interviewing these members for our 40th Anniversary edition.

## 1979 Founding Board of Directors

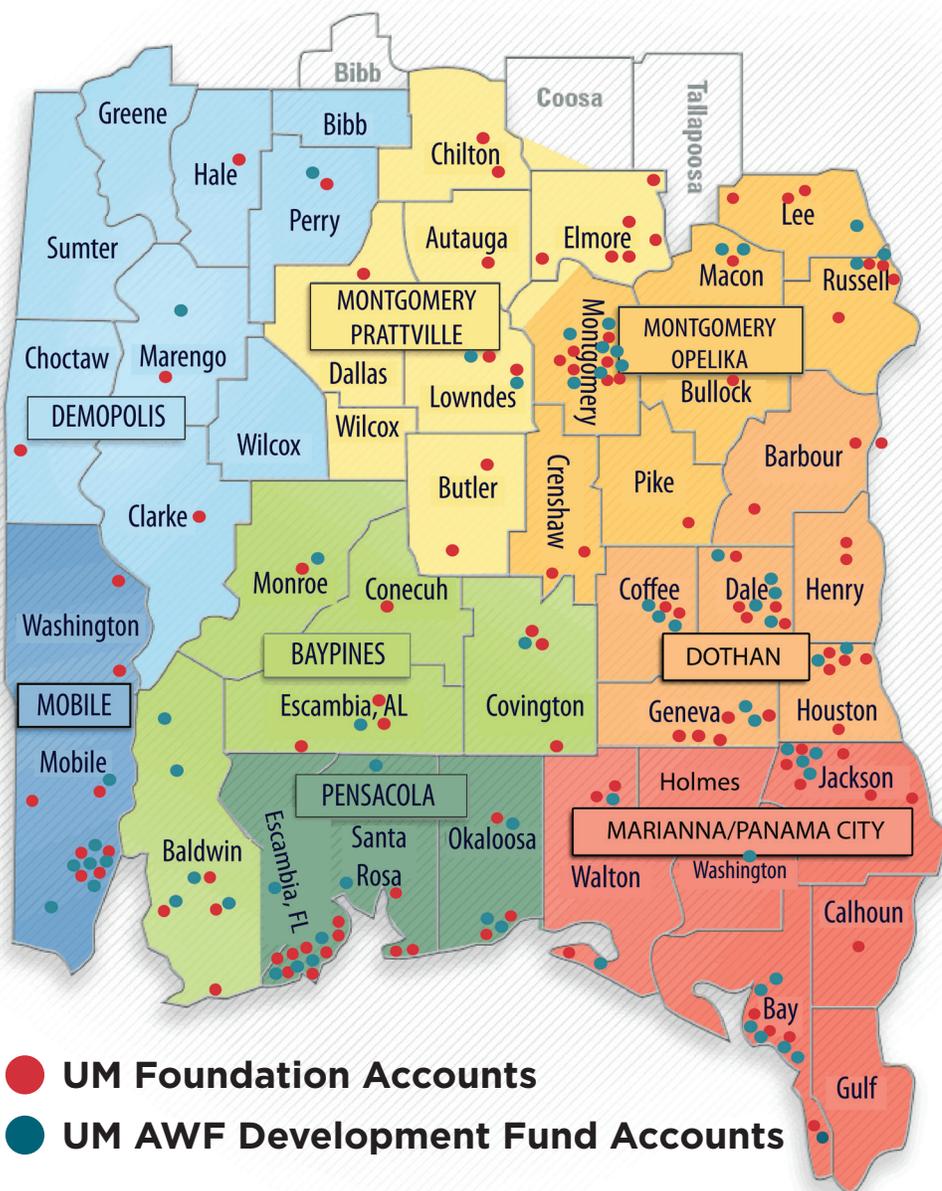
### Lay Directors

Harry P. Hall, President  
 Ed Woods, Vice-President  
 James Y. Carroll,  
 Secretary-Treasurer  
 Ralph Adams  
 Wilfred T. Benson  
 James C. Bledsoe  
 W.S. Brewbaker  
 Amanda Burton  
 Ben R. Byrd  
 Foy Campbell  
 Kenneth Cooper  
 Bracey H. Cross  
 J. Ralph Dickert  
 A. Preston Hood  
 Louis L. Johnson  
 Virginia King  
 James E. Ladner  
 Alice Lee  
 Alto V. Lee, III  
 Clyde P. Mahaffey  
 Dorothy Mahaffey  
 Frank C. Martin  
 C.H. McGehee  
 Charles H. Newsom  
 M.D. Nolen, Jr.  
 K.T. Riley  
 James J. Rutherford  
 Cecil C. Spears, Jr.  
 C.E. Thomas  
 Albert M. Thompson  
 Calvin L. Todd  
 Charles G. Tomberlin  
 W.K. Upchurch, Jr.  
 Katherine Walden  
 J.E. Waller  
 Charles S. Weeks  
 Don Wyatt

### District Superintendents

Robert Collins  
 Paul Duffey  
 Henry Eddins  
 John O. Ellisor  
 Floyd C. Enfinger  
 Lloyd Kimbrough  
 Rex Mixon  
 Lester Spencer  
 John E. Vickers

# Are You on the Map?



- UM Foundation Accounts
- UM AWF Development Fund Accounts

The AWF Conference district map features blue and red dots for churches and agencies in the Conference who are utilizing the services and resources of the **Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation** and **AWF Development Fund**.

## The Foundation

If your church or agency has funds managed through the **Foundation**, including endowments and planned gifts, you will find yourself on the map.

We offer professional services to set

up, facilitate, and manage planned giving and permanent endowment programs in the church. The goal of the **Foundation** is to provide financial services that encourage good stewardship of resources and to assist AWF Conference churches, agencies, and church members with the ever growing needs of ministry.

Schedule a workshop or meeting with a staff member on the importance of planned giving and how you can plan for the future of your church. To get started with our Endowment Fund Program, email [foundation@alwfmf.org](mailto:foundation@alwfmf.org).

## The AWF Development Fund

**Deposit Accounts** - If your church or agency has a deposit account with the **AWF Development Fund**. You will find yourself on the map.

United Methodist individuals, churches, and agencies can deposit funds into savings through the **AWF Development Fund** and earn interest while helping other AWF Conference churches and agencies get needed loans at affordable rates of interest. This is a great way to invest in the future of the church without making a donation.

**Loans** - If your church or agency has received or is in the process of receiving a loan from the AWF Development Fund you will find yourself on the map.

Loans are up to \$1 million, have affordable interest rates, and are used for purchasing property, building expansion, and major renovation projects.

## Alabama - West Florida United Methodist Foundation Ministries

### CHURCH ENDOWMENT PROGRAMS

Endowment programs help facilitate planned giving that provides assistance for the future financial needs of the church.

### INVESTMENT SERVICES

Our investment services are uniquely created for managing church and agency funds. The Foundation staff assists in developing a custom investment plan for each participating organization or donor.

### GENEROSITY DEVELOPMENT

We offer generosity development through educational programs that foster a better understanding of generosity and stewardship as both an act of worship and discipleship.

### FUND ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

We provide trust fund accounting, regular disbursements, and all other fiduciary administration. This information is reported to you on easy to read statements.

## In this Issue:

Imagine...  
A Generosity Ministry

Are You on the Map?

Twenty-Eight Years of  
Dedicated Service



### Printable Newsletter

*Be sure to display our newsletter in your church to promote generosity. Watch your e-mail for a printable version of our newsletter.*

*To sign up for our digital newsletter please e-mail [foundation@alwfumf.org](mailto:foundation@alwfumf.org)*

Find us on  **ALWFUMF**



PRSTD STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT 77  
DOTHAN, AL  
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## Twenty-Eight Years of Dedicated Service

Before stepping down from his position as a Director of the **AWF Development Fund** Board, Steve McCarroll attended the June 21, 2017, board meeting. This meeting marks 28 years of his continued service and dedication to the **AWF Development Fund**. McCarroll has served on the **AWF Development Fund** Board since 1989, only two years after its inception on May 1, 1987.

McCarroll has always been committed, and as Terri Turner, Executive Director, said: "he has constantly supported our work and shared his vast experience." The rest of the Directors echoed similar memories and sentiments of gratitude including Henry Hooks, President. As a parting gift, and a memorial to his time on the **AWF Development Fund** Board, McCarroll was presented with a personalized plaque noting his many years of service.

We owe a debt of gratitude to McCarroll and the other members of the Board of Directors who have served over the years to help form and make the **AWF Development Fund** into what it is today. The **AWF Development Fund** began with only \$368,555, and by the time McCarroll joined the Board that amount had grown to \$630,000. Today the **AWF Development Fund** has partnered with United Methodist individuals, churches, and agencies and holds funds totaling around \$11 million in deposits. Since

its founding, the mission and ministry of the **AWF Development Fund** has remained the same; to build His Kingdom by offering affordable loans for property purchases, building and expansion, and major renovation projects to churches and agencies in the AWF Conference. To date the **AWF Development Fund** has fueled the growth, expansion and renovation needs of the AWF Conference, loaning more than \$18 million to churches and agencies. Because of the generosity of the United Methodists who invest in our **AWF Development Fund**, our Conference can continue to grow and serve our communities.



Henry Hooks, President (left); Steve McCarroll, Terri Turner, Executive Director