

The Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation (ALWFUMF)

Our mission is to encourage generosity as a way of life, foster planned giving, develop successful planned giving 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

Foundation Services:

- Generosity Development/ Workshops and Events
- Consulting
- Fund Administration
- Investment Services
- Church Planned Giving Programs
- Digital and Printable Resources
- Marketing Resources
- Quarterly Newsletters
- Monthly Eblasts

AWF Development Fund Services:

- Loans (3.95% rate)
- Deposit Accounts for Individuals and Churches (1.1% rate)

UNITED METHODIST
**DEVELOPMENT
FUND**

ALABAMA • WEST FLORIDA

Generosity Matters

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

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UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION | FALL 2020

How to Create a Cemetery Association

Church cemeteries have a long-standing history, legacy, and sacredness within our communities. As a way of respecting the saints who have gone on before us, the upkeep and care of cemeteries is important. While it is a vital part



of a cemetery's function, **cemetery maintenance can become a financial burden on a church over time, especially without an endowment** providing funds for maintenance and care. A cemetery association is also a great option to turn over upkeep and care to a group of dedicated individuals.

Create an Endowment Fund for a Church Cemetery

An endowment (or planned giving) fund can be invested to support church ministry programs such as cemetery maintenance, missions, scholarships, and building maintenance long-term.

Create a Cemetery Association

In order to preserve the cemetery grounds, its legacy, and relieve costs of maintenance and management (alongside potential liability), the church can create and

turn over care and maintenance to a cemetery association. The cemetery association can be created as a non-profit organization*, opening up cemetery management and maintenance to non-church members who have a vested interest in the grounds (such as family members or those who plan to be buried there). Once the cemetery association is created, the church will deed the cemetery to the association. **This is a way a church can continue to protect its cemetery, regardless of what happens to the church building.** The cemetery association can also set up an endowment maintenance fund through the UM Foundation to enable gifts to help support the cemetery over time.

For more information and resources on creating a cemetery association, visit: www.alwfumf.org/cemetery-association.

*Contact the UM Foundation for more details and steps towards creating a cemetery association and/or cemetery endowment.



Spring 2020 Board Meeting on Zoom

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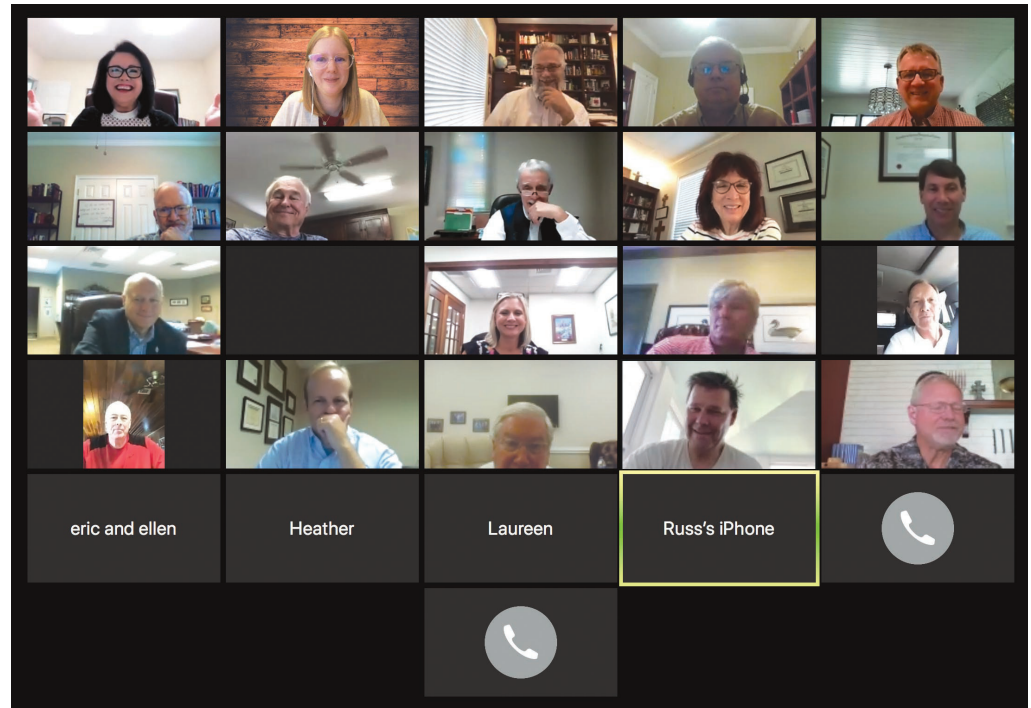
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**AWF Development Fund & UM Foundation Board of Directors

*AWF Development Fund Board of Directors



Spring Board Meeting on Zoom (August 27, 2020)

We are grateful for our wonderful and supportive Board of Directors and AWF Conference District Superintendents! Even though we were separated by distance in 2020, our Spring 2020 Board Meeting was a success! We were able to meet virtually over Zoom to discuss the Foundation's ministry and mis-

sion, report record growth, and share educational events we held in 2020.

We are looking forward to new ways we can continue to serve both Methodist and historically Methodist churches now and in the future.

Ministries of the Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Foundation

CHURCH PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMS

Planned giving programs help encourage and facilitate planned gifts and endowments to the church. We offer a step-by-step guide designed to encourage and support future financial needs of the church.

FUND ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

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

GENEROSITY DEVELOPMENT/WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

We offer generosity development through educational programs that foster a better understanding of giving and stewardship as both an act of worship and discipleship. www.alwfmf.org/events

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.





How the CARES Act Impacts 2020 Charitable Giving



In the midst of 2020 uncertainties, we have been encouraged by positive stewardship and giving responses in AWF Conference churches. Many churches are not only surviving but thriving during the challenges that this year has brought. God is moving and inspiring his people to give and continue ministry in many different and unique ways.

As we enter into fall, year-end giving campaigns begin, and many face concerns regarding **the impact that Coronavirus and the CARES Act will have on this year's generosity.** While it is important to continue promoting stewardship and generosity as a means of worship and to know what tax benefits are available for 2020, it is also good to be sensitive to those who have struggled this year.

As well as addressing needs that arose from COVID-19, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act (passed by Congress in late March) includes tax incentives to encourage charitable giving in 2020. **There are several specific charitable provisions included in the CARES Act that are only available in 2020:**

1. You may **deduct gifts of cash** to most public charities to offset as much as 100% (normally 60%) of your income. This excludes contributions to donor advised funds or supporting organizations.
2. If you take the standard deduction instead of itemizing, **taxable income may be reduced by up to \$300** for charitable gifts in 2020 (when using an "above-the-line" adjustment to reduce taxable income).
3. **Corporate giving limits have been increased from 10% to 25%** by the CARES Act for cash contributions made to public charities.
4. For 2020, **Congress has temporarily waived Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for retirement accounts.** Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) still remains a great way to make a year-end gift for those 70 1/2 and older for gifts up to \$100,000.
5. For those over the age of 59 1/2 and not subject to the 10% penalty tax for early retirement plan withdrawals, the **100% deduction limit on gifts made from retirement plan assets** is an attractive choice for charitable giving.



If you, or your church, are interested in learning more about these gifts, contact us at (334) 793-6820 or email foundation@alwfumf.org.

*This information is not intended as legal, tax, or investment guidance. Please consult your attorney, tax professional, or investment professional for advice.



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Read on the Go!

Sign up for our digital newsletter by emailing foundation@alwfumf.org or scan the QR code with a smartphone camera.



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DOTHAN, AL
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www.alwfumf.org | foundation@alwfumf.org

Office Space Available Behind the UM Foundation



Outdoor Signage



Building Exterior



Office Space



Conference Room

District of the Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Conference. Due to the 2020 restructuring, this office space is available again for rent. The office is located at 172 Belmont Drive, Dothan, Alabama (behind the United Methodist Foundation).

If you, or someone you know, are interested, please call Terri Turner at 334-793-6820 or email foundation@alwfumf.org.

Office Space Details:

- Office building with 4 private offices with closets
- Furnished boardroom
- Bathroom and kitchenette
- Private exclusive parking area
- Conveniently off Honeysuckle Road
- Rent includes utilities, garbage service, and a security system
- \$1,350 per month for all 4 offices
- Single office rental is negotiable

For several years we were blessed to rent the back of the Foundation building to the Dothan