

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 (0.60% 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 | WINTER 2021

The Rish Family Scholarship Trust: An Inspiring Legacy



Billy Joe Rish, 1998 Fall UM Foundation Board Meeting

We are blessed to have many generous and faithful Methodists across our conference, as well as past and present members of our Board of Directors, who seek to **invest in the education of both ministerial and lay students.**

Two such individuals are Billy Joe and Carol Rish. Married for 50 years, both Billy Joe and Carol were very involved with their careers, community, and church. Billy Joe was also an active member of the UM Foundation Board of Directors from 1990-2008, where he served on the Investment Committee.

December of 1996, Billy Joe and Carol created the Rish Family Scholarship Trust to benefit ministerial students in the Alabama-West Florida Conference. With an ini-

tial investment of \$500, the trust has grown to over \$243,000 due to annual contributions and earnings over time. Since 1996, the trust has supported numerous students with scholarship funds. **Carol shared that this endeavor with the UM Foundation encouraged other church members to do the same.** After the passing of Billy Joe in 2008, Carol, family, and friends have continued to contribute to the family legacy of generosity through scholarships.

Carol has formed a friendship with one of the recipients, Shadreck Kagoro, through correspondence over time.

"The Rish Family Scholarship paid for my tuition at Asbury Theological Seminary. I have greatly improved in my teaching and preaching of the word of God."
- Pastor Shadreck Kagoro, Theodore FUMC

Scholarship endowment funds managed by the UM Foundation benefit both ministerial and lay

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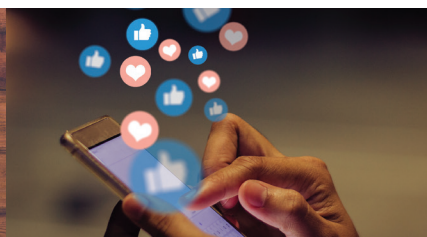
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AND RESOURCES

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**AWF Development Fund & UM Foundation
Board of Directors

*AWF Development Fund Board of Directors

Giving Through an IRA Rollover in the New Year



Leaving a legacy of generosity begins with a daily choice to be generous not only with your assets but with your time, talents, gifts, service, and witness. **Part of your legacy includes thoughtful consideration and planning of your estate, for your beneficiaries, and knowing what options are available to you.** Your legacy can also include leaving gifts not only to your family but lasting gifts that support your church and other ministries or charities.

This year, **make a resolution to consider alternative ways to be generous**, such as giving through your IRA Rollover.

How IRA Rollover Gifts Work

As the owner of an IRA, once you reach the age of 70½, you are required to withdraw a certain amount per year to reach the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). Unless part of the

IRA is given through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to a charity, your IRA balance, whether withdrawn or saved with the intent to give to a beneficiary, is subject to federal income taxes. **This type of gift ultimately enables a larger overall donation to further the mission and work of your church** or a charity and lessens the taxable funds in your IRA.

Benefits of IRA Rollover Gifts

- Avoid taxes on IRA rollover gifts of up to \$100,000
- Reach the RMD for the year
- Reduce taxable income, even when not itemizing deductions
- Make a gift not subject to deduction limits on charitable gifts
- Help further the mission of your church or 501(c)(3) charity

If you are interested in more **information about this type of gift or resources on other ways you can give in the new year**, please call the Foundation at 334-793-6820 or **email us at foundation@alwfumf.org**. You can also find more ways to give and giving resources at www.alwfumf.org/ways-to-give.

*IRA Rollover gifts do not qualify for charitable distributions. IRA funds cannot be used to fund: donor-advised funds, supporting organizations, private foundations, charitable remainder trusts, lead trusts, pooled income, charitable gift annuities, and tax-deductible gifts.

Fall 2020 Zoom Board Meeting



Fall Board Meeting on Zoom (December 10, 2020)

We are incredibly grateful for the leadership and dedication of our Board of Directors and AWF Conference District Superintendents that continue to further the mission and vision of the Foundation. We are looking forward to new things in 2021 and beyond for our Methodist and historically Methodist churches!

Our Ministries to Churches



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.

Fund Administration Services

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

Church Planned Giving Programs

Planned Giving Programs help **encourage and facilitate planned gifts and endowments to the church**. We teach church leaders how to establish and cultivate permanent and reserve sources of income to support and sustain church ministry programs while also offering a step-by-step guide designed to encourage and support future financial needs of the church.

Educational Events and Webinars

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

Development Fund Investing *(See details below in Our Ministries to Individuals)*

Development Fund Loans

The AWF Development Fund provides loan opportunities to churches with attractive rates and helps churches walk through the application process and answer committee questions.

The Development Fund makes **low-interest loans for up to \$1 million*** to churches and agencies in the AWF Conference **for new church construction, purchasing property, and large renovation projects**. Loans through the AWF Development Fund have competitive interest rates, loan terms up to 15 years, do not charge points or closing costs, and interest earned from loans goes back to AWF Conference members and investors.

*For loans larger than \$1 Million, contact us! The Foundation has the ability to negotiate with other Foundations for larger loans.

Our Ministries to Individuals

Development Fund Investing

The Development Fund accepts investments from individuals, churches, and organizations across the AWF Conference. **The Fund pays investors a rate of interest set each quarter and makes loans to churches, agencies, and missions in the conference.** Interest is paid quarterly and is earned from the day of the deposit to the day of the withdrawal. You may withdraw all or part of your investment with a written/signed request at any time. There is no penalty, fee, or loss of interest when withdrawing funds. Interest can also be reinvested each year.

*Investments are not FDIC insured. Investments are secured by the assets of the Fund and the first mortgages of the churches. No investor in the Fund has ever lost any part of their investment or interest earned.

Legacy Gifts Consulting

We offer **one on one meetings with individuals who are looking to do something generous for their church**. We provide a variety of legacy and planned giving options and can help you plan and set up these gifts to accomplish your specific goals for leaving a legacy in your church.

Scholarships

Scholarships are available from numerous sources for both Ministerial and Lay students. The Foundation's Scholarship Committee (unless otherwise designated by the donor) determines which applicants meet the criteria for available scholarships.



To **learn more about our ministries to churches and individuals**, visit www.alwfumf.org, email foundation@alwfumf.org, or call 334-793-6820.

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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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The Rish Family Scholarship Trust: An Inspiring Legacy

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Billy Joe and Carol Rish

students across the Alabama-West Florida Conference. These scholarships, administered through the UM Foundation, have been **providing hope and supporting students as they**

attend seminary and fulfill the call God has placed on their lives. These scholarships can be a huge blessing in covering the costs of classes, books, commuting, meals, lodging, etc.

Since 2000, \$3,670,270 in scholarship funds have been distributed to eligible students, including approximately \$22,000 in scholarships awarded by our Scholarship Committee to 17 students (12 ministerial students and 5 lay students) in 2020 alone.

Do you know ministerial or lay students who could benefit

from a scholarship? Would you like to contribute to or create a scholarship endowment to benefit students in your church? Call or email us at 334-793-6820 or foundation@alwfumf.org if you are interested in learning more about scholarships or setting up a ministerial or lay scholarship endowment in your church.



David Crawford, Billy Joe Rish, Terri Turner 1996 Fall UM Foundation Board Meeting



Join our email list for more resources to help your church!
Email foundation@alwfumf.org or scan the QR code on the right.

