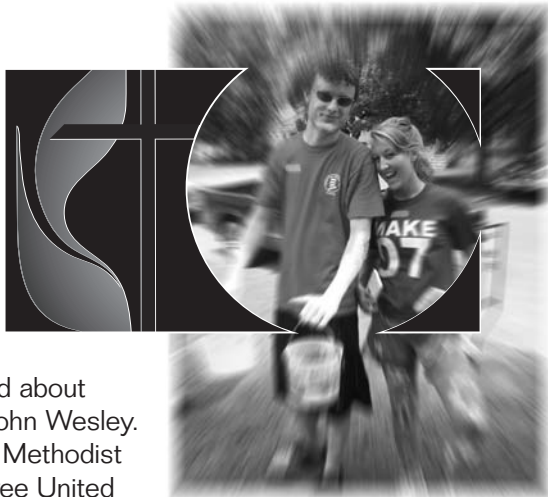


IN MISSION & MINISTRY

United Methodists at Work Developing Disciples



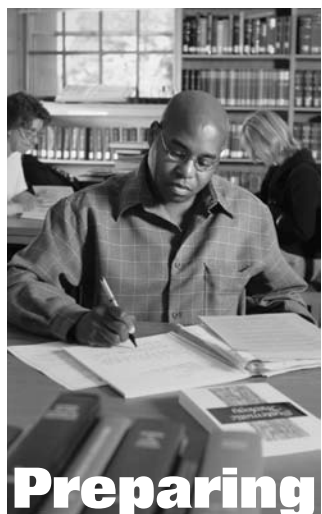
United Methodists have cared about education since the days of John Wesley. There are hundreds of United Methodist schools around the globe. Three United Methodist colleges are located in Kansas – Southwestern College and Kansas Wesleyan University in Kansas West and Baker University in the Kansas East Conference. Kansas Wesleyan and Southwestern College receive funds through the Kansas West Conference’s mission and ministry funds.

“For me, being at Wesleyan afforded me an atmosphere for people to push me and to help me grow intellectually and to explore things I hadn’t thought about previously,” said Rev. Nathan Stanton, a KWU alum. “That was important to me, having the balance between a lot of the basic subject matter of college but also having that part of the college life that is meant to nurture you and to grow you as a disciple.”

United Methodist colleges like Kansas Wesleyan and Southwestern provide a quality education while giving students a broader, more holistic experience where faith is talked about as easily as business ethics.

“You really felt like, ‘OK. I majored in business, but also during this time I took a poetry class, I took a literature class, I ran cross country, I was in a play,’” said Rev. Jan Todd, a Southwestern College alum.

Likewise, United Methodist seminaries provide an atmosphere for the development of new leaders. Seminaries receive support through local church giving to the denomination-wide Ministerial Education Fund, which is included in the conference mission and ministry funds.



Preparing to Serve

“I think that going to Wesley [Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.] really helped me prepare to go into ministry in the United Methodist Church in ways that wouldn’t have been possible elsewhere,” said Rev. Andrew Conard, a probationary elder in the Kansas West Conference.

The Ministerial Education Fund is split between support for the operation of United Methodist seminaries and support for seminary students from each annual conference. In Kansas West, 21 students each semester receive financial support through MEF scholarships.

“All three years, I got money from the Ministerial Education Fund, and that was a huge help,” said Rev. Nicole Conard, a probationary elder in the Kansas West Conference. “I know the people receiving help from the MEF really appreciate it. I know I did.”

Both United Methodist colleges and seminaries strive to prepare the next generation of leaders for our communities and congregations. Your financial support makes their development possible.

United Methodists at Work ...

The Kansas West Annual Conference provides financial support to Southwestern College and Kansas Wesleyan through mission and ministry funds. Kansas West uses its 25 percent of the MEF to provide financial assistance to seminary students who are working through the conference’s candidacy process toward ordained ministry. Each semester 21 students receive assistance toward their seminary education.

Learn More About ...

MEF Fund at www.umcgiving.org
United Methodist Seminaries at www.gbhem.org
Kansas Wesleyan University at www.kwu.edu
Southwestern College at www.sckans.edu
Baker University at www.bakeru.edu

Shaping Futures



“... that part of the college life that is meant to nurture you and to grow you as a disciple as well.”

“I think leadership is one of the key issues in the church today, and has been for a long time,” Andrew Conard said.

“I think that equipping leaders has two purposes. One, so that we can continue to lead the churches that we already have existing, and another, perhaps more important reason, is so that we can continue as a denomination to connect with people of all generations.” ■