

RESOLUTION 2012

Resolution to Conduct a Conference-wide Stewardship Campaign to Help Fund the Pre-82 Pension Liability at 100%

Presented by Board of Pension and Health Benefits, Board of Trustees and Council of Finance and Administration

WHEREAS The EPA Conference authorized a feasibility study to help guide the design of a conference-wide stewardship campaign to help fund the Pre-82 Pension Liability and a committee appointed by the Bishop has evaluated the results of that study;

WHEREAS Over 1,000 members of the Conference and Local Churches have provided input to the study by completing an on-line survey and participating in individual interviews;

WHEREAS The committee appointed by the Bishop believes that the survey participants are a representative sample of the Conference and have expressed the “will of the conference”;

WHEREAS The survey and interviews indicate the following:

1. An overwhelming majority of the participants are in favor of conducting a Stewardship Campaign to help fund the Pre-82 Pension liability;
2. Most participants think the Campaign should be for the Pre-82 Pension liability only;

WHEREAS Competitive bids for a professional fundraising firm to assist the Conference in the conduct of a Stewardship campaign have been solicited and those bids have been evaluated by a committee appointed by the Bishop and that committee has conducted interviews with selected firms;

WHEREAS The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits, the Conference Board of Trustees and the Conference Council of Finance and Administration support this resolution;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the committee appointed by the Bishop will become the steering committee to conduct a Conference wide Stewardship campaign as indicated below:

1. The Financial Goal of the campaign will be \$3,000,000;
2. Use of funds raised will be restricted to paying expenses of the campaign, paying Pre-82 Pension Liability, and paying expenses of administering the funds;
3. Each Local Church will be provided a “Fair Share” target;
4. The campaign will last three years, but the commencement of a Local Church’s participation may be postponed up to two years;
5. Participation by the local church will be voluntary;
6. CCS Fundraising will be engaged to assist in the conduct of the campaign;
7. Funds raised will be held at the Mid-Atlantic United Methodist Foundation;

8. Disbursement of funds raised will be managed by the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Steering Committee is authorized to devise additional, detailed plans and procedures as necessary to conduct the campaign and to guide Local Churches' participation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Steering Committee will periodically report on the progress of the campaign to the Conference.