

Report

United Methodist Stewardship Foundation of Greater New Jersey

Vision: We see congregations and conference mission organizations experiencing the joy of generosity and the excitement of increased financial resources to make new disciples, provide inspiring worship, grow faith groups and engage disciples in community mission.

Mission: The Foundation increases disciple making, congregational vitality and community mission engagement by assisting congregations and mission organizations to grow financial assets through stewardship education and investment management.

Officers of the Board: President – Edward N. Bowen, Jr. (laity), Vice President – Sue Goodman (laity), Secretary – William Markert (laity), Treasurer – John Cardillo (conference staff)

Board Members: Rev. Robert Costello, Rev. Richard Hendrickson, Rev. David Mertz, Rev. Bruce Quigley, Jay Gerken (laity), Vasanth Victor (laity)

Brief History:

- Created in 1992 by action of the 135th Session of the Northern Annual Conference
- First Investment was made by the Conference
- In 2000 became the UMF of Greater NJ after the merger of the Southern & Northern Conferences
- Currently Invested: \$6.7 million

Developments in 2015:

- The United Methodist Foundation changed its name to The United Methodist Stewardship Foundation of Greater New Jersey to more accurately reflect its new direction. Rev. Richard Hendrickson was named the Executive Director of the Foundation. Rich fills the long waited and much needed position to provide daily management of the Foundation’s stewardship education and investment management activities.
- Jay Gerken and Vasanth Victor, both laity, joined the foundation to add needed strengths in the areas of financial investment and marketing skills.

Plans & Goals for 2016:

The Foundation is developing marketing and communication plans to educate the churches of the conference as to the resources and capabilities of the Foundation. The Foundation should be considered the “go to source” for all stewardship education and investment management needs of the churches of the conference. The Foundation seeks to grow the investment to over \$15 million in the short term. This will be accomplished by initiating accounts with several local churches that are already in the planning stages.

Plans for further growth will be developed and implemented as the Foundation continues to mature. Now that a solid board and daily management structure are in place the Foundation will strengthen a communication plan and will be rolling out program assistance to all churches.

Respectfully submitted: Edward N. Bowen, Jr.