

## THE COMMITTEE ON THE CONFERENCE JOURNAL

The Committee on the Conference Journal continues to meet on a regular basis to provide oversight for the publications it is responsible for.

The Committee still has a large number of volumes of the 2001 edition of *United Methodist Ministers in South Carolina*. The Committee has reduced the price of the volume from \$14.00 to \$10.00 each, and will make a special effort to sell them at the upcoming Annual Conference for \$5.00 each.

Volumes I and II of the 2006 Conference Journal were mailed together in February of this year. This was a more timely completion of the Journal, as Volume I of the 2005 Journal was not mailed until April of 2006. The Committee is hopeful that progress can continue to be made in producing the Journal more quickly.

For the first time, the Journal is now available on the Conference web-site. The Committee is very pleased with this progress. Information is provided to the members of the Annual Conference more quickly, and in a very usable format. The on-line Journal can be searched by word or phrase, which allows for specific information to be located in the Journal more easily.

Related to this advance, the office of the Conference Secretary no longer asks clergy to submit corrections to their appointments and contact information. The Record of Ministerial Service is now data-base driven. The Committee is hopeful that this will increase both the accuracy of this section and the speed with which it can be prepared each year.

The Committee noted that there had been no increase in the price of the Journal for ten years, and voted to increase the price of Journals to \$20.00 each, beginning in 2007. However, after the Office of the Conference Secretary has retained sufficient copies for archival purposes, those Journals older than two years may be given away.

The Committee has approved the practice of giving a copy of the most recent spiral-bound Pictorial Directory to all new clergy each year, as long as copies are available.

The Committee wishes to express its gratitude to Sylvia Hulbert, secretary to the Conference Secretary, for her invaluable work on so many different projects, and Pat Mack and the staff in the Print Media Center, for their work in producing both volumes of the journal as well as all of the pre-conference and conference registration materials.

*Rev. Velma M. Haywood, Chairperson*