

THE SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL CONFERENCE GLOBAL AIDS COMMITTEE

During the 2004 General Conference, the United Methodist Church initiated the UMCOR Global AIDS Fund with a resolve to battle the global pandemic HIV/AIDS presents by collecting \$1 for each UMC member. That goal is a minimum of \$8 million. Twenty-five percent of the funds collected within each Annual Conference are returned to that conference for ministry with those affected by this disease locally. If we are faithful to the goal, our conference would have \$60,000 with which to work.

During the 2006 session of the SC Annual Conference, as we considered a resolution presented by Rev. John Culp (member of the National Global AIDS Committee), the voice of the delegates was heard to say, "We want to participate. We want to be a part of this fight!" In December of 2006, with World AIDS Day celebrations ringing clear, Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor formed a conference committee with a two task charge: 1) educate our conference about the Global AIDS fund and provide worship and teaching resources to this end; and 2) determine how the funds received by our conference would be distributed.

The committee is sponsoring a booth during this session of Annual Conference which provides this information. We are also delighted to have Dr. James Salley from Africa University preach during the Wednesday evening service of worship which the committee has designed. Future plans include presentations to clergy groups and the creation of an Advent Bible study.

If the minimum goal of \$60,000 is obtained by our conference, then each district within our conference will receive \$5000. As we are striving toward that goal, received funds will be distributed to the districts in order beginning with the district which has the greatest number of known HIV/AIDS cases until \$5000 is reached and until each district has received \$5000. Please prayerfully and financially support the UMCOR Global AIDS Fund.

Respectfully Submitted

Emily Allen, Chairperson