

THE COMMISSION ON WORSHIP

The Commission on Worship has been very busy this past year as we have re-examined our purpose and role in the conference. We are taking on new challenges as we continue in some of our old, such as working with our bishop and the conference liturgist for annual conference.

We have tightened our relationship with the SC Fellowship of United Methodists in Music, Worship and Other Arts (FUMWOA). We now have a liaison with FUMWOA and our chair has also been named to their board. We look forward to a deeper and fruitful relationship in the future.

We have re-edited our basic guide for parishes, 'The Nuts and Bolts of Worship, the People Places and Paraphernalia That Make Worship Work'. 'Nuts and Bolts' will be distributed, at no cost, to every pastor and every congregation. We are also working on two companion publications—a video and an annotated glossary.

We are working on developing a guideline statement for the conference on copyright laws that is perhaps more easily understood. We hope this will help clarify issues and responsibilities each parish has when copying lyrics and liturgies for programs and projection screens or when recording live worship.

We partnered with the Board of Ordained Ministry, the bishop, and United Methodist Publishing House to bring a national level training event to the Bishop's School of Ministry in the fall of 2006.

We hope to partner with the Conference Resource Center to provide a portable cloth labyrinth for local congregations or conference agencies to use in this ancient meditation technique.

We have begun to plan for a 'We Worship 2008' event that will be a conference wide workshop focused on the skills and styles of worship.

The Reverend Gary Phillips and Frank Deese