

THE BOARD OF EVANGELISM

The Board of Evangelism has been intent in pursuing its responsibilities according to the Book of Discipline. The Book of Discipline says the board is to plan and promote comprehensive ministry for evangelism for persons of all ages. In an effort to promote evangelism, the board published a newsletter for and another will be published before Annual Conference. The Bishop's 5-Star Awards will be presented this year at Annual Conference, as will the Denman Awards for Evangelism.

The Bishop's BASH on March 15, 2009 served as a means to extend an invitation to committed discipleship for this year's confirmands. In addition to learning of polity and women's and African American influence in Methodism, confirmands had time with Bishop Taylor. This year they were also invited to show their intention to being Jesus' disciples by attaching their names to a central cross.

The Board of Evangelism began an ongoing relationship with the Foundation for Evangelism, an affiliate of the General Board of Discipleship. Rev. Kenneth Lambert, Director of Church Relations, spent a day meeting with the board and helping interpret, refine, and interpret evangelism. After a theological and biblical foundation, Rev. Lambert shared his research from interviews in growing churches across the nation and identified the common traits among them. In an effort to help the board be effective in its responsibilities to the conference and local churches, he proceeded to lead the board through a time of assessing conference, district, and congregational needs in the area of evangelism. One year and quadrennial goals for impacting evangelism were established. Subcommittees were formed and met at various times in the spring to put these goals into accessible and usable formats for districts and local churches.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Kitty Cooper Holtzclaw