

A MORE EXCELLENT WAY WE WALK BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT

2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SERVICE PROJECTS



HOMELESS INITIATIVE

WE WILL BE PARTNERING WITH
HOMES OF HOPE TO BUILD 2-4
HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS IN THE
GREENVILLE AREA.

WWW.HOMESOFHOPE.ORG

BIKES FOR THE WORLD

WE WILL BE ASKING THE YOUTH
IN EACH DISTRICT TO COLLECT
100 BIKES. THESE BIKES WILL
BE GIVEN TO CHILDREN WHO
CAN'T AFFORD A BIKE & ADULTS
WHO NEED TRANSPORTATION.



FOR MORE INFORMATION READ THE LETTER ON THE BACK OR
VISIT WWW.UMCSC.ORG/AC2017



2017

Annual Conference

June 4-7 - TD Center - Greenville, SC

The South Carolina Annual Conference is pleased to announce two mission projects for 2017, and we encourage your church to participate:

Homes of Hope Building Projects

Did you know there were 6,035 homeless people in South Carolina? Did you know that 850 children in Greenville county schools are considered homeless? Did you know that 787,788 thousand people in South Carolina are living in poverty and that 268,467 or 25.3 percent of our state's children are living in poverty? Did you know that 32.4 percent of children living in Greenville, SC live below the poverty level? We can do better! We can make a difference.

As we plan for the 2017 Annual Conference, I am pleased to announce that we are looking to build 2-4 homes for homeless families in the Greenville area. We will be partnering with Homes for Hope, an agency with a proven record of transforming lives and breaking the poverty cycle. Two churches in the Greenville District have already committed to funding two of these homes.

In order to sponsor a home we need to sign a letter of commitment for \$39,000 for each home. Homes for Hope will fund the remainder of the cost of building a home. Our partnership will allow us to do so much more with our resources as we help those who need it most.

The number of homes we commit to building is dependent on the commitment of our local churches. In the past local churches have dreamed God-sized dreams going into annual conference. Many of you are still helping us to fulfill our dream for Imagine No Malaria. We invite you to participate in the dream of homes for the homeless in Greenville by making a commitment of a minimum of \$100 toward the 2017 Homeless Initiative. We encourage your church to fill out a pledge card indicating how much your church will invest in this dream.

We ask that you fill out the enclosed commitment card by the end of September. Please return the card to the Conference Treasurer, Beth Westbury. We ask that you fulfill the pledge by the end of this calendar year so the homes can be built by 2017 Annual Conference. Please mark your contribution as Homeless initiative.

You can also contribute by offering your time and talent. Volunteers Teams will have the opportunity to work on these home (Painting, Landscaping etc.). Times and dates will be provided at a later time.

Bikes for the World

Also, at Annual Conference, our youth will be collecting Bikes for the World. Each District will be asking the Youth to contribute 100 bikes that will be distributed around the world. These will not be recreation bikes, but will be used for transportation to help those who have no mobility to find work and to improve their lives. Of the 1200 bikes collected, 200 will go to Triune Mercy Center in Greenville and the Mercy Center in Anderson to be given to children who can't afford a bike or to adults who need transportation as well. We will celebrate this mission with a family bike ride on Swamp Rabbit Trail on the Saturday before Annual Conference.

Our goals for 2017 are bold:

- to reach out to those in greatest need
- to break the poverty cycle
- to make a difference in the lives of children
- to share hope in our community

We are walking by faith and not by sight. We invite you to join us by filling out the enclosed commitment card, fulfilling your pledge by the end of the calendar year, participating in volunteer efforts in Greenville, and encouraging your young people to participate in the district efforts to collect bicycles.

Thank you in advance for your prayers, your generosity and your willingness to work to make a difference on behalf of Jesus Christ.

HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS PLEDGE CARD

Church: _____

GCFA # _____

Address: _____

Contact Email: _____

Phone: _____

We commit to give \$100

Above & beyond \$ _____

Mail to: Beth Westbury
Conference Treasurer | 4908 Colonial Dr.
Columbia, SC 29203

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HOMELESS INITIATIVE PLEDGE CARD

COMMITMENT TO GIVE:

\$ _____

Thank you!
Together we can do more



CUT THIS SECTION OFF &
KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS