

Bishop's Offering for 2014 Annual Conference

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Florida Conference,

I am pleased to announce that a grand offering will be collected at the 2014 Florida Annual Conference event during June 11-14. This offering will strengthen efforts to engage young adults in the mission of God and develop leadership skills both here and in Africa. Two programs will share the proceeds:

Scholarships for students at Africa University. This is a United Methodist-related institution that provides higher education and opportunity to students who otherwise would not be able to afford it. The scholarships will go to students in the university's Institute of Peace, Leadership and Governance and the School of Theology.

Young adult missional movement. Our initial plan calls for three missional sites to be chosen in Florida and up to 12 young adults selected for yearlong mission projects. The participants will live in the community to be served; they'll have a "rule of life," and they will have spiritual direction and leadership training built into their year of service. We see this as an opportunity to equip young adults to be the Christian leaders of the future.

We are asking local churches to receive an offering on June 8 (Pentecost) as a participation in this expression of God's mission.

Thank you for your support of our efforts to engage the next generation in the mission of God and to develop leaders who have a heart for service and will make a difference in our world.

The peace of the Lord,

Kenneth H. Carter, Jr.
Florida Area Resident Bishop
The United Methodist Church

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