

Bishop's Offering for 2013 Annual Conference

Bishop Ken Carter has selected three programs to equally share in proceeds from the traditional offering, scheduled to be collected at the Service of Word and Table at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 13.

Delegates from each church are asked to bring the congregation's contributions to the annual conference June 13-15 at The Lakeland Center, 701 Lime St. Make checks out to Florida Conference Treasurer and write "2013 Bishop's Offering" in the memo line.

Carter said he had in mind the denomination's drive to recruit young people and recognize the growing diversity in Florida and across the U.S. when he chose the beneficiaries for this year's offering. They are:

Stop Hunger Now: The Florida Conference is launching a yearlong campaign titled "A Million Reasons." In addition to collecting money for the organization, delegates will be asked to participate in food-packing sessions Wednesday afternoon, June 13, and Thursday morning, June 14. Organizers hope 100,000 meals will be packed and sent to Stop Hunger Now during the annual conference.

Wesley Foundation at FSU: The Tallahassee campus ministry is the second largest of its kind in the U.S. Funds collected from the offering would go to upgrade the ministry's aging physical facilities, including buildings that date to the 1950s and '70s.

Leadership development for young clergy of color: The Conference is blessed with a rich multicultural diversity. Our missional health in the future is linked to engagement with an increasingly multicultural complexity, and this engagement is also related to leadership development. We are also aware of the need for intentional processes related to culture, skill development and relationship-building with younger clergy, and within this constituency, younger clergy of color.

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