

**Meeting to Plan  
A Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington  
on Children's Issues  
10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 23, 2004  
United Methodist Building  
100 Maryland Avenue, Washington, D.C.**

**AGENDA**

1. Introductions
2. Opening prayer
3. Select date for Wednesday-in-Washington
4. Location, schedule for the day
5. Issues to lobby on
6. Recruitment of participants
7. Transportation
8. Closing prayer

February 3, 2004

Rev. Regina Anderson-Cloud  
8617 Little River Turnpike  
Annandale, VA 22003-3699

Dear Rev. Anderson-Cloud:

Bishop Pennel's office has told us he has appointed you as a representative of the United Methodist Virginia Conference on a planning committee to develop a Wednesday-in-Washington event for Pan-Methodists from Maryland and Virginia.

In case you haven't seen it, I'm enclosing the proposal for this event that was endorsed by the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union at their November 2003 meeting in Baltimore.

The first meeting of the planning committee will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, February 9 in the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. Coffee, tea, and pastries will be available at 9:45 for pre-meeting socializing. The United Methodist Building is across from the U.S. Capitol, next to the Supreme Court Building. The nearest Metro stops are Capitol South on the orange and blue lines, and Union Station on the red line. The nearest public parking garage is at Union Station.

If you need further information prior to the meeting, please call me at 301 896-0013 or contact me via e-mail at [hhallman@mupwj.org](mailto:hhallman@mupwj.org).

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman  
Chair

**Meeting of Planning Committee  
for Wednesday-in-Washington  
for Pan-Methodists from Maryland and Virginia  
February 9, 2004  
United Methodist Building, Washington, D.C.**

**Name**

**Address**

**Telephone**

**E-mail address**

Bishop Charles L. Helton  
5937 Ruth Drive  
Charlotte NC 28215

Dear Bishop Helton:

I'm following up our telephone conversation about a planning committee meeting to develop a Wednesday-in-Washington event to bring Pan-Methodists from Maryland and Virginia to Washington to lobby together on children's issues. Bishop Felton May's original letter to you may have been sent to your Washington, D.C. address.

Enclosed is the proposal for this event. This proposal was endorsed by the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union at their November 2003 meeting in Baltimore.

Bishop May has invited other Pan-Methodist bishops to appoint two persons from Maryland and two from Virginia to serve on the planning committee. The District of Columbia wasn't included because emphasis is upon lobbying representatives who have a vote in Congress. However, there is no reason why a D.C. resident cannot represent a denomination on the planning committee.

The meeting will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, February 9 in the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. Coffee, tea, and pastries will be available at 9:45 for pre-meeting socializing. The nearest Metro stops are Capitol South on the orange and blue lines, and Union Station on the red line. The nearest public parking garage is at Union Station.

We look forward to work closely with the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in this important endeavor.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman  
Chair

October 25, 2002

Bishop Felton E. May  
100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Suite 510  
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Bishop May:

From our founding in 1987 Methodists United for Peace with Justice has had an interest in building relationships with all members of the Methodist family in the United States. That's why we all ourselves "Methodists United". In previous years we have had AME, AMEZ, and CME representatives on our Board of Directors and National Advisory Committee. In 1993 we sponsored A Gathering of the Methodist Family on the theme "Let Justice Really Role" with participation from the four "Pan-Methodist" denominations plus the Free Methodist Church and the Wesleyan Church.

We note that the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union is seriously engaged in finding ways to unite the Methodist family, if not structurally at least in spirit and cooperative endeavors. As this is going on, we wonder whether it might be appropriate to have some kind of unofficial gathering to bring together persons in the Wesleyan tradition to share their common concern for justice and social holiness.

We have sketched out some ideas in the attached proposal. If there is strong interest along these lines, we would be willing to help facilitate such a gathering. It would, of course, require full participation of representatives (official or unofficial) from the Methodist denominations. If others, such as the Pan-Methodist Commission, want to pick up on this idea and carry it out on their own, we will be pleased to have contributed the idea.

We would like to discuss this with you, if possible before you leave for the Council of Bishops meeting. We'll call your office to seek an appointment.

With best regards,

Sherman W. Harris

Howard W. Hallman

**Methodists United for Peace with Justice**  
**1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036**  
**Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.org**

January 8, 2003

To: Bishop Felton E. May

Fax: 202 546-3186

No. of pages: 2

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Bishop May:

I would like to share with you the response from Bishop Mutti to our proposal for the Pan-Methodist Commission to facilitate common activities in behalf of children. He indicates that United Methodist bishops are already working with the Children's Defense Fund in witness at state capitals and to some extent in Washington. I was glad to learn of this.

I am replying by e-mail to Bishop Mutti and will send you a copy. You need to see Bishop Mutti's letter to make sense of my response.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman

**Methodists United for Peace with Justice**  
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036  
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupwj@mupwj.org

August 8, 2003

To: Bishop Felton E. May  
Fax: 202 546-3186  
From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

No. of pages: 1

Dear Bishop May:

Sherman Harris and I would like an opportunity to meet with you to discuss next steps in Pan-Methodist action on the needs of children.

You will recall that last fall we communicated with you about the desirability of Pan-Methodist activities on children's issues and a possible role that Methodists United for Peace with Justice might play. You encouraged us to go ahead.

Partly as a result of our initiative and also in response to the UM Bishops' Initiative on Children and Poverty, last week several Pan-Methodist bishops participated in a Wednesday-in-Washington to lobby on children's issues. They were assisted by the Children's Defense Fund. Attending were UM Bishops Violet Fisher, George Bashore, and Donald Ott and CME Bishops Marshall Gilmore and Ronald Cunningham. AMEZ Bishops Richard Thompson and Warren Brown were expected but did not appear. The AME bishops were having a meeting in Dallas that day, so none of them could come.

As follow-up, Bishop Ott is encouraging us -- Methodists United for Peace with Justice -- to carry out our earlier proposal to facilitate a Wednesday-in-Washington for clergy and laity from the four Pan-Methodist denominations in Maryland and Virginia. For this event to be successful it should be developed by a planning committee composed of clergy and/or lay representatives appointed by the Pan-Methodist bishops serving those two states. They include AME Bishop Vinton R. Anderson, AMEZ Bishop Milton A. Williams, CME Bishop Charles L. Helton, UM Bishop Joe E. Pennel, Jr., and yourself.

We are wondering whether you would be willing to get in touch with these bishops, either individually or in a group meeting, (a) to discuss the idea of a Wednesday-in-Washington for Pan-Methodists in Maryland and Virginia and (b) to ask them to appoint representatives to a planning committee. Sherman and I would be a position to provide staff services to such a committee, but we would hope that there would be a rotating chair drawn from the Pan-Methodist participants. We are also available to carry out the follow-through activities for staging a Wednesday-in-Washington.

This is what we would like to discuss with you in person. We hope that you could squeeze in some time in your busy schedule for such a meeting.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair



**Methodists United for Peace with Justice**  
**1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036**  
**Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.org**

December 18, 2003

To: Ryan Powell  
Office of Bishop May

Fax: 202 546-3186

No. of pages: 2

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Ryan:

I am sending "A Proposal for a Maryland and Virginia Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington on Children's Issues". I would like to have a telephone conversation with Bishop May about this proposal.

I discussed the idea with him on October 2. He encouraged me to move forward. I sent him the proposal on October 7. I know that he was fully involved with preparations for the meeting of the UM Council of Bishops, plus all his regularly responsibilities. I'm hoping that his schedule will have an opening so that we can move ahead early in 2004.

Shalom,

Dear Bishop Mutti:

Thank you for your response to our suggestion for Pan-Methodist activities in behalf of children. I have been aware of the UM Bishops' Task Force on Children and Poverty and have been impressed by the dedication and persistence. I didn't, however, know about the connection with the Children's Defense Fund and related witness at state capitals and in Washington. I asked CDF staff if such activities were underway, and the person I talked to was unaware of any. Likewise staff of the UM General Board of Church and Society are only dimly aware of this kind of activity.

Perhaps United Methodist bishops might consider the possibility of inviting other Methodist denominations to join them in this activity, especially in witness at state capitals. It would be a wonderful opportunity to put into practice the commitment to move beyond repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation into sharing and acting together on matters of mutual concern. This could be done by individual bishops without the involvement of an outside organization like ours. We certainly have enough other things to do.

In addition to what might occur at the state level, I can see the desirability of persons from the Pan-Methodist denominations joining together in Washington to lobby on children's issue. It would be an expression of solidarity focusing on a common concern. For instance, this coming September will be crunch time as Congress gets to final decisions on appropriations. It would be a good time for Pan-Methodists to go to Washington.

If this idea has appeal, it could be worked into a full proposal for presentation to the Commission on Pan-Methodist Union and Cooperation at its March 2003 meeting. There would still be enough time before September to bring it about.

If we can assist, please let us know. But if the Pan-Methodist Commission wants to pick up on this idea and carry it out with its own resources, that's fine with us.

With best regards,  
Howard W. Hallman

Dear Bishop Mutti:

We will be pleased to work cooperatively with the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation, the UM Council of Bishops, and other Pan-Methodist denominations in support of Wednesdays in Washington on children's issues. In particular we want to work closely with Bishop Ott. Also, you indicate that the UM Council of Bishops has designated two bishops to work on this project. Who are they? What role is envisioned for them?

In a division of responsibility we are willing to help facilitate activities in Washington, D.C. My colleague, Sherman Harris, who is a prominent layman in the Baltimore-Washington Conference, and I will undertake this task. We would encourage Bishop Ott to serve as liaison with Pan-Methodist bishops in order to achieve full cooperation from AME, AMEZ, CME, and UM denominations.

To get underway we would like to form a Pan-Methodist working group in Washington, D.C. to plan and coordinate activities focused on the Congress and the federal executive branch. This working group could consist of representatives of AME, AMEZ, CME, and UM bishops serving the Washington metropolitan region. We talked with Bishop Felton May as we began to develop this project, so we know that he is supportive. I assume that the others will be, too. We would ask Bishop Ott to contact the bishops. Their names and contact information are provided below.

Consideration could also be given to including representatives of the denominational women's organizations on the working group. They are already working on children's issues and could help with facilitation. What would you and Bishop Ott think of this?

We offer three possible projects for the working group to consider.

(1) As an initial activity we could arrange for a Wednesday in Washington for AME, AMEZ, CME, and UM persons from Maryland and Virginia to talk with their representatives and senators on children's issues. We would like to do this by the coming July. This would be tight schedule, considering that annual conferences are coming up, but the importance of children's issues demands a prompt response.

The day in Washington could begin with worship together in the chapel of the Methodist Building. This would be followed by an issues briefing by staff of the Children's Defense Fund. The group would then divide into delegations from congressional districts for visits with their representatives. We would try to arrange for a meeting with the four senators from Maryland and Virginia for delegations from each state. After these visits the delegations would report their findings and then consider how they can follow-up as Pan-Methodists working together back home in their congressional districts.

Many from Maryland and Virginia would be able to commute for a day in Washington. For those from outlying sections of the two states, we would encourage carpooling with mixtures of denominational representatives. We will consider the possibility of arranging for overnight host housing with placement across racial and denominational lines. If we decide to do this, we

would hope that churches in Washington, D.C., which lacks voting representation in Congress, would be willing to help as well as churches in Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland.

Because the Delaware-Peninsula UM Conference encompasses the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia, they could be invited to participate. This would open an option for inviting Delaware to join if a Pan-Methodist delegation could be arranged.

Once we get a pattern set it can be followed by Pan-Methodists in other states coming to Washington and going to their state capitals. Those of us in the Washington area could help facilitate these additional visits to Washington.

(2) To extend our outreach the working group could devise a plan to have Pan-Methodist delegations call on their representatives when they are back home during congressional recesses. The product would be a guide on how to bring Pan-Methodists together, how to organize home-district visits, and what specific children's issues to raise.

United Methodist bishops through their established Children and Poverty Initiative might be able to facilitate outreach to other Pan-Methodist denominations in their area for joint cooperation in home-district visits. This would prepare the groundwork for days at the state capitol in the first months of 2004 when state legislatures are back in session.

From our contacts we know that staff of the Children's Defense Fund and the UM General Board of Church and Society are willing to help with Wednesdays in Washington. I'm certain that they would help prepare a guide for home-district activities.

(3) Another possibility would be for the two designated United Methodist bishops to join with two bishops from each of the other Pan-Methodist denominations to come to Washington to talk with top federal leadership. This could include President Bush or a White House representative, the Secretary of Human Services, top Republican and Democratic leadership in the Senate and House of Representatives.

We could help facilitate this, along with CDF and GBCS staff. However, we would place greater priority on work with grassroots delegations because they often have greater impact on members of Congress.

We offer these ideas as a point of departure. We would look to the proposed Pan-Methodist working group to review them and develop them more fully. In the meantime we would be interested in learning from you whether we are going in a direction envisioned by the Pan-Methodist Commission.

Shalom,  
Howard

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Bishops serving the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2<sup>nd</sup> Episcopal District  
Bishop Vinton R. Anderson  
1134 11th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
202 842-3788

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District  
Bishop Milton A. Williams  
8700 Central Avenue, Suite 307  
Landover, MD 20785  
301 499-6890

CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

7<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District  
Bishop Charles L. Helton  
6524 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20012  
202 723-2660

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Baltimore-Washington Conference  
Bishop Felton E. May  
100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Suite 510  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
202 546-3110

Virginia Conference  
Bishop Joe E. Pennel, Jr.  
P.O. Box 1719  
Glen Allen, VA 23060  
800 768-6040

January 13, 2004

Bishop Joe E. Pennel, Jr.  
Virginia United Methodist Conference  
P.O. Box 1719  
Glen Allen, VA 23060

Dear Bishop Pennel:

In 1998 the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation voted to launch a Campaign for Children in Poverty. As part of this effort numerous local congregations are observing Children's Sabbath and reaching out to children in their community. Local churches have become part of the national child advocacy network, coordinated by the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) whose president is Marian Wright Edelman. This past July several Pan-Methodist bishops came to the nation's capital to participate in a Wednesday-in-Washington on children's issues with CDF assistance.

Following this event, Methodists United for Peace with Justice, an advocacy organization within Methodism, offered the attached proposal to bring clergy and laity into this effort by staging a Wednesday-in-Washington for Pan-Methodists in Maryland and Virginia. This could serve as a model for similar efforts in other states. At its November 2003 meeting in Baltimore the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union endorsed this proposal.

To carry out this initiative we are forming a Planning Committee consisting of clergy and laity appointed by Pan-Methodist bishops serving Maryland and Virginia. The suggestion is for two persons from each denomination from each state, for a total of 16 members. Bishop Felton E. May has appointed two United Methodists from Maryland to serve on the Wednesday-in-Washington Planning Committee. We request you to appoint two persons, laity or clergy, to represent the Virginia United Methodist Conference. We are also requesting bishops from the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, and Christian Methodist Episcopal Churches serving Maryland and Virginia to appoint two from each state.

The initial meeting of the Planning Committee will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, February 9, 2004 in the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Washington, D.C. Bishop May will be there. If your busy schedule permits, I invite you to attend along with the two persons you are appointing. Representatives of the Children's Defense Fund will

Bishop Joe E. Pennel, Jr.  
January 13, 2004  
Page two.

participate. We are thinking that June or July would be an appropriate time for a Maryland-Virginia Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington with the exact date to be determined.

Please let me know who will represent the Virginia Conference in this endeavor, including their contact information. I will provide them further information about this meeting.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman  
Chair

January 13, 2004

Bishop Peter D. Weaver  
United Methodist Philadelphia Area  
P.O. Box 820  
Valley Forge, PA 19482

Dear Peter:

When I saw you in Baltimore in November, I mentioned that Methodists United for Peace with Justice was proposing a Wednesday-in-Washington so that Pan-Methodists from Maryland and Virginia could join together in lobbying on children's issues (see enclosure). This event would be carried out in cooperation with by the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) whose president is Marian Wright Edelman. The Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union endorsed this proposal and encouraged us to go ahead.

Under the guidance of Bishop Felton May we are forming a Planning Committee consisting of clergy and laity appointed by Pan-Methodist bishops serving Maryland and Virginia. Bishop May has appointed two United Methodists from Maryland to serve on this committee. We have requested Bishop Pennel to appoint two from Virginia. We are also requesting bishops from the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, and Christian Methodist Episcopal Churches serving Maryland and Virginia to appoint two from each state. We would welcome two persons, laity or clergy, from the Peninsula United Methodist Conference to be part of the committee and to help gain participation in the event from the Maryland eastern shore.

The initial meeting of the Planning Committee will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, February 9, 2004 in the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Washington, D.C. Bishop May will be there. Other bishops are invited. Representatives of the Children's Defense Fund will participate. We are thinking that June or July would be an appropriate time for a Maryland-Virginia Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington with the exact date to be determined.

Please let me know who will represent the Peninsula Conference in this endeavor, including their contact information. I will provide them further information about this meeting.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair



Baltimore-Washington contacts on children's issues

2003

### **Get Set' experience**

Annapolis District invites clergy and laity to join them Wednesday, Sept. 3, on Capitol Hill from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for an issues and congressional visits day, called "Get Set." The event is sponsored by the General Board of Church and Society and the Children's Defense Fund. The day includes briefings and orientation by GBCS, the American Cancer Society and the Children's Defense Fund. It is the second year the Annapolis District has participated and they are opening the opportunity to others. Bus transportation will leave from St. Mark's UMC in Hanover at 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided by the Board of Church and Society at 100 Maryland Ave. N.E. in Washington, D.C. Reservations required. Contact the Rev. Mamie A. Williams, Annapolis District superintendent, at [maw813@aol.com](mailto:maw813@aol.com) or call (410) 309-3400.

### **Ecumenical children's advocacy group forms plans**

The Interfaith Child Advocacy Network of Metro Washington, announces two events on behalf of children.

- Children's Sabbath and Prayer Vigil to the White House, Sunday, Oct. 26. Meet at 3 p.m. at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington.
- A "Grandrally" on the West lawn of the U.S. Capitol, Wednesday, Oct. 15, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The rally is to call attention to the needs of the more than 6 million children living with grandparents or other relatives. For information on these events and others, contact Joe Collier, 8552 Barrington Court, Springfield, VA 22152. (703) 644-1722 (Home), (703) 927-2919 (Mobile), or [joecollier@cox.net](mailto:joecollier@cox.net).

Cooperative Parish Ministries Consultation - November 2003  
<http://www.gccuic-umc.org/web/webpdf/coopparishministries.pdf>

Draft announcement

Pan-Methodists from Maryland will gather in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, June 16 for a day of advocacy on children's issues. Clergy and laity from the United Methodist Baltimore-Washington Conference are invited to participate. Other participants will come from the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, and Christian Methodist Episcopal Churches.

This Wednesday-in-Washington will be carried out with the assistance of the Children's Defense Fund, the foremost national advocacy organization on children's issues. Focus will be upon legislation pending before Congress, such as the Leave No Child Behind Act, funding for Head Start and child welfare programs, and other matters.

Participants will gather at the United Methodist Building on Capitol Hill at 9:30 a.m. on June 16. They will receive an issues briefing from staff of the Children's Defense Fund and will worship together in the Simpson Chapel. The afternoon will feature meetings with Maryland senators and representatives or their staffs. The day will conclude with de-briefing on these meetings and closing prayer.

Registration fee is \$20 for food, drink, and material. Persons from the Baltimore-Washington Conference may register by contacting..... Registration fee may be paid at the door on June 16.

The Planning Committee for this event has included the following persons: Appointed by Bishop Charles L. Helton, CME 7<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District: Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr. Appointed by

Bishop Felton E. May, UM Baltimore-Washington Conference: Sandy Ferguson, Arthuree Wright, Rev. Mary Kay Totty, Rev. Michael Johnson. Appointed by Bishop Peter Weaver, UM Peninsula-Delaware Conference: Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris; Rev. Dr. Thomas P. Donnachie, III. Representing Methodists United for Peace with Justice: Howard W. Hallman, Sherman W. Harris. Representing Childrens' Defense Fund: Terry Hawkins.

Drafted by Howard W. Hallman  
301 896-0013  
hhallman@mupwj.org

e-connection Tuesday, May 18

**Advocacy opportunity**

Pan-Methodists from Maryland and Washington, D.C., are invited to participate in a Children's Defense Fund "Wednesday-in-Washington," June 16, to be advocates for children's issues. This is an opportunity for clergy and laity in all branches of Methodism to come together at the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Ave., NE, in Washington, to learn about these issues and visit lawmakers on Capitol Hill. Registration fee is \$20, and may be sent to Sandy Ferguson, 7178 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD 21046. For more information, call Sandy at (410) 309-3431.

Draft

You are cordially invited to participate in

**Wednesday-in-Washington**

for advocacy on children's issues

by Pan-Methodists from Maryland

**June 16, 2004**

*The purpose of this event is bring together clergy and laity of the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal, and United Methodist Churches to express their support for legislation designed to improve the lives of children.*

Meet at United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C.

- 9:30 Gathering with coffee, tea, pastries
- 9:50 Welcome, opening prayer
- 10:00 Issues briefing by Children's Defense Fund
- 11:30 Worship in Chapel
- 12:00 Lunch by congressional districts
- 1:00 Meeting with U.S. Senators from Maryland or their staff
- 2:00 Meeting with U.S. Representatives from Maryland or their staff
- 3:15 De-briefing and discussion of follow-through
- 3:55 Closing prayer
- 4:00 Adjourn

The United Methodist Building is across from the street from the Supreme Court Building. The nearest Metro stops are at Union Station on the red line and South Capitol on the orange and blue lines. Parking is available at Union Station and at some outlying Metro stations. Carpools with Pan-Methodists sharing rides are encouraged.

Registration fee: \$20 for food, drink, and materials

**Planning Committee**

Appointed by Bishop Charles L. Helton, CME 7<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District: Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr. Appointed by Bishop Felton E. May, UM Baltimore-Washington Conference: Sandy Ferguson, Rev. Mary Kay Totty, Rev.Arthuree Wright. Appointed by Bishop Peter Weaver, UM Peninsula-Delaware Conference: Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris, Rev. Dr. Thomas P. Donnachie, III. Representing Methodists United for Peace with Justice: Howard W. Hallman, Sherman W. Harris. Representing Childrens' Defense Fund: Terry Hawkins

**For further information, contact:**

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Registration fee: \$20 for food, drink, and materials

**Planning Committee**

Appointed by Bishop Charles L. Helton, CME 7<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District: Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr. Appointed by Bishop Felton E. May, UM Baltimore-Washington Conference: Sandy Ferguson, Rev. Mary Kay Totty, Rev. Arthuree Wright. Appointed by Bishop Peter Weaver, UM Peninsula-Delaware Conference: Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris, Rev. Dr. Thomas P. Donnachie, III, Rev. Dolores Wilks. Representing Methodists United for Peace with Justice: Howard W. Hallman, Sherman W. Harris. Representing Children's Defense Fund: Terry Hawkins

**For further information, contact:**

Pan-Methodists from Maryland  
are cordially invited to participate in  
**Wednesday-in-Washington**  
for advocacy on children's issues  
on  
**June 16, 2004**

*This event provides an opportunity for clergy and laity of the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal, and United Methodist Churches to express their support for legislation designed to improve the lives of children.*

Meet at the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Ave., NE, Washington, D.C.

9:30 Gathering with coffee, tea, pastries

9:50 Welcome, opening prayer

10:00 Issues briefing by Children's Defense Fund

11:30 Worship in Chapel

12:00 Lunch, with seating by congressional districts

1:00 Meeting with U.S. Senators from Maryland or their staff

2:00 Meeting with U.S. Representatives from Maryland or their staff

3:15 De-briefing and discussion of follow-through

3:55 Closing prayer

4:00 Adjourn

The United Methodist Building is across from the street from the Supreme Court Building. The nearest Metro stops are at Union Station on the red line and South Capitol on the orange and blue lines. Parking is available at Union Station and at some outlying Metro stations. Carpools with Pan-Methodists sharing rides are encouraged.

Registration fee: \$20 for food, drink, and materials

**For further information, contact:**

March 20, 2003

To: Howard W. Hallman, Chair, Methodists United for Peace with Justice  
From: Bishop Fritz Mutti, Kansas Area, United Methodist Church  
Subject: Response from Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation & Union

Dear Howard,

The Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union met last week in Atlanta. The Program Committee reviewed your request and recommended that we work with you to support "Wednesdays in Washington" through our children's poverty project.

The next question relates to coordination of the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation, the Council of Bishops and the Methodists United for Peace and Justice. Will you be coordinating that? If you are not the person to do it, I have invited Bishop Don Ott, who staffs the Council of Bishops' Task Force on Children and Poverty, to see if he might be willing to give assistance. Let me know how I can facilitate the next steps.

The United Methodist Council of Bishops has designated two Bishops to participate in the future efforts with MUPJ and with the Pan-Methodist Commission. We will try to work with the other Pan-Methodist communions to secure their participation. Let me know how we can help.

Grace and Peace,  
Fritz Mutti

###

March 22, 2003

To: Bishop Fritz Mutti  
From: Howard W. Hallman  
Subject: Reply

Dear Bishop Mutti:

We will be pleased to work cooperatively with the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation, the UM Council of Bishops, and other Pan-Methodist denominations in support of Wednesdays in Washington on children's issues. In particular we want to work closely with Bishop Ott. Also, you indicate that the UM Council of Bishops has designated two bishops to work on this project. Who are they? What role is envisioned for them?

In a division of responsibility we are willing to help facilitate activities in Washington, D.C. My colleague, Sherman Harris, who is a prominent layman in the Baltimore-Washington Conference, and I will undertake this task. We would encourage Bishop Ott to serve as liaison

with Pan-Methodist bishops in order to achieve full cooperation from AME, AMEZ, CME, and UM denominations.

To get underway we would like to form a Pan-Methodist working group in Washington, D.C. to plan and coordinate activities focused on the Congress and the federal executive branch. This working group could consist of representatives of AME, AMEZ, CME, and UM bishops serving the Washington metropolitan region. We talked with Bishop Felton May as we began to develop this project, so we know that he is supportive. I assume that the others will be, too. We would ask Bishop Ott to contact the bishops. Their names and contact information are provided below. Consideration could also be given to including representatives of the denominational women's organizations on the working group. They are already working on children's issues and could help with facilitation. What would you and Bishop Ott think of this?

We offer three possible projects for the working group to consider.

(1) As an initial activity we could arrange for a Wednesday in Washington for AME, AMEZ, CME, and UM persons from Maryland and Virginia to talk with their representatives and senators on children's issues. We would like to do this by the coming July. This would be tight schedule, considering that annual conferences are coming up, but the importance of children's issues demands a prompt response.

The day in Washington could begin with worship together in the chapel of the Methodist Building. This would be followed by an issues briefing by staff of the Children's Defense Fund. The group would then divide into delegations from congressional districts for visits with their representatives. We would try to arrange for a meeting with the four senators from Maryland and Virginia for delegations from each state. After these visits the delegations would report their findings and then consider how they can follow-up as Pan-Methodists working together back home in their congressional districts.

Many from Maryland and Virginia would be able to commute for a day in Washington. For those from outlying sections of the two states, we would encourage carpooling with mixtures of denominational representatives. We will consider the possibility of arranging for overnight host housing with placement across racial and denominational lines. If we decide to do this, we would hope that churches in Washington, D.C., which lacks voting representation in Congress, would be willing to help as well as churches in Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland.

Because the Delaware-Peninsula UM Conference encompasses the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia, they could be invited to participate. This would open an option for inviting Delaware to join if a Pan-Methodist delegation could be arranged.

Once we get a pattern set it can be followed by Pan-Methodists in other states coming to Washington and going to their state capitals. Those of us in the Washington area could help facilitate these additional visits to Washington.

(2) To extend our outreach the working group could devise a plan to have Pan-Methodist delegations call on their representatives when they are back home during congressional recesses. The product would be a guide on how to bring Pan-Methodists together, how to organize home-district visits, and what specific children's issues to raise.

United Methodist bishops through their established Children and Poverty Initiative might be able to facilitate outreach to other Pan-Methodist denominations in their area for joint cooperation in home-district visits. This would prepare the groundwork for days at the state capitol in the first months of 2004 when state legislatures are back in session.

From our contacts we know that staff of the Children's Defense Fund and the UM General Board of Church and Society are willing to help with Wednesdays in Washington. I'm certain that they would help prepare a guide for home-district activities.

(3) Another possibility would be for the two designated United Methodist bishops to join with two bishops from each of the other Pan-Methodist denominations to come to Washington to talk with top federal leadership. This could include President Bush or a White House representative, the Secretary of Human Services, top Republican and Democratic leadership in the Senate and House of Representatives.

We could help facilitate this, along with CDF and GBCS staff. However, we would place greater priority on work with grassroots delegations because they often have greater impact on members of Congress.

We offer these ideas as a point of departure. We would look to the proposed Pan-Methodist working group to review them and develop them more fully. In the meantime we would be interested in learning from you whether we are going in a direction envisioned by the Pan-Methodist Commission.

Shalom,  
Howard

Bishops serving the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2<sup>nd</sup> Episcopal District

Bishop Vinton R. Anderson

1134 11th Street NW

Washington, DC 20001

202 842-3788

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District

Bishop Milton A. Williams

8700 Central Avenue, Suite 307

Landover, MD 20785

301 499-6890

CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

7<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District  
Bishop Charles L. Helton  
6524 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20012  
202 723-2660

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Baltimore-Washington Conference  
Bishop Felton E. May  
100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Suite 510  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
202 546-3110

Virginia Conference  
Bishop Joe E. Pennel, Jr.  
P.O. Box 1719  
Glen Allen, VA 23060  
800 768-6040

###

March 28, 2003

To: Howard Hallman, Chair, Methodists United for Peace with Justice  
From: Bishop Don Ott, United Methodist Church  
Subject: Pan Methodist "Wednesday in Washington"

Howard -

Thanks again for your gracious reception of a delayed phone call to you. It was good to talk with you today and establish a base for our moving ahead.

As I said I am sending you this note to indicate the understandings we have with each other. I am copying this to Bishops Mutti (Chair of the Pan Methodist group) and Sherer (Chair of the Initiative Task Force) and May (our resident Washington Area leader). I have also copied Mark Harrison, a staff member of the UM General Board of Church and Society who is the liaison from



that Board to the Initiative TF.

I am (with this E-mail) reminding Bishop Mutti of his intention to write the Presiding Bishops of the Pan Methodism to request them to name at least two bishops to be part of the planning and presence for a Childrens Defense Fund style Wednesday in Washington as the Pan Methodists had agreed at the meeting in Atlanta earlier this month. I am asking that he convey those names to me and to you as soon as possible.

You agreed to serve as the convener of a Plan Team and as "executive staff" as you said, but not Chair of the Plan Team.

I agreed to work the United Methodist connections side of things and personally be present as Coordinator of the UM Bishops Initiative.

I further indicated that I would report to the UM Initiative TF when it next meets April 26 and get any suggestions from them as we move ahead. Also, I would secure the names of UM bishops who would either be named to represent UM in this endeavor or who would respond to an invitation to be part of it as we did for the June 12, 2002 Wednesday in Washington.

We agreed that the framework of your E-mail to Bishop Mutti of March 22 would guide our anticipated approach. Also, I indicated that the UM Initiative TF, I expected, would want to have the involvement as we did so helpfully on June 12 of DC Area Bishops May and Pennel (subject to their interest and availability), CDF and staff of our General Board of Church and Society.

I said that I thought that beginning with the Maryland and Virginia region, as you stated in the Mutti E-mail was not a problem. I indicated that we could probably organize that more easily given your residence in DC and your basic staffing of it. I said that I thought we could consider having non Maryland and Virginia Pan Methodist episcopal leaders present for the DC region event as a way of building experienced persons for an event that might draw bishops from across the USA at a later time.

I hope this is an accurate summary of our conversation. Please let me know where it may differ from your remembrance.

I will let you know what develops within the work I will be doing on this.

Sincerely,

Bishop Don Ott

###

March 28, 2004

To: Bishop Don Ott  
From: Howard W. Hallman  
Subject: Reply

Dear Don,

Your message accurately reflects our conversation except that I would like to add one element

The Plan Team for a Maryland-Virginia event should consist of persons representing the Pan-Methodist bishops who serve this geographic area. Therefore, I would hope that Bishop Mutti would also talk with the presiding bishops about how this can be arranged. My suggestion is that an AME, AMEZ, or CME representative would be asked to chair the initial planning meeting and that the chair rotate thereafter. As you noted, I would function as executive staff to facilitate meetings and follow through.

I'm looking forward to this cooperative endeavor.

Shalom,  
Howard

**A Proposal for a Gathering of the Methodist Family on Justice Issues**  
**by Sherman W. Harris and Howard W. Hallman**  
**Methodists United for Peace with Justice**

The Gospel According to Luke reports that John, the son of Zechariah, preached a baptism of repentance and forgiveness of sins. After they were baptized, the multitudes asked him, "What then shall we do?" He answered them, "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none. He who has food, let him do likewise." John told baptized tax collectors, "Collect no more than is appointed you." He instructed soldiers, "Rob no one by violence or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

We in the Methodist family have been seeking forgiveness and reconciliation because of more than two centuries of institutional racism. As we go through this process, we can ask the same question that the multitudes put to John the Baptist: "What then shall we do?" Might not our answer reflect John's advice? We can express our response in the words of Micah the prophet: "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God."

In this spirit we would like to propose a Gathering of the Methodist Family to address the question: what then shall we do together to work for justice in the United States? Such a gathering should bring together persons from the four denominations now involved in the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union. It should also include persons from two other denominations in the Wesleyan tradition, the Free Methodist Church and the Wesleyan Church, both with strong anti-slavery concerns in their founding. Focus would be on working together cooperatively in educational and advocacy on specific public policy issues.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice sponsored such a Gathering of the Methodist Family on the theme "Let Justice Really Role", held in Kirkwood, Missouri in November 1993. (See attachments.) We would be willing to assist in facilitating a similar gathering some time in 2003. However, it would need to be cosponsored by leadership of the six denominations and planned and carried out by a committee of denominational representatives (official or unofficial).

For discussion purposes we suggest two alternatives. The first would be a multi-issue gathering in the fall of 2003 along the lines of the 1993 gathering with emphasis upon study of issues and discussion of means for working together. It could take place in a city of mutual choice.

The second possibility would be to focus on a specific issue of common concern, such as children. If children were the focus, the gathering might occur around the time of the annual Stand for Children Day, a project of the Children's Defense Fund, in early June 2003. It could take place in Washington, D.C. and include a segment of time for lobbying Congress and the Executive Branch on children's issues. The four denominations in the Pan-Methodist commission have all endorsed Children's Sabbath, the United Methodist Council of Bishops is in its sixth year with an Initiative for Children, and CDF sponsors the Black Community Crusade for Children. So it's a natural issue for working together in an action mode.

We welcome comments on our ideas.

October 25, 2002

February 3, 2004

Rev. Stan Hargraves  
3401 Brook Road  
Richmond, VA 23227

Dear Rev. Hargraves:

Bishop Pennel's office has told us he has appointed you as a representative of the United Methodist Virginia Conference on a planning committee to develop a Wednesday-in-Washington event for Pan-Methodists from Maryland and Virginia.

In case you haven't seen it, I'm enclosing the proposal for this event that was endorsed by the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union at their November 2003 meeting in Baltimore.

The first meeting of the planning committee will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, February 9 in the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. Coffee, tea, and pastries will be available at 9:45 for pre-meeting socializing. The United Methodist Building is across from the U.S. Capitol, next to the Supreme Court Building. The nearest Metro stops are Capitol South on the orange and blue lines, and Union Station on the red line. The nearest public parking garage is at Union Station.

If you need further information prior to the meeting, please call me at 301 896-0013 or contact me via e-mail at [hhallman@mupwj.org](mailto:hhallman@mupwj.org).

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman  
Chair

February 3, 2004

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris  
1404 Camden Avenue  
Salisbury, MD 21801

Dear Dr. Harris:

Bishop Peter Weaver indicates that he has appointed you as a representative of the United Methodist Peninsula Conference on a planning committee to develop a Wednesday-in-Washington event for Pan-Methodists from Maryland and Virginia.

In case you haven't seen it, I'm enclosing the proposal for this event that was endorsed by the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union at their November 2003 meeting in Baltimore.

The first meeting of the planning committee will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, February 9 in the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. Coffee, tea, and pastries will be available at 9:45 for pre-meeting socializing. The United Methodist Building is across from the U.S. Capitol, next to the Supreme Court Building. The nearest Metro stops are Capitol South on the orange and blue lines, and Union Station on the red line. The nearest public parking garage is at Union Station.

If you need further information prior to the meeting, please call me at 301 896-0013 or contact me via e-mail at [hhallman@mupwj.org](mailto:hhallman@mupwj.org).

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman  
Chair

## **'Invisible' church joins Pan-Methodist commission**

<http://www.umc.org/interior.asp?ptid=2&mid=6126>

Nov. 23, 2004

**By Linda Green\***

DALLAS (UMNS) — A little-known historically black Methodist denomination has joined a group of other Methodist traditions working to foster cooperation and unity.

The Union American Methodist Episcopal Church joined the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union during the commission's Nov. 19-21 meeting. The Union American denomination has been described as an "invisible strand" of African Methodism, and its roots parallel the three better-known black Methodist churches.

The 6,000-member church has congregations in the New England states, Jamaica and Liberia. It was founded in 1805 by Peter Spencer and William Anderson, both lay preachers, who led 40 blacks out of predominantly white Asbury Methodist Church in Wilmington, Del.

The church began in the same way as other African Methodist traditions in the United States, with members being denied the rights of prayer and communion and suffering racial injustices, said Bishop Linwood Rideout, one of three bishops in the Union American Methodist Episcopal Church. The other bishop in attendance was Michael Molder.

"We were first known as the Church of Africans," Rideout said. "We are known as an invisible strand of African Methodism because our founder was never given the recognition that he deserved."

Rideout said joining the commission is important because his church will become more acquainted with other Methodist bodies, and those will become familiar with "our rich heritage, our history."

The Union American church's polity is similar to those of the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal and United Methodist churches, he said. "We are Methodists. Our polity is not too far from your Book of Discipline. It is derived from Methodists. We had a Methodist founder."

According to "Invisible" Strands in African Methodism, written by Lewis V. Baldwin in 1983, "one of the most serious gaps in our knowledge of Afro-American religious history is our almost total ignorance of the African Union Methodist Protestant and Union American Methodist Episcopal Churches." While both denominations have been in the mid-Atlantic region since the early 19th century, scholars, as well as professional church historians, sociologists and theologians, are not fully aware of their existence, Baldwin wrote.

The churches, he wrote, have survived their histories as invisible branches within the larger sphere of African Methodism. While the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion and Christian Methodist Episcopal churches are more recognized at national and global levels, the churches founded by Peter Spencer "remained both small and regional," he noted.

After hearing about the Union church, the commission overwhelmingly welcomed it into membership.

In a sermon on "Living on the Edge of Possibility," Fisher expressed her understanding that God participates in everyday experiences and situations and has a plan for both the church and the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union.

She noted that God sent Moses to deliver the Israelites from bondage, and he led the people into the Promised Land. In that vein, she told the commission to move beyond what it can see and understand and trust God on the journey.

She told the Methodists that they can no longer be sideline Christians in a main street world. For too long, negative factors such as lack of resources and loss of membership have been viewed by some people as impediments to ministry.

"God is calling the church to stand up. God is calling us to take our place in society and to move forward," she said. Living on the edge of possibility, she said, means embracing new visions.

"God is calling us to stand in new places, to write new visions and dream new dreams," she said. "We must therefore arise to the occasion. We must not allow the threat or challenges of any kind — social or political — to intimidate us."

\*Green is a United Methodist News Service news writer based in Nashville, Tenn.

News media contact: Linda Green, (615) 742-5470 or [newsdesk@umcom.org](mailto:newsdesk@umcom.org).

Dear Bishop Anderson:

In January United Methodist Bishop Felton May wrote you about the attached proposal to hold a Wednesday-in-Washington for Pan-Methodists in Maryland and Virginia to lobby Congress on children's issues. He invited you to send representatives to an exploratory meeting on February 9. This meeting produced a commitment by those present to plan a Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington for some time this summer.

We will be holding another planning meeting on Tuesday, March 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon in Room 3, United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. We invite you to appoint one or more persons from the African Methodist Episcopal Church from Maryland, Virginia, and/or the District of Columbia to participate in this meeting.

So far the planning committee consists of the following persons:

Appointed by CME Bishop Charles L. Helton

\* Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr., Isaiah Metropolitan CME Church, Washington, D.C.

Appointed by UM Bishop Felton E. May

\* Sandy Ferguson, Associate Council Director, Baltimore-Washington Conference

Appointed by UM Bishop Joe E. Pennel, Jr. for UM Virginia Conference

\* Rev. Regina Anderson-Cloud, Annandale, Virginia

\* Stan Hargraves, Richmond, Virginia

Appointed by UM Bishop Peter Weaver for UM Peninsula-Delaware Conference

\* Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris, District Superintendent, Salisbury, Maryland

\* Rev. Dr. Thomas P. Donnachie, III, District Superintendent, Easton, Maryland

Representing Methodists United for Peace with Justice

\* Howard W. Hallman, Chair

\* Sherman W. Harris, Board Member

Representing Childrens' Defense Fund

\* Terry Hawkins

Although we initially discussed having a joint Wednesday-in-Washington for Pan-Methodists from Maryland and Virginia, schedule conflicts are leading toward separate events. We are now considering Wednesday, June 16 as the day for Maryland and some time in September for Virginia. D.C. residents, who don't have voting representative in Congress, would be welcome to participate in either event.

Last November the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union endorsed this idea and encouraged us to try it in Virginia and Maryland. Therefore, we are looking forward to having AME churches, clergy, and laity join with us. We hope that you will be represented on March 23.

If you have any questions, please reply by e-mail or call me at 301 896-0013.

With best regards,





Pan Methodist Participation - Wednesday in Washington  
July 30, 2003

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Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

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1616 E. Illinois Avenue  
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214-372-9073 voice  
214-372-2082 fax  
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United Methodist

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Bishop George Bashore  
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African Methodist Episcopal Zion

Bishop Richard K. Thompson  
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Bishop Warren Brown  
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[brownamez@aol.com](mailto:brownamez@aol.com)

African Methodist Episcopal

1 –

2 –

Additional Persons

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Childrens Defense Fund  
25 E Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
202-628-8787 voice  
\_\_\_\_\_ fax  
\_\_\_\_\_ email

Erica Henri  
Wednesdays in Washington Coordinator  
Childrens Defense Fund  
[Ehenri@childrensdefense.org](mailto:Ehenri@childrensdefense.org)

Mr. James Winkler and Mr. Mark Harrison  
Site liaisons  
UM General Board of Church and Society  
100 Maryland Ave., N.E.  
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202-488-5623  
\_\_\_\_\_ fax  
[jwinkler@umc-gbcs.org](mailto:jwinkler@umc-gbcs.org) and [mharrison@umc-gbcs.org](mailto:mharrison@umc-gbcs.org)

Mr. Howard Hallman  
(for information)  
Methodists United for Peace with Justice  
1500 16<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
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\_\_\_\_\_ fax  
[hhallman@mupwj.org](mailto:hhallman@mupwj.org)

Bishop Donald A Ott  
Coordinator  
Initiative on Children and Poverty  
The Council of Bishops  
The United Methodist Church  
N22W24040 Cloister 3D  
Pewaukee, WI 53072-4677  
262-523-2624 voice  
262-366-2634 cell  
262-523-1198 fax  
[BishDOtt@aol.com](mailto:BishDOtt@aol.com)

May 31, 2003revised061803and062403  
C&p7:\panmethlist

## Draft letter of invitation for June 16 Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington

Dear

We (I) cordially invite you to participate in Wednesday-in-Washington for advocacy on children's issues by Pan-Methodists from Maryland. It will take place on June 16, 2004.

As an expression of Pan-Methodist cooperation, this event will bring together clergy and laity from the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal, and United Methodist Churches to express their support for legislation designed to improve the lives of children.

We will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 16 at the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. The morning session will feature an issues briefing by staff of the Children's Defense Fund, the foremost advocacy organization working in behalf of children. It will conclude by worship in the Simpson Chapel.

For lunch we will divide by congressional districts to organize ourselves for afternoon visits to U.S. representatives and senators from Maryland or their staffs. The afternoon will conclude with de-briefing from these visits, consideration of follow-through actions, and closing prayer. We will adjourn at 4:00.

The United Methodist Building is across from the street from the Supreme Court Building. The nearest Metro stops are at Union Station on the red line and South Capitol on the orange and blue lines. Parking is available at Union Station and at some outlying Metro stations. Carpools with Pan-Methodists sharing rides are encouraged.

The Planning Committee for this event has included the following persons: Appointed by Bishop Charles L. Helton, CME 7<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District: Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr. Appointed by Bishop Felton E. May, UM Baltimore-Washington Conference: Sandy Ferguson, Rev. Mary Kay Totty, Rev. Arthuree Wright. Appointed by Bishop Peter Weaver, UM Peninsula-Delaware Conference: Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris; Rev. Dr. Thomas P. Donnachie, III. Representing Methodists United for Peace with Justice: Howard W. Hallman, Sherman W. Harris. Representing Children's Defense Fund: Terry Hawkins

Registration fee for this event is \$20 to cover the cost of food, drink, and material.

[Add information on how to register and further information for a particular denomination, conference, or district.]

## MARYLAND COUNTIES

Garrett  
Allegany  
Washington  
Frederick

Montgomery

Prince George's

Charles  
Calvert  
St. Mary's

Anne Arundel  
Howard  
Carroll

Baltimore County  
Baltimore City

Harford  
Cecil

Kent  
Caroline  
Queen Anne's  
Talbot  
Dorchester  
Wicomico  
Somerset  
Worcester

## **Maryland Registrants for Wednesday-in-Washington, June 16, 2004**

Howard W. Hallman, 6508 Wilmett Road, Bethesda, MD 20817  
Sherman W. Harris, 11508 Karen Drive, Potomac, MD 20854  
Arthuree Wright, 2203 Durbin Court, Bowie, MD 20721  
Rev. Mary Kay Totty, P.O. Box 250, New Windsor, MD 21776  
Rev. Michael Johnson, 114 Laverne Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21227  
Sandra Ferguson, 601 Oneta Drive, Westminster, MD 21157  
Rev. David Roberts, P.O. Box 55, Forest Hill, MD 21050  
Sarah Roberts, 1250 Brass Mill Road, Suite 5, Belcamp, MD 21017  
John W. Coleman, Jr., 7178 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD 21046  
Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris, 211 A Phillip Morris Dr., Salisbury, MD 21804  
The Rev. Dr. Thomas P. Donnachie, III, 114 N. Washington St. Easton, MD 21601  
Rev. Dolores A. Wilks, 6124 Quantico Road, Quantico, MD 21856

## **A Proposal for a Maryland and Virginia Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington on Children's Issues**

**The Event.** It is proposed that clergy and laity from the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal, and United Methodist Churches in Maryland and Virginia gather in the spring of 2004 for a Wednesday-in-Washington. The specific purpose would be to meet with members of Congress for advocacy on children's issues. Wednesday-in-Washington is an event designed and facilitated by the Children's Defense Fund (see <http://www.childrensdefense.org>). Marian Wright Edelman is the founder and president of CDF. It is suggested that this event be staged under the sponsorship of the bishops serving Maryland and Virginia from the four Pan-Methodist denominations.

**Planning Committee.** It is proposed that the event should be developed by a Planning Committee consisting of clergy and laity appointed by the Pan-Methodist bishops serving Maryland and Virginia. There could be two persons from each denomination for each state, for a total of 16 members. The work of the Planning Committee would be assisted by officers of Methodists United for Peace with Justice (MUPWJ), a national association that works on peace and justice issues (see <http://www.mupwj.org>).

The Planning Committee would meet in Washington, D.C. The chair would rotate among the denominations. One or more bishops might be present at the initial meeting to preside and get the process started. CDF staff would participate as program advisers. Howard Hallman, chair, and Sherman Harris, board member, of Methodists United for Peace with Justice would be responsible for providing the agenda, note-taking, and follow-up assignments.

**Typical Schedule.** A typical Wednesday-in-Washington schedule is as follows:

9:30 a.m.	Gathering, opening worship
10:30	Issues briefing by CDF staff
12:00 noon	Lunch: groups from congressional districts eating together
1:00 p.m.	Meeting with U.S. senators from Maryland and Virginia
2:00	Meeting with U.S. representatives from the two states
4:00	Reconvene for de-briefing and discussion of follow-up
4:30	Closing worship

**Recruitment.** Each denomination would take responsibility for recruiting participants. Carpooling with passengers from different denominations would be encouraged. For those coming on Tuesday evening because of travel distance, MUPWJ and CDF would identify convenient hotels.

**Broader Purpose.** Methodism in the United States is going through a process of repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation after two centuries of separation due to racism. Luke 3:10-14 records that after people accepted baptism of repentance and forgiveness of sins from John the Baptist, they asked him, "What then shall we do?" John offered specific instructions. For us today one of the things we can do is to work together on common concerns, such as the needs of children. In doing so we come to know one another better as persons and transcend the division

of race, ethnicity, and social class. Wednesday-in-Washington combines advocacy for an important cause with working together in the spirit of reconciliation.

For further information, contact Howard W. Hallman, Methodists United for Peace with Justice, 1500 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036 -- 301 896-0013 -- [hhallman@mupwj.org](mailto:hhallman@mupwj.org)  
October 2003



To: Pan-Methodist Bishops serving Maryland and Virginia (names and addresses on next page)

Dear

In 1998 the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation voted to launch a Campaign for Children in Poverty. As part of this effort numerous local congregations are observing Children's Sabbath and reaching out to children in their community. Local churches have become part of the national child advocacy network, coordinated by the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) whose president is Marian Wright Edelman. This past July several Pan-Methodist bishops came to the nation's capital to participate in a Wednesday-in-Washington on children's issues with CDF assistance.

Following this event, Methodists United for Peace with Justice (MUPWJ), an advocacy organization within Methodism, offered the attached proposal to bring clergy and laity into this effort by staging a Wednesday-in-Washington for Pan-Methodists in Maryland and Virginia. This could serve as a model for similar efforts in other states. At its November 2003 meeting in Baltimore the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union endorsed this proposal.

To carry out this initiative MUPWJ has proposed the formation of a Planning Committee consisting of clergy and laity appointed by Pan-Methodist bishops serving Maryland and Virginia. The suggestion is for two persons from each denomination from each state, for a total of 16 members. I have accepted this invitation and am appointing two United Methodists from Maryland to serve on the Wednesday-in-Washington Planning Committee. I encourage you to appoint two persons from the [African Methodist Episcopal or African Methodist Episcopal Zion or Christian Methodist Episcopal] Church from Maryland and two from Virginia.

The initial meeting of the Planning Committee will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, February 9, 2004 in the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Washington, D.C. I will be there. If your busy schedule permits, I invite you to attend along with the four persons you are appointing. Representatives of the Children's Defense Fund will participate. We are thinking that June or July would be an appropriate time for a Maryland-Virginia Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington with the exact date to be determined.

Please let me know who will represent the [denomination] in this endeavor, including their contact information. I will share these names with Howard Hallman, chair of Methodists United for Peace with Justice, who will get in touch with your office to provide follow-up information.

Faithfully yours,

Bishop Felton E. May

## **Pan-Methodist Bishops serving Maryland and Virginia**

Bishop Vinton R. Anderson  
African Methodist Episcopal Church  
1134 11th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 842-3788

Bishop Milton A. Williams  
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
8700 Central Avenue, Suite 307  
Landover, MD 20744  
(301) 292-0002

Bishop Charles L. Helton  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
6524 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20012  
(202)

Notes from meeting of Planning Committee for Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington, May 11, 2004.

Present: Arthuree Wright (UMC), Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr. (CME), Terry Hawkins (CDF), Sherman Harris (MUPWJ), Howard Hallman (MUPWJ). Regrets from other committee members who had schedule conflicts.

These notes are arranged in approximate chronological of when things will happen.

#### GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

We decided to add the District of Columbia to our geographic coverage because the Children's Defense Fund has added a concern for lead in drinking in water in D.C. and surrounding region. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton is seeking support for a special appropriation to deal with this matter.

#### FLYER

We will add "and Washinton, D.C." on the first line of the flyer. CDF wants us to add their name and the symbol for trademark to Wednesday-in-Washington. We will also add information about how to register and provide a June 9 deadline.

#### PUBLICITY

CME. Rev. Oldham will draft a letter for Bishop Helton to send to CME churches in Maryland and D.C., inviting their participation. Registration will go to Rev. Oldham.

UMC. In the Baltimore-Washington Conference the first version of the flyer has gone to members of Board of Ecumenical and Interreligious Life and the Bishop's Initiative on Children and Poverty. The revised flyer will have wider circulation, including display on two exhibit tables at Annual Conference at the end of May. A request will be made to announce the event to the whole conference. Information will also go into the weekly newspaper and the e-mail newsletter. For the Maryland Eastern Shore representatives from the Peninsula-Delaware Conference have agreed to publicize the event in UMC churches and to reach out to AME and AME Zion churches in that part of Maryland.

AME, AME Zion. Arthuree Wright is in touch with an AME pastor and an AME Zion pastor who spoke at the Baltimore/Washington Conference last year. She will talk to them about publicizing the event and participating in the program (see below). Howard Hallman will continue to share information with the offices of the AME and AME Zion bishops, and he will ask UMC Bishop May to call them personally.

Bulletin insert. Sherman Harris agreed to prepare (1) a bulletin insert and (2) a short bulletin announcement, and also story for Baltimore/Washington Conference newspaper.

#### CARPOOLS

Hallman mentioned the desirability of forming Pan-Methodist carpools. To the extent possible we will use advanced registration to let people know who else is coming from their locality so that they can arrange to travel together.

## DEADLINE

We set Wednesday, June 9 as the deadline for registration. Informally this can slide to Friday, June 11. On Monday, June 14 we will need to provide the caterer a number for box lunches. We realize that some will show up without registering and others will register and not come.

## FOOD

We will have a caterer provide box lunches consisting of sandwich, fruit, cookie plus soft drinks. Sherman Harris agreed to take the lead in providing coffee, tea, and pastry in the morning and soft drinks in the afternoon. We can use coffee makers of the UM General Board of Church and Society. The registration fee will be \$20, which should cover the cost of food.

## SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 16

9:00 Members of the Planning Committee will meet to consider last minute details.

9:30 Registration, coffee +. Methodists United for Peace with Justice (MUPWJ) will handle registration and collection of registration fee. We will have do-in-yourself name tags. We will request space in outer lobby for registration. Coffee + will be in Rooms 1 & 2, the meeting room.

9:50 Welcome by Howard Hallman. Perhaps we might ask some one from UM General Board of Church and Society to welcome us to the building.

Opening prayer: Woman clergy from AME or AME Zion (Arthuree Wright will seek.)

10:00 Issues briefing by Children's Defense Fund. Terry Hawkins will introduce presenters. (This session will end no later than 11:25 so that we can move to the chapel for worship.)

11:30 Worship in Simpson Chapel.

Rev. Oldham will be worship leader. The following persons will be invited to participate (names in parenthesis will make contact).

Prelude. Musician (Rev. Oldham).

Call to Worship. Rev. Mary Kay Totty, UMC (Hallman)

Hymn.

Prayer. Rev. Dr. Patrician Bryant Harris, UMC (Hallman)

Scripture. Rev. Charles Sembly, AME (Wright)

Litany. Lay woman from AME Women's Missionary Society (Wright)

Message of Encouragement: Bishop Felton May, UMC (Hallman)

Prayer of Commission. Rev. Dr. Lewis Anthony, AME Zion (Wright)

12:00 Lunch in Rooms 1& 2. Box lunch. Seating by congressional districts.

Blessing of the food will occur after people have started eating, to be said by ?

12:40 Start for Senate Office Building

1:00 Meetings with U.S. Senators from Maryland or their staff (appointments by CDF)

2:00 Go to House Office Buildings

2:30 Meeting with U.S. Representatives from Maryland, D.C. or their staffs  
(Appointments by CDF staff)

3:15 De-briefing at United Methodist Building (soft drinks available)

3:55 Closing prayer. Rev. Michael Johnson, UMC (Hallman)

4:00 Adjourn. Planning Committee members meet briefly for evaluation.

## **Meeting with Your Elected Officials**

### **Suggestions from the Children's Defense Fund**

One of the best ways to sway your Members of Congress is to meet with them in person. These visits can take place in the Washington, DC office or the district office. A personal visit gets your Member's attention and shows your strong support for the issue.

Such meetings take advance planning and preparation. The better prepared you are, the more receptive Congressional offices will be to your concerns and requests.

#### **☐ Schedule a Meeting**

Members of Congress return to their home state often throughout the year. The congressional schedule is available from either the local or Washington, D.C. office.

Several weeks before your Representative or Senators plan to travel home, request a meeting in writing with his/her office. If you plan to lobby an elected official about specific legislation, schedule a meeting before any action is taken in Congress. Clearly state what issue you would like to visit about and who else will be participating in the meeting.

Follow up with the staff person responsible for the Member or Senator's schedule to arrange a specific date and time. Of course, meetings can also take place in Washington, D.C. If you are planning a trip to Washington, be sure to contact your Representative and Senators in advance to make an appointment.

#### **☐ Plan Ahead**

Once you have a meeting scheduled, begin preparing both participants and materials to ensure the meeting goes smoothly. The participants should be representative of the community and of the broad coalition actively working on child care and Head Start. Preparing for a face-to-face meeting may require a few preparatory meetings to assign tasks and ensure everyone participating is delivering the same message.

Set an agenda at the first meeting. Think about what topics need to be covered, who can most effectively deliver the message, and who can answer tough questions. Divide up the agenda and decide what materials need to be prepared.

#### **☐ Do Your Homework**

Appoint one person to research the Member's voting record and positions. This way you can know how to best present your case for supporting child care and Head Start. Research both sides of the issue and know your opposition's arguments. Find out about recent legislation that has been introduced, where it is in the legislative process, and the bill's co-sponsors, supporters, and opponents.

Check for alerts from the Children's Defense Fund Child Care e-mail newsletter, visit the CDF Action Council Web site: [www.cdfactioncouncil.org](http://www.cdfactioncouncil.org), or contact Jamie Stubbs at (202) 662-3556 to stay up-to-date on federal action.

## **❑ Personalize the Issue**

Assign a person to compile information about child care and Head Start in your community. Collect stories about the need for quality, affordable child care and Head Start. Real family stories are a powerful tool. Use local or state statistics. Let your Members of Congress know how the issue affects real children, families, and other constituents.

## **❑ Present Your Case**

The day of the meeting, hold a preparatory meeting to once again make sure everyone feels comfortable with their role and to update the group on any recent developments. Arrive on time for the meeting and be confident. Remember, your Representative and Senators are elected to serve you and they need to hear from their constituents—it's their job.

A few things to keep in mind:

- Don't argue; if your Member or Senator strongly disagrees with your point of view, simply ask him/her to look over the materials you prepared and to consider your point of view.
- Try to search for common ground.
- Be specific about what you want him/her to do.
- Don't let everyone talk at once; try to keep your group on track and prompt those assigned to make the point for the group.
- Don't get discouraged.
- If your Member or Senator asks you questions you don't have the answers to, simply say you will look into the issue and reply back right away.
- Leave a fact sheet, and other materials reinforcing your position with him/her and the appropriate staff person.

## **❑ Follow Up**

After the meeting, get together with the group to discuss the issues raised by the meeting and to thank everyone for participating. If necessary, assign follow-up tasks such as sending a thank you note, providing additional materials, and answering specific questions. Send the thank you note right away and forward other materials as soon as possible.

Continue to keep your Members of Congress and their staff informed about new developments in the community, as well as action you would like him/her to take in Washington.

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Excerpt from Children's Defense Fund, *Child Care and Head Start Organizer's Kit*, February 2003, pp. 74-76. Used with permission.

December 16, 2002

To: Bishop Albert "Fritz" Mutti  
Bishop Melvin G. Talbert  
Ms. Mary A. Love

cc. Bishop Felton E. May  
Mr. Sherman Harris

From: Howard W. Hallman

In 1993 Methodists United for Peace with Justice sponsored a Gathering of the Methodist Family in Kirkwood, Missouri on the theme, "Let Just Really Roll". We drew participants from six denominations: AME, AMEZ, CME, Free, UM, and Wesleyan churches. That event is summarized in an enclosure.

This fall Sherman Harris, who was chair of our organization at that time, wondered whether it was time to suggest another such gathering. We developed some ideas, shown in an enclosure, presented them to Bishop May, and asked his advice. He said that we should get in touch with Ms. Mary Love, administrative secretary of the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union. She in turn suggested that we should share our ideas with Bishop Mutti, president of the Commission, and Bishop Talbert, chair of the Committee on Program and Ministries. We are doing so in this memo.

In our October proposal we suggested that beyond repentance for past wrongs, forgiveness, and reconciliation and beyond discussion of possible union, there should be opportunities for persons from the Methodist family to do things together on common concerns. We suggested two alternatives: one, large a multi-issue gathering on justice and peace concerns; or two, coming together to focus on a single cause, such as the needs of children. Since then we have done further exploration and would now like to concentrate on the second alternative.

In particular, we suggest the possibility of one or more events associated with the Children's Defense Fund (CDF), the national advocacy organization founded nearly 30 years ago by Marian Wright Edelman. Already the four denominations associated with the Pan-Methodist Commission have endorsed Children's Sabbath and their bishops are engaged in an Initiative for Children. The CME Church, UM Church, and AME Women's Missionary Society have endorsed CDF's Movement to Leave No Child Behind. Although there is no



Bishop Mutti, Bishop Talbert, Ms. Love  
December 16, 2002  
Page two.

complete record, it seems likely that local congregations and leaders from all four denominations are involved in CDF's annual Stand for Children observance on or near June 1. Others have participated in CDF's Wednesdays in Washington and Wednesday at Home with a focus on legislators and executive officials. All of these are described in enclosed material.

In the Wednesdays events children's advocates go to Washington or their state capital for a day of lobbying on children's issues. Among the range of possibilities Pan-Methodists from all over the country could come to Washington for two or three days of prayer, study, and lobbying on behalf of children and exploring how they can work together in their home districts on an ongoing basis. A second possibility would be to organize a series of Wednesdays in Washington for Pan-Methodist delegations from various states. A third possibility would be to organize Pan-Methodist delegations to go to state capitals for Wednesdays at Home, particularly when state legislatures are in session.

All of such events should start with worship together. They should be organized so that Pan-Methodists from particular congressional or state legislative districts would go together to call upon their representatives. In this manner they would begin to establish what could become lasting connections among fellow Methodists in the same geographic area. They should be encouraged to follow through with common activities at home.

One way to get this started would be to try out a Wednesday in Washington for Methodists in Maryland and Virginia where many could come to Washington for a day without the need for overnight accommodations. In all likelihood the Methodist Building across the street from the U.S. Capitol could be used as a gathering point and its chapel could be used for worshipping together. If this were thought desirable the Pan-Methodist bishops serving Maryland and Virginia might appoint persons to plan and guide such an event. Planning might even be started before the next meeting of the Pan-Methodist Commission in March in Atlanta so that a model could be offered to the Commission.

Or there might be other ways to develop these ideas further and to present a proposal to the March meeting. We at Methodists United for Peace with Justice are willing to help in whatever way we can. We have the flexibility to work with various members of the Methodist family and to facilitate events. Or we will be content to stand by have the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union take our ideas, develop them further, and carry them out.

Please let us know how we can help.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Dear Friends:

Representatives of churches in the Methodist family from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia met on February 9, 2004 to consider staging a Wednesday-in-Washington to lobby on children's issues. We agreed to undertake this activity in order to bring Pan-Methodist delegations to Washington from various congressional districts in Maryland and Virginia along with witnessing by persons from the District of Columbia.

#### CHANGE OF DATE

At our meeting we suggested Wednesday, July 28 as the date for this event. However, in checking the congressional schedule we discovered that Congress will not be in session that week because of the Democratic National Convention. Therefore, we have to find another date.

Dates available on the calendar of the Children's Defense Fund when Congress is in session include Wednesday, June 16 and Wednesday, July 7. I've checked denominational calendars. The only conflict I have identified is the AME General Conference that takes place from June 30 to July 7. To avoid that conflict we could choose June 16. But if that doesn't work out, we could select July 7 with the hope that there will be enough AME members not going to their General Conference to join with others on that date.

What is your preference? Does anybody know of any other conflict on either day? Please let me know as soon as possible so that we can get the date on CDF's and our own calendars.

#### NEXT MEETING

We decided to have another planning committee meeting on Tuesday, March 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon in the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. Rev. Wendell M. Oldman, Jr. will preside at this meeting. Please put this date on your calendar.

#### PARTICIPANTS

Participants in the February 9 meeting included:

Bishop Felton E. May, Baltimore/Washington United Methodist Conference  
Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr., Isaiah Metropolitan Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
Washington, D.C. representing Bishop Charles L. Helton  
Stan Hargraves, Virginia United Methodist Conference, Richmond, Virginia  
Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris, United Methodist Peninsula Conference,  
Salisbury, Maryland  
Terry Hawkins, Children's Defense Fund  
Sherman W. Harris, Methodists United for Peace with Justice  
Howard W. Hallman, Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Other persons designated to be part of the planning include:

Rev. Regina Anderson-Cloud, Virginia United Methodist Conference  
Rev. Dr. Thomas Donnachie, III, Peninsula United Methodist Conference  
Sandy Ferguson, Baltimore/Washington United Methodist Conference

Pending is representation from the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the African Methodist Episcopal Church Zion Church. CME persons from Maryland and Virginia will also be invited to serve.

For further information, please contact me at 301 896-0013 or [hhallman@mupwj.org](mailto:hhallman@mupwj.org). For information on Methodists United for Peace with Justice, see [www.mupwj.org](http://www.mupwj.org).

With best regards,  
Howard

Notes on March 23 meeting to plan a Wednesday-in-Washington for Maryland Pan-Methodists

Present:

Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr., Isaiah Metropolitan CME Church, Washington, D.C.  
(representing CME Bishop Charles L. Helton)

Rev. Arthuree Wright, Baltimore-Washington UM Conference Task Force on Children and Poverty

Rev. Michael Johnson, Baltimore-Washington UM Conference Board of Ecumenical and Interreligious Life

Terry Hawkins, Children's Defense Fund

Howard W. Hallman, Methodists United for Peace with Justice

DECISIONS

Date

Reflecting previous e-mail consultation, we settled on June 16, 2004 as the date to hold a Wednesday-in-Washington for Pan-Methodists from Maryland to lobby on children's issues, under the guidance of the Children's Defense Fund

Place

United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C.

Schedule

9:30 Gathering with coffee, tea, pastries

9:50 Welcome, opening prayer

10:00 Issues briefing by representatives of Children's Defense Fund

11:30 Worship in Chapel

12:00 Box lunch, grouped by congressional districts (at 12:45 go to Senate Office Building)

1:00 Meetings with Maryland senators or their staff

2:15 Meetings with U.S representatives from Maryland or their staff

3:15 Reconvene for de-briefing and discussion of next steps

3:55 Closing prayer

4:00 Adjourn

Worship

Rev. Oldham and Rev. Wright agreed to take the lead in developing the worship service.

Issues

The Children's Defense Fund will provide guidance on issues to focus on. This will include an overview of the Leave No Child Behind Act and specific legislative issues now before the Congress. Background material on issues, how to lobby, and voting record of Maryland representatives and senators will be sent to participants in advance. Further information is available on the CDF website: [www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org).

Recruitment

Participants will be recruited through denominational channels. This will include opportunities at a CME meeting on April 2-3, the Baltimore-Washington UM Conference on May 25-29, and the Peninsula-Delaware UM Conference on June 4-6. The Baltimore-Washington Conference will publicize the event through district superintendents, conference boards and committees, and its newspaper and e-mail newsletter. Outreach for recruitment will be stepped up during the second half of April (after Easter).

Although AME and AME Zion bishops have not yet designated anyone to serve on the planning committee, their offices have indicated an interest in the project. We will share the results of this meeting with them and encourage their involvement in recruiting participants for Wednesday-in-Washington.

#### Transportation

Carpools with Pan-Methodists sharing rides will be encouraged. Parking is available at Union Station. The nearest Metro stops are at Union Station on the red line and South Capitol on the orange and blue lines. Parking is available at certain outlying Metro stations.

#### Registration fee

We agreed to have a registration fee that will cover the costs of food and drink.

#### Next meeting

The next meeting of the Planning Committee will take place on Tuesday, May 11 in Room 1, United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C.

Notes compiled by Howard W. Hallman

June 11, 2004

The Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr.  
Israel Metropolitan Christian Methodist  
Episcopal Church  
557 Randolph Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20011

Dear Rev. Oldham:

I want to express my appreciation to you for the effort you put into planning the Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington. You brought us wisdom, experience, and dedication. Your leadership was invaluable.

We had a good program lined up with talented people. I'm just sorry that we didn't match the program with effective promotional efforts to generate sufficient participation.

It was a pleasure working with you. I hope that our paths will cross again in the future.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman  
Chair

## **Pan-Methodist group struggles with implications of union**

April 3, 2001 News media contact: **Thomas S. McAnally • (615)742-5470 • Nashville, Tenn.**  
{157}

NOTE: For related coverage, see UMNS stories #155 and #156.

**By Tom McAnally\***

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMNS) – Cooperation is one thing, union another!

That was the observation of church leaders attending the second meeting of a new group bringing together two Pan-Methodist commissions, one on cooperation that has been operating since 1985, and another on union that began in 1996.

The 36-member Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union includes representatives of the three historically black denominations -- African Methodist Episcopal (AME), African Methodist Episcopal Zion (AMEZ) and Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) -- and the predominantly white United Methodist Church. Black Methodists created their own denominations because of racism that existed in the main Methodist bodies of their day.

During their March 28-31 meeting in Nashville, the commissioners had a lively discussion about their direction and their understanding of union. They agreed to devote significant time during the next meeting to a discussion of "what union would look like."

At the commission's organizational meeting, a subgroup was asked to come up with some models of union. AMEZ Bishop Nathaniel Jarrett, of Tinley Park, Ill., questioned what models might be recommended. "We all seem to embrace a model of cooperation among our churches. ... It seems clear that we're not talking about organic union or structural merger." He compared the status of the churches to "households within the family, recognizing that as a family we work together."

The Rev. George Maize IV, an AMEZ pastor from Los Angeles, expressed concern that the black denominations would lose their cultural identity if the commission moves toward union. Instead of the covenant and commitment involved in "dating and marriage," he suggested, "Let's just be friends."

United Methodist Bishop Melvin G. Talbert of Nashville, ecumenical officer for his denomination, said attention shouldn't be limited to what may be lost. "We can also gain something," he observed.

Jarrett, who has been involved in pan-Methodist conversations for several years, said he is open to possibilities of the future, but he added that objective analysis would suggest that at this point "merger is not a practical option." The commission has not identified any other models of union, he noted.

AMEZ Bishop Clarence Carr of St. Louis, serving a one-year term as president of the new combined commission, compared the work of the group to churning butter. With "mixing and shaking," he said, results would begin to emerge. Several members said the commission must go forward on the journey, even though their destination is unknown.

In a closing meditation, the Rev. Gloria Moore, an AMEZ laywoman from Knoxville, Tenn., asked, "Is this bigger than all of us?" Affirming the importance of holding fast to heritage and history, she said, "Our vision ought to be where we are going, where we go from here."

Carr represented his denomination at an Act of Repentance for Reconciliation during the 2000 United Methodist General Conference in Cleveland. United Methodists apologized for historical acts of racism that prompted blacks to leave the predominantly white denomination and also for acts of racism within the church.

In response, Carr reminded the delegates and visitors that a tree is known by its fruit. "I'm not going to be a judge," he said, "but I want you to know we will be fruit inspectors."

In an interview with United Methodist News Service during the commission's meeting in Nashville, Carr said he applauded the United Methodists for their efforts to rid themselves of racism. Asked what "fruit" he has observed so far, he cited action by the United Methodist General Conference inviting members of the three black Methodist denominations to serve as voting members on churchwide agencies. "I applaud that," he said. "It's an important step." More could be done in cooperation among the denominational publishing houses and to provide scholarships for inner-city youngsters, he said. "That's the generation we will have to prepare to keep this movement going."

He also pointed to the need for cooperation among church-related colleges and noted that cooperative campus ministry is "low fruit ready for the picking."

United Methodists announced that expenses would be paid for three college students from each of the historically black denominations to attend an annual meeting of college students this summer. The day before the gathering, the leadership team will meet with the nine students to explore cooperative efforts in the future.

Regarding union itself, Carr said there is an "honest recognition of issues still before us." While some apprehension exists, he said he also sees a "desire to move beyond."

Asked about the "journey" of the commission since its creation, Carr said, "I must confess we are further along than when I first came in 1997. My trust level has been enhanced by the relationships, and as I see it, that's where it's going to really culminate in a meaningful way."

Acknowledging hills, valleys and roadblocks, he stressed that "relationship building is essential at all levels. It has to really reach the local level."

During the Nashville meeting, a large, diverse congregation gathered at Belmont United Methodist Church for a two-hour worship service featuring music from choirs representing the denominations and a rousing sermon by CME Bishop Paul A. Stewart of Birmingham, Ala.

Using the story of Joseph, Stewart said Methodists must move forward despite roadblocks such as racism. Quoting Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, Stewart said, "Racism is dead, but we've not been invited to the funeral nor have we seen the corpse." Like Joseph, he called on Methodists to pull off their shackles of defeated attitudes, hopelessness, suspicion, racism, and negativism and move ahead.

Concern about racism and prejudice surfaced often during the commission's business sessions. Leading one of the morning meditations, Harriet McCabe, a white United Methodist laywoman from Naperville, Ill., gave a moving account of her own lifelong journey with racism. Bishop Jarrett was among those who affirmed her afterward. "Your sharing reminds me of the price everybody pays for racism and sin," he said. "Some pay a price that is greater, but none is exempt."

Bishops from the four denominations have supported an initiative on children in poverty. An offering of more than \$1,300 was taken during the public worship service for the initiative.

When the commission meets next in Philadelphia, Nov. 28-Dec. 1, a new hymn related to the initiative will be sung by a mass choir composed of members of the four churches.

The commission established an award for honoring the work of pan-Methodist congregations and leaders. The first award will be presented to Payne Chapel AME church in Nashville for its work with at-risk children and youth.

Glenn A. Fleming, the director of the program, told the commissioners that governmental agencies need and want the help of the church. At the same time, he encouraged them to



incorporate their ministries separately from the local church in order to keep the government from interfering with church matters. The program related to Payne Chapel is a 10-session early intervention program for teen-agers referred by the juvenile courts.

Fleming said faith-based initiatives supported by President Bush have been a reality for years. "The government (agencies) can't do it by themselves," he said. "They want and need our help." Drawing on his work with government agencies in Mississippi and Tennessee, Fleming painted a bleak picture. "Locking up our children is not solving the problem," he declared. "Children are raising themselves. The church is going to have to help parents raise these children. You're all they've got.

"Churches must work together to save souls and to help our children," he said. "We're losing them. They have no love in their lives."

Among actions, the commission members voted to:

- Invite U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige, an African American and a native of Mississippi, to their next meeting.

- Ask denominational staff executives related to evangelism to meet and explore possible cooperative efforts.

- Affirm a second national conference of black men, planned and supported by all four denominations.

- Ask officials at the United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry to plan a meeting of college presidents from the four denominations.

- Suggest models of cooperation that could be used in target cities and annual conferences. These include use of the United Methodist study guide on repentance (see UMNS story #156), joint worship services, pulpit and choir exchanges, combined youth events and joint vacation Bible schools.

The members also agreed that the Lord's Supper would be observed during the public worship at the next meeting in Philadelphia, partly as a reminder of a racial incident at the city's St. George Methodist Episcopal Church in the late 1700s. Former slave Richard Allen, an itinerant Methodist preacher, left St. George's and started a branch of Methodism that practiced racial equality. Today the denomination is known as the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

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\*McAnally is director of United Methodist News Service, the church's official news agency, with offices in Nashville, Washington and New York.

## **Pan-Methodists call for cease-fire in Holy Land**

April 16, 2002 News media contact: Linda Green • (615)742-5470 • Nashville, Tenn. {163}

*By Linda Green\**

KANSAS CITY (UMNS) — Representatives of the commission on Pan-Methodism are calling for a cease-fire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians.

The members of the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union passed a resolution during their April 10-12 meeting appealing to leaders of Israel and the Palestinian National Authority to lead their people in ending the violence. The commission represents the more than 12 million members of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME), African Methodist Episcopal Zion (AMEZ), Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) and United Methodist (UM) churches. All share a common heritage in the Methodist movement, launched in the 18th century by Anglican clergyman John Wesley.

In the resolution, "A Call for Action," the commission notes that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has persisted for more than 50 years. The pan-Methodist leaders call upon the international community to support diplomacy leading to justice for all and a guarantee of survival and safety, especially for children. They also ask those people "who feel marginalized to seek redress through international channels rather than destruction and terror."

"What is happening in the Holy Land is of such a nature that we as Christians cannot be silent," said AMEZ Bishop Clarence Carr of St. Louis. Although it seems that the United States "is biased against Palestine," the violence on either side cannot be condoned, he said. "It cannot be denied that Israel has taken the land" and that requests from the United Nations and from governmental leaders have been denied by Israel, he said.

The commission encourages the members of the four Methodist communions to pray for an end to the conflict, the violence and loss of life on both sides, and for an early, peaceful resolution.

The group also wants President George Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and other leaders to pursue eight "crucial" goals. Those include issuing an international call for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to cease military action, end closures and curfews, withdraw from and cease further development of settlements in all occupied lands; and for Palestinian National Authority President Yasser Arafat to urge that the violence end.

"Not taking a stance is the passing of an opportunity to be a prophetic voice in making a statement as witnesses for Christ in a crisis situation," Carr said during the commission's discussion. "I feel very keenly that we should encourage our leaders to take appropriate action to bring an end to that colossal event."

The church can't stand by and let events of this nature happen without raising a voice for the voiceless, he said. "People who strap bombs to themselves says something about the desperation they feel by their willingness to kill themselves."

The 36-member commission was created in 2000 with the merger of the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation, formed in 1985, and the Commission on Union, formed in 1996. The group works to foster meaningful cooperation among the four Methodist denominations in evangelism, missions, publications, social concerns and higher education.

In March 2001, the commission wrote a letter to the headquarters of the Waffle House company in Norcross, Ga., describing their concerns about an alleged case of racial discrimination at a restaurant in Tullahoma, Tenn. After exploring the incident, the commission members voiced their "condemnation of any violation of basic human rights" and called upon individual members of Methodist churches to "refuse to patronize all Waffle House restaurants until they are assured that all patrons are treated with equal dignity and respect."

The incident occurred when four African-American men said they were twice refused service at the Tullahoma location. On a third attempt to enter the restaurant, one of the men videotaped an employee telling them that the building was closed for maintenance while other customers could be seen in the establishment eating. The four men subsequently filed a \$230 million lawsuit against Waffle House, charging discrimination.

During the commission's April 10-12 session, a delegation from Waffle House met with the group's executive committee. The company representatives addressed the fact that more than a year had passed since the commission had written its letter.

"We ignored you because we ignore everybody," said Ann Parker, Waffle House vice president and corporate psychologist. "Our CEO is a very private person, and out of our culture, we don't reach out." However, she said, "We are proactive. We have a good company, and we are committed to diversity."

The commission has requested Waffle House provide information and statistics on minorities and on African American franchises, employment and locations.

The commission learned that the Tullahoma restaurant is a franchise, and that all franchises and corporate-owned locations are bound by the same processes. The group was told that the Waffle House people in Tullahoma are being held accountable for their actions.

Though the incident is in litigation, the corporate office has been dismissed from the lawsuit, the delegation said.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the commissioners drafted a letter to Waffle House expressing appreciation for the person-to-person conversation with officials. They were encouraged by the reports received regarding the process the company has made in addressing the complaint. They also said they were encouraged by reports of Waffle House's efforts to implement policies that would help prevent such a case from occurring again.

A full text of the resolution regarding the Middle East follows.

### **A Call for Action from the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union**

*April 12, 2002*

We, the members of the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union, meeting in Kansas City, Missouri on April 10-12, 2002, representing more than 12 million members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, and the United Methodist Church, search for unity rather than division, cooperation rather than competition, justice rather than oppression. We unite our hearts in prayer. We continue our search for the ways of reconciliation and common community. Our very mission and identity cause us to speak out against this escalating conflict between our sisters and brothers in the Holy Land.

We receive daily reports of continuing violence and death in the Holy Land. For more than fifty years this conflict has persisted and been festering. In 1990, the United Nations Security Council called for ways and means of ensuring the safety and protection of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation. It further urged Israel to accept and enforce the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention for all territories occupied by Israel since 1967. While strides have been made at times in the intervening years, the recent escalation of tactics of terror and death compel us to voice this appeal and plea.

Recognizing that neither the Palestinians nor the Israelis are going anywhere, we call upon the leaders of Israel and the Palestinian authority to lead their people into a cessation of violence and destruction. We call upon the international community to support diplomacy leading to justice for all and a guarantee of survival and safety, especially for children. We call upon those persons

who feel marginalized to seek redress through international channels rather than destruction and terror.

**We call upon the President and Secretary of State of the United States, the Secretary General of the United Nations and other involved leaders to pursue these crucial goals:**

International calling for Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to cease military action, end closures and curfews, cease further development of settlements in all occupied lands.

International calling for Chairman Yasser Arafat to urge a cessation of violence.

A full end to the occupation and a restoration of order and stability based upon UN Security Resolution 1402 which calls for a ceasefire and Israeli withdrawal from occupied areas of Palestine and for peaceful negotiations.

Strong consideration of the Arab League's willingness to offer normal relations with Israel in exchange for a Palestinian state on pre-1967 borders.

An internationally supervised shared Jerusalem with protection of equality and rights of access, worship and practice to all three faiths – Islam, Judaism, Christianity.

Recognition that this crisis has no military solution – only a solution based on justice.

The formal creation of a viable Palestinian state as well as measures necessary for recognition of Israel by all the Arab nations, including the Palestinians.

A strong international human rights effort to confront the extremist forces of anti-Semitic and anti-Islamic threats that have grown from this crisis.

We call upon the members of our communions to pray fervently for an end of conflict, violence and loss of life on both sides of this conflict, and for an early peaceful resolution.

**Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union**

By: Bishop Charles Helton – Chair

**African Methodist Episcopal Church**

Bishop T. Larry Kirkland - Los Angeles, CA

Bishop McKinley Young – Dallas, TX

Bishop Preston Williams, Atlanta, GA

Rev. Floyd Alexander – Cleveland, OH

Rev. Dr. Taylor Thompson – Cincinnati, OH

Mrs. Anna Milner – Atlanta, GA

Mr. Addison Young – Atlanta, GA

Ms. Thelma Milner – Atlanta, GA

Rev. Robert Keesee – Nashville, TN

**African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**

Bishop Richard K. Thompson –Montgomery, AL

Bishop Clarence Carr – St. Louis, MO

Rev. Dr. Donnell Williams – Tuscaloosa, AL

Bishop Nathaniel Jarrett – Chicago, IL

Rev. Dr. Gloria Moore – Knoxville, TN

Mr. Raymond Richmond – Jackson, MS

Rev. George Maize, IV – Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Betty V. Stith – New Rochelle, NY

Dr. F. George Shipman – Durham, NC

Dr. Mary A. Love – Charlotte, NC

**Christian Methodist Episcopal Church**

Bishop Paul A. Stewart – Birmingham, AL

Bishop Charles Helton – Charlotte, NC

Bishop Marshall Gilmore – Dallas, TX

Rev. Sylvester Williams – Birmingham, AL

Rev. Dr. Luther Smith – Atlanta, GA

Ms. Juanita Bryant – Cleveland, Ohio

Rev. Dr. Darryl Coleman – Los Angeles, CA

Mr. Matthew Davis – Memphis, TN

Ms. Cyreeta Collins – Jamaica, New York

**United Methodist Church**

Bishop Melvin Talbert – Nashville, TN

Bishop Fritz Mutti – Topeka, KS

Bishop Charlene Kammerer – Charlotte, NC

Rev. Jim McDonald – Charlottesville, VA

Dr. Trudi Kibbe Reed – Little Rock, AK

Mr. Byrd Bonner – San Antonio, TX

Mr. Adam Webb – Ames, Iowa

Mrs. Harriet McCabe – Naperville, IL

Rev. Tyrone Gordon – Wichita, KS

April 12, 2002

## **Pan-Methodist commission journeys toward a new place**

Dec. 4, 2000 **News media contact: Linda Green • (615)742-5470 • Nashville, Tenn. {542}**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (UMNS) — The four Methodist denominations that have been engaged in cooperative efforts and discussions about possible union have concluded that now they are each leaving home and moving toward a new place together.

Fifteen years have passed since the United Methodist, the African Methodist Episcopal (AME), the African Methodist Episcopal Zion (AMEZ) and the Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) churches began discussions. They formed the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation, and in 1996, their respective General Conferences created the Pan-Methodist Commission on Union. Meeting this year, the General Conferences of the United Methodist, AME and AME Zion churches voted to merge the two commissions, which have been representing the denominations in discussions regarding overall cooperation and possible union. The 2002 General Conference of the CME church is expected to take similar action.

The new entity, the 36-member Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union, held its 2000-2004 organizational meeting Nov. 29-Dec. 2 and talked about "leaving home and moving toward a new place together."

"This commission will give focus and direction for our communions' engagement and cooperation," said AMEZ Bishop Clarence Carr of St. Louis. The "ultimate goal is a union that will hopefully be realized," he said. No one knows what that union will look like, he said. "We believe that God is leading us to that place, but we know not where."

AMEZ Bishop Nathaniel Jarrett of Tinley Park, Ill., crystallized the leaving home analogy during a community worship service. Using a frame of reference called "When You Know Not Where," he told the story of God's declaration to Abraham in Hebrews 11.

It was the Fifth Consultation of Methodist Bishops that "launched" the four Methodist communions on a journey toward union, Jarrett said. "This was a maiden voyage, for we had never sailed together like this before. We were destined for a place called 'union,' (but) no one knew exactly where union could be found."

There were many thoughts and opinions about union, he said. "We could not even agree on the appearance of union. What would it look like? How would we know when we had arrived at this elusive place?"

As he sought direction, he realized that the journey the commission and its communions were on was reflected in the Abraham story. But unlike Abraham, who departed as directed and did not know where he was going, "we at least have a name for where we are going, but only a name," Jarrett said.

Abraham's witness speaks to the issue of "When you know not where," Jarrett said. Implied in Abraham's experience, "is the thought that you go with what you do know, when you know not," he said.

Abraham knew three things: the voice of God; the difference between an order and a suggestion; and that he could trust God, Jarrett said.

"I don't know where union is," Jarrett said. "I don't know its appearance, neither do I know its nature or character. Even its shape and form are unrevealed to me. But this I do know, 'When you know not where, you go with what you do know.'"

As Jarrett spoke to commission and to the audience at Parkwood C.M.E church, he said the voice of God is telling the Methodist churches to get out of their countries, to leave old customs, values, structures, definitions, identities, controls, borders and boundaries.

God is telling the AME, AMEZ, CME and United Methodist churches to "get out from your family," he said. It is time to leave the comfort zones, leave the familiar for the unfamiliar, leave the seen for the unseen, leave the old for the new, and leave the past for the future. "It is the voice of the Lord saying, 'Get out of your father's house,'" Jarrett said.

As he talked about leaving home and moving toward a new place together, Jarrett said it is time for new foundations, new sanctuaries, new dwelling places, new places of rest, new strongholds, new shelters from the storms, and new places to defend and live out faith.

God offers no options regarding union, Jarrett said. "Oneness is not defined as nor limited to union, but surely union is a part of what it means to be one." As God gave the church the ministry of reconciliation, "I strongly contend that our ability to reconcile others to God is directly related to our being reconciled to one another. Union is one evidence of our reconciliation. ... Union is out there somewhere. The way to it awaits our continued quest."

Building on Jarrett's challenge to "sail on," the commission adopted a mission statement that calls it to move toward union by redefining and strengthening its relationship in Jesus Christ.

The United Methodist Church's 2000 General Conference also mandated that all of the church's boards, agencies and commission allow for up to three members of the Pan-Methodist denominations to be members of their governing entities with voice and vote.

During the organizational meeting of the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union, the bishops of each communion called the invitation "an extraordinary" expression of the intent of Pan-Methodism.

Although the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion and the Christian Methodist Episcopal churches could not specifically name representatives to the 14 United Methodist boards and agencies because of nomination processes, the bishops on the commission did determine which agencies will receive their members.

The AME church will send representatives to the Council on Ministries, the United Methodist Publishing House, the Commission on Religion and Race, the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, and the Commission on Archives and History.

Receiving members from the AMEZ church will be the Board of Pension and Health Benefits, the Board of Global Ministries, the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, and the Commission on Communication.

CME members will go to the Board of Discipleship, the General Council on Finance and Administration, the Board of Church and Society, and the Commission on United Methodist Men.

The Pan-Methodist commission praised the United Methodist Church's Act of Repentance for racism, made on May 4 during General Conference, and called it a step forward in a journey toward racial healing. The four denominations will use Steps Toward Wholeness: Learning and Repentance, a study guide developed jointly by the communions to address racism and to foster Pan-Methodist conversations.

The commission also elected a chairman and three vice chair people as officers, along with a secretary and treasurer. The vice chair people will rotate to the chairperson position until 2004. AMEZ Bishop Carr is chairman of the commission from 2000-2001; CME Bishop Charles Helton of Charlotte, elected first vice chairman, will be the 2001-2002 chairman; United Methodist Bishop Charlene Kammerer of Charlotte, elected second vice chairwoman, will be the 2002-2003 chairwoman; and AME Bishop T. Larry Kirkland of Marino Del Ray, Calif., elected third vice chairman, will be the 2003-2004 chairman.

Elected secretary was Byrd Bonner, a United Methodist layman from San Antonio and executive director of the United Methodist Church Foundation. Juanita Byrant of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, an attorney and executive secretary of the CME church, was elected treasurer. Mary Love of Charlotte, a member of the AMEZ church, is the commission's administrative secretary, and Jeri Scott, a staff person at the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries in New York, is the assistant administrative secretary

The Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union established two primary structures -- the Committee on Models of Union and the Committee on Programs and Ministries — to provide a roadmap for how it will work. The group also created an administrative committee and a steering committee, consisting of the 12 bishops on the commission and the administrative secretary, to plan the 2003 Consultation of Methodist Bishops.

In other action, the group:

- Learned that a commissioned hymn about the Pan-Methodist initiative on children and poverty will be unveiled next spring in Atlanta and could be sung during the March 28-31 commission meeting in Nashville, Tenn.
- Identified targeted cities for pilot projects for Pan-Methodist celebrations, study and worship: Nashville, Chicago, Kansas City, Mo., Charlotte, Los Angeles and Philadelphia.



## **Pan-Methodist group visits historic Philadelphia churches**

Dec. 5, 2001 **News media contact: Joretta Purdue • (202) 546-8722 • Washington {567}**

NOTE: A photograph is available with this story.

*By Joretta Purdue\**

PHILADELPHIA (UMNS) – Representatives of four Methodist denominations participated in a community gathering and worship service in the mother church of the African Methodist Episcopal Church during their fall meeting, Nov. 28-Dec. 1.

A tour of the Mother Bethel AME building was led by a descendant of the Rev. Richard Allen, the denomination's founder. The church includes historical displays and a crypt containing Allen's remains.

Before attending the community gathering and service at Mother Bethel, members of the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union visited another historic church. St. George's United Methodist Church claims to be the world's oldest Methodist church structure in continuous service.

It was at St. George's in 1787 that Allen and other people of color left after being insulted during a service of worship. The building is still in use today and includes artifacts more than two centuries old.

In 1791, four years after he left St. George's, Allen bought the land on which the Mother Bethel Church stands. The land has been continuously owned by African Americans longer than any other parcel in the United States.

By 1794, Allen, a former slave who had been a Methodist lay preacher for years, brought in a building that had housed a blacksmith shop. It was renovated to become the first Bethel Church and home to the first AME congregation. The current structure was built in 1889.

Although the AME Church traces its roots to the founding of Mother Bethel, the denomination cites a conference called in 1816 by Allen as the birth of the denomination. Black Methodists from as far away as Baltimore attended. Allen had been ordained by Francis Asbury, a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in 1799. Later, Allen was consecrated the first bishop in the new AME Church.

The pan-Methodist commission's service at Mother Bethel AME Church included for the first time the hymn "Blessings" by Mark Gresham, with text by Mary Elizabeth Moore, and a litany written by Mary A. Love, administrative secretary to the commission.

The hymn and its prelude, "Make a Joyful Noise," were written for the Campaign for Children in Poverty of the commission, which includes three historically black denominations – AME, African Methodist Episcopal Zion (AMEZ) and Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) – and the predominantly white United Methodist Church.

The "Litany of Thanksgiving, Remembrance and Recommitment" has parts designated for bishops, clergy and laity; for AME, AMEZ, CME and UM; for members of the commission; and for all. It concludes, "We are committed to working together and unity. To God be the glory. Amen."

The 36-member commission continued to grapple with the meaning of "union" in the context of the four churches.

While people in the pew may understand union to mean merger, United Methodist Byrd Bonner, an attorney from San Antonio, said he considers union a "oneness that we have as a gift of God." "My mind has been focused on merger, and I have concluded we are not ready to go there," said Bishop Clarence Carr, an AMEZ representative from St. Louis. He suggested joint ordination services and more sharing of resources among camps and colleges of the four denominations.

His hope for unity includes providing opportunities for young people to get acquainted and work together, he said.

CME Bishop Paul A. Steward, Birmingham, Ala., said union should be about "leading our congregations in relating all over the world."

United Methodist Bishop Fritz Mutti of Kansas suggested that the four denominations implement provisions they already had agreed to, along with four other Protestant bodies, in the long-term Consultation on Church Union (COCU).

Bishop Melvin Talbert, ecumenical officer for the United Methodist Council of Bishops, suggested adding that which is uniquely Methodist to the list to which COCU denominations had agreed. He urged getting written covenants established in specific locations.

One of the commission's standing committees subsequently listed models of union as a part of the ongoing discussion. Covenant community was one of the faith-based models. Others were considered witness-based models such as the acts of repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation or a program to address drug abuse or some other issue.

The pan-Methodist denominations are united in a commitment to their initiative on Children in Poverty. The Rev. Luther Smith Jr., a CME representative on the commission and a member of the faculty at the United Methodist-related Candler School of Theology in Atlanta, reported that all the theological seminaries of the denominations have endorsed the initiative.

He said he has been teaching a course on children in poverty at the seminary. An official, well-funded student organization has been created with United Methodist Bishop Marshall "Jack" Meadors Jr. as faculty adviser. In addition to circulating materials on the children's Sabbath and lobbying in the state legislature for bills that would benefit children in poverty, the group held an interfaith prayer breakfast Sept. 11 attended by more than 400 people. The event kicked off the Children's Sabbath emphasis.

Smith circulated a children's resource book he is preparing for the four pan-Methodist denominations.

Looking to the future, commission members discussed a meeting for men similar to a 1998 Brother-to-Brother Convocation held in Atlanta. A steering committee was created, with a representative from each denomination, to develop a plan and budget proposal to bring to the commission's next meeting.

At its previous meeting, the commission decided to write letters to Dillard's and Waffle House objecting to and asking about their policies in regard to cases of alleged racial discrimination. Both companies replied with letters that were read to the group.

The commission adopted a subcommittee's recommendation on how to respond to current moral and ethical issues. It was agreed that the commission chairperson will be the official spokesperson and that appropriate research will be done on all issues. Between meetings of the commission, the chairperson will consult with the executive committee and local pan-Methodist leadership before responding to issues. No additional action was taken on any specific situation. The commission's next meeting will be in Kansas City, Kan., April 10-12. The office of chairman of the commission was passed from Bishop Carr (AMEZ) to Bishop Charles Helton (CME). He will be followed by Bishop Charlene Kammerer (UMC) next fall and subsequently Bishop T. Larry Kirkland (AME).

\*Purdue is news director of United Methodist News Service's Washington office.

## **Pan-Methodist bishops confront issues of racism, repentance**

March 15, 1999 News media contact: Thomas S. McAnally\*(615) 742-5470\*Nashville, Tenn. {138}

NOTE: A sidebar, [UMNS #139](#), is available for use with this story.

ATLANTA (UMNS) -- Union may not be on the near horizon for four Methodist denominations, but bishops are committed to a journey in that direction with a continuing emphasis on cooperation and dialogue.

Meeting March 9-11 for their seventh consultation in 20 years, bishops of three predominantly black Methodist churches and the largely white United Methodist Church explored requirements for union, including repentance, reparation, forgiveness and reconciliation.

About 75 bishops attended, representing the African Methodist Episcopal (AME), African Methodist Episcopal Zion (AMEZ), Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) and United Methodist (UMC) churches.

The primary theme for the three-day consultation was prompted by the work of a Commission on Pan-Methodist Union, a group recommended by the bishops at their last consultation in 1995 and subsequently authorized by the general conference of each denomination.

Leadership of the commission rotates annually among the four denominations. Current co-chairpersons are UMC Bishop William Boyd Grove of Charleston, W.Va., ecumenical officer for the Council of Bishops, and Trudie Kibbe Reed, a UMC laywoman who is president of Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Ark.

A 20-year-old Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation is chaired by AME's ecumenical officer, Bishop McKinley Young of Atlanta. Both commissions met in Atlanta before the consultation of bishops.

"We are one church broken into four pieces by the sin of white racism, but we have a yearning for reconciliation and healing," Grove said at an opening worship service held at Ben Hill UMC, a predominantly black congregation. Pastor of the church is the Rev. McAllister Hollins, a member of the Commission on Union.

Preaching at the service, UMC Bishop Charlene Kammerer challenged the Methodists to respond positively to the last request Jesus made of his disciples, that they be one. Kammerer, of Charlotte, N.C., is a member of the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation.

Pointing to men and women, liberals and conservatives, and others categories in the church, Kammerer said, "We in the family of God need them all . . . as the eye needs an ear and the head needs a heart." Those separated in the Christian church -- the body of Christ -- each have gifts that are sorely needed by the whole, she said.

Unity will not be achieved by good intentions or a desire to be inclusive, she said, but "only because of the work and power of the Holy Spirit."

The four denominations trace their common heritage to the Wesleyan movement in England in the 18th century and the creation of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America in 1784. The three African Methodist denominations broke off from the parent denomination because of racist policies and practices.

Reflecting on the years since the family of Methodists was divided, Kammerer asked, "Has enough of the Holy Spirit invaded us yet so we are able to be one?"

Speaking the next day, the Rev. W. Peter Stephens, president of the British Methodist Conference, urged the four churches not to become content with their separate lives.

"If Christ can't unite you across barriers of race, he has not worked salvation among you," he said. "Christ unites us across those things which, in human society, divide us."

In a major address during the consultation, CME Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt Jr., traced, from an African-American perspective, the theological themes in several Articles of Religion shared by the four churches. Hoyt, of Shreveport, La., is a member of the Commission on Union. He questioned whether repentance and forgiveness are possible. "We live in a spoiled moral environment where people claim repentance and ask for forgiveness," he said. "In both instances, people live in a fantasy world, claiming law over mercy. It is our hope that those who have perpetuated racism and who profit from the same in power positions within the church will now repent and show fruits of repentance.

"Those who have been wronged must not sulk in self-pity or revenge, but must offer forgiveness in a spirit of love to those who honestly ask for the same," he continued. "If there is to be true community, we must develop patterns of truthfulness in confronting sin and seeking reconciliation and new life."

Hoyt also warned against "cheap grace," defined as "the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, communion without confession, absolution without personal confession."

A bishop from each of the four denominations gave a formal response to Hoyt's address.

AME Bishop Phillip R. Cousin of Philadelphia warned that in its dual nature, the church does not always live out sociologically what it proclaims theologically. He also pointed to tensions between majority and minority members regarding turf, decision-making and institutional power. Cousin was cautious about calls for reconciliation. "All my life I've been told to love and wait, love and wait, love and wait," he said. "It's like a needle on a broken record."

While it is important to love, he said, it is also important to sit at the table when decisions are made. "Let those who have been heaping injustice initiate the reconciliation, and let me sit and wait.

"We will never be what we ought to be until we live the life you sing about in your songs," Cousins declared. "When you are ready to be what you sing about, then we will be ready to make pan-Methodism a reality. . . I'm still human and I wait."

AMEZ Bishop Marshall H. Strickland of Baltimore, echoed the call for avoiding cheap grace.

"New wine cannot be placed in old skins," he said. "Reconciliation requires radical change, not amalgamation.

Given the manner in which African Americans who desired to be Methodist were treated throughout much of the church's history, CME Bishop Othal Lakey of Atlanta said it is important to note that they chose to remain Methodists.

"Early on, black Methodists decided they wanted to be free, Christian and Methodists," Lakey said. "If they could not be free and Christian in the Methodist Episcopal Church, they would not allow the conduct of some Methodists to keep them from being Methodists."

UMC Bishop George Bashore of Pittsburgh, president of the denomination's Council of Bishops, was unable to attend the consultation because of illness. However, his response was read. The United Methodist Church has 8.5 million members in the United States, of whom nearly 362,000 are black.

"In order to give substance to repentance, which implies decrying and turning away from acts of oppression and racism, we need intensified solidarity among our congregations through action-advocacy, hospitality and exorcism of racism in our churches and society," Bashore said. "This will move us from superficial code-language toward a more faithful living of the priority commandments.

"It is tragic that in our many communities, the children of John Wesley have divorced, and we, as their children, act as if we don't have visiting privileges. May God help us to find ways to show fruits of true repentance."

What repentance for its racist past means to the UMC and what forgiveness means to the three black denominations were part of the conversations at both commission meetings and the consultation.

Plans for a call to repentance -- with accompanying educational components -- are being developed by the United Methodist Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns and the Council of Bishops, in close consultation with the Commission on Pan-Methodist Union. A pan-Methodist advisory group has also been created and will have its first meeting in April.

An update on the repentance plans was given by Grove; the Rev. Bruce Robbins of New York, staff executive of the UMC Commission on Christian Unity; and Ruth Daugherty of Lancaster, Pa., a commission member who co-chairs a task force on the repentance effort with the Rev. Rhymes H. Moncure Jr. of Columbia, Mo.

"It is important that all United Methodists come to an attitude of repentance for racism then and now," Daugherty said. The call for repentance will include:

- a pamphlet outlining the history of the racial divisions in the church ;
- "Steps Toward Wholeness: Learning and Repentance," a study guide for United Methodist congregations in preparation for an Act of Repentance for Racism and Pan-Methodist Conversations on Union;
- a liturgical act of repentance at the United Methodist General Conference meeting in Cleveland May 2-12, 2000;
- legislation that would revise part of the church's constitution dealing with racism;
- annual conference discussion and action on the proposed constitutional amendments;
- conversation and cooperative efforts among local pan-Methodist congregations.

All pan-Methodist bishops were given a draft of the study guide and asked to make suggestions. The UMC General Conference will be asked to approve the study guide, which will include historical information on the three black denominations and the former Central (black) Jurisdiction of the old Methodist Church. The Central Jurisdiction was created at the time of Methodist union in 1939 and not totally abolished until the Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches merged in 1968 to create the United Methodist Church.

Reflecting on the three meetings, Robbins said participants were "in search of a vision of where they want to go together. The long-term goals are clear," he said, "but the shorter ones are more difficult."

"For many United Methodist bishops, coming to know more personally the histories and experiences of the historic black churches was enormously valuable," he observed.

Grove and Young expressed pleasure at the large percentage of bishops from all four churches attending the consultation. "We've dealt honestly with real issues that have divided us," Grove said.

The bishops agreed to meet again in four years. They also:

- endorsed a second Pan-Methodist National Black Men's Convocation, tentatively planned for March 3-5, 2000, in Atlanta under the banner "Linking Generations of Black Men";
- heard an update on a cooperative campaign for children in poverty and agreed to encourage their churches to support the "Children's Sabbath" on or near the weekend of Oct. 15-17;

- heard plans for a millennium event for the Methodist movement in North America Nov. 18-21 in Houston.

## **Signers of Letter on Holy Land, April 12, 2000**

### **Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union**

By: Bishop Charles Helton – Chair

#### **African Methodist Episcopal Church**

Bishop T. Larry Kirkland - Los Angeles, CA

Bishop McKinley Young – Dallas, TX

Bishop Preston Williams, Atlanta, GA

Rev. Floyd Alexander – Cleveland, OH

Rev. Dr. Taylor Thompson – Cincinnati, OH

Mrs. Anna Milner – Atlanta, GA

Mr. Addison Young – Atlanta, GA

Ms. Thelma Milner – Atlanta, GA

Rev. Robert Keesee – Nashville, TN

#### **African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**

Bishop Richard K. Thompson –Montgomery, AL

Bishop Clarence Carr – St. Louis, MO

Rev. Dr. Donnell Williams – Tuscaloosa, AL

Bishop Nathaniel Jarrett – Chicago, IL

Rev. Dr. Gloria Moore – Knoxville, TN

Mr. Raymond Richmond – Jackson, MS

Rev. George Maize, IV – Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Betty V. Stith – New Rochelle, NY

Dr. F. George Shipman – Durham, NC

Dr. Mary A. Love – Charlotte, NC

#### **Christian Methodist Episcopal Church**

Bishop Paul A. Stewart – Birmingham, AL

Bishop Charles Helton – Charlotte, NC

Bishop Marshall Gilmore – Dallas, TX

Rev. Sylvester Williams – Birmingham, AL

Rev. Dr. Luther Smith – Atlanta, GA

Ms. Juanita Bryant – Cleveland, Ohio

Rev. Dr. Darryl Coleman – Los Angeles, CA

Mr. Matthew Davis – Memphis, TN

Ms. Cyreeta Collins – Jamaica, New York

#### **United Methodist Church**

Bishop Melvin Talbert – Nashville, TN

Bishop Fritz Mutti – Topeka, KS

Bishop Charlene Kammerer – Charlotte, NC

Rev. Jim McDonald – Charlottesville, VA

Dr. Trudi Kibbe Reed – Little Rock, AK

Mr. Byrd Bonner – San Antonio, TX

Mr. Adam Webb – Ames, Iowa

Mrs. Harriet McCabe – Naperville, IL

Rev. Tyrone Gordon – Wichita, KS

April 12, 2002

## **Pan-Methodist E-List**

Rev. Regina Anderson-Cloud <racloud@stmatthewsumc.org>, Rev. Dr. Thomas Donnachie III <eastondistrict@dmv.com>, Sandy Ferguson <sferguson@bwcumc.org> Howard W. Hallman <hhallman@mupwj.org>, Stan Hargraves <shargraves@union-psce.edu>, Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryan Harris <district@dmv.com>, Sherman Harris <shermanharris@comcast.net>, Terry A. Hawkins <thawkins@childrensdefense.org>, Rev. Wendell M. Oldham Jr <wmoldham@aol.com>, Rev. Dolores Wilks <wrevmom@aol.com>, Bishop Felton E. May <bishopmay@bwcumc.org>



Wednesday-in-Washington Planning Committee

Rev. Dr. Thomas Donnachie III <eastondistrict@dmv.com>, Sandy Ferguson <sferguson@bwcumc.org>, Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryan Harris <district@dmv.com>, Sherman Harris <shermanharris@comcast.net>, Terry A. Hawkins <thawkins@childrensdefense.org>, Rev. Michael Johnson <waataja@aol.com>, Bishop Felton E. May <bishopmay@bwcumc.org>, Rev. Wendell M. Oldham Jr <wmoldham@aol.com>, Mary Kay Totty <mktkmdiv@yahoo.com>, Rev. Dolores Wilks <wrevmom@aol.com>, Arthuree Wright <arwright@howard.edu>, Rev. Regina Anderson-Cloud <racloud@stmatthewsumc.org>, Stan Hargraves <shargraves@union-psce.edu>

Baltimore-Washington Conference representatives

Sandy Ferguson <sferguson@bwcumc.org>, Sherman Harris <shermanharris@comcast.net>, Rev. Michael Johnson <waataja@aol.com>, Rev. Mary Kay Totty <mktkmdiv@yahoo.com>, Arthuree Wright <arwright@howard.edu>

## **Planning Committee for Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington**

Appointed by CME Bishop Charles L. Helton

- ❖ Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr., Isaiah Metropolitan CME Church, Washington, D.C.

Appointed by UM Bishop Felton E. May for Baltimore-Washington Conference

- ❖ Sandy Ferguson, Associate Council Director
- ❖ Rev. Mary Kay Totty, Chair, Board of Ecumenical and Interreligious Life  
Represented by Rev. Michael Johnson
- ❖ Arthuree Wright, Bishop's Initiative on Children and Poverty

Appointed by UM Bishop Peter Weaver for UM Peninsula-Delaware Conference

- ❖ Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris, District Superintendent, Salisbury, Maryland  
Represented by Rev. Dolores Wilkes
- ❖ Rev. Dr. Thomas P. Donnachie, III, District Superintendent, Easton, Maryland
- ❖ Rev. Dolores Wilks, Quantico, Maryland

Appointed by UM Bishop Joe E. Pennel, Jr. for UM Virginia Conference

- ❖ Rev. Regina Anderson-Cloud, Annandale, Virginia
- ❖ Stan Hargraves, Richmond, Virginia

Appointed by AME Bishop Vinton R. Anderson

- ❖ Pending

Appointed by AME Zion Bishop Milton A. Williams

- ❖ Pending

Representing Methodists United for Peace with Justice

- ❖ Howard W. Hallman, Chair
- ❖ Sherman W. Harris, Board Member

Representing Childrens' Defense Fund

- ❖ Terry Hawkins

April 15, 2004

**Methodists United for Peace with Justice**  
**1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036**  
**Phone: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupwj@mupwj.org**

January 14, 2004

To: Sandy Ferguson

Fax: 410 309-9430

No. of pages: 3

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Re: Pan-Methodist gathering

Dear Sandy,

I want to bring you up to date on plans for a Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington for clergy and laity from Maryland and Virginia. If Bishop May hasn't talked with you about it, he will do so soon.

Following a Wednesday-in-Washington for Pan-Methodist bishops on July 31, 2003, we developed the attached proposal with Bishop May's encouragement. We took it to the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union when they met in Baltimore in November, and we received their endorsement.

Sherman Harris and I met with Bishop May on January 7. He accepted the idea of setting up a planning committee of Pan-Methodists from Maryland and Virginia to work out the details for this event. We set the date for an initial meeting for Monday, February 9 at 10:00 a.m. in the United Methodist Building, Washington, D.C. Bishop May is likely to ask you or some other staff of the Baltimore/Washington Conference to attend the meeting. He will attend and preside.

Bishop May agreed to write to AME, AMEZ, and CME bishops serving Maryland and Virginia to name two persons from each state for each denomination to serve on the planning committee and attend the February 9 meeting. I sent him the attached draft letter of invitation, which is going out this week.

I have written to Bishop Joe Pennel in Virginia and Bishop Peter Weaver, who presides over the Peninsula Conference, and asked them to appoint two persons each from their conferences to serve on the planning committee.

We will also have representatives of the Children's Defense Fund in attendance to help us plan the Wednesday-in-Washington event.

I'll keep you informed as this develops further.

Shalom,

Howard

Pan-Methodists from Maryland & Washington, DC  
are cordially invited to participate in  
**Wednesday-in-Washington**  
for advocacy on children's issues  
on  
**June 16, 2004**

*This event provides an opportunity for clergy and laity of the African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal, and United Methodist Churches to express their support for legislation designed to improve the lives of children.*

Meet at the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Ave., NE, Washington, D.C.

9:30 Gathering with coffee, tea, pastries

9:50 Welcome, opening prayer

10:00 Issues briefing by Children's Defense Fund

11:30 Worship in Chapel

12:00 Lunch, with seating by congressional districts

1:00 Meeting with U.S. Senators from Maryland or their staff

2:00 Meeting with U.S. Representatives from Maryland or their staff

3:15 De-briefing and discussion of follow-through

3:55 Closing prayer

4:00 Adjourn

The United Methodist Building is across the street from the Supreme Court Building. The nearest Metro stops are at Union Station on the red line and South Capitol on the orange and blue lines. Parking is available at Union Station and at some outlying Metro stations. Carpools are encouraged.

To register, submit name, residential zip code, telephone number and church affiliation to the contact below by June 9, 2004.

Registration fee: \$20 for food, drink, and materials (payable on June 16<sup>th</sup>)

**For further information, contact:** Sandy Ferguson  
Baltimore-Washington Conference of the  
United Methodist Church

7178 Columbia Gateway Drive  
Columbia, MD 21046  
**Tel:** 410-309-3431

Pan-Methodists from Maryland & Washington, DC  
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To register, submit name, residential zip code, telephone number, e-mail address, church affiliation, congressional district or name of your U.S. representative to the contact below by June 9, 2004. Registration fee: \$20 for food, drink, and materials (payable on June 16<sup>th</sup>)

**To register and for further information, contact:**

Sandy Ferguson

Baltimore-Washington Conference of the

United Methodist Church  
7178 Columbia Gateway Drive  
Columbia, MD 21046  
**Tel:** 410-309-3431



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Registration

Deadline: June 9, 2004

Registration fee: \$20 for food, drink, and materials

Make check payable to MUPWJ

(also payable on June 16th at the door)

Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Congressional District \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Mail registration to:

Draft

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Registration fee: \$20 for food, drink, and materials

### **Planning Committee**

Appointed by Bishop Charles L. Helton, CME 7<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District: Rev. Wendell M. Oldham, Jr. Appointed by Bishop Felton E. May, UM Baltimore-Washington Conference: Sandy Ferguson, Rev. Mary Kay Totty, Rev. .Arthuree Wright. Appointed by Bishop Peter Weaver, UM Peninsula-Delaware Conference: Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris, Rev. Dr. Thomas P. Donnachie, III.

Representing Methodists United for Peace with Justice: Howard W. Hallman, Sherman W. Harris.  
Representing Childrens' Defense Fund: Terry Hawkins

**For further information, contact:**



## Pan-Methodist Resources for Worker Justice (8 pp)

Includes current statements on worker justice from the denominations, highlights and quotes from Methodist history, liturgical resources and suggested actions for the local church.

Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0 is needed to download this PDF file.

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Pan-Methodist Resources](#)

Additional copies of *Pan-Methodist Resources for Worker Justice* can be ordered for one dollar per copy. Please call for possible bulk discounts.

To order: contact Bridget Harris Olusesi at [bridget@nicwj.org](mailto:bridget@nicwj.org) or by phone: (773) 728-8400.

June 11, 2004

Arthuree Wright  
2203 Durbin Court  
Bowie, MD 20721

Dear Arthuree,

I want to express my appreciation to you for the effort you put into planning the Pan-Methodist Wednesday-in-Washington. You brought us wisdom, experience, and dedication. Your leadership was invaluable.

We had a good program lined up with talented people. I'm just sorry that we didn't match the program with effective promotional efforts to generate sufficient participation.

It was a pleasure working with you. I hope that our paths will cross again in the future.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman  
Chair