

OUR PURPOSE

To strengthen theological education in the Central Conferences of The United Methodist Church and prepare principled Christian leaders, rooted in a Wesleyan mindset of joining knowledge and vital piety.

- Theological education of local pastors and candidates for ordained ministry
- Continuing theological education of clergy
- Scholarships for theological education (on all levels including postgraduate studies)
- Development of infrastructure for theological education (literature and other resource material, libraries, networking among institutions, exchange of professors)
- Support and promotion of new promising avenues in theological education

NETWORKING

The collaborative effort for a network of Methodist theological E-learning includes the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Perkins School of Theology, Cliff College, and the British Methodist Church. Each partner has graciously donated expertise and time to this exciting project, enabling new forms of blended learning, on-site and online. The Endowment Fund has the unique chance to support and strengthen networks of Methodist Theological e-Learning.

**We aim at a permanent endowment of \$25,000,000
and an additional special fund for professors in Methodism of \$10,000,000,
each with beginning of disbursements as soon as the first one million is collected.**

CHAIRPERSON OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD:

Bishop Patrick Streiff, Central and Southern Europe

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE (US)

Our campaign committee has been working to generate awareness and support for endowing theological education. The committee is led by three co-chairs:

- Bishop David Bard (MI) advises on and supports outreach to bishops.
- Minnis Ridenour (VA) takes the lead on outreach to individual prospects and donors.
- Dave Johnston (NC) oversees the development of GIVING CIRCLES.

COOPERATION WITH THE COMMISSION ON CENTRAL CONFERENCE THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION FUND (CCTEF)

For the year 2022, the Commission on CCTEF has again shown its willingness to contribute to the permanent endowment with \$158,798 (not yet included in the totals below as of Nov. 18, 2022).

THIRD DISBURSEMENT APPROVED

The Endowment Fund Board has approved its third disbursement from the permanent endowment for 2023 for projects on new avenues of theological education.

The Endowment Fund will provide a sustainable, long-term source of funding for theological education, to be disbursed by CCTEF.

SPECIAL FUND FOR PROFESSORS IN METHODISM

The initial purpose (see upper left side), common to CCTEF and to the Endowment Fund, does not include salaries. Because of the need to strengthen the teaching of Methodism in UMC theological schools outside the US, the Endowment Fund Board has approved plans for an additional special fund of \$10,000,000 for professors in Methodism and will submit it to the Council of Bishops in spring 2023 for final approval.

ENDOWMENT FUND PROGRESS

Fund balances (as of Nov 18, 2022):

- **Term endowment:** \$351,585
- **Permanent endowment:** \$1,146,239

Gifts and pledges: \$3,796,212

Stead Challenge: Each gift of \$100,000 or more will unlock additional 25% funding, up to \$1,000,000, from the Stead family.

- GIVING CIRCLES provide an opportunity to give as a group over 3-5 years in order to reach \$100,000 and unlock an additional 25% from the Stead family.

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