

Dear supporter,

Christmas blessings from your friends at the Endowment Fund for Theological Education in the Central Conferences!

We have much to be grateful for as the year draws to a close. With your support, we are many steps closer to providing sustainable, long-term support for forming trusted community leaders around the world. During 2017, we were blessed by a breakthrough in the funding effort, made progress with programming and increased awareness and support from around the world.

Looking toward 2018, we expect greatly increased activity in annual conferences, continued support from volunteers and additional breakthroughs with both funding and programs. Thank you for your continued prayers for this vital ministry.



TOTAL PLEDGED

Endow F-TECC has been blessed with early support totaling

\$2,641,338



THE STEAD CHALLENGE: Through a generous **\$1,000,000** investment from Jerre and Mary Joy Stead, Endow F-TECC launched the Stead Challenge in 2017, a breakthrough with the potential of generating **\$5,000,000** total.

BOARD SUPPORT: The Endow F-TECC Board has been key to the funding effort, with nearly **\$700,000** in funding coming from Board members. Board members also have been critical in securing other gifts.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION: Friends from the central conferences are demonstrating their support, with nearly **\$300,000** pledged already from Africa, Europe and the Philippines. Two gifts of **\$100,000** or more have been pledged.

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Volunteers have been instrumental in conducting receptions across the world, making connections with possible donors and securing gifts. Endow F-TECC is blessed with more than **20** volunteer Board and Committee members, representing **10** countries.



GLOBAL PROGRAMS

Though Endow F-TECC will not implement programs, we are working closely with seminaries and schools of theology around the world to explore the concept of a Global Methodist e-Academy. We envision the Global Methodist e-Academy as an entity coordinating and networking with established schools and ensuring that cutting-edge technologies are available to all participants.



Building on our work this year in Western North Carolina, which included a special offering at annual conference and three receptions, Endow F-TECC will significantly increase activity in 2018. To date, more than **FIFTEEN ANNUAL CONFERENCES** have indicated that they intend to initiate activities in support of Endow F-TECC. **GIVING CIRCLES** will be secured to enable groups of donors to pool their funds together to achieve the minimum gift of \$100,000 required to qualify for the Stead Challenge. **PARTNERSHIPS** with seminaries and schools of theology will be further explored and confirmed with a memorandum of understanding. **THANK YOU** for your continued prayers and support!