

## \$1 Million Donation Supports Seminarians

Mr. Stanley J. Cottrill has lived a life of generosity. As a life-long resident of New London, WI he quietly helped his church and local community as a plumber. He also traveled for more than 40 years on Volunteer in Mission trips and as an active member of the NOMADs, providing volunteer labor for United Methodist organizations.

On June 1, 2014 the New London UMC feted the 90-year-old with a “celebration of lifetime generosity.” New London mayor Gary Henke proclaimed “Stan Cottrill Day” and presented Stan with the key to the city. Then, with the help of friend Bill Barrington, Stan gave out checks to his favorite charities. *Continued on page 3...*



Foreground from left: Bishop Hee-Soo Jung; Stanley Cottrill, donor; Rick Churan, WUMF President

## Strong Growth and Performance in 2014

A growing number of churches (228) have entrusted the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation to manage their long-term funds and permanent endowments. By using professional investment managers and following the United Methodist principles for socially responsible investing, the Foundation is able to manage risk and provide higher returns than current bank CD’s and money market returns.

While 2014 saw many challenges in the investment world, the Foundation was blessed to provide our fund participants with positive returns:

- Our 50% Equity and 50% Fixed-Income asset allocation returned net earnings of **6.38%**
- Our 60% Equity and 40% Fixed Income asset allocation returned net earnings of **6.61%**
- Our 75% Equity and 25% Fixed-Income asset allocation returned net earnings of **6.94%**.

For additional information visit [www.wumf.org](http://www.wumf.org). ⚙

	12/31/2013	12/31/2014
Total under management	\$102,916,972	\$111,565,435
# investment accounts	1,136	1,161
# churches with accounts	226	228
# church loans	33	31
Total loaned funds	\$10,016,850	\$9,881,510

### Staff Changes

The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation is pleased to announce two new additions to our staff.

**Diane Follmer** will serve as our new Loan Officer. Diane is an active member of Trinity Church United Methodist in Beaver Dam where she volunteers on Monday mornings.



*Diane Follmer*

In addition, she volunteers at the Senior Center in Beaver Dam preparing tax returns for seniors on behalf of AARP. Diane has worked in the financial industry doing accounting for over sixteen years. She is married to Joel Follmer and has three grown children.

If your church is in need of a loan to finance repairs, updates, remodeling, or even new construction, or refinancing a current loan, please contact Diane about the Church Loan Program at **1-888-903-9863**. Welcome Diane!

**Jim Wells** has joined the Foundation as Program Coordinator/Education Assistant and will lead Capital Campaigns and Stewardship Services. Jim, a member of Edgerton United Methodist Church, is a lay speaker and Registrar of the Capital District Committee on Ordained Ministry. He is an experienced capital campaign consultant and stewardship educator in the Wisconsin Conference. Jim is married to Rev. Dr. Barbara Wells; they have two adult children.



*Jim Wells*

If your church is considering capital fundraising for a building or ministry project or needs consultation on stewardship, please contact Jim at **1-888-903-9863**.

### Scholarship News

#### College Scholarship Applications for 2015 are due April 1.

In 2014 the Foundation was able to award 36 scholarships totaling \$25,250 to promising young United Methodist college students and adults returning for additional education, or persons working towards vocations in church-related fields of ministry.

The Foundation was also able to award 15 scholarship grants totaling \$19,200 to Wisconsin UM students attending seminary in preparation for service in the Wisconsin Conference.

For more information and for application forms, visit us at **[www.wumf.org/grantsScholars.html](http://www.wumf.org/grantsScholars.html)** or call us at **1-888-903-9863** ☼

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### Retreat: Register Now!



**Register at**  
**[www.WIUMCamps.org](http://www.WIUMCamps.org)**

*Dr. Ken Sloane, Director of Stewardship, United Methodist Global Board of Discipleship addresses retreat attendees*

Is your congregation ready to meet the spiritual and financial challenges of supporting ministry in the 21st century? Through its retreat programs, WUMF support Stewardship education for churches throughout the Wisconsin conference. Our summer retreat features knowledgeable speakers, support for stewardship planning, exposure to the experience of your peers, and all in a congenial setting.

**When:** August 14-15, Fri 10:30 am to Sat 1:30 pm

**Where:** Pine Lake Camp and Retreat Center ☼

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## Grants

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### Foundation Grants Encourage Ministry

In 2014, The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation awarded 56 grants to 45 churches and United Methodist-related organizations totaling \$122,104. Here are two examples.



*Attendees at the Walk Thru the Bible event sponsored by Circuit #25*

**Walk Thru the Bible Event:** On January 10, 2015, ninety-five people braved –25° wind chills to participate in the Walk Thru the Bible Old Testament event sponsored by **Green Lake Circuit #25**. The event presented a live performance giving an overview of the Old Testament in an exciting, engaging way.

Participants felt it was an “awesome fun day” of learning for both young adults and older adults. They were grateful for the experience. A grant from the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation, along with support from Circuit 25 churches, made it possible to reduce the registration fees for this event.

**Our next Ministry  
Grant deadline is  
November 1, 2015**

**Transportation for Families in Need:** In 2014, a grant from WUMF allowed the **Transitional Living Center (TLC)** in Burlington, WI to provide its clients with transportation assistance resulting in 3,796 trips with over 20,000 miles driven. This support allowed clients to get to work, shop for groceries, keep medical appointments, visit family and meet many other transportation needs.

TLC is dedicated to meeting the needs of the homeless families in Western Racine County. Its mission is to provide families and individuals temporary shelter and basic necessities, while assisting them in developing the skills to be self-sufficient, gainfully employed, and living independently.

To learn more about how a grant from the Foundation may help provide seed money for your new and creative mission and ministry, see our website: [www.wumf.org](http://www.wumf.org) or call us at **1-888-903-9863**. ☼

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Bishop Jung and Foundation president Eric Churan accepted a \$1 million donation from Stan to establish the **WUMF Seminary Fund** to support Wisconsin United Methodist seminary students. Stan gave an additional \$1.3 million to other causes.

When asked how he felt about “Stan Cottrill Day” he humbly smiled and quietly said, “I appreciate it.” He truly is living out his faith to give back to those in need.

Very few people have the ability to make gifts of a million dollars or more. Yet, every gift makes a difference! If you feel called to make an additional gift of any size to the WUMF Seminary Fund, remember your gift will supplement and grow the funds available to assist our seminarians for generations to come. Contact the Foundation at [wumf@wumf.org](mailto:wumf@wumf.org) or call us at **1-888-903-9863**☼

**Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation**  
**750 Windsor Street, Suite 305**  
**Sun Prairie WI 53590**

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## Challenge Grant Pays for Stewardship

The Foundation developed the Stewardship Challenge Grant to encourage and reward congregations that develop an appropriate, intentional stewardship plan. By providing a cash incentive, the Stewardship Challenge Grant encourages churches to develop a comprehensive stewardship program that will help achieve their goals in ministry and mission.



Since April of 2013, the Foundation has awarded challenge grants to 53 Wisconsin churches with eight receiving second-year grants. Grants have infused more than \$20,000 into the stewardship programs of these churches. There is no designated date for applying and a **church may apply once a year in three different years prior to December 31, 2018.**

Churches receive \$400, \$500, or \$600 a year. This may send several church members to a Stewardship Retreat or purchase training materials. Churches are given half the grant amount immediately upon application to the Foundation. Then, after activities are completed within 12 months and the final report is received, the other half of the money is sent.

For more information check out our website at [www.wumf.org](http://www.wumf.org) or contact Jean Nicholas or Jim Wells in the Foundation office. They would be happy to come to a circuit meeting to explain the program in detail. ⚙



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