



The Connection

The United Methodist Association of Church Business Administrators

www.umacba.org • December 2006

Executive Board 06-07

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First UMC, Pensacola, FL

Dear Friends:

Bill Hybels, Sr. Pastor at Willow Creek Community Church writes in his book *Courageous Leadership*, "The local church is the hope of the world and its future rests primarily in the hands of its leaders... The question is this: Will the men and women who have been entrusted with the leadership gifts take their gifts seriously, develop them fully, and deploy them courageously, so that the willing and gifted believers in their churches can work together to make a difference in the world?"

Your gifts as a leader in church administration are critical to the growth of both your local church and to the denomination. Your courageous contributions serve as a model to other gifted leaders. The combined talents of lay and ordained ministry leaders will lead the church to its full potential in service to Christ.

Letter from the
President
Phillip M. Estes

I invite you to build on your strengths... take time to refresh your spirit and enhance your knowledge and skills by seeking out new ideas and training. First, urge fellow UM Administrators to join UMACBA. We need their ideas and energy. Second, join us in Dallas/Ft. Worth for the July 11-15, 2007 UMACBA and NACBA Annual Conferences. Together we can help build and equip effective ministry teams focused on proclaiming the good news, calling the lost home, serving the lonely and poor, all to the glory of God.

Grace and Peace,
Phil

Why UMACBA?

Mark King

As we close out 2006 and prepare for new beginnings for 2007, don't neglect your membership and participation in the United Methodist Association for Church Business Administrators. Whether you are a United Methodist in the field of church finance and administration or work for a UMC congregation or agency in the field, membership benefits are enormous. I enjoy most of all the collegiality and support from my fellow UM CBAs as the one group above all other CBAs who understand apportionments, clergy appointments, conference pension and insurance plans, the *Discipline* and the interworkings of Staff Parish Relations committees. Of course, it goes without mentioning the certification program. But please, allow me to mention it!

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Why UMACBA?

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Certification as a United Methodist Church Business Administrator would be and should be the highlight of your professional credentials. I have a doctorate, three masters and certification in NACBA, but I think my certification as a United Methodist is one of my proudest achievements. The seminars at NICFA were unsurpassed with world renowned faculty, intensive but rewarding schedules and the time with other impressive participants. Then to meet the requirements of our denomination as specified by the *Book of Discipline* and recognition by none other than the General Council of Finance and Administration is a crowning achievement.

Are you certified? Please, by all means, go to our website, www.umacba.org/nicfa and explore the process. To the right you will find a convenient flow-chart for the certification plan.

Already certified? By all means, keep your certification current with recertification every four years. The easiest way to obtain recertification is to attend the annual sessions of the UMACBA at the NACBA National Conference.

In our next issue, we shall deal with the NACBA's plan of Retaining Certification for NACBAs. The good news is that most of the requirements of our recertification will fulfill NACBA's requirements.

May 2007 be a year of blessings and fulfillment to you all as you serve in our Lord's business.

Achieve Basic Requirements:

- Committed Christian who practices principles of Christian stewardship and also demonstrates competence & leadership in church finance and administration.
- High School Diploma
- Member of UMACBA
- Function in appropriate areas of Church Finance & Administration

Enroll in National Institute of Church Finance & Administration (NICFA)

**Complete Seminar I:
Planning for Mission in the
local church**

**Complete Seminar II:
Church Administration,
Leadership & Stewardship
Development**

**Completion of Church Finance
& Administration Project**

All NICFA requirements must be completed with 5 years of initiation.

**Secure Application from
www.umacba.org website.**

**Return completed application, personal recommendation
& evaluation forms from:**

- Church Council Chair
- Finance Committee Chair
- Staff Parish Relations Chair
- Supervisor

By August 31 preceding year to be certified.

All UMACBA dues paid in full.

UMACBA Application for Membership

www.umacba.org

New Member Renewal Member For the calendar year _____

Mr. Ms. Rev. Other _____

Name: _____ Job Title: _____

Business address: _____

Home address: _____

Business telephone: _____ Home telephone: _____

Preferred mailing address: Business Home E-mail address: _____

Church home: _____ Date joined: _____

Employed by: _____ Date employed: _____

_____ Jurisdiction _____ Annual Conference _____ District _____

Full time Part time Clergy Lay

FBCA? Yes No Certified with UMACBA? Yes No

CE taken toward UMACBA recertification (and location) since last membership renewal:

I am interested in Certification and NICFA information at Candler School of Theology: Yes Not at this time

I am interested in: Volunteering as a certification mentor Having a certification mentor Not at this time

I am interested in an UMACBA leadership role: Yes Not at this time

Comments: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please complete and return with check for dues (\$50.00) to:

General Council on Finance and Administration
Attn: Sheri Kimble
1 Music Circle North
PO Box 340029
Nashville, TN 37203-0029



IMPROVING YOUR SERVE



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHURCH BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
51st NATIONAL CONFERENCE ★ JULY 11-15, 2007 ★ DALLAS-FORT WORTH, TEXAS**

Visit www.nacba.net/conference to view the conference video, get more information, and register online.
Don't miss this opportunity to become a more effective servant leader to your congregation!

The United Methodist Association of Church Business Administrators
University City United Methodist Church
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Charlotte, NC 28269