



January 8, 2007

Dear New England Conference United Methodists:

I am pleased to tell you about a special opportunity for the New England United Methodist churches. Have you considered providing your members with the option of contributing their pledge electronically, but thought it would be too complicated or expensive? Vanco Services, LLC, a financial technology services company specializing in electronic funds transfer services, is working with the General Council on Finance and Administration of The United Methodist Church (GCFA) to provide an electronic giving program available to United Methodist churches. Each participating congregation signs an agreement for electronic giving directly with Vanco. Participation by your local churches is strictly voluntary.

Enrollment in the service is strictly optional. The GCFA is implementing a program across all the annual conferences in the U.S. following a successful pilot stage. We encourage you and your members to take advantage of this voluntary plan.

Electronic giving is safe and simple to establish! Electronic giving yields very significant benefits for both the church and its members. Participation is open to all members and friends related to your congregation. Some of the benefits include:

Church Benefits:

- ◆ Reduces fluctuation in contributions during the year
- ◆ Enhances budget forecasting
- ◆ Less work processing weekly collections

Member Benefits:

- ◆ Eliminates need for offering envelopes
- ◆ Eliminates need to write checks or have cash on hand
- ◆ Brings peace of mind by fulfilling stewardship commitments on a regular basis

Thousands of churches in all 50 states and the District of Columbia routinely utilize electronic giving programs. If you would like to find out more about this convenient service for your members, and receive application materials, please complete the attached form and return to Vanco Services or contact Jan Palmer at 800-774-9355. To get started the start-up package is available on-line at <http://www.vancoservices.com/umeft.htm>.

Sincerely,

Charles Carnahan, Treasurer
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