



# FORWARD

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## MAGAZINE

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## Evangelism Summit Addresses the Big Questions

"Four Big Questions" are at the heart of the discernment, study and action process used by the Foundation's Board of Trustees to evaluate future grant programs. Our board recognizes that, while passionate about the mission, they are not the experts. We must listen to exceptional NEXT GENERATION leaders and draw upon their expertise and experience for answers.

The Evangelism Summit, held in January 2017, was one such conversation. Eleven folks joined us for 24 hours of prayer, holy conversation, and vision casting. Not only did we ask our 4 big questions, we added the caveat that everything we discussed must be replicable in other local churches and communities across the U.S.

"Raw and Real" quickly became the words that described the ministry of partic-

ipants of the Evangelism Summit. People are looking for authenticity, vulnerability, and relationship from Christians and the Church.

We have only just begun to process the richness of this conversation. Please follow our progress online at [www.FoundationforEvangelism.org/evangelism-summit](http://www.FoundationforEvangelism.org/evangelism-summit) as we discern where God is leading for future grants and partnerships.

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## For When Christ Says "Go!" and The Church Says "How?"

We draw deeply from the words of Christ and the wisdom of Wesley to evangelize and disciple. In our ongoing effort to provide innovative approaches to the local church that are equally as useful to clergy and laity, scalable for small and large churches, and adaptable to your church, FFE has launched a pilot grant with Awaken My City.

What is Awaken My City? Awaken My City is an easy, simple-to-use solution to organize, publicize, and mobilize the congregation for maximum impact and effectiveness. Awaken My City offers a neutral platform to bring together churches across a town, city, county, region, or district for mission in

a collaborative and unified way to create the opportunity for disciples to make disciples. Awaken My City is an app using pinpoint analytics, details for each project, integration into your existing website & native apps, and project check-in functionality.

*Continued on page 5*

## From Our Board Chair

As I compose this Greeting and Board Report we are just a handful of days before Pentecost, the Sunday that commemorates God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. It was the Spirit's presence that transformed a group of faithful but fearful followers of Jesus into strong and passionate leaders who would go on to spread the Gospel to the nations. That same Spirit will always be with us as we continue to strive to be obedient to Christ's command to make disciples. Of course that is precisely the mission of The Foundation for Evangelism: to promote, encourage, and provide resources to grow Wesleyan evangelism, bringing all persons into a life transforming relationship with Jesus Christ.

At our recent Board of Trustees meeting in April 2017, we heard an initial report on the 'Evangelism Summit' held in January. The Board had charged a Task Force headed by



**Larry Klemann,**  
Board of Trustees Chair

Mary Brooke Casad, Immediate Past Board Chair, to plan and carry out this event. It was the culmination of months of visioning, ideation and prayer during which time the Spirit's guidance was ever present. The two-day event assembled 11 outstanding persons, lay and clergy, whose energy and passion for evangelism could not be suppressed. Speaking at our Board meeting, Casad said that at the Summit, "The presence of the Holy Spirit was palpable".

The Summit validated our Foundation decision to focus on youth and campus ministries through our grant making efforts. In the months ahead we will be working hard to transform the enormous output from the Summit into guidance applicable to Annual Conferences and local churches. And we will continue to ask the Holy Spirit to be our guide as we navigate a new path for disciple making.

I am so very grateful for our Board of Trustees, our incredibly talented and committed staff, and the many supporters who make this Kingdom building work possible.

*Evangelism Summit... (continued from page 1)*

### After the Evangelism Summit, the Foundation team sat together to share their immediate reactions to what they had just experienced:



**Larry Klemann,** FFE Board Chair

*"I approached the summit looking specifically to find ways to get youth in the church. That was reinforced, but what appealed to me was the sense that all churches need to do things with new thinking and energy. Incredibly meaningful on a personal level for those of us fulfilling leadership roles in the local church."*



**Mary Brooke Casad,** Summit Convener and FFE Trustee

*"I felt HOPE for the church that was almost overwhelming. I loved the level of passion and commitment for Christ that was present in these discussions. The Holy Spirit so thick you could cut it with a knife! Although selected for diversity of ages, ministry settings and focuses, these leaders found common ground easily."*



**Sarah Kreutziger,**  
FFE Board Secretary and Summit Task Force Member

*"I heard authentic passion for Christ among these folks who are recognized for success. They are not driven by performance measures, but rely upon the critical nature of Holy Spirit power combined with ministry of Word, Sign, and Deed for their strength. These younger leaders reported that they value the traditional message."*

## Evangelism Summit Attendees

**Evangelism Summit...**  
(continued from page 1)

### Four Big Questions

1. How might FFE improve our use of resources for greater impact on laity, local church pastors, young persons, and ministry on the college campus for the ministry of Wesleyan Evangelism?
2. How might FFE engender a fresh missionary imagination?
3. How might FFE resource leaders who can communicate and invite others into relationship with Christ across cultures?
4. How might FFE create a conversation around evangelism and its integral role for the Church?



**We were blessed by the participation of the following leaders who shared insights and expertise to ensure the success of the Summit.**

Adolf Hanson – Theologian in Residence at St. Luke’s UMC, Indianapolis, IN

Owen Ross – Founding Pastor at Christ Foundry/Dir. Congregation Dev. at N. Texas Conference, Dallas, TX (7/17)

Scott Chrostek – Campus Pastor at UMCoR Downtown, Kansas City, MO

Olu Brown – Lead Pastor at Impact Church, East Point, GA

Rob Peabody – Founder/Director at Awaken, Franklin, TN

Tyler Best – Campus Minister at Pfrimmer’s Chapel UMC, Corydon, IN

Heather Lear – Dir. Evangelism Ministries at Discipleship Ministries, Nashville, TN

Adam Weber – Founding Pastor at Embrace Church, Sioux Falls, SD

Craig Robertson – Founder at Spiritual Leadership, Inc., Lexington, KY

Kay Kotan – Founder at You Unlimited/Dir. Congregation Dev. Susquehanna Conference, Mechanicsburg, PA (7/17)

Eric Lindh – National Executive Dir. at Project Transformation, Dallas, TX

Larry Klemann – FFE Board Chair, Pearland, TX

Sarah Kreutziger – FFE Board Secretary and Summit Task Force Member, Metairie, LA

Mary Brooke Casad – Summit Convener and FFE Trustee, Sulphur Springs, TX



## Doing That Which We Would Rather Not

(Excerpts from an article by Dr. Charles E. Kinder, President Emeritus, The Foundation for Evangelism)

takes a lot of commitment to study the Bible regularly and have a serious prayer time each day. Most Christians would rather not.

Here are some things I have learned through the years.

When we sincerely do anything for God, we progress in our faith. The more we surrender, the more we are blessed. When we put God first, we love our families more than ever. When we teach, we are enriched. When we serve, we feel good about ourselves. When we tithe, we can better manage the rest of our money.

Life for Christians works that way. When we are doing for God “that which we would rather not” we are blessed beyond our understanding.

(To read the full article by Dr. Kinder, visit our website: [www.foundationforevangelism.org/news](http://www.foundationforevangelism.org/news))

*Charles Kinder was the first full-time employee of The Foundation for Evangelism (FFE). Under his leadership (1977-1989), Foundation assets grew from less than \$200,000 to nearly \$1 million. As a result, FFE was able to initiate the Harry Denman Evangelism Awards, FORWARD Magazine and the first E. Stanley Jones Professorship at Boston University School of Theology. There are now 13 ESJ Professors serving seminaries in the U.S., Zimbabwe, Russia and Germany. Dr. Kinder is now President Emeritus of The Foundation for Evangelism.*

*“I have found that I am usually right when I am doing that which I would rather not.” — Goethe*

What is it that we should do but would rather not?

First, we know we should eat fewer sweets and more fruit, but most of us would rather not.

Second, we know we should exercise regularly, but most of us would rather not.

Third, we know we should not drive over the speed limit, but we think we will get to our destination sooner if we go a bit faster, or we drive fast because speed limits are boring.

Fourth, there are areas of our lives which we should surrender to God, but likely we would rather not.

If we don't want to teach, we don't. If we don't want to serve, we don't. If we think we need “our” money for ourselves, we don't contribute. If the pastor challenges us to discipline ourselves spiritually, most of us would rather not. It

## News from our E. Stanley Jones Professors...

### Retirements:

- Stephen Gunter, Teaching Evangelist and Professorship Director for FFE is retiring as Associate Dean for Methodist Studies; Research Professor of Evangelism and Wesleyan Studies at The Divinity School, Duke University.
- Leonard Sweet is retiring from his position as E. Stanley Jones Professor of Evangelism at Drew Theological School, Madison, NJ., effective at the end of the 2016-17 academic year.
- John Wesley Kurewa is retiring after 17 years serving with distinction in the Kurewa Chair – an E. Stanley Jones Professor of Evangelism at Africa University, Mutare, Zimbabwe.

### Transitions:

- Daniel Shin, has been named E. Stanley Jones Assistant Professor of Evangelism at Drew Theological School, Madison, NJ. He formerly occupied the Dorothy & Cornelius Henderson Chair – an E. Stanley Jones Assistant Professor and Chair of Evangelism at Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta.

- Doug Powe, James C. Logan Professor of Evangelism (an E. Stanley Jones Professorship) at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., will assume an additional role as Director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership July 1, 2017.

### Books:

- Mark Teasdale, ESJ Professor at Garrett-Evangelical Seminary in Evanston, IL, has published *Evangelism for Non-Evangelists: Sharing the Gospel Authentically*. Along with Heather Lear, Director of Evangelism at Discipleship Ministries, Dr. Teasdale teaches Evangelism Online, a five-week online evangelism course based upon the book, for seminarians and local church leaders.
- Achim Haertner, E. Stanley Jones Professor of Evangelism, Reutlingen School of Theology, Reutlingen, Germany, has published the first-ever scholarly research of Confirmation Work (*Kirchlicher Unterricht*) in Germany. Based upon a five-year study that combines results from three surveys among 1,000 confirmands and 150 pastors and confirmation class leaders between 2012 and 2016.

## Re-Marc's: Investing in Ministry

Some might argue that the recent surge in the stock market is a red flag. Stocks are overpriced, the market is rising too quickly, etc. For me, the upswing is a green flag!

For people who desire to invest in ministry as well as the stock market, now is an excellent time to use stocks to invest in ministry. Stocks that have appreciated significantly over the past few months also have a significant capital gain – which is subject to tax when redeemed.

If, however, the stock is given to support ministry, the gains are not taxed and the donor can claim a tax deduction for the full, fair-market value of the stock. While the deduction is limited to 30 percent of the donor's adjusted gross income, the law allows the deduction to be carried over for an additional five years as needed to claim the full deduction.

"But," you might object, "I like that stock!" Even better news...

Donate the stock and repurchase shares of the same stock. This, too, helps with taxes down the road. The repurchase increases the cost basis resulting in a smaller capital gain tax

when redeemed if the value has increased, or a larger tax deduction if the value has decreased.

If all this sounds a bit technical, please call (828.454.6800 ext. 805) and we can walk you through these important considerations which benefit you AND the ministry of The Foundation for Evangelism.

God Bless,  
Marc Kirchoff

Marc L. Kirchoff, D.Min.  
Director of Development



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*For When Christ Says "Go!" and The Church Says "How?" (continued from page 1)*

### What about Awaken My City caught our interest?

- A way for currently active local churches to become not only more missional, but to marry our relationship with Christ with a successful mission culture transforming it to a *successful discipleship culture*.
- *Delivers the immediacy of faith impact* that many new and seasoned disciples seek as part of social holiness.
- *Creates leadership opportunities for youth and younger generations* through technology.
- Designed to *equip, engage, and send forth the laity*.
- Allows *all generations to work together* in evangelism and mission.
- Equips the church to *transition from a consumer culture to a fruitful discipling culture* prepared to go, teach, baptize, and serve.
- Scalable for use by *small to large faith communities*.
- Live into our commitment to provide creative, sound Wesleyan resources for the local church seeking to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, community, church and person.

Because Awaken My City launched less than a year ago and is designed to work ecumenically, The Foundation for Evangelism sees our greatest potential for impact as preparing Awaken My City for The United Methodist Church and our Wesleyan brothers and sisters. From May to October 2017, FFE will conduct a pilot grant consisting of a \$45,000 development/planning grant and membership on the planning task force to develop the Wesleyan education and content. This grant will develop the Awaken My City model for the entire UMC.

## From Our President

It was my privilege to share with you impact stories, news of grant awards and resources deployed as they unfolded throughout last year. We continued, and continue in 2017, to focus ministry and grants on fulfilling our vision to equip and grow generations of Christ followers – clergy and lay – living out their passion for Wesleyan evangelism. Although it lags a bit behind the year's other news, publishing the 2016 annual financial health summary for The Foundation for Evangelism is yet another highlight for the FFE team.

The FFE met all financial obligations for ministry and grant commitments. Endowment funds experienced a 3% growth beyond those commitments. Endowments continued a 6-year positive trend and total assets are up.

Stewardship of funds entrusted to us for ministry is a privilege we hold dear and a core value of our foundation. Thank you for all you give to The Foundation for Evangelism and the ministry you make possible around the world. I look forward to many years of inviting all people into life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ as your partner in ministry.



*Jane Boatwright Wood, President (far left), Carolyn Smith, Administrative Assistant (center right), meet with FFE interns from Western North Carolina University. These interns helped guide FFE's social media presence during the 2016-17 academic year.*

## Facts and Figures from 2016

- As of December 31, 2016, total endowed assets of The Foundation for Evangelism were \$22,330,407 representing an increase of \$730,000 over 2015.
- Grants for Leadership Development, including the E. Stanley Jones Professors of Evangelism, totaled \$701,172 for the year.
- All 13 E. Stanley Jones Professor of Evangelism chairs were occupied in 2016.
- New grants funded in 2016 are the African Evangelism Summit [\$10,000], Timothy Circle Technology Development [\$21,000], and House Church Evangelism Applications Study [\$3,000].
- Making Disciples on the College Campus Pilot Grant Program awarded \$118,540 to two recipients. Grant payments begin in 2017.

# Financial Report

## Statement of Financial Position

### TOTAL ASSETS

\$28,670,250

### TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

\$28,670,250

#### CURRENT ASSETS

Cash in Bank	\$98,355
Investments	\$4,483,867
Receivables	\$93,538
Property and Equipment	\$1,655,789
Prepaid Expenses	\$8,294
Endowments	\$22,330,407

#### TOTAL

**\$28,670,250**

#### LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$5,283
Accrued Expenses	\$1,284
Split Interest	\$244,259

#### TOTAL LIABILITIES

**\$250,826**

#### NET ASSETS

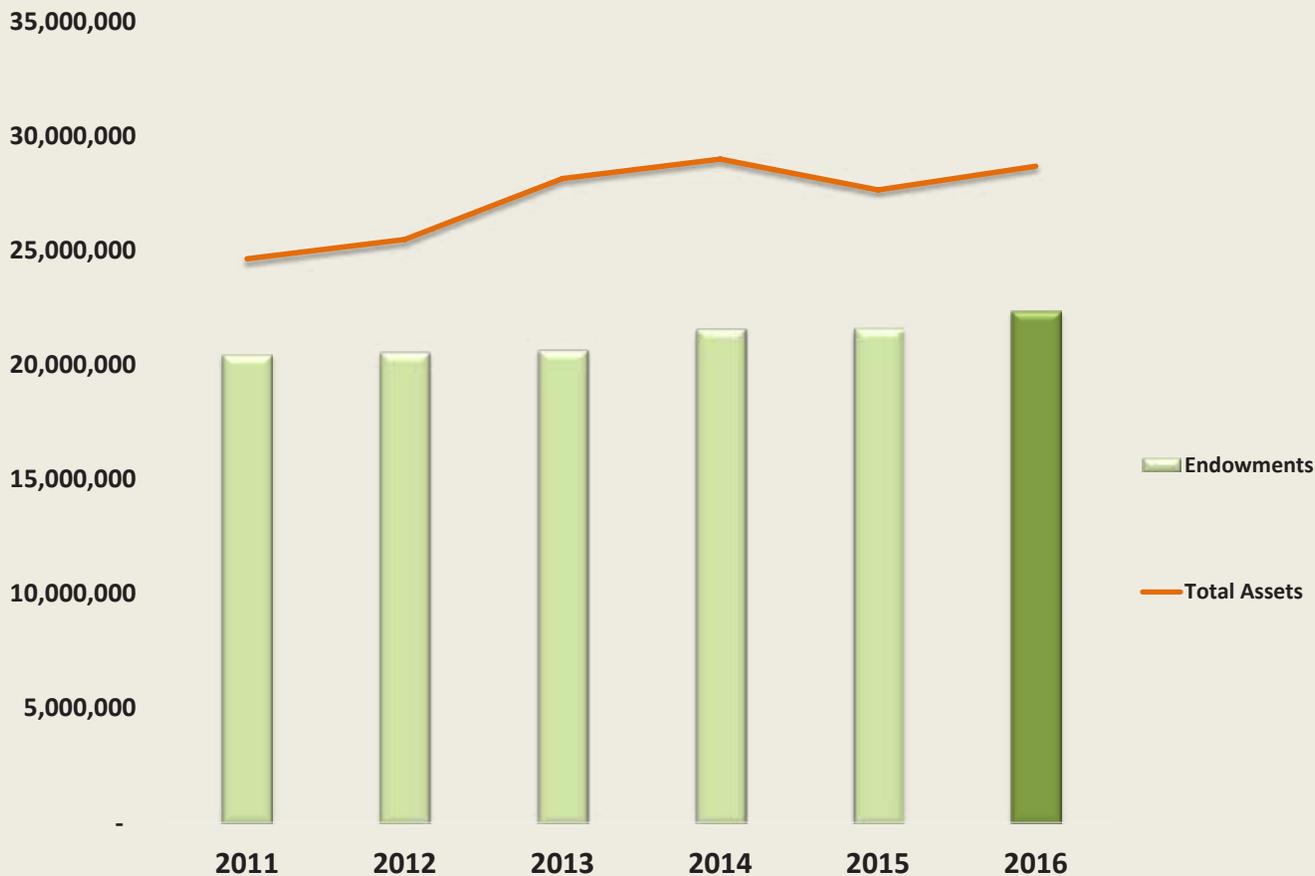
\$28,419,424

#### TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

**\$28,670,250**

Source: The Foundation for Evangelism 2016 Reviewed Financial Statements and Supplementary Information

### Total Assets Trending Report



*Our **Mission** is to promote, encourage, and provide resources for Wesleyan evangelism inviting all people into a life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ.*

*Our **Vision** is growing generations of Christ followers – clergy and lay – living out their passion for evangelism.*

*Headquartered in Lake Junaluska, NC, The Foundation for Evangelism (FFE) is an international grant-making organization. While many of our grants equip leaders within The United Methodist Church, FFE is an independent 501 (c) 3, and as such we do not now, nor at any time in our history, receive apportionment dollars. FFE strives to equip disciples to invite disciples through Wesleyan evangelism. Grants prepare clergy and lay leadership, impact younger generations, and engage local churches, seminaries, and ministry innovators to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

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