

2016 Virginia Annual Conference Special Offering

Bishop Young Jin Cho announced that the 2016 Annual Conference offering goal will be \$150,000 and again focus on both international and Virginia-based mission needs. The offering goal includes:



METHODIST MISSION IN CAMBODIA: \$50,000

We will be offering our continued commitment to the rapid growth and expanding influence of the Methodist Mission in Cambodia through support for training lay and clergy leadership and building churches;



METHODIST CHURCH OF BRAZIL: \$25,000

\$25,000 will go to continue to support the Methodist Church of Brazil programs with at-risk children in cities and communities across Brazil;



METHODIST CHURCHES IN MOZAMBIQUE: \$25,000

\$25,000 will go to support our long-term relationship with United Methodist churches in Mozambique, focusing primarily on the vital area of education and development of resources for training laity in two conferences in that country; and



DISASTER RELIEF IN VIRGINIA: \$50,000

\$50,000 is designated to help fund disaster response in our conference, particularly the long-term recovery work required to repair damaged homes, rebuild destroyed homes and provide a caring Christian presence to those who suffered loss when multiple tornadoes struck Virginia last February.



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
VIRGINIA CONFERENCE

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Dear Friends in Christ,

Our 2016 session of the Virginia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church is calling us to prayer and action as we participate in God's mission in the world and our own backyard.

Part of author Frederick Buechner's definition of compassion is, "the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy finally for you too." We as United Methodists in Virginia always respond to the needs of others in compassionate response to God's call on our lives. Our offering this year reflects that compassion as we once again reach out to touch and be touched by God's hand in global and local mission.

We will continue to support our three long-term international partnerships with:

Cambodia – As we strengthen our commitment to the Methodist Mission in Cambodia in our fourth year of support as that church continues its rapid growth moving toward being an autonomous Methodist Church.

Brazil – In our long-term partnership with the Shade and Fresh Water ministry of the Methodist Church of Brazil, we support this compassionate ministry with at-risk children in cities and communities.

Mozambique – Our partnership with the Methodist Church in Mozambique focuses on education through providing laity resources that strengthen their discipleship and witness in a growing number of sites throughout the country.

Disaster Relief and Recovery - Finally, as a conference we will provide funds in partnership with UMCOR here in Virginia as we help in the long-term recovery and rebuilding of homes after the devastating tornadoes that touched down in three areas of our state.

It is my prayer that each of us draws upon our tradition and calling of a compassionate missional response as an expression of our faith in a God who first made compassion incarnate in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In Christ,

Young Jin Cho