

# LEGACIES

FEBRUARY 2021

## PHILANDER SMITH AWARDED \$250,000 FOUNDATION GRANT

*Funding supports Dr. Joycelyn Elders School of Allied and Public Health*

Little Rock's Philander Smith College is the recipient of a \$250,000 grant from The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas aimed at improving public health across the state through initiatives developed by the Dr. Joycelyn Elders School of Allied and Public Health.



The grant will fund programs to graduate students in allied health professions and create innovative strategies to decrease health disparities across the state.

"We are delighted to receive this

support for the Dr. Joycelyn Elders School of Allied and Public Health as we continue our commitment to address health disparities in Arkansas," said Philander Smith College President Roderick L. Smothers, Sr. "This grant is a reaffirmation that The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas continues to find our work and outcomes worthy and we appreciate the fact that they remain one of our strongest partners."

In 2015, the Philander Smith College Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the Dr. Joycelyn Elders School of Allied and Public Health. Elders, an Arkansas native and Philander Smith College alumna, was the 15th Surgeon General of the United States. She was the first African American and the second female to head the U.S. Public Health Service.

The College is working to raise \$2 million in initial funding as a part of the first phase of a \$9.5 million campaign to strengthen the outreach and expand the school's impact. Some goals are to renovate and expand the existing research laboratory and clinical spaces, plan and develop a programmatic design and establish a timeline for accreditation, and fund scholarships for students.

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Top left: Dr. Joycelyn Elders;  
Bottom left: The Dr. Jocelyn Elders School of Allied & Public Health, Philander Smith College, Little Rock

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Rev. J. Wayne Clark  
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## A MESSAGE FROM WAYNE

### A Look at 2020

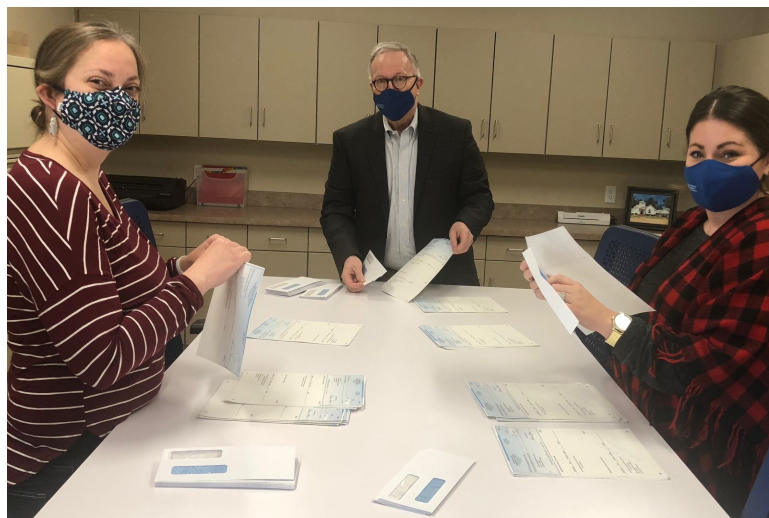
*One for the record books*

The pandemic of 2020, along with unrest around the world, was a challenge. Churches, schools, and businesses have had to learn how to do their daily activities in new and different ways. For some, this has added additional opportunities to do their work, and for others, it has been catastrophic. I pray that you have been well physically, mentally, and spiritually. Even amid these trials, I have seen the hand of God working in remarkable ways.

The Foundation has had many blessings, even in these challenging months. At the end of 2020, The Foundation's assets were \$216 million, an all-time high. The Foundation's managed accounts, established by Arkansas Methodist churches or church members, generate money in perpetuity, returning earnings to church ministries year after year. Over \$4.5 million was distributed in early January 2021 to Arkansas churches and Methodist-related charities from these accounts. These funds directly support children and youth ministries, scholarships, music programs, mission work, and building maintenance.

The year 2020 was one for the record-books in many ways. Thanks to your continued support of the Foundation, I am happy to share some highlights of our year in this issue of **Legacies**.

BLESSINGS,  
Wayne



## Annual Distribution of Checks

Foundation staff members (L to R): Emily Madden, Clarence Trice, and Haley Klein mail annual distribution checks totaling over \$1.1 million to Foundation clients.

# 2020: A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR

## TYPES OF ACCOUNTS

Our asset composition is divided into four areas:

43%

### TRUSTEE ACCOUNTS

Permanent gifts to the Foundation supporting United Methodist ministries

49%

### AGENCY ACCOUNTS

Funds of United Methodist churches and institutions placed with the Foundation for management

6%

### LIFE INCOME

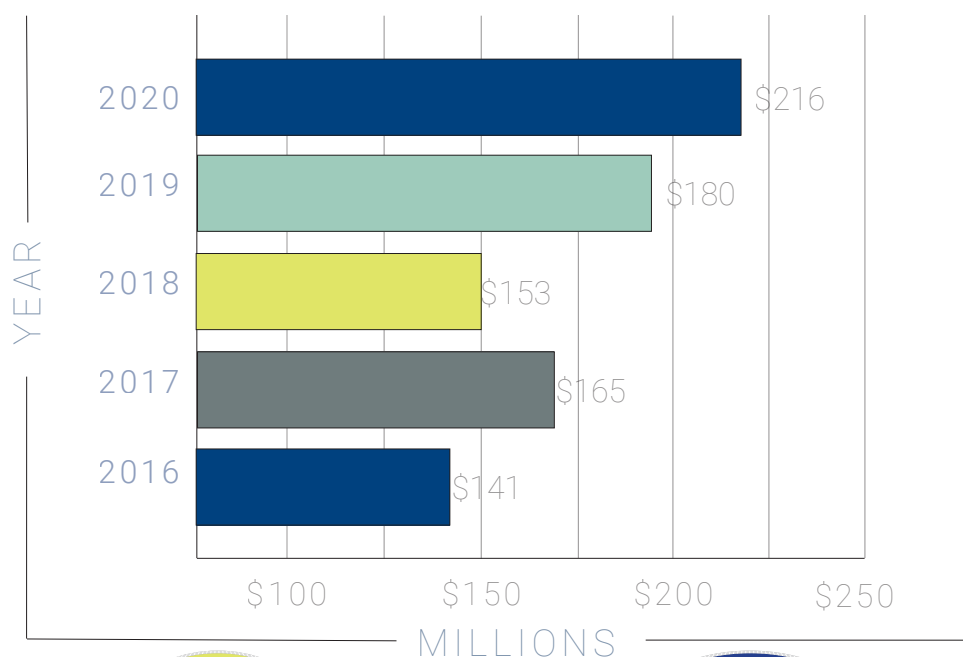
Transfers of cash or investments in return for increased income during lifetime with benefit to United Methodist ministries at death

2%

### PROPERTY & RESERVES

Physical property and equipment; accumulated net earnings

## FOUNDATION GROWTH IN TOTAL ASSETS



**20+** EVENTS hosted online or in-person

**43** NEW ACCOUNTS

**10% INCREASE** in social media followers

**8% INCREASE** in total assets

**IN 2020**

**WORK FROM HOME**

**NEW STAFF MEMBER**

**OVER \$1.68 MILLION** in grants awarded

**OPEN 57 YEARS**

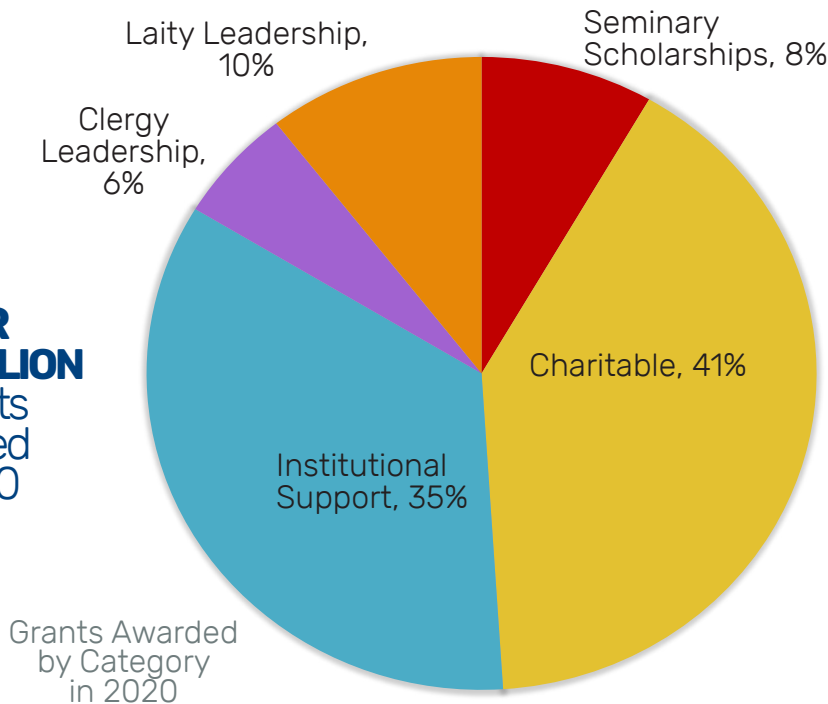
**FOUNDATION-BRANDED FACE MASKS**

**GOOD STEWARDS PROGRAM** created

**OVER 125 CONGREGATIONAL VISITS** made by Foundation Staff

# GRANTS 2020

**OVER  
\$1.68 MILLION**  
in grants  
awarded  
in 2020



**OVER  
\$50,000**  
awarded to the  
AR Conference  
for emergency  
supplies for every  
United Methodist  
church in the state.

**90**  
individual grants  
awarded by the  
Foundation's Grant  
Committee  
in 2020.



## FOUNDATION NEWS

**Janet Marshall**  
Vice President of Development

Even with the pandemic in 2020, The Foundation staff continued working to create and administer permanent charitable endowment funds to grow and strengthen UM ministry in Arkansas. That has been our mission since 1963, and we are grateful for those that helped us maintain this responsibility this past year.

### New Accounts & Events

In 2020, we opened 43 new accounts. This number represents accounts opened by UM churches, institutions, and individuals. Five new charitable gift annuities were created, as well. We were able to host around twenty events, some in our new facility, and some by video conferencing. Staff members had visits with over seventy-five churches or institutions to review their investments or to thank them for the opportunity to partner with us in ministry. Most of these visits were also conducted by video conferencing.

### New Bishops' Club members

It was the first time since 1986 that The

Foundation did not host a luncheon to recognize the members of the Bishops' Club. These members honor the 80 Bishops who have served Arkansas since 1836. Their gifts support the ministries of The Foundation and strengthen the work of The Church. We appreciate the generosity of one new Lifetime member and seventeen new Annual members in 2020. We look forward to thanking them in person soon.

### In Conversation Together

The Foundation began a new program last fall, "In Conversation Together." Participants are invited to an hour-long conversation with well-known philanthropists, leaders in religion, popular motivational speakers, and others as they share their work, stories, and visions. "In Conversation Together" gathers on the third Thursday of each month from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Upcoming speakers include Master Gardener Janet Carson (March); former Arkansas Razorback and motivational speaker, Anthony Lucas (April); Bishop Gary Mueller, episcopal leader of the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church (May); Chelsea Clinton, author, economic and global health advocate (June) and Rev. Juanita Rasmus, pastor at St. John's UMC in Houston, TX (August).

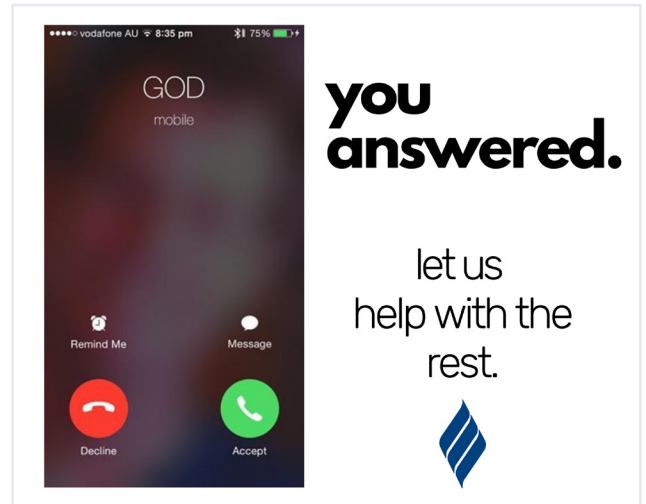
## Seminary Scholarships Available Now

The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas recognized the potential debt faced by pastoral candidates who must travel outside the state to attend a United Methodist seminary. Therefore, the Seminary Scholarship Fund was established in 2000.

A limited number of scholarships are available to Arkansas students attending a three-year United Methodist seminary and who will return to the state upon graduation. Since the program's inception, the Foundation has awarded over 40 scholarships to students attending United Methodist seminaries.

The MFA Seminary Scholarship aims to strengthen Methodist Churches in Arkansas by ensuring strong pastoral leadership for the future. These scholarships enable some of our best and brightest students to answer God's call and become church pastors in our local communities.

The Foundation is awarding scholarships for promising candidates for both the Deacon track, as well as the Elder track. The application deadline is March 15th, 2021. Contact Rev. Mackey Yokem, Director of Leadership Ministries, at 501-664-8632 or [myokem@methodistfoundationar.org](mailto:myokem@methodistfoundationar.org) to learn more.



### Calling Clergy & Lay Leaders 2021 Endowment Seminar

Invite your endowment chair, finance chair, trustees chair, and members of these committees to join you for this informative virtual Endowment Seminar on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, hosted by The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas. Topics include:

- What is an endowment fund?
- Why is an endowment fund important, and what are its benefits to your local church?
- How can an endowment fund be created to benefit ministry at your local church?
- Learn practical tips from local church staff that use their endowment funds to support ministry and missions.

[More information coming soon!](#)

#### *Philander Smith, continued*

"We are pleased The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas can help with the capital campaign," said Rev. J. Wayne Clark, President and CEO of the Foundation. "Building on the great legacy of Dr. Elders and partnering with Philander Smith College will be a tremendous service to Arkansas and beyond."

Philander Smith College, founded in 1877, is one of the oldest private, historically Black institutions of higher learning in Arkansas. A four-year liberal arts college,



### Attend the Perkins School of Theology 2021 Summit for Faith & Learning on us!

Take a break from all your worries and join us for this year's virtual Perkins Summit for Faith & Learning. With the theme "Looking Forward, Learning Together," you can look forward to inspiration and education on a range of topics, taught by five members of the Perkins faculty and an alumnus. This annual event allows you to experience a day – or two – at seminary!

Visit the Foundation's website to register and get more information.

the institution is affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

Charles King, Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Philander Smith College said, "Our partnerships are critical to the realization of dream Dr. Elders' dream to ensure that equity is achieved in our healthcare system. This gift is significant in light of our long-standing relationship with The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas.

# ENDOWMENT FUNDS

How It Works

