



# The Connection

The United Methodist Association of Church Business Administrators  
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## Your Whole Body is Full of Light

letter from the  
**President**  
PHILLIP M. ESTES

“Your eyes will see the king in his beauty; They will behold a land that stretches far away.” Isaiah 33:17.

Dear Friends:

Now is the time when life in the church becomes, well, pretty lively. As administrators, we are now well into managing a greater volume of activities, all in addition to normal daily operations. We’re in the middle of special fall events, building projects, and of course, the budget process.

Ah, the budget. It’s the foundation for operations in the coming year and requires quite a lot of extra effort as we participate in facilitating meetings with staff and laity to discern spending priorities, in helping design stewardship communications strategies, and in equipping leadership with the information, tools and facilities needed to do this important work for God’s mission in the world. Our plates are full and at times, the challenges we face can loom large.

As the fall workload grows, it is encouraging to keep the beauty of our ministry as our focus. That is, God has called us to this labor of love. We are inspired by God’s unimaginable grace and mercy. The beauty of his very present kingdom surrounds us. His reign on earth “... stretches far away.” The knowledge of God’s vast presence within us, our community and around the world is both comforting and empowering. He is our strength as we work to equip the church for his purpose.

It is the purpose and hope of this family called UMACBA that our combined efforts will result in opportunities to inform, educate and celebrate the profession of the United Methodist Church Business Administrator. Thank you for your continued support of this wonderful fellowship.

May God lift you up in your walk through the ministry of Administration.  
Phil Estes  
President UMACBA Executive Committee

**FYI** Sandra Lackore retired as General Secretary of the General Council on Finance and Administration in June of 2007. She had been a member of the UMACBA for many years and the executive committee made her an honorary member. In July of 2008, the Council elected Moses Kumar the sixth General Secretary. Kumar has over 32 years of ministry experience, most recently for eight years as Treasurer and Executive Director of Administrative Ministries for the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference. He holds a master of Business Administration from Eastern University in St. Davids, Pennsylvania and a Bachelor of Commerce from Madras Christian College in India. We welcome Moses as his leadership will work hand in hand with the association.

## National Institute in Church Finance and Administration



Atlanta, Georgia 2009

### SEMINAR I

Session A June 1-5

Session B June 8-12

### SEMINAR II

Session A June 15-19

Session B June 22-26

For more information, go to  
[www.umacba.org/CERTIFICATION/  
Certification.htm](http://www.umacba.org/CERTIFICATION/Certification.htm)

(to be updated upon information from Emory).

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## Pickin' Your Tune: Writing a New Song

### 2008 UMACBA National Conference in Nashville, Tennessee

R. Mark King, Director of Communications

2008 NACBA National Conference and the UMACBA component are now history. But if you attended, you know what fantastic events they were. Nashville was as hospitable as any place we've been with its Southern charm and musical flavor. The Gaylord Opryland Hotel — a city unto itself. One could get lost in that metropolis and take years to be found!

This may be one of our record years for UMACBA attendance with over 70 registered. We began our time together with a reception on Saturday night. Old friends were reunited and new friends made. The next day began the week of the NACBA proper with superb keynote speakers including our own Dr. Roberta Bondi from Emory, fantastic workshops, including our four that were well attended, a business session/brunch and then our unique fellowship events.

The first such event was the Sunday evening dinner and tour of The Hermitage, Andrew Jackson's home. Everyone enjoyed the leisurely evening and a return to yesteryear. The second event was Monday's closing banquet and worship service was at The Upper Room in Nashville, a ministry of the General Board of Discipleship. We all enjoyed a delicious dinner at the dining hall of The Upper Room and then Rev. Tom Albin and Mike Rayson led us in an inspiring time of worship and communion in the beautiful Upper Room Chapel. Tom is Dean of the Chapel at The Upper Room and Mike is a native of Australia whose 11 year old son was tragically killed. As his life was changed, he offers testimony through music in a powerful witness. We all received a CD of his music along with a bag of many goodies from The Upper Room.

We installed our officers that the association elected on Monday evening as well — listed in this newsletter. We welcome Molly Fairchild as an at-large member and bid Rev. Phil Greenwald a much deserved thank you and service well done as he rotates off the executive committee. Phil deserves so much credit for organizing this year's conference. Yet, let me say a personal word that all the officers contributed in their own way and made everything possible for the association's benefit and enjoyment. Alan Morrison of the GCFA is to be commended as our staff liaison and was/is absolutely vital to our success.

This year we also offered a new service — our own networking lounge. The executive committee will evaluate its success and we would love to hear from you if you found it to be helpful.

No matter how hard we try, once again, Treasurer Dean Roller presented a 2007 Fiscal Year financial report that reported a net income. The executive committee continues to be good stewards of our funds but in the same way desires to be intentional about using those funds for the service and good of the association rather than building up a large nest egg (some is good, but we are abundantly blessed!).

We meet in Long Beach, California next year — July 17-21 2009. Make plans now to attend. The executive committee travels there in October to begin planning. But it will be a difficult process indeed to top this year in Nashville! I close with the words of attendee Chris Malaska of Buncombe Street UMC in Greenville, South Carolina. He wrote President Phil Estes and said, "I truly enjoyed the meetings of the UMACBA last week in Nashville. That was my first attendance of the two groups. The meetings and classes of the NACBA were well worth the trip and time spent. It was great to fellowship with over a hundred of my Methodist administrators." It can't be better said.

## UMACBA Membership Report

Dixon Moseley, executive committee at-large member and Membership Coordinator reported to the association in July at the annual meeting our membership growth and statistics. Dixon compared our Year-to-Date membership (July 2007 to July 2008) of 186 this year against 159 last year. Of the 186, 45 are new members (including fourteen free through NICFA participation). The 2007 total reached 193 of which 52 have not yet renewed for 2008. The executive committee plans follow-up to these 52 to encourage them to renew.

Dixon M. Moseley and James L. Murphy were granted Emeritus Membership at the 2008 UMACBA annual meeting.

We congratulate the following who were recognized at this year's annual gathering for Certification as a United Methodist Church Business Administrator, class of 2007:

**Brenda J. Barrett**  
First UMC  
Pulaski, Tennessee

**Sharon E. Davis**  
Foundry UMC  
Houston, Texas

**Patricia L. Malott**  
Faithbridge UMC  
Spring, Texas

**Andy J. Reynolds**  
First UMC  
Longview, Texas

**Donald L. Rhoads**  
Germantown UMC  
Germantown, Tennessee

Certification retroactive to 2003 was granted to:

**Noah Allen, Jr.**  
Fairview UMC  
Maryville, Tennessee

Recertification was granted to the following for 2007:

**Noah Allen**  
**Charles Bagley**  
**Peggy Blankenship**  
**Elizabeth Caster**  
**Jeannette Dalton**  
**Frank Dennewind**  
**Rich Enns**  
**Phillip Estes**

**Susan Forry**  
**Sandra Harlan**  
**Susan Jespersen**  
**Mark King**  
**David Lewis**  
**Rachel Miller**  
**Peggy Moss**  
**James Murphy**

**Nancy Newman**  
**Genie Osborne**  
**Andrea Quinn**  
**Rod Sprott**  
**Jim Terry**  
**Rene Watson**  
**Winston Worrell**  
**Johnie Wright**

Lifetime Certification was granted to the following for 2007:

**Michelle Defano**

**Harold Stockman**

Certification and recertification requirements are found at [www.umacba.org](http://www.umacba.org). The executive committee acts as the professional training and standards committee for the association and makes recommendations to the General Council on Finance and Administration of The UMC. Final approval is granted by GCFA according to ¶807.18 of the 2004 Book of Discipline.

The purpose of the United Methodist Association of Church Business Administrators shall be to support the ministry of Christ and the Christian Church by providing leadership, training, and encouragement in the areas of church business administration for individuals and organizations of The United Methodist Church.

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### MEMBERSHIP

For more information about becoming a member of UMACBA or for a membership application, go to our website [www.umacba.org](http://www.umacba.org) or contact Dixon Moseley at 850-432-1434 or [dmosley@pensacolafirstchurch.com](mailto:dmosley@pensacolafirstchurch.com).

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For more information about the United Methodist Association of Church Business Administrators, see the website at [www.umacba.org](http://www.umacba.org).

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**NACBA National Conference**

**July 17-21, 2009**

**Long Beach, California**

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