



The United Methodist Church

Florida + Episcopal Area

Kenneth H. Carter, Jr.
Resident Bishop
bishop@flumc.org

Rev. Alex A. Shanks
Assistant to the Bishop
ashanks@flumc.org

Winnie Dean
Administrative Assistant
to the Bishop
wdean@flumc.org

Shannon Redden
Administrative Assistant
to Rev. Alex A. Shanks
sredden@flumc.org

May 1, 2018

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Bishop's Offering for Annual Conference 2018 will be divided evenly between ZOE Ministries and funding for training laity and clergy in innovative forms of evangelism.

About ZOE Ministries

According to global research, 385 million children are living in extreme poverty throughout the world. The debilitating results are disease, hunger, exploitation, abuse, illiteracy, and hopelessness. ZOE's approach has proven that children living in poverty also hold the greatest capacity to create lasting solutions for themselves, their families, and their communities.

By investing in local, indigenous leaders in seven countries on three continents, ZOE's distinctive, holistic international development model provides the vital relationships, training, and resources to empower young participants to overcome the isolation and stigmatization associated with extreme poverty. We are blessed to be able to assist Zoe Ministries in empowering children and youth to become self-reliant and able to give back to their communities and churches. www.wearezoe.org/

Training Laity and Clergy

As I move about the annual conference I consistently see our churches engaged with their communities in new and exciting forms of evangelism. Training our laity and clergy in creative and contextual ways of reaching out will be essential to sustaining and creating vital churches in the future, and in reaching new people with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your generosity!

The Peace of the Lord,

Kenneth H. Carter, Jr.
Florida Area Resident Bishop
The United Methodist Church

450 MARTIN L. KING JR. AVE.
LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33815

TELEPHONE
863-688-4427

TOLL FREE
1-800-282-8011, EXT. 151

FAX
863-687-0568

WWW.FLUMC.ORG