

## **What is the World Service Fund?**

--From 2003 California-Nevada Annual Conference Session information

The World Service Fund has been called “the lifeblood of the Church.” Seven general program agencies (The General Boards of Church and Society, Discipleship, Global Ministries, Higher Education and Ministry, and the General Commissions on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, Religion and Race, Status and Role of Women) and three general administrative and support agencies (General Council on Ministries, United Methodist Communications, General Council on Finance and Administration) depend on the World Service Fund for all or a substantial part of their financial support.

These agencies extend the Church’s mission into the world and bring supportive services to Annual Conferences and local churches through such actions as deployment of missionaries, development of lay and clergy leadership, production of resource tools for church schools, research for social action ministries, provision of training workshops in evangelism, education, worship, and much more. The yearly apportioned amount to each Annual Conference is set by the General Conference.