

## General Secretary's Letter

# Greetings

I am honored to share with you the 2022 Central Conference Pensions (CCP) Report. CCP provides long-term retirement security for United Methodist clergy across Africa, the Philippines and Europe.

**As the administrator of the CCP program, Wespath continues to support the central conferences by encouraging best practices in the management and funding of pension programs** outside the U.S. Our goal, in partnership with the central conferences, is to support self-funded and self-sustaining plans.

My predecessor, Barbara Boigegrain, shared the first biennial CCP Report two years ago as Wespath's general secretary and a longtime champion of this important ministry. Since that time, the world has continued to deal with the challenges of the global pandemic, and the need to provide pension benefits has grown increasingly vital—particularly in many of the regions served by the CCP program.

### Carrying Forward the Legacy

My personal connection to the CCP Initiative, traces back to 2004—the year the General Conference authorized the launch and the year that I joined Wespath. Back then, Barbara and the Board Chair at the time, Bishop Ben Chamness, had a vision for CCP and a passion to build a pension support system for clergy who serve faithfully outside the U.S., just as clergy in the U.S. enjoy.

Wespath remains firmly committed to continuing this legacy into the future. Today, it is because of Barbara's and Bishop Chamness' leadership, and the generosity of thousands of CCP donors throughout the world, that over 3,400 retirees and surviving spouses receive these pension payments.

While I am less than one year into my role as general secretary and chief executive officer of Wespath, my years as a senior leader with Wespath have provided insights into the importance of this program. This past year I've had the opportunity to participate in a virtual conversation with Central Conference Benefits Officers to hear how vital these benefits are to participants around the world.

### Building Bridges During Challenging Times

We are in a time of change that will be felt across our global Connection. Wespath continues to stand as a neutral, non-anxious presence for The United Methodist Church (UMC) and other Methodist-related denominations. We are committed to serving as a bridge-builder throughout the world and we look forward to continuing our mission of caring for those who serve globally through CCP.

As Wespath's new general secretary, I pledge to continue our work with 69 annual and provisional conferences to build sustainability of your pension programs for future generations. I invite you to read the personal stories and learn more about the tangible impact the CCP program has on the lives of pastors and families who are sharing God's witness around the world.

Grace and Peace,

**Andy Hendren**

*General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer, Wespath*



*Andy Hendren, General Secretary and CEO*



**Wespath**  
BENEFITS | INVESTMENTS