

**GENERAL BOARD OF DISCIPLESHIP OF  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
d/b/a DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES**

**CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
AND SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES**

*As of and for the Years Ended December 31, 2015  
and 2014*

*And Report of Independent Auditor*

## Report of Independent Auditor

The Board of Directors of the  
General Board of Discipleship Ministries of  
The United Methodist Church

The Committee on Audit and Review of the  
General Council on Finance and Administration of  
The United Methodist Church

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of the General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church d/b/a Discipleship Ministries (the "Board"), which comprise the consolidated statements of financial position as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related consolidated statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Board's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Board as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in its consolidated net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole. The other information included in Schedules 1 through 4, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the consolidated financial statements.

Schedules 1 through 3 are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the consolidated financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the consolidated financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the consolidated financial statements or to the consolidated financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the consolidated financial statements as a whole.

Schedule 4 has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the consolidated financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.



Charlotte, North Carolina  
June 15, 2016

**GENERAL BOARD OF DISCIPLESHIP OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

*DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014*

|   | 2015                      |                      |                      | 2014                      |                      |                      |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|   | Consolidating Information |                      |                      | Consolidating Information |                      |                      |
|   | Board of Discipleship     | The Upper Room       | Consolidated Total   | Board of Discipleship     | The Upper Room       | Consolidated Total   |
| <b>Assets</b>                                     |                           |                      |                      |                           |                      |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents                         | \$ 17,116                 | \$ 65,163            | \$ 82,279            | \$ 4,932                  | \$ 83,044            | \$ 87,976            |
| Due from GCFA Short-Term Pooled Investment Fund   | 36,796                    | 2,622,591            | 2,659,387            | 3,192,961                 | 4,808,620            | 8,001,581            |
| Accrued World Service                             | 2,428,663                 | -                    | 2,428,663            | 2,486,910                 | -                    | 2,486,910            |
| Accrued World Service - SBC <sup>21</sup>         | 135,156                   | -                    | 135,156              | 138,309                   | -                    | 138,309              |
| Accrued World Service - NACP                      | 73,397                    | -                    | 73,397               | -                         | -                    | -                    |
| Investments                                       | 12,994,026                | 14,613,470           | 27,607,496           | 13,312,081                | 14,994,320           | 28,306,401           |
| Accounts receivable, net                          | 291,222                   | 934,755              | 1,225,977            | 504,249                   | 1,211,492            | 1,715,741            |
| Accrued income receivable                         | 1,972                     | 35,722               | 37,694               | 3,497                     | 1,889                | 5,386                |
| Inventories                                       | 260,366                   | 1,250,762            | 1,511,128            | 316,774                   | 1,400,885            | 1,717,659            |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets                 | 79,726                    | 286,514              | 366,240              | 116,701                   | 303,565              | 420,266              |
| Property, buildings, and equipment, net           | 2,207,138                 | 5,157,108            | 7,364,246            | 1,725,362                 | 5,395,042            | 7,110,404            |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                               | <b>\$ 18,525,578</b>      | <b>\$ 24,966,085</b> | <b>\$ 43,491,663</b> | <b>\$ 21,801,776</b>      | <b>\$ 28,188,857</b> | <b>\$ 49,990,633</b> |
| <b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>                 |                           |                      |                      |                           |                      |                      |
| <b>Liabilities:</b>                               |                           |                      |                      |                           |                      |                      |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses             | \$ 733,783                | \$ 781,470           | \$ 1,515,253         | \$ 795,052                | \$ 1,165,429         | \$ 1,960,481         |
| Custodial funds payable                           | 209,917                   | -                    | 209,917              | 154,346                   | -                    | 154,346              |
| Accrued royalties                                 | 27,849                    | 120,410              | 148,259              | 35,779                    | 84,889               | 120,668              |
| Deferred income                                   | 14,001                    | 3,463,397            | 3,477,398            | -                         | 3,520,543            | 3,520,543            |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                          | <b>985,550</b>            | <b>4,365,277</b>     | <b>5,350,827</b>     | <b>985,177</b>            | <b>4,770,861</b>     | <b>5,756,038</b>     |
| <b>Net Assets:</b>                                |                           |                      |                      |                           |                      |                      |
| Unrestricted:                                     |                           |                      |                      |                           |                      |                      |
| Undesignated                                      | 7,602,647                 | 13,421,458           | 21,024,105           | 9,375,843                 | 15,611,649           | 24,987,492           |
| Board designated – capital expenditures           | 61,399                    | 460,583              | 521,982              | 600,182                   | 460,583              | 1,060,765            |
| Board designated – programs                       | 3,769,152                 | 708,907              | 4,478,059            | 5,176,825                 | 1,322,648            | 6,499,473            |
| Board designated – investment in plant facilities | 2,207,138                 | 5,157,108            | 7,364,246            | 1,725,362                 | 5,395,042            | 7,110,404            |
| <b>Total Unrestricted Net Assets</b>              | <b>13,640,336</b>         | <b>19,748,056</b>    | <b>33,388,392</b>    | <b>16,878,212</b>         | <b>22,779,922</b>    | <b>39,658,134</b>    |
| Temporarily restricted                            |                           |                      |                      |                           |                      |                      |
| Permanently restricted                            | 3,491,751                 | 195,039              | 3,686,790            | 3,555,646                 | 2,204                | 3,557,850            |
| <b>Total Net Assets</b>                           | <b>407,941</b>            | <b>657,713</b>       | <b>1,065,654</b>     | <b>382,741</b>            | <b>635,870</b>       | <b>1,018,611</b>     |
| <b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>           | <b>\$ 18,525,578</b>      | <b>\$ 24,966,085</b> | <b>\$ 43,491,663</b> | <b>\$ 21,801,776</b>      | <b>\$ 28,188,857</b> | <b>\$ 49,990,633</b> |

The accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

**GENERAL BOARD OF DISCIPLESHIP OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

|  | Consolidating Information |                        |                        |                |               |                        | Consolidated Total |  |
|--|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------------|--|
|  | Board of Discipleship     |                        |                        | The Upper Room |               |                        |                    |  |
|  | Unrestricted              | Temporarily Restricted | Permanently Restricted | Total          | Unrestricted  | Temporarily Restricted |                    |  |
| Revenue:                                     |                           |                        |                        |                |               |                        |                    |  |
| Sales of literature                          | \$ 306,632                | \$ -                   | \$ -                   | \$ 306,632     | \$ 13,672,434 | \$ -                   | \$ 13,672,434      |  |
| Cost of goods sold                           | (176,226)                 | -                      | -                      | (176,226)      | (2,776,199)   | -                      | (2,776,199)        |  |
| Allocations through the GCFA:                |                           |                        |                        |                |               |                        |                    |  |
| World Service                                | 8,469,982                 | -                      | -                      | 8,469,982      | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| National Hispanic Plan                       | -                         | 75,000                 | -                      | 75,000         | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Native American Comprehensive Plan           | -                         | 257,485                | -                      | 257,485        | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Strengthening the Black Church               | -                         | 452,468                | -                      | 452,468        | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Youth Service Fund                           | 16,506                    | 38,513                 | -                      | 55,019         | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Registration fees/special projects           | 2,254,761                 | 177,404                | -                      | 2,432,165      | 146,430       | 672,961                | 3,105,126          |  |
| Grants and contributions                     | 105,249                   | 604,886                | 25,200                 | 735,335        | 477,431       | 614,610                | 1,349,945          |  |
| Receipts from related organizations          | 260,066                   | -                      | -                      | 260,066        | 44,631        | 44,631                 | 304,697            |  |
| Rental income                                | 120,340                   | -                      | -                      | 120,340        | 63,948        | 63,948                 | 184,288            |  |
| Other income                                 | 3,072,716                 | 66,209                 | -                      | 3,138,925      | 530,021       | 220                    | 370,329            |  |
| Benefit Trust distribution                   | 1,157,791                 | -                      | -                      | 1,157,791      | 947,283       | 947,283                | 2,105,074          |  |
| Services received from GCFA                  | 31,797                    | -                      | -                      | 31,797         | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Net assets released from restrictions        | 1,509,317                 | (1,509,317)            | -                      | -              | 87,665        | (87,665)               | -                  |  |
| Total Revenue                                | 17,128,931                | 162,648                | 25,200                 | 17,316,779     | 13,573,745    | 174,321                | 21,843             |  |
| Expenses:                                    |                           |                        |                        |                |               |                        |                    |  |
| Program services:                            |                           |                        |                        |                |               |                        |                    |  |
| Leadership Ministries                        | 3,349,098                 | -                      | -                      | 3,349,098      | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Young People's Ministries                    | 3,458,623                 | -                      | -                      | 3,458,623      | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| New Church Starts                            | 2,076,176                 | -                      | -                      | 2,076,176      | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Vital Congregations/Conference Relations     | 1,109,836                 | -                      | -                      | 1,109,836      | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Strengthening the Black Church (SBC21)       | 547,070                   | -                      | -                      | 547,070        | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Native American Comprehensive Plan (NACP)    | 284,864                   | -                      | -                      | 284,864        | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Discipleship Resources                       | 179,205                   | -                      | -                      | 179,205        | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Central Conference Relations (CCSR)          | 891,398                   | -                      | -                      | 891,398        | -             | -                      | -                  |  |
| Books and Magazines (The Upper Room)         | -                         | -                      | -                      | 6,165,250      | -             | 6,165,250              | -                  |  |
| Programs and Events (The Upper Room)         | -                         | -                      | -                      | 4,553,619      | -             | 4,553,619              | -                  |  |
| Total Program Services                       | 11,896,270                | -                      | -                      | 11,896,270     | 10,718,869    | -                      | 10,718,869         |  |
| Support Services:                            |                           |                        |                        |                |               |                        |                    |  |
| General and support services                 | 8,378,925                 | -                      | -                      | 8,378,825      | -             | 5,487,378              | (3,225,837)        |  |
| Customer and support services                | -                         | -                      | -                      | 8,378,825      | 5,487,378     | -                      | 5,487,378          |  |
| Total Support Services                       | 8,378,825                 | -                      | -                      | 8,378,825      | 5,487,378     | -                      | 5,487,378          |  |
| Total Expenses                               | 20,275,095                | -                      | -                      | 20,275,095     | 16,206,247    | -                      | 16,206,247         |  |
| Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses | (3,146,164)               | 162,648                | 25,200                 | (2,958,316)    | (2,632,502)   | 174,321                | (2,436,338)        |  |
| Nonoperating Items:                          |                           |                        |                        |                |               |                        |                    |  |
| Net investment return                        | (91,712)                  | (226,543)              | 25,200                 | (318,255)      | (399,364)     | 18,514                 | (380,850)          |  |
| Changes in net assets                        | (3,237,876)               | (63,895)               | -                      | (3,276,571)    | (3,031,866)   | 192,835                | (2,817,188)        |  |
| Net assets, beginning of year                | 16,878,212                | 3,555,646              | 382,741                | 20,816,599     | 22,779,922    | 2,204                  | 23,417,996         |  |
| Net assets, end of year                      | \$ 13,640,396             | \$ 3,491,751           | \$ 407,941             | \$ 17,540,028  | \$ 19,748,056 | \$ 195,039             | \$ 20,600,808      |  |
|  |                           |                        |                        |                |               | \$ 657,713             | \$ -               |  |
|  |                           |                        |                        |                |               |                        | \$ 38,140,836      |  |

The accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**GENERAL BOARD OF DISCIPLESHIP OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

|  |               |                        |      |                        |                |  |               |  |                        | Consolidating Information |                        |       |              |                    |               |
|--|---------------|------------------------|------|------------------------|----------------|--|---------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Board of Discipleship                        |               |                        |      |                        | The Upper Room |  |               |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    |               |
| Unrestricted                                 |               | Temporarily Restricted |      | Permanently Restricted | Total          |  | Unrestricted  |  | Temporarily Restricted |                           | Permanently Restricted | Total | Eliminations | Consolidated Total |               |
| \$   |               | \$                     |      | \$                     | \$             |  | \$            |  | \$                     |                           | \$                     | \$    |              | \$                 |               |
| Revenue:                                     |               |                        |      |                        |                |  |               |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    |               |
| Sales of literature                          | \$ 343,324    |                        | \$ - | \$ -                   | \$ 343,324     |  | \$ 14,447,850 |  | \$ -                   | \$ -                      | \$ 14,447,850          | \$ -  | \$ -         | \$ 14,791,174      |               |
| Cost of goods sold                           | (211,475)     |                        |      |                        | (211,475)      |  | (2,773,204)   |  |                        |                           | (2,773,204)            |       |              | (2,984,679)        |               |
| Allocations through the GCFA:                |               |                        |      |                        |                |  |               |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 11,806,495    |
| World Service                                | 7,682,900     |                        |      |                        |                |  | 7,682,900     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 7,682,900     |
| National Hispanic Plan                       | 74,495        |                        |      |                        |                |  | 74,495        |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 74,495        |
| Native American Comprehensive Plan           | 236,134       |                        |      |                        |                |  | 236,134       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 236,134       |
| Strengthening the Black Church               | 448,429       |                        |      |                        |                |  | 448,429       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 448,429       |
| Youth Service Fund                           | 55,720        |                        |      |                        |                |  | 55,720        |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 55,720        |
| Registration fees/special projects           | 439,470       |                        |      |                        |                |  | 508,676       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 1,427,947     |
| Grants and contributions                     | 268,901       |                        |      |                        |                |  | 593,170       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 1,271,707     |
| Receipts from related organizations          | 326,954       |                        |      |                        | (50)           |  | 326,904       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 377,189       |
| Rental income                                | 117,285       |                        |      |                        |                |  | 117,285       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 171,094       |
| Other income                                 | 3,106,166     |                        |      |                        |                |  | 3,306,166     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 374,243       |
| Benefit Trust distribution                   | 1,120,083     |                        |      |                        |                |  | 1,120,063     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 2,036,514     |
| Net assets released from restrictions        | 1,485,717     |                        |      |                        | (1,465,717)    |  |               |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    |               |
| Total Revenue                                | 14,715,045    |                        |      |                        | (113,234)      |  |               |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 25,362,867    |
| Expenses:                                    |               |                        |      |                        |                |  |               |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    |               |
| Program services:                            |               |                        |      |                        |                |  |               |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    |               |
| Leadership Ministries                        | 3,422,460     |                        |      |                        |                |  | 3,422,460     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 3,422,460     |
| Young People's Ministries                    | -             |                        |      |                        |                |  | 1,867,567     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 1,867,567     |
| New Church Starts                            | 1,607,005     |                        |      |                        |                |  | 1,607,005     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 1,607,005     |
| Strengthening the Black Church (SBC21)       | 464,551       |                        |      |                        |                |  | 464,551       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 464,551       |
| Native American Comprehensive Plan (NACP)    | 297,259       |                        |      |                        |                |  | 297,259       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 297,259       |
| Discipleship Resources                       | 203,744       |                        |      |                        |                |  | 203,744       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 203,744       |
| Central Conference Relations (CCSR)          | 677,937       |                        |      |                        |                |  | 677,937       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 677,937       |
| Books and Magazines (The Upper Room)         | -             |                        |      |                        |                |  | 6,177,348     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 6,177,348     |
| Programs and Events (The Upper Room)         | -             |                        |      |                        |                |  | 4,138,511     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 4,138,511     |
| Total Program Services                       | 8,540,523     |                        |      |                        |                |  | 8,501,523     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 10,315,859    |
| Support Services:                            |               |                        |      |                        |                |  |               |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    |               |
| Customer and support services                | 7,300,391     |                        |      |                        |                |  | 7,300,391     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 7,300,391     |
| Total Support Services                       | 7,300,391     |                        |      |                        |                |  |               |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    |               |
| Total Expenses                               | 15,840,914    |                        |      |                        |                |  | 15,840,914    |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    |               |
| Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses | (1,125,869)   |                        |      |                        |                |  | (1,239,103)   |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | (1,558,215)   |
| Nonoperating Items:                          |               |                        |      |                        |                |  |               |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    |               |
| Net investment return                        | 387,464       |                        |      |                        |                |  | 486,764       |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 3,970,219     |
| Changes in net assets                        | (738,405)     |                        |      |                        |                |  | (752,339)     |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 5,207,487     |
| Net assets, beginning of year                | 17,616,617    |                        |      |                        |                |  | 21,568,938    |  |                        |                           |                        |       |              |                    | 9,177,706     |
| Net assets, end of year                      | \$ 16,878,212 |                        |      |                        | \$ 3,555,646   |  | \$ 382,741    |  | \$ 20,846,599          |                           | \$ 22,779,922          |       | \$ 2,204     |                    | \$ 44,234,595 |

The accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**GENERAL BOARD OF DISCIPLESHIP OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

**YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014**

|   | <b>2015</b>    | <b>2014</b>  |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>  |                |              |
| Change in net assets  | \$ (6,093,759) | \$ (840,137) |
| Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash<br>from operating activities: |                |              |
| Depreciation  | 1,077,406      | 846,794      |
| Net realized gains on investments   | (2,638,327)    | (1,690,375)  |
| Net unrealized losses on investments  | 3,557,240      | 1,004,064    |
| Loss on disposal of equipment   | 12,039         | -            |
| Changes in assets and liabilities:  |                |              |
| Decrease in Due from GCFA short-term<br>pooled investment fund                          | 5,342,194      | 600,613      |
| Accrued World Service Fund allocation   | 58,247         | 25,951       |
| Accrued World Service Fund allocation - SBC21   | 3,153          | 1,381        |
| Accrued World Service Fund allocation - NACP  | (73,397)       | -            |
| Accounts receivable, net  | 489,764        | 131,675      |
| Accrued income receivable   | (32,308)       | 96,518       |
| Inventories   | 206,531        | 88,721       |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets   | 54,026         | 41,229       |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses   | (445,228)      | 429,600      |
| Custodial funds payable   | 55,571         | 21,126       |
| Accrued royalties   | 27,591         | 14,550       |
| Deferred income   | (43,145)       | (377,711)    |
| Net cash from operating activities  | 1,557,598      | 393,999      |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>  |                |              |
| Purchases of property, buildings, and equipment   | (1,343,287)    | (1,939,368)  |
| Proceeds from sale of investments   | 23,759,596     | 4,000,230    |
| Purchases of investments  | (23,979,604)   | (2,431,767)  |
| Net cash from investing activities  | (1,563,295)    | (370,905)    |
| Net change in cash and cash equivalents   | (5,697)        | 23,094       |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year  | 87,976         | 64,882       |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of year  | \$ 82,279      | \$ 87,976    |