



The  
Alabama - West Florida  
**Conference**  
United Methodist Church



## Faithful Servants of Our Church Need Your Help

The stories are numerous, and the theme is always the same: years of sacrifice, devotion and dedication to the United Methodist Church, followed by years of hardship during retirement. Approximately 2,000 retired pastors, lay workers and surviving spouses in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe are struggling to survive—growing their own food, relying on their children and even creating products to sell.

### Consider the Following Stories



**The Reverend Amina Isaias**

*Retiree, Mozambique, Africa*

For the Reverend Amina Isaias, the ministry has been a family affair. Her husband (now deceased) served as a pastor for 17 years, and she served for 23 years before retiring. In retirement, Rev. Isaias struggles even to pay for clean water.



**The Reverend Daniel Islam**

*Retiree, Liberia, Africa*

Rev. Islam served rural parishes for most of his 31 years in ministry. He often went unpaid and occasionally received his salary in rice or other food, leaving him unable to save for retirement.

In areas where living conditions are already difficult, these faithful workers for Christ face economic insecurity when their careers in ministry end; they will have little or no retirement income. The Central Conference Pension Initiative (CCPI) was created to address this problem.



GENERAL BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Caring For Those Who Serve



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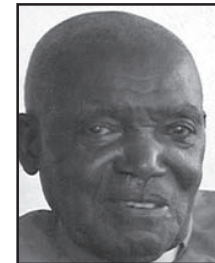
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## **CCPI's Focus is Two-fold:**

- First, we must provide immediate, short-term funding to help those who are already retired, as well as the surviving spouses of clergy who have served so faithfully.
- Second, we must work with the central conferences to define, establish and fund workable, sustainable pension systems that can serve all of their clergy for many years to come.

## **You Can Be A Part of this Ministry With Your Support & Generosity Through the 2010 AWF Annual Conference**

In our focus on nurturing disciples, the 2010 Alabama-West Florida (AWF) Conference Special Mission Offering will be given to the Central Conference Pension Initiative (CCPI). Please consider a sacrificial gift that will support retirees and surviving spouses in countries around the world.

Send contributions through your local church by placing them in the offering plate today. If you'd like to contribute with a check donation, make it out to your church and designate it as for "CCPI Special Offering." Your pastor(s) & lay delegate(s) will then present your church's total donation at the Opening Worship Service of the 2010 AWF Annual Conference on June 6 in Montgomery, AL.

More information about this year's Annual Conference session may be found at [www.awfumc.org/ac2010](http://www.awfumc.org/ac2010).

### **For further information, contact:**

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