

1 **COMMUNICATION TRANSITION TEAM**

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3 The Communication Transition Team communicates through a full range of media. The primary
4 internal communication tools supporting congregational and district ministries include the nine-
5 issue *Hoosier United Methodists Together* newspaper mailed to more than 13,500 clergy and
6 lay leaders of local churches (and 1,000 subscribers), and the electronic *Hoosier United*
7 *Methodist News* posted on the Indiana Area UMC web site in a format that can be downloaded
8 for newsletters and worship bulletin inserts.
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10 Our external communication includes press releases and interviews with public media reporters,
11 as well as our Indiana Area and new Indiana Conference Web sites.
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13 Your Indiana communication team assists local congregations and their ministries by providing
14 news, commentary, and information about communicating with their communities and the
15 connectional church. We also advise pastors during a crisis in their congregations by coaching
16 them on their responses to public media. Our communications staff is composed of the Director,
17 Dan Gangler, and Communication Assistant Erma Metzler.
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19 **Publishing/Together**

20 During 2008, the commission:

- 21 • Published nine issues of the 12-page *Hoosier United Methodists Together* newspaper;
- 22 • Worked closely with the Imagine Indiana Design and Transition Teams to communicate their
23 work, and assisted with the special conference session in October;
- 24 • Published the *Daily HUM News* at annual conference sessions; notified media; and provided
25 photos for the *Journal*. We also posted daily session reports on the Area Web site;
- 26 • Published a weekly Friday e-newsletter, e-events, a Monday Mission Opportunities listing, a
27 weekly column by Bishop Coyner, and sent Alerts and Announcements to subscribers;In
- 28 • Designed and implemented a new Indiana Conference Web site that will continue to grow as
29 the former conference Web sites migrate to the new site.

30 **Public Relations**

- 31 • Special events are promoted internally and through public media. We continued to cover
32 advocates who rally against the expansion of legalized gambling in Indiana, and continued
33 with other organizations to support a comprehensive smoke-free workplace law statewide.
- 34 • Public service announcements are placed on cable TV as part of the Igniting Ministry
35 campaign. WICR includes a Sunday, 60-second United Methodist Newsbreak program that I
36 write. Our office also creates both print and electronic promotional materials for the Bishop's
37 Christmas Offerings for Children, which distributed \$130,000 to projects in Indiana and
38 around the world.

39 **In the next year:**

- 40 • *Hoosier United Methodists Together* newspaper will continue to publish a nine-issue, 12-
41 page newspaper.
- 42 • e-HUM will continue publishing download-able, news pages formatted to fit congregational
43 newsletters and the entire issue of each *Together* newspaper in PDF format. We will
44 continue to publish a weekly Friday e-newsletter, e-events list and upload Bishop Coyner's
45 weekly E-pistle.

46 **Communications also will:**

- 47 • Expand and promote the use of the new Indiana Conference Web-site www.inumc.org;
- 48 • Host one-day district communication workshops emphasizing electronic communication;
- 49 • Continue production of a one-minute weekly news brief for WICR;
- 50 • Work with the new conference directors in serving the 10 new districts and their
51 congregations with the new conference Web site.

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53 **Daniel R. Gangler, Director of Communication**