

THE COMMITTEE ON PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

HISTORY

The Conference Committee on Pastoral Care and Counseling traces its beginnings to the 1967 Annual Conference when a standing committee was established. In the 1984 Conference Journal this committee's mandate centered around the need for healing and included the following responsibilities:

1. Communicating with the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, Office of Ministerial Affairs, and the Cabinet regarding clergy care systems.
2. Strategic planning regarding pastoral care and counseling needs in the conference.
3. Providing policy guidelines, connectional linkage, and evaluation of conference programs of pastoral care and counseling.

MISSION STATEMENT

With the vision Caring for the Caregiver, the Pastoral Care and Counseling Committee understands that clergy, diaconal ministers, and laity sometimes experience pain while attempting to be in ministry. On behalf of the SC Conference we wish to offer a healing presence by supplementing counseling fees for clergy, diaconal ministers, and their families in the widest geographical area possible and in strict confidentiality.

All Clergy/Diaconal Ministers and their families who are related to the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church are eligible recipients of supplementary fees. After reviewing the availability of funds and the increase in requests, the committee decided that the maximum is \$30 for individual/couple/family sessions and \$15 for group sessions. These maximums fluctuate with availability of funds. In the event a need for counseling is indicated one may call the Office of Connectional Ministries for a list of counseling centers or approved counselors. All approved counselors must register and submit copies of their credentials to the Committee of Pastoral Care and Counseling.

The Committee on Pastoral Care and Counseling is striving to continue an ongoing support system for the clergy/diaconal ministers and their families. Much appreciation is expressed to the South Carolina Annual Conference for your resources and the members of the committee for your willingness to serve.

Cassandra Pasley Jackson, Chairperson