

DID YOU KNOW...?

Did you know that... the equity index firm, Standard and Poors, is a division of the publishing giant McGraw-Hill? That fact is for information only but, perhaps the more exciting news might come in the form of the recent upswing of stock market values.

Those who hold equity mutual funds or individual stocks in their personal portfolio have seen a major turnaround since the market lows that occurred this past March. For example, according to Wright Investors' Services, at September 30, 2009, the **S & P Index** was up 56 percent since the market low last spring.

Between now and year end folks may want to review their portfolios with an eye on making a charitable gift of shares of a mutual fund or an individual stock. A gift of appreciated securities carries with it the current market value on the date of the gift and a donor is able to deduct that full value in the year a gift is made.

The Council on Development is prepared to assist donors. Many times these gifts can be handled electronically. As a service, the Council on Development will receive a gift of appreciated securities, value the gift, provide a receipt to the donor, liquidate the gift, pay the commission (brokerage fee), and remit the proceeds for its intended use – any United Methodist purpose including the local church.

Please let us know if and how we may serve you.

COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENT

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