



Rev. Wee-Li Tan

Rev. Wee-Li Tan Named President of The Florida United Methodist Foundation

LAKELAND, Fla. - The Rev. Wee-Li Tan has been named President of the Florida United Methodist Foundation following a national search. Rev. Tan, who has served as president of the United Methodist Foundation of New England for 12 years, will be joining the Florida Foundation in the fall. He will follow the Rev. Thomas W. Marston, who is retiring after 18 years of service.

A native of Malaysia, Rev. Tan holds a Master of Theology degree in New Testament Studies from King's College, University of Aberdeen, Scotland, a Bachelor of Divinity degree from the University of London, England, and a Bachelor in Accounting degree from the University of Singapore. He is currently a candidate for the Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC) designation from The American College, Bryn Mawr, PA, and anticipates a December 2010 completion. Rev. Tan has served as a missionary in Africa, and also as pastor of

local churches in Malaysia and Massachusetts. From 1984-1987, he also served as an adjunct lecturer in New Testament Studies at the Malaysian Theological Seminary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

A passionate preacher, teacher and leader, Rev. Tan calls his experience in leading a United Methodist Foundation "the most fulfilling work I have ever done." "Working in a Foundation setting allows me to fulfill my commitment to ministry, and, at the same time, utilize my spiritual gifts in finance and my belief that the theology of stewardship undergirds every aspect of our United Methodist Foundation ministry," he said.

According to Rev. Tan, the role of the Foundation is to "enhance and empower the ministry of local churches by providing financial services and educational programs that promote faithful stewardship." During his tenure at the New England Foundation, Rev. Tan made stewardship development his number one priority and introduced educational training programs that promote both personal and congregational stewardship.

A popular speaker, he has conducted clergy tax seminars around the country and has been invited to speak at such events as the North American Conference on Christian Philanthropy and the Northeast Ecumenical Stewardship Council's *Spirituality and Stewardship* conference. In 1998, he received the Wilbur C. Ziegler Award for Excellence in Preaching from the New England Annual Conference.

Rev. Tan was a clergy delegate to the 1996 and 2000 General Conferences of The United Methodist Church, and an alternate in 2004 and 2008. He has been a delegate four times to the Northeast Jurisdictional Conference.

Rev. Tan serves on the Board of Directors of the General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church, where he is a member of the executive committee and chair of the investment committee. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the United Methodist-related Africa University, located in Zimbabwe, and he serves on its executive committee as Board Treasurer. He is a Director of The United Methodist Church Foundation, now serving as a member of its funds management committee after previously chairing its giving and development committee. He has been a member of the management team of the National Association of United Methodist Foundations.

Rev. Tan and his wife Lynn, have three children: Jeremy, 25, Alexander, 21 and Hilary, 18.

About the Foundation: The Florida United Methodist Foundation was established in 1966 as an agency of the Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. Its mission is to facilitate giving and to foster sound stewardship practices within local churches and conference agencies. It also serves as a channel in the handling of planned gifts to United Methodist institutions. Core ministries include investment management, custodial and trustee services, loans, stewardship development and a variety of educational and training programs. When he joins the Foundation later this year, The Rev. Wee-Li Tan will be its fifth president.

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