CHARLES ELLINWOOD
P.O. 222
Kewadin, MI 49648

Greetings, West Michigan United Methodists,

"The dream is alive!"

Africans dreamed of an United Methodist university on their continent. Students would be able to stay closer to home and participate in Methodism's long-time commitment to higher education.

Inspired by that dream a General Conference voted, "Yes".

In 1992 classes began. In 2011 Africa University is one of the outstanding schools on the African continent.

Our association with the university began in those early days before classes started.

We became up close and personal in 1998 when we led our first Volunteer in Mission team to the campus. What an experience to share in the development of the university. We Michigan United Methodists built faculty housing, worked in the library, shared as part-time faculty in teaching English to non-English speaking students and held an eye clinic for students, faculty and people of Hartzell Mission. We returned in 2000 for repeat performances of all these activities.

West Michigan United Methodists were inspired as the Africa University choir sang and swayed at Annual Conference. The dynamic choir director, Patrick Matsikenyiri, had the congregation of Traverse City's Central Church singing and swaying when he shared there in worship. He left Traverse City with new glasses fitted by Dr. Paul Kropf. Dr. Kropf was the leader of the on-campus eye clinics in both years.

Now we are inspired to have the opportunity to share in building a retreat center for the University. Together we United Methodists of West Michigan can add to the function and beauty of the campus.

Grace and Peace,

Charles Ellinwood Sue Ellinwood

Charles and Sue Ellinwood