

# **The Foundation of the Central Rocky Mountain Region**

By Steve Weidner

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The investment market in 2015 was less favorable than in recent years and lagged behind previous returns. Therefore, the total value of the funds at 12-31-2015 was \$6,280,171 compared to a balance of \$6,455,505 in 2014 and \$2,305,000 in 2013. The primary difference between 2013 and 2014 fund balances being the acquisition of the Campbell-Stone Memorial Residence. Total payouts to various ministries during 2015 totaled approximately \$106,884. Excluding the Campbell-Stone Memorial Residence, the majority of the funds are invested with the Christian Church Foundation and the Board of Church Extension.

The annual fee and payout for each fund are based on the January 1 balance. The payout for the various ministries continues to be 4.50% from each fund. It is anticipated that earnings each year will exceed the payout and this allows the funds to grow. However, that was not the case in 2015 with some funds actually underperforming expectations. We continue to evaluate our investment strategies on a quarterly basis. An annual administrative fee of 0.25% of the total fund balance is deposited into the Foundation operating account. This fee covers the cost of the annual financial review or audit. The Foundation completed a full financial audit of 2014.

There are three Funds which continue to accept gifts and donations. The Endowment Fund has a value of \$720,506. The Tilsley Scholarship Fund has a value of \$88,370. Scholarships are awarded from this fund to students working toward advanced degrees and enrolled in Disciples affiliated universities. In 2014 and 2015, scholarships of \$3,000 per year were awarded. The Youth Trust Fund had a balance on 12-31-2015 of \$48,628. The annual payout goes toward the Youth Camp and Conference program to help defray the operating expenses of the many camp programs. The Foundation also continues to accept gifts to be used to establish new named funds for purposes consistent with the organizational documents and purposes.

In 2014, the CRMR Foundation accepted the generous gift of the Campbell Stone Memorial Residence from the Board of that facility. Since then, the Campbell-Stone Oversight Committee has been developed to monitor the property management performed by Ross Management. The Foundation is currently working on a strategy for the eventual disposition of the property.

Your Foundation Board of Directors continues to evolve as we bring additional expertise to the management of the assets. As of 12-31-2015, the members of the Board include Dale Abel, Karen Griffith, Jerry Lang, Greg Hock, Pam Baumgartle, Tracy Morgan, Deanna Stahlecker, Tom Rainbolt, Dave Killen, Ruth Tilsley, Steve Weidner, and RM Dean Phelps (ex-officio). Karen Griffith continues to serve as Treasurer, and Deanna Stahlecker serves as Secretary.

**Steve Weidner**  
Foundation President