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THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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September 20, 2001

Rev. Carl E. Rhoads III
The Louisiana Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church
527 North Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5720

Re: Income Tax Exemption Ruling Letter dated October 16, 1974 –
The General Council on Finance and Administration

Dear Rev. Rhoads:

This letter will certify the inclusion of The Louisiana Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church within the covered organizations contained in The United Methodist Group Federal Income Tax Exemption Ruling. I am enclosing a copy of the Group Ruling Letter, dated October 16, 1974, which may be used in conjunction with this letter to certify the covered status. Also enclosed in a recent mailing from the IRS reaffirming that we are the parent organization under Group Ruling 2573. Local churches, districts, annual conferences of The United Methodist Church, and their affiliated organizations are automatically included under the terms of the Ruling Letter within the Group Ruling. The General Council on Finance and Administration, as administrator of the Group Ruling, each year submits a filing of all organizations, which are covered under its terms. The Louisiana Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church has been included and will be included in our annual filing to be submitted with the Internal Revenue Service.

I am also enclosing for your information a cover memorandum concerning various aspects of the Group Ruling, which you may find useful. Occasionally, Internal Revenue Service offices request the Group Exemption Number of organizations, which they suspect may be covered by Group Rulings. The Group Exemption Number is GEN 2573. This number may be used in correspondence with the Internal Revenue Service to indicate which group exemption The Louisiana Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church comes under.

I hope this information will be useful to you. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

David Ullrich
Associate General Counsel

Enclosures