

STATE COLLEGE DISTRICT

OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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NEWS & NOTES

August 19, 2010

MISSION PROJECTS

10 projects in 10 days. From October 10th through 19th you will be able to learn about mission projects around the world supported through The Advance, the designated giving arm of The United Methodist Church, during an online event unlike anything you have experienced before. It's called **10-Fold**. Through live webcasts, streaming video, online chats and other media, you will see and hear about amazing projects that are changing people's lives.

To get more details, download the **10-Fold Participant's Guide** which includes:

*Tips, so you can get the most out of 10-Fold,

*Ways you can help spread the word to your pastors, church communicators, family, friends and fellow church members,

*And information about how you can trigger a \$1.00 donation with one click when you visit **10-Fold.org** daily and register your interest for a mission project. Up to \$10,000 is available for each project.

Take a look at the **guide**, start spreading the word and join us at **10-Fold.org** starting on October 10, 2010 for this online global gathering.

Sincerely,

The 10-Fold Team

This email is a courtesy of:
United Methodist Communications
810 12th Avenue, South
Nashville TN 37203

SAVE THE DATE:

All pastors are asked to save **March 16, 2011**, for a visit to the State College District by Bishop Middleton. Details will follow in early 2011.



Congratulation to Rev. Bob Rupp (Clearfield, Trinity) on receiving his Doctor of Ministry Degree.

IS YOUR CHURCH INCORPORATED?

It is important for churches to be incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Incorporation makes the church a legal entity. Among other things, incorporation protects individual officers of the church from liability should a case be lodged against the church.

If you do not know whether your church is incorporated, it is easy to find out. All the incorporated churches in PA are listed on the Department of State website. Go to <http://www.recovery.pa.gov/portal/server.pt/community/corporations/12457> and click on 'search and order documents' This will allow you to enter a church's name and see if they were incorporated, along with the date. If you do not find your church immediately, remember to check under previous names of the congregation.

Cemeteries are listed as well, and congregations are urged to incorporate their cemeteries separately from the churches. This allows a cemetery association to continue beyond the lifetime of the local church.

Information about incorporation can be found on the website of the General Council of Finance and Administration, www.gcfa.org Ultimately, however, the church will need to engage a local lawyer to carry out the incorporation.

REGISTRATION OPEN!!! SPECIAL SESSION OF THE SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE:

PASTORS ARE YOU AND YOUR LAY MEMBER REGISTERED? – Note: no registration needed for visitors

Saturday, September 11, 2010

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Community Arts Center, Williamsport, PA

<http://www.susumc.org> under the 'Events Menu'

INTERPRETER ENROLLMENT CHANGES:

We want to alert you to a very important change in the process to enroll your church leaders to receive complimentary subscriptions to Interpreter magazine. You will now receive this information DIRECTLY from United Methodist Communications and NOT from your district office. You can expect to receive this information soon after your charge conference.

We hope that by preparing you for this important change, you will be able to update your church's Interpreter enrollment information for 2011 more easily.

If you're ready to update your 2011 enrollment information today, you may use the online option at www.umcom.org/subscriptions . For questions, you may contact United Methodist Communications Customer Service at 888-346-3862, or by e-mail csc@umcom.org

LOCAL PASTORS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS REGISTRAR!!!!

All - Local Pastors And Associate Members --- have a new Registrar - COS registration and Seminary Registration forms once signed by the DS and checks need to go to the new registrar, Joan Dodson. Joan's address is RR3, Box 97, Dalton, PA 18417 and her e-mail address is jdodson@susumc.org (NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS)

SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE IN THE NEWS

“GOD’S CALL” CAMP EXPLORES MINISTRY

The direction of Mindi Ferguson’s life was changed at a UM camp when she was 14. One week at camp with counselors who cared gave Ferguson—now 21—the time and encouragement she needed to explore her call into ministry. She will graduate from Messiah College, Grantham, Pa., with a degree in youth ministry and start seminary to become an ordained elder. The Susquehanna Annual Conference hired Mindi as a God’s Call counselor, and this summer she is hoping to give that same experience to other young campers.

___“I always knew I wanted to go into ministry, but it was at Salt ’n Light camp that I had a group of counselors really encourage me to pursue that,” she said. “We spent a lot of time in conversation and prayer. Relationships that form at camp are very special and never forgotten. I try to encourage as many people as I can to attend camp because I know how it changed my life, and I want others to be able to experience that as well.”

___Young people often receive a call to ordained ministry or have a calling confirmed by experiences in summer camp, said the Rev. Jay Jones, pastor of Wesley UMC, Bloomsburg, Pa. Jones served as vocational counselor—the precursor to God’s Call counselor—for two years. “During that time, I met so many people who have had an impact upon my faith journey,” he said. “In addition, I was able to guide a few people . . . as they considered God’s call in their own lives. Many of the people I met in those two years have been lifelong friends.”

___Ferguson works at junior and senior high youth camps to help campers consider where God might be leading them. The God’s Call counselor is one of several approaches the conference takes to present youth and young adults with an opportunity to explore what God is calling them to be, Jones said. As a result, the conference has begun to see an increase in the number of young people entering ministry, he said.

___“God’s call has never changed,” asserted Carol Diffenbaugh, chair of the enlistment and interpretation committee with the conference’s board of ordained ministry. “We . . . have become distracted and have forgotten or neglected to assist those within our faith community to hear and respond to God’s call upon them.” The God’s Call counselor provides college-age students with an opportunity to articulate a basic understanding of God’s call to others and to continue their own journey, she added.

___The conference also offers ministry internships, an annual God’s Calling weekend event in January and scholarships and curriculum for middle-school students to help them understand the discernment process. “It is exciting to be on the forefront as someone identifies and takes that first step of faith toward claiming the call to ministry,” Diffenbaugh said. —Kathy L. Gilbert, UMNS

MISSIONINSITE HAS A NEW LOOK

MissionInsite will be hosting Introductory 30-minute WEBINARS on the New MI system interface over the next few weeks. Learn more about the new MI System interface built on Google Maps. Orientation includes basic navigation and use of features. There is no cost for these Webinars.

Webinar Dates and Times:

Thursday, August 26 at 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 7 at 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, September 22 at 4:00 p.m.

Please contact Michelle Saxon to reserve your space:

Michelle Saxon - Client Relations Manager

877-230-3212 ext. 327 or email: msaxon@missioninsite.com

**KATRINA RECOVERY TRIP
STATE COLLEGE DISTRICT MISSION TRIP
CAMP HOPE
VANCLEAVE, MS**

“We seek to be a living expression of God’s love by alleviating the suffering of those impacted by Hurricane Katrina along the Gulf Coast and throughout the state of Mississippi. We are *helping heal hearts and homes.*” **Mississippi Conference of UMC**

August 29, 2005 hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast and will be recorded as the most destructive storm in terms of economic losses. The State College District made a commitment to help the victims of this storm for five years. Unbelievably, there are STILL victims in need of our help!

Plan now to join us on our next trip to Mississippi

DEPART: Leave State College Saturday, October 30, 2010
We will be stopping half way for the night and will arrive in Vancleave, MS Sunday afternoon

RETURN: Leave Vancleave, MS Saturday, November 6, 2010
Stop half way for the night and will arrive State College Sunday afternoon, November 7th.

COST: \$350.00 per person (1/2 fee is due by September 18th and remainder by October 18th)

NOTE: Maximum spaces available - 30 people. Participants must be 18 years of age or older

INFORMATION: There will be an informational meeting at the Mount Nittany United Methodist Church, 1500 East Branch Road, State College, PA on Sunday, September 12th at 2:30 p.m.

You may contact Debbie Pepple at 814-880-6906, DebbieP@psu.edu for additional information or if you are interested in a presentation regarding this mission for your congregation. Electronic forms will be emailed to all District Pastors and Mission coordinators.

If you can't attend the trip you can still help – consider sending Lowe's gift cards or cash donations to the team. You may send these donations to Mount Nittany United Methodist Church, 1500 East Branch Road, State College, PA 16801 ATTN: Katrina Trip. Check can be made payable to the State College District Ministerium (please write Katrina in the memo section).

WAYS TO WELCOME WORSHIP GUESTS WARMLY

By [Robert Crossman](#)

- Greet guests when they first arrive in the parking lot.
- Greet guests as they arrive at the door, saying "Good to see you. Glad you are here." Do not ask for their names as many guests are cautious and prefer anonymity. The larger the church, the more this is true.
- Clearly mark the rest rooms, nursery, and worship rooms. In a large building with a complicated layout, have greeters stand at the intersection of hallways ready to escort guests who are unsure about finding their way.
- Find a way to acknowledge and welcome guests in worship without singling them out or embarrassing them. In many communities, guests prefer to be anonymous so do not ask them to stand and introduce themselves.
- Have an easy and readily available method for worship guests who wish to give you their name and contact information.
- Practice the "Circle of Ten." Encourage church leaders to greet everyone personally—member or guest—who may sit within ten feet of them on Sunday.
- Know that guests typically leave the building within three minutes after the service. Encourage church leaders to follow the "Rule of Three," devoting the first three minutes after the benediction to speaking with those they do not know before speaking to family and friends.

[Dr. Robert Crossman](#) is Minister of New Church Starts and Congregational Advancement for the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church. These ideas are excerpted from the Lewis Center's [50 Ways to Increase Worship Attendance](#) prepared by Dr. Crossman.

HOLY LANDS PILGRIMAGE



The Sea of Galilee. Nazareth. Capernaum. The River Jordan. Bethlehem. Jerusalem. These are only a few of the places we will visit during 10 days of Biblical discovery with Educational Opportunities.

You are invited to join Rev. Eric Shafer, Associate Pastor at St. Paul's UMC, State College on this journey of a lifetime. We will depart on Monday, February 28 and return on Wednesday, March 8. The basic cost of \$2,248 covers your roundtrip airfare, deluxe motor coaches, guided sightseeing, entrance fees to sights visited, 1st Class and Superior 1st Class Hotels, buffet breakfast and dinner daily, Bible study guide, and lecture series. Taxes, optional trip extensions and other

costs are additional.

An **informational meeting** will be held for all persons going and those interested on **Sunday September 19, in the Social Room of St. Paul's at 6:30 pm**. The deadline to register with EO is November 15. You may find out more about the trip at www.eo.travelwithus.com. To register on-line please register for "Jesus in the Galilee 2011," Departure Date: February 28, Departure City: NYC, Tour HL11, Code G, Host: Eric Shafer, ID#: 39854.

So far, there are 14 people registered. Please note, if you don't have your passport yet, you need to begin the process right away. Please call Pastor Shafer with any questions you may have at 237-2163.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS WORKSHOP:
SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE - A PA CONFERENCE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 21 & 22, 2010

Mount Asbury Retreat Center
1310 Centerville Road, Newville, PA

Calling all Susquehanna Conference
Administrative Assistants and Church Secretaries.

Join us for a time to:

Learn and renew

Connect with others & share ideas

Strengthen your office skills

Learn about Conference Reports & Forms

We encourage your church to see this workshop as a time of
professional development with others in the connectional system.

Leadership will be Conference and District Staff. You will learn skills that will help in your work in
a United Methodist Church Office

COST: \$75 per person (all inclusive)

REGISTRATION FORM—ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS WORKSHOP

NAME _____

CHURCH PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

ROOMMATE REQUEST _____

NAME OF CHURCH _____

MAIL TO: CAMP & RETREAT MINSITRY, P.O. BOX 2053, MECHANICSBURG, PA 17055
For more information call Camping Office, 800-874-8474

CHRISTIANITY FOR THE REST OF US

October 9-10

Hawley United Methodist Church
315 Church St., Hawley, PA 18428

Dr. Diana Butler Bass, one of the leading writers and lecturers on effective ministry in mainline churches will be leading this all-day discussion on information gleaned from her latest book and her work resulting in *Christianity for the Rest of Us*.

Call the District Office for a registration form or go to the Hawley UMC church website for more information: hawleyumc.org. Email: hawleyumc@verizon.net Phone: 570-226-3875

PRAYER AND HEALING CONFERENCE

WHEN: October 16 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

WHERE: St. Stephen's Cathedral

WHO: Pastoral Care Givers, Nurses, Doctors, Clergy

SPEAKER: The Rev. Nigel Mumford, Director of Christ the King Spiritual Life Center

WORKSHOPS: Include, Parish Health, Parish Nursing, Pastoral Care Giving, Lay Eucharistic Visitors and healing, developing healing in the congregation.

COST: \$20.00/person

MORE QUESTIONS: Contact – Rev. Robyn Szoke 717-243-4220 or Richard Hoover 814-238-4488



Re-Creation, a group of dynamic young people who present both religious and family-oriented music, will perform at St. Paul's United Methodist Church on August 29, 2010. The performance will be at 7 pm and will be located outdoors on the St. Paul's Campus, Between College Ave., Locust Ln. and McAllister St. in State College. Please bring your lawn chairs! The public is invited and there is no admission charge, but a free-will offering will be received. Contact St. Paul's for more information, 814-237-2163.

MARK CABLE IN CONCERT

Mark Cable, Christian acoustic guitarist, singer, songwriter and storyteller, will perform at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, State College, on September 12 at 2pm. The performance will be in the Sanctuary. Mark has been singing and performing full time for 23 years. Plan to join us to hear this amazing artist's music and stories. There is no admission, but a love offering will be received. Contact St. Paul's, 237-2163, for more information.



SINGLES ADULT MINISTRY will hold its next Dances 4 Singles event from 8 p.m. to midnight August 21, 2010 at Mount Nittany United Methodist Church, 1500 E. Branch Road (Lemont area).

This month's dance will feature Jeff Pennycoff who has recorded in Nashville & will be performing a few live songs & an awesome DJ song list.

Come dressed casual for a fun summer dance!

Participants must be at least 21 years old to attend. ID will be required.

Admission is \$8. for DJ, \$10. for Live Band, Refreshments are included.

For more information, contact Jeff G at dancing2as1@yahoo.com or 867-7771.



LIGHTEN THE BURDEN III

Take **ACTION**. Find the fuel for working toward an AIDS-Free World.

Oct. 14-16, Dallas, TX
Radisson Central Hotel

Join international advocates and activists for *Lighten the Burden III*, a United Methodist conference on AIDS. The event begins at noon with pre-conference site visits and concludes on Oct. 16 at 2 p.m.

This year's conference will feature a **special emphasis** on eradicating the stigma associated with AIDS. The event will also focus on at-risk populations such as African-American and Latina women, who are acquiring HIV at higher rates than other populations in the United States.

The theme of this year's conference, sponsored by the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Committee, is "Working towards an AIDS-free World!"

Workshop sessions include:

- *Looking at AIDS through Cultural Context*
- *AIDS & Communities of Color — How can the church respond?*; and
- *Resourcing Local Churches & Annual Conference AIDS Ministries*

Keynote Speakers:

- **Dr. Musa Dube**, theologian and biblical scholar, University of Botswana;
- **Dr. Pauline Muchina**, senior partnership adviser, UNAIDS;
- **Bishop Minerva Carcaño**, episcopal leader, Desert Southwest Conference of The United Methodist Church;
- **Jeffrey Crowley**, director, White House Office of National AIDS Policy (invited); and
- **Rev. Tyrone Gordon**, St. Luke United Methodist Church

How to Register: Visit www.umglobalaidsfund.org by **Sept. 20**.

Registration Fee: \$100 (covers meals and resources)

Questions? Contact Donna Brandyberry, General Board of Church & Society, dbrandyberry@umc-gbcs.org or (202) 488-5641.

Sponsored by the UMC Global AIDS Fund Committee and contributing partners: General Board of Global Ministries • General Board of Church & Society • General Board of Discipleship • General Board of Higher Education & Ministry • Women's Division of GBGM • Division on Ministries with Young People • United Methodist Communications • General Commission on the Status and Role of Women • General Commission on Religion and Race