

STATE COLLEGE DISTRICT

OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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NEWS & NOTES

November 3, 2011

IMPORTANT INSURANCE INFORMATION

As we are currently in the season for hayrides and other fall festivities, it is important to understand that the Conference and affiliated churches are protected by the Conference Insurance Program in the unfortunate event of an accident resulting in bodily injury or property damage. It is equally important for individuals operating their personal vehicles, tractors or wagons in the course of providing hayrides to understand that they may be subjecting themselves to great personal liability. It is very important that these individuals contact their agent providing their personal insurance to determine if they insured for this type of activity.

Edward J. Eshleman, CPCU
Account Executive - Engle-Hambright & Davies, Inc
800-627-3732

ADVANCED LAY SPEAKER COURSES OFFERED ONLINE

Beadisciple.com has announced its Online course offerings that meet the criteria for advanced courses in Lay Speaking Ministries.

The link to the main LSM page at BeADisciple.com is

<http://beadisciple.com/layspeakingministries.html>. Let Lisa Buffum know if you have any questions. Lisa Buffum, BeADisciple.com

Multimedia Technology in Worship for the Church Volunteer 101 – January 2-13, 2012 – John Zimmerman

Direct link: <http://beadisciple.com/layspeakingministries.html#Multimedia>

Leading Worship 101 for Lay Leaders – January 9 – February 13, 2012 – Dan Benedict

Direct link: <http://beadisciple.com/layspeakingministries.html#Worship>

Biblical Storytelling I – January 16-30, 2012 – Beth Galbreath

Direct link: <http://beadisciple.com/layspeakingministries.html#StorytellingI>

Growing Spiritually through Daily Discipline – January 17 – March 2, 2012 – Debra Dickerson

Direct link: <http://beadisciple.com/layspeakingministries.html#DailyDiscipline>

Biblical Storytelling II – April 15 – May 7, 2012 – Beth Galbreath

Direct link: <http://beadisciple.com/layspeakingministries.html#StorytellingII>

Sandy Jackson

Director of Connectional Laity Development

External Connectional Relations & Strategic Initiatives

GBOD | The United Methodist Church

Nashville, TN 37212-2129

www.GBOD.org

Toll-free (877) 899-2780 Ext. 7179

FIRST NATIONWIDE TEST OF THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

Test to Take Place November 9, 2011 at 2 p.m. ET

As part of their ongoing efforts to keep our country and communities safe during emergencies, the Federal Communications Commission and Federal Emergency Management Agency will conduct the first nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). The EAS test plays a key role in ensuring the nation is prepared for all hazards, and that the U.S. public can receive critical and vital information, should it ever be needed. The first nationwide test will be conducted Wednesday, November 9 at 2 p.m. ET. This test may last up to three and a half minutes, and will be transmitted via television and radio stations within the U.S., including Alaska, Hawaii, the territories of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa. Similar to local emergency alert system tests, an audio message will interrupt television and radio programming indicating: "This is a test." When the test is over, regular programming will resume. For more information about the nationwide Emergency Alert System test, please visit http://www.fema.gov/medialibrary/media_records/6407 and www.FCC.gov. On November 9 at 2 p.m. EDT, please remember: *Don't stress; it's only a test.*

-FEMA Administrator's Message – In English

http://www.fema.gov/medialibrary/media_records/6407

-FEMA Administrator's Message – In Spanish

http://www.fema.gov/medialibrary/media_records/6408

-FEMA Press Release – <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=55722>

-FEMA Blog – <http://blog.fema.gov/2011/10/emergency-alert-system-test-one-month.html>

-FCC Website – <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/emergency-alert-system-nationwide-test>

SAVE THE DATE

Basic Boundaries I & II Training

Tuesday, March 13th, Church of the Good Shepherd, Tyrone
Gather at 9am, Lenten Worship at 9:30pm
Includes Lunch

Basic Boundaries Training: Sexual misconduct and harassment are realities in our churches that need to be addressed. Basic Boundaries training will focus our attention on our need as pastors and church leaders to be constantly vigilant about our own behaviors, thoughts and attitudes. The video "Ask Before You Hug" provides vignettes around which small group discussion and large group processing is led by the facilitator. Strategies will be offered for preventing boundary. Handouts and the book Safe Connections are distributed to all attendees.

This training is required of all persons who are serving in a pastoral role in the local church within six months after being appointed/assigned to a parish. CEU certificates will be provided for those who attend.

Boundaries Level II Training: The Sexual Ethics Policy adopted by the 2011 **Susquehanna Annual Conference** requires all clergy and lay persons who serve congregations in a pastoral role to participate in **supplemental boundaries-related education, in addition to Basic Boundaries Training**. The three-hour Level II Boundaries course fulfills this requirement. .25 CEU's will be awarded to those who complete the Level II training.

Please register by contacting the State College District Office at 814-237-4365 or email Leann at lmohr@susumc.org

**CONTINUING FORMATION QUARTERLY
FROM THE CONTINUING FORMATION COMMITTEE
BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY**

Upcoming Opportunities for Continuing Education

State Pastors' Conference

The Pennsylvania Council of Churches is now accepting registrations for the 2011 State Pastors' Conference. Scheduled for November 14-16 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East (4751 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111), this year's conference will explore "Practical and Practiced Awe: Reclaiming the Joy and Wonder of Our Call." With a rich menu of plenary presentations and workshops, the conference will help clergy to rethink these core practices and set them in more faithful and celebrative contexts.

Keynote speakers for the conference are:

John A. Berntsen, Director of Student Services at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and author of *Cross-Shaped Leadership: On the Rough and Tumble of Parish Practice* (Alban, 2008), and

Anabel C. Proffitt, Associate Professor of Educational Ministries at Lancaster Theological Seminary and author of *The Sense of Wonder: Pathos and Play in Religious Education* (forthcoming).

A diverse selection of workshops fill out the rich menu of learning opportunities.

Cost for the event is \$150 (with a \$25 late fee for registrations received after November 7).

Visit

http://pachurches.org/What/Events%20and%20Services/Pastors%20Conference/pastors'_conference.htm (or <http://tinyurl.com/6h6cxhf>) for more details, including a registration brochure you can download, a news release that tells more about the conference, and links to a site where you can register for the conference and arrange to pay with your MasterCard, Visa or Discover credit card and reserve an overnight room at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East. Or, if you prefer, email pcc@pachurches.org to request a brochure by US mail. (Be sure to include your postal mailing address.)

The Bishop's Retreat 2012 for Our Clergy Family

Presenter: Mike Slaughter

Location: Doubletree Resort, Lancaster

Registration Deadline: December 17

Early Registration Discounts are available

1 ceu is available for this event

For more details and for registration information, visit

www.susumc.org, scroll down on the right hand side and click the link for The Bishop's Retreat. You will find it under the "Susumc Events" heading.

Center for Spiritual Formation, Inc.

Tending the Fire: Teaching clergy how to manage themselves and their congregations in effective, faithful, and life-giving ways. Opening Intensive March 6-8, 2012; Deepening Retreat, May 15-17, 2012; Sending Retreat, Sept. 18-20, Rev. Barbara Lemmel, instructor. This course focuses on applying family systems theory to congregations and pastors. Cost: \$1200.00. 9 ceu's.

Approaching Advent with Samuel Sheffler, preacher, and Deb Koretzky, artist. Nov. 14, 9AM to 3PM. Prepare for the Advent and Christmas seasons with Eucharist, great preaching, and a seasonal craft to take home and/or share with your congregation. Cost: \$30.00/ .60 ceu. At Orchard Hill, Millerstown, PA. Please bring your own bag lunch.

Practicing the Presence of God: A Silent Retreat in the Benedictine Tradition. At Orchard Hill, Millertown, PA, Mon. April 16 at 6:30 PM till Wed. April 18 at 10:00 AM. \$120.00 includes room, meals and 1 ceu. God's first language is silence, and this we will embrace in the silence of the Orchard Hill retreat center and environs. We will practice the seven daily offices of the monastic tradition, celebrate Eucharist, and take some time for private reflection, study and some light work. But mostly, we will practice the presence of God.

Spirituality and Sabbath Rest with Larry Coleman

Friday, April 20th at 6:30 PM till Saturday, April 21 at 4:30 PM. \$100.00 includes overnight lodging, Eucharist, breakfast, lunch and 1 ceu.

David Williams has observed, "Far from a legalistic, lifeless, religious ritual, Sabbath-keeping is a precious gift from God, who loves us enough to deliver us from our self-defeating addiction to self-sufficiency. God wants desperately to bless us. The only question is, will we let him?"

For more information about these events, or to learn of other continuing education events available from the Center, please visit www.centerformation.org; e-mail formation1@embarqmail.com; or call [717-240-0678](tel:717-240-0678).

To register for any of these events, send your name, address, phone number and e-mail address, along with the event name and registration fee payable to the Center for Spiritual Formation, 64 East North Street, Carlisle, PA 17013.

Arranging Your Own Continuing Education Opportunities

Individual Study and Small Group Study may qualify for continuing education credit. For details on how to plan such studies and how to arrange for credit, see the Continuing Formation Manual, pages 3-6. The manual can be found in PDF format on the Continuing Formation Committee's page of the Board of Ordained Ministry website. To get there, go to www.susumc.org, click on the link for Board of Ordained Ministry, then click on the link for Continuing Formation.

Discovery Place has resources that could be used for individual or small group continuing education. Their online catalog is available at www.discovery-place.org

Reminder of Funding Request Deadline

The Continuing Formation Committee has money available to assist Susquehanna Conference clergy in funding their continuing education. These funds are in addition to the funds made available to clergy by the local church. **The deadline for requesting funds from the Continuing Formation Committee for 2012 Events is December 1, 2011.** Please contact Rev. Matthew Lake at

mlake@susumc.org if you need more information about how to make a request for funds.

REMEMBER: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME END ON NOVEMBER 6!!!!

LOCAL CHURCH EVENTS



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

The Howard UMC will host a Community Thanksgiving meal on Saturday, November 19th in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. There is no cost. Please consider bringing a non-perishable food item to donate to the local food bank. Invite a friend or neighbor for a time of good food and conversation!



HOLIDAY BAZAAR AND BAKE SALE

November 19, 2011
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Pleasant Gap United Methodist Church
179 S. Main St., Pleasant Gap, Pa

Crafts, Household Goods, Handmade Items, Jewelry, Food, Baked Goods and much more!

Proceeds Benefit the Church's Capital Campaign



Centre Gathering – January 7th

The next **Centre Gathering** for people from the Centre Country area who have attended a Walk to Emmaus (adults), Chrysalis (youth) or similar weekend experience (Tres Dias, Cursillo, etc.) will be held at the **Mount Nittany United Methodist Church**, 1500 East Branch Road in **State College** on **Saturday, January 7 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** Come to the

Gathering to worship and praise God through song, hearing of an inspirational 4th Day talk, meeting in reunion groups, sharing in prayer and partaking of Holy Communion. We will gather for light refreshments at 6:30 p.m. If you are able, please bring a finger food for our table. Hot and cold beverages will be available. Our worship time together will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Childcare is available upon request two weeks before the event. Those interested in learning more about the Keystone Walk to Emmaus or Chrysalis weekend experiences are also welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Richard Auhl, JRAuhl@aol.com , 814-237-0138.