

NEW Spirit!

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Nigeria - a vision of partnership

*A Report from Nigeria Mission Team #5**

A partnership of ministry between the Eastern Pennsylvania and Nigeria Annual Conferences continues to blossom. This is the first year of the second quadrennium in which we will work together bringing hope to children and families living in poverty in Nigeria.

Eastern Pennsylvania's fifth Volunteer in Mission Team returned to Nigeria on April 15 full of hope and excitement about planning the next phase of ministry together: revitalization of the Medical Clinic in Zing.

The collaboration between the two conferences fueled the team's feelings of hope and excitement for the future of health care in Zing, a critical area of Nigeria. The last four years was the beginning of relationship building, cultural learning, shared concern, and shared knowledge. Now, a collaborative plan of expansion has begun.

For the clinic, expansion includes the physical upgrading of buildings and additions to wards

for men, women and children. Nigerian physicians, as well as other healthcare workers here in Eastern Pennsylvania and in Nigeria are being identified and deployed for particular "surgical camps," to provide necessary surgery to rural citizens suffering with gynecological and urological disorders. A critical relationship is being created with the Nursing School in nearby Jalingo, which includes the education and deployment of new registered nurses from the school to the clinic.

We will strive to support at least one Nigerian missionary physician through our donations to the General Board of Global Ministries.

As we begin our second phase of shared ministry with our brothers and sisters in Nigeria, we celebrate the faithfulness of churches in the Eastern Penn-



The Rev. Mary Elam, pastor of St. Thomas UMC in Philadelphia, stands with a group of children at the Scibre Rural Health Dispensary in Zing, Nigeria.

sylvania and Nebraska Annual Conferences who financially supported the building of the Orphanage in Jalingo providing housing, staffing and equipment for 35 children.

In addition to the orphanage, the Nigerian churches have developed an in-country educational/capital campaign aimed at encouraging and supporting villages in caring for children orphaned in their

communities. This program allows for children to remain closer to their hometown and home culture. The plan encourages churches to take leadership and responsibility, when possible, for caring for orphans within their villages. This example of innovative thinking reflects the commitment of the Nigerian Annual Conference to strengthen

See NIGERIA P9

Explore the wonders of God's creation



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

My wife, Barbara, and I are pleased to invite you to join us in an extraordinary travel opportunity open to members of The Philadelphia Area, their families, and friends. In cooperation with Educational Opportunities, we are offering a 7-day Alaska Scenic Cruise aboard Holland America's Oosterdam cruise ship departing Seattle, Washington, May 20, 2006. During the cruise you will develop a profound understanding of the

beauty of God's creation through the awesome Alaskan scenery. Our theme will be "God's Glory in Creation." Scripture will come alive in special devotions, which will help prepare us spiritually for seeing the sites on the itinerary. You will also enjoy the following benefits:

- * Share in scriptural growth as we worship, sing, pray, and commune together
- * Discover your natural leadership potential as a servant of Christ
- * Develop a new awareness of stewardship of God's Creation
- * Create new and lasting friendships among laity and pastors

The District Superintendents from both Annual Conferences will serve as our spiritual leaders and guides for this cruise program.



The Deans of the Conference Cabinets will serve as Coordinator and Program Director.

Brochures that describe the itinerary and cost from both Philadelphia and Baltimore Airports will be distributed at Annual Conference in June.

Please join me as we experience the beauty of God's creation on this memorable

Alaskan cruise. I look forward to welcoming you aboard.

Sincerely,

Marcus Matthews,
Bishop of The Philadelphia Area of The United Methodist Church

Conference Calendar

June 4

Celebration Luncheon for Rev. Philip L. Ponce

A celebration luncheon for Rev. Philip I. Ponce, Superintendent of the Central District (formerly the Hosier/Philadelphia South and Albright/Lebanon Reading Districts) of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church will be held on Saturday, June 4, 2005 at 11:30 a.m. at Eastwick at The Meadows, 6630 Lindbergh Blvd., Philadelphia, PA. Conference staff, pastors, representatives of all churches in the Central District as well as colleagues, family, friends are invited to attend the celebration of Rev. Ponce's superintendency as he prepares to continue in his ministry at Berwyn UMC. Bishop Marcus Matthews, resident and presiding bishop of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference will bring greetings. The celebration luncheon cost is \$35 and includes a gift for the honoree. For tickets and more information call Dr. Mary White at 610-519-9812. If unable to attend, gifts and notes of appreciation may be sent to Rev. Ponce in care of Dr. Mary White, District Lay Leader, 312 Rockingham Road, Rosemont, PA 19010 or emailed to mwhite9891@aol.com.

June 4

Outdoor Concert Event

The spacious, woods-surrounded amphitheater at Hopewell UMC will be the site of a free public concert and Praise fest from 4:00 p.m.-7:30 pm. The Marsh Creek Church Band, the Dave Kurtz Band and Hopewell UMC's own Praise Team will be performing. For details, call (610) 269-1545 or go to www.HopewellHappenings.org

June 5

Reception and Celebration for Rev. Michele Wright Bartlow

You are invited to join churches and pastors of the East District on Sunday, June 5, 2005, to greet Rev. Bartlow and acknowledge her work with the district as she prepares to leave the office of district superintendent and assume her new appointment as senior pastor of First United Methodist Church of Germantown. The open house and celebration will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall at Evangelical Manor, 8401 Roosevelt Boulevard, Philadelphia. The afternoon will include fellowship, refreshments, singing, stories and tributes, and musical presentations. Come for all or part of the afternoon. For more information contact Audrey Nowicki, 215-674-4368.

June 26

24th Annual Boehm's Heritage Celebration

For the first time ever, all the participants in the program will be "Boehms"! Hal Boehm of Tulsa, Oklahoma will be the speaker for the worship service. His wife Lisa, co-founder with Hal of Catchfire! Ministries will also be a part of the program.

Hal's sister, Lisa Trumbore of Ashland, Kentucky will assist with the musical portions of the program - both congregational singing as well as solo. Lisa is the Music Director of the Grassland United Methodist Church in Catlettsburg, Kentucky. A special part of the service will be the reading of a memorial by Jim Galloway about his late wife, Dorothy, to whom we owe so much for her work on the Boehm genealogy. The celebration begins at 4:00 p.m. with a short business meeting and election of members for the Board of Directors of the Chapel Society. Following the service, a light supper will be served in the Fellowship Hall of Boehm's United Methodist Church. Boehm's Chapel is located at 13 West Boehm's Road, Willow Street, PA - just off Route 272 South - watch for our red signs along the highway. Any questions or additional information, call 717-393-7104.

July 16

EPA Conference Church Softball Tournament

The EPA Conference UMC Softball Tournament will be held on Saturday, July 16, 2005. To register or receive further information please contact Ross Brightwell, tournament coordinator, day or evening, at 215/643-1269, or at rossbrightwell@worldnet.att.net.

July 22-24

Christian School of Mission

(See ad p3.)

August 3-5

Youth Alpha Camp

Pocono Plateau Camp & Retreat Center is hosting Youth Alpha Camp. It is a fun way to learn about basic Christianity. The program consists of: Youth speakers, day and night games, video clips, music and family discussion groups. It also includes the regular camp activities: waterfront, boating, campfires and low ropes. The special cost of this 3-day overnight camp is \$95 per person and includes all meals and activities. Hurry! Space is limited! Contact Pocono Plateau Camp & Retreat Center at 570-676-3665 or visit our website: <http://www.poconoplateau.org>

August 7

Laity Academy

(See ad p11.)

August 20

United Methodist Night at the Phillies

(See ad p3.)

September 24

3rd Annual Alcohol & Drug Recovery Expo

"Learn More - Suffer Less" hosted by United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, 181 Sharp Lane, Exton, PA 19341. "In celebration of the 16th Annual National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month the Church will host Recovery Expo 2005 on Saturday, September 24, in partnership

with Chester County Drug and Alcohol Services. We believe that the more people learn about addiction and the process of Recovery - the less they and their families will have to suffer. For additional information, please contact Wendy Beck @ (610) 363-6164, email her at WBeck@Coadgroup.com or visit www.umcr.org

October 21-22

EPA Older Adult Conference

Sponsored by the Nurturing Disciples Resource Team Older Adult Task Force, this conference will feature Bishop Marcus Matthews and Dr. Richard Gentzler, Director of the Center on Aging and Older Adult Ministry of the General Board of Discipleship, Nashville. It will be held at the Days Inn Conference Center, 1151 Bulldog Drive, Routes 22 & 309 in Allentown. For further information or to receive "The Elder Sage" Newsletter contact: Dorothea Burnett, Older Adult Coordinator, 116 South 53rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19139; 215-476-5504 or othea9@netzero.com

October 29

The Gala - Delaware Conference Remembrance...40 years

Wyndham Hotel, 8th & King Streets, Wilmington, DE 19801. Honorary Chairpersons: Bishop Marcus Matthews and Bishop Melvin G. Talbert. Reception: 4:00 PM, Dinner/Program: 7:00 PM; Keynote Speaker: Bishop Violet Fisher; Extended reception 10:00 PM; Black Tie event. Tickets: \$ 50.00 per person, table of 10: \$500.00. Commemorative booklet and hotel information available. For more information, contact Rev. Dr. Patricia Bryant Harris or Mr. James E. Harris, Co-Chairpersons; 410-219-5401; delconf40@comcast.net; or Rev. Hebert Coe at 610-876-8152; Ms. Betty Henderson at 215-226-5268; Rev. Herbert Palmer at 215-236-6223; or Ms. Anne Williams at 215-223-1391. "Remember ... those who spoke the word of God to you; and imitate their faith." Hebrews 13:7 NRSV

May 2006

Cruise to Alaska

(For more information, see p1.)

WESLEY HERITAGE TOUR OF ENGLAND MAY 18-27, 2006



Depart from Philadelphia
Approx. \$2,400. per person

Contact: Heidi Freas, Grace UMC of Telford, PA; hfreas@msn.com (215) 799-2353. Detailed itinerary available upon request.


Healing the Wounds of Racism Schedule

All classes are Introductory Level 1
 •August 22-24 - Central District: St. Raphaela Mary Retreat Center
 •August 26-28 - Central District: St. Raphaela Mary Retreat Center
 •September 15-17 - Northwest District: Gretna Glen
 •October 2-4 - Open session: Port-O-Call, Ocean City, NJ
 •November 7-9 - Northeast District: Country Place
 For the full brochure and registration form, call Hilda Campbell, Director of Human Relations and Leadership, 1-800-828-9093, ext. 224 or hilda.campbell@epaumc.org or go to: <http://www.epaumc.org/NewsDetails.asp?pageID=286>

NEW Spirit submission requirements

Submit an article or photographs to the NEW Spirit using e-mail or U.S. Mail in only the following formats: Microsoft Word document (.doc), Rich Text format (.rtf), or Simple text file (.txt). We prefer photos sent as actual photographic prints or electronically, as .tif or .jpg. We cannot use pictures less than 800 pixels wide. Please send logos or other graphic art in either .wmf or .eps format.

Email your items to communications@epaumc.org.



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2005 School of Christian Mission: Cornerstones of Hope

By Laura J. Mitchell

The School of Mission for the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference will take place July 22 - 24, 2005. Everyone is invited—men, women, youth and children—to be part of our mission-minded community. Come stay on campus for a weekend of learning and sharing about mission, or make a daily commute to be part of this tremendous event.

We are blessed to have an organization of dedicated women within Conference United Methodist Women who plan and conduct our Schools of Mission. Each year we assemble for study, spiritual growth, worship and fellowship. Our theme for School of Mission this year is “**Cornerstones of Hope.**”

The *Spiritual Growth Study, Children of the Bible*, will be led by Lois Dauway, Women’s Division assistant general secretary for Christian social responsibility. Brenda Tildon and the Rev. Arthur Rettew will lead our Social Issue study, *Public Education*. For our geographical study, *India and Pakistan*, the leaders are Praveena Balasundaram and the Rev. Felicia Kumar, both from the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, and Georgeanne Knisely from the Central Pennsylvania Conference.

Additionally, we provide a Children’s Program for ages 6-11 and a Youth Program for young people in grades 6 through 12. Deb MacPhail, will lead the Children’s Program. Joy Frazier along with Georgeanne Toner will lead our youth Program. Their study and special focus will be “Children of the Bible.” All three leaders for our young people are from the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference.

Each study at School of Mission is accompanied by a text and related study guide that is written especially to cover issues and events that impact

us in the world today. *Children of the Bible—Twelve Stories*, was written through concerted efforts of the Mother/Daughter team of Stephanie Biggs-Scribner and 10-year-old Maggie Biggs Scribner, along with nationally known author, Linda H. Hollies, and is accompanied by a study guide written by Bishop Minerva Carcaño, the first Hispanic clergywoman elected to the episcopacy of The United Methodist Church. *Public Education—Issues and Challenges* and accompanying study guide were written by Mary Grace Lyman, who served more than 20 years on the staff of Women’s Division, General Board of Global Ministries, administering schools of Christian mission and developing printed and video study materials for adults, children and youth. The *India and Pakistan* text was written by Women’s Division Executive Secretary for Justice Education, Glory Dharmaraj, with study guide by Dianne M. Miller, who recently worked for Women’s Division as Executive Secretary for Schools of Mission Studies.

India and Pakistan, the subject for our geographical study, was a cornerstone of Mission as our foremothers founded Clara Swain Hospital in 1869. The hospital still stands as a mission agency funded by United Methodist Women. Schools were the next priority of mission. Today, we continue to promote education as we explore the challenges of public education in the United States. The painful stories of children of the Bible resonate with children’s lives today and remind us that Jesus put children at the center of the Gospel. Our three studies compel us to build a future of justice and righteousness for all children so that each generation is born into abundant life.

Schools of Mission bring us closer to the world, and the world closer to us. Jesus not only served in Judea,

but he went into Samaria to heal, bring hope, justice and mercy. He instructed all of his disciples to go to the uttermost parts of the earth to carry his love and to help others in need of blessings from the Lord. When disaster occurs somewhere in the world, missions, missionaries and Bible Women supported by the United Methodist Women are nearby to step in to meet a vital need of the affected area or areas. Members of this United Methodist organization of dedicated women prepare health kits, infant care kits and school kits to send to distribution centers of UMCOR (the United Methodist Commission On Relief), where they are kept until there is a need for them within the United States or in other places around the globe. We are called upon to provide more of these vital resources when the supply becomes low, as happened when the tsunami devastated the South Asia region in December of 2004.

Our ways of helping women, children, youth—and men—who are in need of food and clothing have long been through soup kitchens, food pantries and clothes closet programs in churches or community centers. We have helped establish, provide and/or serve in shelters for homeless and abused women and their children within our own towns and cities. This current era within the United States brings about an unprecedented number of women who are housed in pris-



Lois Dauway (right), staff executive with the Women’s Division of the Board of Global Ministries, will speak at the School of Missions. Here she assists Genie Bank, division president, as Bank reads the peace prayers of women and children from across the United States during the “Prayers for Peace” campaign in Washington in April of 2003. Image by: Melissa Lauber.

ons. Ministry in the love of Jesus has been taken inside the prison walls to support and sustain them in hope for their futures. Programs such as “Mother’s Voice,”—which is located in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference—connect incarcerated mothers with their children through counseling and tape recording of a mother greeting and reading to her child. This service helps to bring mothers spiritually closer to those precious children who must grow without the physical presence of their moms.

Please register early for the School of Christian Mission, which will be held at De Sales University in Center Valley, PA, located near Quakertown. De Sales is a beautiful campus of modern buildings with state of the art learning facilities and amenable accommodations.

For additional information on the Eastern Pennsylvania School of Christian Mission contact: Mary Ann Repsher, Dean, 164 South Ninth Street, Bangor, PA 18013; Phone: 610-588-1084; E-mail: merlinr@enter.net

Laura J. Mitchell is the communications coordinator for the UMW in the EPA Conference.

Appointments

Bishop Marcus Matthews announces the following appointments effective July 1, 2005:

Carolene Brubaker - From Attending School PT and Lancaster: First (Assoc/PT) To West Chester (Assoc)
Helen S. Fleming - From Philadelphia: Eastwick and Sharon Hill Christian Center To Baltimore-Washington Conference: Assistant To The Bishop-Director Of Leadership Development
Harry Benson - From Chester: Siloam To Philadelphia: Eastwick and Sharon Hill Christian Center
Kim Gilson - From Philadelphia: St. George To Peninsula-Delaware Conference: Easton District, Vienna Charge
David J. Davis - From Philadelphia: Clearfield To Linwood Heights
Richard S. Sarley - From Sabbatical To Warrington: St. Paul
Laurie Ann Rookard - From Philadelphia: Frankford Memorial To Philadelphia: Camphor Memorial
James McIntire - From Bala Cynwyd To Philadelphia: Manayunk New Church Start
Donald E. Edwards - To Retirement
Won Kyung Yun To Retirement
David G. Henritz - From Incapacity Leave To Retirement

Lewis E. Powell - To From Mount Hope (Assoc)Retirement
X. Peter Wernett - From Sr. Vice President Percept Group Inc. To Retirement
Charles Yrigoyen, Jr. - From General Secretary, Commission On Archives and History To Retirement
Scott Widmer - From Honeybrook To Marshallton
Timothy J. Smith - From Ironville To Millersville: First
Scott Widmer - From Honeybrook To Marshallton
Scott Friedgen-Veitch - From Marshallton (3/4 Time)To Honeybrook
Kerry E. Leeper - From Annville: Kauffman’s; Bellegrove To Lancaster: First (Assoc)
Gertrude Duckett - From Philadelphia: Sayers To Chester: Trinity & Siloam
Timothy A. Heitz - From Ephrata: First To Honorable Location
Steven Taylor - From Millersville: First To Ephrata: First

Frank Billman - From Philadelphia: Somerton To On Loan Tennessee Conference (1/2 Time Aldersgate Renewal Ministries, 1/2 Time Joelton, Tennessee: Forest Grove)
Thomas Brooks, III - From Bristol: Harriman To Philadelphia: Frankford Memorial
John Davidson - From Philadelphia: Church Of The Good Shepherd To Scottsville
Alfred T. Day - From Philadelphia: Germantown, First To Philadelphia: St. George’s
Daniel E. Unrath - From New Holland: New Holland To Bala Cynwyd
Susan Sliker - To New Holland: New Holland
Glenn Brown - From Hellertown: St. Paul To Geigertown: St. Paul
Mary Jane Kirby - From Ephrata: Hope To Havertown: Union
Dustin D. Petz - From Philadelphia: Tabernacle Memorial and Philadelphia: Frankford Central To Bristol: Harriman
Barbara Seekford - To Philadelphia: Bustleton
Susan Czarnecki - To Philadelphia: Church Of The Good Shepherd

Albert Mosley - From Schuylkill Haven: First To Philadelphia: James Memorial
David Wesley Brown - From Philadelphia: Bustleton To Philadelphia: Somerton
Christina Keller - From Eddystone To Moore Township: Covenant
Stephen Wallace - From Campbell Ame Church Southeast Washington, D.C.To Philadelphia: Sayers Memorial
James L. Garner, Jr. - From Scottsville To Ephrata: Hope
Charles A. Deutsch - From Lititz (Assoc)To Ironville

**18th Annual
 United Methodist
 Church Day
 with the**



**Saturday, August 20, 2005
 7:05 p.m.**

In The Nation

Church men launch new effort to reduce hunger in America

By Rich Peck

Presidents of United Methodist Men in U.S. annual conferences are launching an effort to involve 9,600 men in hunger relief and to create 800 local church units for men's ministry.

The effort will begin with a gleaning, a potato drop, and a dried and canned food collection at the July 15-17 National Gathering of United Methodist Men at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind.

Every four years, United Methodist men from around the globe gather for a time of spiritual renewal, fellowship and instruction. This year's event is the ninth gathering.

A gleaning, or collecting of left-over food from a farmer's field after harvest, will be held on the morning of July 15. Food will be distributed to hunger relief agencies in the West Lafayette area.

The potato drop will be held on the afternoon of the same day, next to the Purdue football stadium. More than 40,000 pounds of potatoes will be bagged and then distributed to more hunger relief agencies.

The 4,000 men expected to attend the national gathering are also asked to bring five cans of vegetables, fruits and soups to help feed the hungry.

These mission events are done in a combination with hunger-relief training sessions and hunger-relief workshops.

The workshops will help men understand a new effort launched by the National Association of Conference Presidents and the Society of St. Andrew, a hunger relief ministry based in Big Island, VA.

Each annual conference president of United Methodist Men is asked to find 12 churches without a unit of United Methodist Men. Following the Purdue event, they will ask each of these churches to send 10 volunteers to participate in a potato drop, gleaning or other hunger-relief effort. The men will also be challenged to give \$20 each for Meals for Millions to support national hunger-relief ministries.

The men hope each church will want to charter a unit of United Methodist Men to participate in future mission and spiritual-enrichment experiences.

In a world that produces 4.3 pounds of food daily for every individual on the planet, there is no reason for anyone to go to bed hungry, said the Rev. Ken Horne, the top staff executive of the Society of St. Andrew.

"Our goal is not to sponsor more potato drops or gleaning efforts," Horne said. "Our goal is to have enough people get angry about hunger in America that they will demand action." He estimates the efforts by United Methodist Men will raise

\$158,000 for hunger relief.

Speakers at the national gathering include:

- Rudy Ruettiger, a short-stature man who struggled with dyslexia but dreamed of playing on the Notre Dame football team. His story inspired the film "Rudy."

- Clay Dyer, who was born without any lower limbs, no arm on the left side and a partial arm on the right. His limitations have not dampened his determination or love of competitive bass fishing. He is an active member of First Baptist Church, Hamilton, Ala., and a full-time staff member of Making U Disciples ministries.

- Dayton Edmonds, a full-blooded Native American of the Caddo nation and a retired United Methodist missionary.

- Bishop Violet L. Fisher, who leads 800 local churches and 1,500 clergy in the North Central New York and Western New York annual (regional) conferences.

- The Rev. Tyrone D. Gordon, pastor of the 5,400-member St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church, Dallas.

- The Rev. James W. Moore, senior pastor of the 7,500-member St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Houston.

Other featured performers include Friends of the Groom, an interdenominational theater group; Phillips Craig & Dean, three full-time church ministers with a music ministry that has produced nine albums; Christlike, an Oklahoma-based group of men who combine country flavor acts with traditional Southern Gospel music; Africa University Choir, 16-member choir from Mutare, Zimbabwe; and Paul Saik, soloist from Nashville, Tenn.

The week will also include 30 workshops on topics ranging from using the Internet to practicing biblical justice. Cal Turner, former president of Dollar General Stores, will speak at a dinner honoring members of the John Wesley Society, and a mission fair will include exhibits from national and international agencies. The three-day event will also include a golf tournament and a fun run.

For information and to register, go to www.gcumm.org and click on the 9th National Gathering.

William Peck is the communications coordinator for the Commission on United Methodist Men.



A gleaning project will kick off the 9th National Gathering of United Methodist Men at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., July 15-19. A UMNS photo by Tim Tanton

The Nation in Brief

• YOUTH EMPOWERED

Donnella Cranford says she is called to train up a new generation of Esthers. "God charged Esther with an important undertaking," Cranford said of the biblical queen who saved the Jewish people from destruction. "We are here to raise up modern-day Esthers." Cranford, a United Methodist lay person in Atlanta, is founder of Women After God's Own Heart, a mentoring ministry in which older Christian women help African American teen girls develop into healthy young adults. For the past year, Cranford and several other women have helped 19 teens grow in faith and prepare for adulthood. The girls completed the program in March with a formal cotillion. The mentoring ministry is among many "rites of passage" programs developed since the 1980s.

• MAKING DISCIPLES

The bishops of the United Methodist Church spent their May 1-6 meeting in Arlington, Va., working on their primary focus: Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The bishops adopted the 2005-08 emphasis last fall as their quadrennial focus, one that points directly to the United Methodist Church's primary mission of disciple-

making. Bishop Peter Weaver, council president, said in an interview that he has "been hearing in congregation after congregation the desire to reach out into their communities to make disciples of Jesus Christ, but often they don't know how to do that." Those congregations, he said, are "looking for resources and training and examples that they can go and visit. And there are many of those examples among the congregations in our connection, so we need to reconnect congregations that are yearning to make disciples of Jesus Christ in 21st century ways."

• BISHOP RESOLUTIONS

The Council of Bishops recognized Hunger Awareness Day (June 7); called for an immediate moratorium on capital punishment; recognized the pending 60th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Japan and called for an end to nuclear weapons worldwide; and demanded justice for surviving "comfort women" from Asian nations who were enslaved by the Japanese military during World War II. The bishops also approved a draft of a message for 2005 International Workers Day and Labor Day.

Around the World

United Methodist sends help to home village in Kenya

By Kelly Martini

In the Multhankari village in Meru district of Kenya, young people attend school but then leave for the cities where they can find jobs and other opportunities.

But the city is not home. And when they contract HIV/AIDS, they come back with their children to die.

Anne Kiome Gatobu, a member of Lodgepole United Methodist Women in the denomination's Nebraska Annual (regional) Conference, realized the significance of this when she returned to her home village for the funeral of a brother who had died of meningitis.

More than her brother's death, she said, she was most affected by the number of orphans left by HIV/AIDS and the number of grandparents who care for them.

Gatobu asked Kenyan women and the church there what she could do. Giving them educational opportunities to move them from poverty and disease was their greatest hope, she was told.

She began an organization called named FOWCUS (Focusing on Women and Children to Uplift Society). The board of FOWCUS comprises both American and Kenyan Christians. United Methodist Women and churches from the Nebraska and Rocky Mountain conferences are working to make the program a success.

Public school students in Kenya must provide their own uniforms, chalk, books, and classroom supplies. The organization's adopt-a-kid initiative ensures that people in the United States and Kenya can adopt a child educationally for \$120 a year.

A local women's group in Multhankari is responsible for the disbursement of funds throughout the year. The women had been putting their money together in a "kitty" for years, according to Gatobu.

"I approached this group and asked them to do something for these children," she said. "This is the group who identifies the children who are high in need and who distributes the money."

The women also are breaking cultural barriers by visiting those who are dying from HIV/AIDS. "This is the most touching thing that has happened to many of them in their life—that someone actually comes and visits them—when the rest of the community has ostracized them," she added.

"Since the women have done this, there has been so much forgiveness. It has challenged the community to start thinking about what we are going to do about AIDS and the children who have been left and what are we going

to do about the elderly grandparents who can't take care of the family. It's opened a milieu of questions that they need to be addressing."

Meanwhile, in the United States, Gatobu is educating church members and United Methodist Women about the disease and its effects on one small African village.

The biggest support has come from United Methodist Women in the Nebraska and Rocky Mountain conferences. The UMW members have made children's hospital gowns and quilts, collected boxes of books for school and accumulated tools for construction. They've also adopted children to put them through public school.

"It's had a ripple affect," Gatobu said. "A number have asked me to speak to their groups and Sunday services. Someone else hears about it, and they ask you."

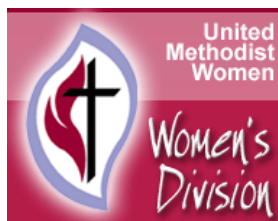
Last summer, she and her husband organized a mission and cultural exchange team to Kenya with participants from Nebraska and Rocky Mountains Conference.

"The group visited and fellowshiped with the orphans and their families and raised funds for the children in this project," she recalled. "The group also worked on establishing a reading room for children in the village. They built shelves and collected and sent over 700 pounds of children's books for the reading room. They also ran an open-air health clinic in this village."

Providing such opportunities for children in her home village of Kenya was not without questions and Gatobu is the first to admit that there's much to be done to keep an organization like this running year after year.

"I could not envision where I would begin to make a difference in the face of so much need," she said. "I have since learned that when God asks one to take on a task, just say 'yes' and give yourself to God."

Kelly Martini is the executive secretary for communications for the Women's Division, United Methodist Board of Global Ministries.



Estimates say 6,000 children are orphaned by AIDS each day. A UMNS photo by Mike DuBose

The World in Brief

• DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

People in the Dominican Republic suffered multiple floods and hurricanes in 2004. Rains contaminated potable water supplies in eight towns. These communities are experiencing a dramatic increase of water-borne diseases. Children under five years old are the most severely affected, with 70 percent of these youngsters dying from diarrhea because of the contaminated water supply. UMCOR is issuing emergency grant money to provide these eight communities with education and equipment to treat their water and prevent the further spread of water-borne illnesses. Your gift to UMCOR Advance #410200, Dominican Republic/Haiti Flood Relief can help give these children safe water to drink.

• WORLDWIDE

At times it may seem that health and school kits are merely "drops in the ocean" when we think about the immense needs of the people who receive them. One UMCOR worker recalls the most moving part of her recent trip to Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan was the opportunity to give these kits away. She says, "During a visit to an orphanage in Tbilisi,

Georgia, I saw children's eyes light up with the gift of a school kit, for they rarely, if ever, receive presents or new items of their own." Health and school kits contain not only practical items; they also contain the care and concern of the one who took the time to contribute to it. These are tangible ways to show others we care. UMCOR field offices have requested nearly 200,000 health kits for distribution in 2005 - more than UMCOR has ever shipped before.

• WORLD REFUGEE DAY

Josephine, a Southern Sudanese woman, arrived in Egypt seeking safety and assistance. She was welcomed by St. Andrew's Church, which has an UMCOR-supported refugee program. Josephine is thankful for their spirit of hospitality and acceptance, "It is really good to meet a community which brings all people together regardless of religion and race. I am grateful for their love and kindness." We are all called to have a spirit of hospitality and welcome those who find themselves in need of the kindness of strangers. Plan to celebrate World Refugee Day. It is an international day of remembrance and recognition.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #2005-017

RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE Relating to the Recognition of Christ Servant Ministries Program Opportunities Presented by the Conference Work Team on Christ Servant Ministries

WHEREAS, Lay Methodists in the United States have a long and distinguished tradition of serving that dates back to 1769 when the Leeds Conference following John Wesley's guidance officially commissioned lay workers Richard Boardman and Joseph Pilmore to provide support for the growing Methodist movement in America; and

WHEREAS, early circuit riders would leave to attend to other churches on their charge, and instruct members of the congregation who became known as exhorters to fill the pulpit and other laity to conduct the business of the church; and

WHEREAS, the original term of exhorter evolved to lay speaker and at the 1992 General Conference included the adoption of a Lay Speaking logo emphasizing caring, leading, and communicating; and

WHEREAS, because of the many persons across the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference who felt the name "Lay Speaker" did not adequately capture these three dimensions of lay ministry and at the Annual Conference of 1997 officially adopted the name, *Christ Servant Ministries* with instructions to follow the rules for Lay Speakers as stated in the *Discipline*, but to go a step further and specifically recognize laity in their area of training — speaking, leading, and caring; and

WHEREAS, these lay servants of Christ continue to minister with and to groups of Methodists, Christians and other communities in a multitude of ways that include not only preaching, but also sharing, caring and leading.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that each church in the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference encourage lay leadership, lay caregivers, and all laity who seek to be servants of Christ to take advantage of training opportunities provided by the *Christ Servant Ministries* program...so that by the 2007 Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference — the 10th Anniversary of Christ Servant Ministries — all churches have Christ Servant Ministers within their congregation.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: George J. Hollich, Jr.

RESOLUTION #2005-018

RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE Relating to the Small Membership Churches Presented by the Conference Work Team on Christ Servant Ministries

WHEREAS, small membership churches played a significant role in the growth and development of Methodism in America; and

WHEREAS, small membership churches continue to have a vital role in the ever changing landscape of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, particularly for the rural as well as suburban areas of our Conference; and

WHEREAS, large churches make headlines, we recognize that 71 percent of U.S. congregations have fewer than 100 regularly participating adult members, and small membership churches may be defined as having a membership of less than two-hundred which represents 40 to 50% of the total churches of this Conference; and

WHEREAS, small membership churches demonstrate vitality even though their membership may never grow much larger, and some may never be able to support a full-time pastor, but each small church can make an impact on their communities through strong, effective ministries; and

WHEREAS, pastors serving these congregations may be limited to part-time local pastors, certified lay ministers, lay supply or retired pastors serving in part-time status; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that small churches are quite different from larger churches and require different strategies in religious education, missional involvement, and opportunities for spiritual growth;

WE THEREFORE, urge the Annual Conference to consider the uniqueness of the small membership church and sponsor training events at every level that would nurture their uniqueness and support their effectiveness.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church commend small membership congregations that demonstrate vitality in ministry and strength of commitment to service in their unique situations, and further encourage all small membership churches to take advantage of training events and other opportunities to enhance their gifts of ministry where they are planted.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: George J. Hollich, Jr.

RESOLUTION #2005-019 (WITHDRAWN)

RESOLUTION #2005-020

RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE Relating to Salary/Benefits Recommendations Presented by the Commission on Equitable Compensation

WHEREAS, Resolution 2003-05 called for the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference to become one of the top three conferences in our jurisdiction with respect to salary level; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Equitable Compensation continues its study of the compensation structures of the other conferences in the Northeastern Jurisdiction, and projects increases in minimum salary levels in order to achieve the goal of being one of the top three conferences in respect to salary levels;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Annual Conference establish the *minimum* salary for persons under appointment in the local church for the year 2006 as follows:

a) Elders and Deacons in Full Connection	\$30,292
b) Transitional Deacons, and Commissioned toward Deacons and Elders under full-time post seminary appointments	\$29,296
c) Associate Members	\$28,631
d) Full-Time Local Pastors	\$27,105

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to arrive at the *minimum cash salary* for each pastor, the required service year increments be added to the appropriate base listed above in the amount of 1% of the pastor's base salary for each year of service, defined as full-time service under appointment [part-time accrues, i.e., two years half-time appointment equals one year of service]; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a consideration for a cost of living increase along with a merit raise be given to each pastor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each church or charge in recommending increases consider increases above the minimum cash salary, and that Pastor / Staff-Parish Relations Committees particularly take note of such areas as education, experience, skills,

commitment, amount paid by clergy as self-employed persons for Social Security, family needs, and payment towards health insurance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any amount provided as a housing allowance as described in Section XIV in the Journal under "Policies and Procedures" is in addition to, and not to be considered part of, the minimum cash salary as set forth in this resolution.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Lester Groves

RESOLUTION #2005-021

RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE Relating to the inequity of mandated costs by the conference between small country churches with limited membership and larger churches with hundreds of members. Presented by the Finance Committee of Millers Crossroads UMC, Sunbury, PA 17801

WHEREAS, the small country church like Millers Crossroads with limited membership of retired members, farmers and low income families does not have the quantity of members to satisfactorily finance the many mandated costs as presently levied by the conference; and

WHEREAS, one of the outstanding inequities is the excessive charge for medical insurance for single pastors vs. married with family. Millers Crossroads is paying three to four thousand more dollars per year for medical insurance than necessary for a single pastor; and

WHEREAS, as an example a small church with 100 members paying \$11,000 for insurance is costing each member \$110 where a larger church with 500 members and 2 pastors paying \$22,000 is costing \$44 per person — quite a difference; and

WHEREAS, it is obvious that many small churches like Millers Crossroads are suffering financial burdens with the many costs required to be paid by the small church.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that a study be done to find a more equitable way to distribute the costs between large and small churches for the many required charges.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Charles Fahringer, Member, Finance Committee, MCUMC

RESOLUTION #2005-022

RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE Relating to Conference Advance Specials for the Year 2006 Submitted by Richard W. Howarth, Conference Secretary for Global Ministries

WHEREAS a Conference Advance Special is a program of ministry that can seek funds from a local church that has kept its commitment to the Connectional Ministries Fund and has a desire to extend its support of the mission of the Church through designated giving; and

WHEREAS a list of Conference Advance Specials would resource local churches, either in need of support for their programs and ministries, or local churches eager to extend their support of the mission of the Church;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following programs and ministries of the Annual Conference, having completed the appropriate applications, be designated as a list of Conference Advance Specials for the year 2006.

Allentown: Allentown Center City Ministries - \$10,000

Allentown Center City Ministries' mission is to assist center city Allentown churches in their development of Christ-centered ministries that evangelize, empower, educate and liberate the lives of children and families. We meet this mission through the after-school and youth programs at three local United Methodist Churches, through providing cross-cultural exchange with a suburban United Methodist Church and by operating a Thrift Shop.

Allentown: La Trinidad United Methodist Church - \$10,000

A Latino Church that provides services to the low income families of Center City Allentown. We offer an After-School Program to provide a safe place, Christian teachings and structured activities for children. We have a Food Basket to provide emergency food to families in need.

Blandon: Journey United Methodist Church - \$1,500

Support Group for Parents of Kids with ADHD: a monthly support group with guest speakers on a variety of topics pertaining to raising and coping with a child with ADHD. This activity is an evangelism outreach effort for a new church start. It will be held at a local school, and funding will support speaker's fees, school use fees, and refreshments.

Columbia: Kid's Galaxy - \$12,250

The Kids Galaxy program provides weekly spiritual nurture to an ethnically diverse group of ninety-four children of all socio-economic levels. Galaxy Preteens nurtures pre-teens on a weekly basis with discussions on real-life topics, Bible study and community projects.

General: A United Methodist Witness in Pennsylvania - \$2,500

A United Methodist Witness in Pennsylvania is a statewide nonprofit organization representing the four Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church in Pennsylvania. Based on the Social Principles, the mission is to inform church members and government officials about concerns and issues that impact the ministries of the Church and to provide initiative and coordination on public policy issues on behalf of the Annual Conferences.

General: Camper Scholarships - \$25,000

As a ministry of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, we provide safe, meaningful, enjoyable experiences in camp and retreat settings that lead people to a new and renewed life in Jesus Christ.

General: Challenge Camps Scholarships and Program - \$4,000

A camping experience for the developmentally challenged in which all regular camp activities are enjoyed at an appropriate pace. We provide various experiences suitable for a wide range of abilities. Advance Special money allows us to offer need scholarships and additional program assistance.

General: Mission Central - \$25,000

Mission Central is a warehouse located at 5 Pleasant View Drive, Mechanicsburg, and is operated by the Central Pennsylvania Conference for the use of Northeast Jurisdiction

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Conferences in the collection and disbursement of UMCOR Kits and other supplies for mission and disaster relief. This is also a General Church Approved Advance Special.

General: Spiritual Renewal Ministries, Inc. - \$15,000

This ministry companions churches, groups and individuals who desire to deepen their relationship with God through spiritual direction, retreats and seminars undergirding their mission and ministries.

Hazleton: Hazleton Enlarged Ministry - \$30,000

HEM is an outreach program dedicated to nurturing children, building their self-esteem and helping them to discover their gifts while providing a safe place to play and learn. HEM has a Clothing Depot to meet the needs of persons in crisis. HEM develops programs for the enrichment of the local churches.

Lancaster: Beaver Street Neighborhood Center - \$15,000

The Beaver Street Neighborhood Center is an outreach ministry in the immediate ministry environment of St. Paul's UMC, Lancaster. The Center seeks to (1) address the influence and impact of drug trading and use upon the lives of children and youth, (2) respond to the need for counseling and family life education, and (3) provide skills training for persons who are economically disadvantaged.

Lancaster: Lancaster United Methodist Inner-City Alliance (LUMINA) - \$10,000

LUMINA is a facilitating, coordinating body. We are a Church and Community Ministry mission project of the General Board of Global Ministries. Our mission is "To support and expand the outreach ministries of our related congregations."

Lancaster: Latino Lay Leadership and Arts Academy - \$10,000

The ministry in Spanish within a Latino context, will empower laity, including youth and adults, in church growth, outreach and enrichment. It will train lay members in Lay Preaching, Christian Education, General Church Leadership and UM Discipline, Worship and Evangelism/Discipleship. An arts program will be included.

Lancaster: Mom's House - \$5,000

Mom's House assists single parents in further advancing their education by offering free faith-based childcare of the highest standards. Mom's House of Lancaster is one of nine such programs in a four state area—each funded separately through donations. Mom's house does not accept government funding. We provide childcare free of charge to single mothers who are enrolled in a full-time educational program. We also offer food, clothing and supply banks as well as parenting and life-skills classes, tutoring and a study area.

Lancaster: St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Latino Ministry - \$15,000

The Latino Ministry seeks to reach out to the growing Latino community in downtown Lancaster, through evangelism, education and social outreach efforts.

Lebanon: Pathfinder, An Outreach Ministry of Covenant U.M. Church - \$50,000

Pathfinder is a four-year-old faith community in the north side of Lebanon, which shares the gospel in contemporary ways. It is a satellite ministry of Covenant U.M. Church. The ministry includes multi-sensory worship, monthly teen services, neighborhood children's choir, Summer programs and an after-school program (including a computer café) for middle school children. Pathfinder is in the process of opening the Covenant Christian Child Care Center—nursery school and day care for elementary children.

Lehigh County: Yokefellow Prison Ministry - \$15,000

The Lehigh Valley Council of Yokefellow Prison Ministry conducts fifteen weekly meetings at the Lehigh County Prison, Juvenile Detention Center and Men's Work Release facilities with men, women and juveniles showing how they become new persons in Christ. (2 Cor. 5:17) Follow up is done with an after care weekly meeting that also provides food, clothing, and lodging.

Leola: Kensill Fund for Hope - \$25,000

The purpose of this foundation is to instill hope in the children and youth of the Philadelphia area surrounding the Midtown Parish United Methodist Church and the Cookman United Methodist Church. We intend to do this by encouraging them to strive for success in development of character, academic achievement and career. The methods include, but are not limited to tutoring, classes, counseling and financial assistance.

Lower Bucks Center for Church and Community - \$5,000

Though our Welcoming the Stranger Program, we address the needs of the many immigrants and refugees who live in or work in the Langhorne community—where our office and many of the center's programs are held. The center also serves many who reside in other parts of Bucks County. Through computer skills and ESL classes the immigrants meet Christ in the person of the volunteers from the churches. The volunteers meet Christ in the person of the immigrants.

Mohnton: Good Shepherd Mission Hospital Project of Calvary Church - \$25,000

The Good Shepherd Mission in Puttur, South India, is showing the love of Jesus Christ in action by the many ways in which it is helping the poor of its area. The new Good Shepherd General Hospital is the first health facility to which the poor have access. This is also a General Church Approved Advance Special.

Philadelphia: Asbury Campus Ministry/Wesley Foundation of Philadelphia - \$10,000

Asbury is the United Methodist Campus Ministry at Drexel University in Philadelphia. It is the program area of the Wesley Foundation of Philadelphia. Currently we are looking to expand the ministry from Drexel to include Temple University.

Philadelphia: Cookman Neighborhood Joy - \$20,000

Cookman UMC demonstrates our heartcalling to serve the least, the last and the lost by providing services and meeting the needs of older youth and young adults, poor families, and the community of North Philadelphia. Cookman provides such services as the Teen Lounge, the Alternative Learning Community for Youth, Friday Night Dinners, Welfare-to-Work, job development and skill training and joy keeping skills, Financial Seminars to the congregation and community, and the home to community-wide meetings.

Philadelphia: Frankford Group Ministry - \$25,000

Frankford Group Ministry (FGM), a Cooperative Parish Ministry, includes the following United Methodist Congregations—St. Thomas, Frankford Memorial and Central/Rehoboth. Together with a team of professional staff and volunteers, the hungry are fed, the poor are comforted, the environment is preserved, injustice is confronted and residents are organized.

Philadelphia: First United Methodist Church of Germantown (FUMCOG) After School Program - \$15,000

The After School Program of the First United Methodist Church of Germantown (FUMCOG), in cooperation with the local high school, provides academic support to at risk ninth grade students with the objective of retention in school and promotion to 10th grade. As students move to upper-grades they continue to be served with the goals of graduation and further education or employment. This commitment to youth is part of the church's mission to provide community services to children and youth.

Philadelphia: Kensington Area Ministry - \$40,000

The Kensington Area Ministry is a group of seven churches working in the inner-city of Philadelphia. We conduct five After School Programs, eight Vacation Bible Schools, two overnight camps for children, three eight week day camps in the summer, a Prayer Breakfast for rehab members, luncheons for poor and hopeless, coat distributions, toy distribution and other ministries.

Philadelphia: Methodist Family Services of Philadelphia's Fresh Start Program - \$40,000

Fresh Start is a program to prevent young women who are eighteen and leaving the foster care system from becoming homeless and falling into a life of prostitution, drug abuse and victimization. MFSP will renovate the second and third floors of the Main Building to create eleven one-bedroom apartments for these women, some of whom may have infants, and provide staff support to help them become fully independent and self-sufficient through life-skills training, budgeting, nutrition and counseling. Fresh Start apartments will be fully furnished, and the young women will have access to community college or other vocational training programs and will receive support for transportation and child care in order to achieve their goals.

Philadelphia: Methodist Russian Mission - \$10,000

The Methodist Russian Mission is a new church start and the only ministry in our conference to the large Russian speaking population of Northeast Philadelphia. It offers Worship, Bible Study, Adult English Classes, Children and Youth Programs and Summer Day Camp for Children.

Philadelphia: Mother African Zoar Social Service Ministries - \$10,000

The MAZUMC provides services to the church and to the community. There is a desire to enhance and expand many of the programs that are presently in operation. Some of the socials that are provided are teen lounge (safe haven) after school tutorial program, the Arthur Sparrow Theatre Ministry, day care, and Vacation Church School, Senior Citizens programs and some of the ministries that are operated by the church.

Philadelphia: Mount Zion Children/Youth Ministry - \$7,100

Mt. Zion's Children/Youth Ministry combines a variety of programs in which approximately fifty children regularly participate: After School Program, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Children/Youth Choirs, Acolytes, Greeters, Praise Dances, Sunday School, Bible Class and Teen Lounge. Most participants reside in North Philadelphia and many live at the poverty level.

Philadelphia: North Philadelphia Cluster - \$20,000

The North Philadelphia Cluster United Methodist Church is composed of the eight African American Congregations in North Central Philadelphia. The past three years the cluster has had two major program foci—the establishment of teen lounges (safe havens for community and church youth) and the working with youth/youth adults who are a risk between the ages of fourteen to twenty-one who are in the Department of Human Services system to provide an academic arena and provide a quality education.

Philadelphia: United Methodist Neighborhood Services - \$25,000

United Methodist Neighborhood Services (UMNS) serves the needs of poor and marginalized inner city Philadelphia people, especially women, children and youth. The funds received through Advance Special giving will be used to enhance the living conditions of the residents of the North Philadelphia area, provide adequate camping experiences and tutorial programs for our children.

Pottsville: Angel Baby Ministries, Inc. - \$12,000

Crossings Maternity Home and Hope House provide residential, medical, educational and support classes for teenage girls during pregnancy and for mothers with children. Neighborhood classes for the community are also offered.

Reading: Central Park UMC Food Ministry - \$800

We operate a Soup Kitchen five days each week. Every Wednesday we open a Kitchen Cupboard where clients come to take home food of their choice. Every Thursday we hold a worship service for our Soup Kitchen Clients.

Reading: Single Parents Ministry - \$7,000

This program of Central-Park United Methodist Church is a pilot project for serving single parents in the community of Reading. The advance special funds will be utilized to identify the specific needs affecting single parents by providing them with opportunities to learn basic living skills, grow in their spiritual faith, gain confidence and ability to be responsible for their own lives—spiritually, emotionally and physically and learn how to address their concerns.

Reading: Summer Fun/Verano Divertido and Family Marriage Retreat - \$12,200

Summer Fun/Verano Divertido is a Day Camp program established as an outreach ministry for low-income neighborhood Latino children with no previous church affiliation and who cannot afford to finance the cost of a Day Camp or Overnight Camp. Family Latino Marriage Retreat is the only of its kind in the East Side of the Country. Its objective and purpose is to target those problems and issues that are awakening the vertebral column of our society. The goal of the retreat is to strengthen the Christian values and principles of marriage as the cornerstone in the life of our community.

West Chester: El Buen Samaritano - \$15,000

El Buen Samaritano is a multicultural community of faith empowered by Jesus Christ to reach the Latino community of West Chester through evangelism and social outreach efforts.

RESOLUTIONS

West Grove: Cristo Rey United Methodist Church - \$10,000

Cristo Rey UMC is a Latino mission congregation reaching Southern Chester County area with outreach services, worship and teaching. Cristo Rey is reaching a disenfranchised segment of the local community, inviting them to discipleship and service, providing nurture, support and education for faith and life.

NEW AND RECENT CHURCH STARTS:
Blandon: Journey United Methodist Church - 13,500

Journey is a non-traditional new church start in Maidencreek Township just North of Reading ministering to residents of 1,500 new homes. Primarily families with children.

Living Waters: Living Waters Christian Fellowship New Church Start - \$30,000

Living Waters Church is a new church start in the Southwest District. Living Waters Church was started to reach young, unchurched people by using a contemporary worship format.

Mount Joy: The Bridge United Methodist Church - \$22,000

The Bridge Church is a new church start making disciples of truly unchurched folks of all ages.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Rev. Dick Howarth

RESOLUTION #2005-023A
RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Relating to Disaster Response Offering

Presented by Elaine B. Barnes, Disaster Response Coordinator, Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, Disaster Response Team

WHEREAS,

1. Disasters can strike at anytime.
2. There have been four declared disasters within the bounds of our annual conference in this conference year. These disasters have involved every part of the conference.
3. Funds are needed to enable the training and equipping of a conference-wide disaster response team.
4. Funds are needed to enable immediate response in times of disaster. These funds are used in conjunction with funds given by the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the first Sunday of Advent be designated Disaster Response Sunday and that a special offering be received for disaster response.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Rev. Elaine Barnes

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTIONS

(Revised May 17, 2005)

RESOLUTION #2005-013S
RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Proposal for the EPC Annual Conference June 2005

Presented by Paul C. Davis

WHEREAS, racism is the application of different rules to different persons based on their race or ethnic background, for reasons other than correcting racial/ethnic imbalances of the past; and

WHEREAS, a reasonable standard for racial/ethnic balance in any coveted institution is that the number of racial/ethnic minorities be of equal percentage to their percentage in the general body; and

WHEREAS, the EPC had as its purpose to correct racial/ethnic imbalances that probably did exist in our Conference Agencies more than twenty years ago, and

WHEREAS, the percentages of minorities on Conference Boards and Agencies probably now exceeds the percentages of minorities attending all local UM churches by factors of two to five (depending on the race or ethnic background) [The number of African-Americans attending local churches is probably <10% and the number on different Conference Agencies is as follows: 100's, 26%, 200's 32%, 300's 26% as of 2/26/05.], and

WHEREAS, the incidence of under-representation (particularly among African-Americans) is temporarily in abeyance, and

WHEREAS, the semantics "included for racial balance" is offensive to some minorities, and

WHEREAS, any change in rules of Agency membership at this Annual Conference will have minimal effect for another three years.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the same criteria be applied for membership in Conference Agencies regardless of race or ethnic background.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the procedure be initiated to amend Conference Rules for elected membership to allow a person to be elected to two major Conference Boards and Agencies (rather than one), and that this rule be applied strictly to all races or ethnic backgrounds.

EPC Boards & Com. Mem. by Race (Conf. Info. dated 2/26/05)

Agency Number	Total#	AA%	Lat.%	Ais.%	Cau.%
100 Congregational Trans. Team	24	37.5	12.5	4.2	45.8
100.1 Calling Disciples Team	9	11.1	22.2	0.0	66.7
100.2 Nurturing Disciples Team	11	27.3	0.0	0.0	72.7
100.3 Addressing C&W Prob. Team	10	70.0	0.0	0.0	30.0
100.4 Leadership Resource Team	12	25.0	8.3	0.0	66.7
100.5 Administrative Resource	10	10.0	10.0	10.0	70.0
104 United Methodist Metro. Min.	9	33.3	11.1	11.1	44.4
105 Commission on Archives and Hist	13	15.4	0.0	0.0	84.6
106 Board of Lay Ministry	24	33.3	8.3	0.0	58.3
108 Camping Board	21	14.3	9.5	0.0	76.2
Totals of 100's	122	25.9	7.0	2.1	50.3

203 Com. on Equitable Compensa.	11	27.3	9.1	18.2	45.5
204 Com. on Episcopacy	11	36.4	9.1	0.0	54.5
Totals of 200's	22	31.8	9.1	9.1	50.0

301 Council on Fin. And Admin.	17	29.4	0.0	5.9	64.7
302 Board of Trustees	13	30.8	0.0	7.7	61.5
302.2 Property & Liability Insur.	6	0.0	0.0	16.7	83.3
303 Comm. on Conf. Sessions	15	26.7	0.0	13.3	60.0
304 Comm. on Nominations	22	27.3	4.5	4.5	63.6
305 Comm. on Religion & Race	6	33.3	0.0	16.7	50.0
306 Comm. on Status and Role of Women	14	21.4	7.1	0.0	71.4
308 Loan Fund Board	11	18.2	9.1	9.1	63.6
309 Conf. Education Society	8	12.5	0.0	25.0	62.5
310 Board of Pension & Health B.	17	23.5	0.0	11.8	64.7
312 Bradley Fund Trustees	7	42.9	0.0	14.3	42.9
313 Human Resources (Personnel)	13	38.5	0.0	7.7	53.8
Totals of 300's	149	26.2	2.0	9.4	62.4

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Mr. Paul C. Davis

(Revised as of May 11, 2005)

RESOLUTION #2005-014S
RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Resolution Relating to Child Abuse Credentialing of all workers with children and youth in local churches

Presented by the ICARE Team, 2005

WHEREAS, Jesus commanded us to "Let the little children come to me" (Matt. 19:13) and also indicated that children should be protected and respected in his community (Matt. 18: 1-6); and

WHEREAS, the safety and sanctity of our children and youth is a primary concern for every United Methodist Church in this Annual Conference; and **WHEREAS,** we have all seen in the public media the terrible suffering and betrayal experienced by children and youth abused in the context of church programs and ministries, and the grave damage to the life of such congregations; and

WHEREAS, we desire to do our best to affirm our valuable workers, both volunteer and paid, and to protect them from suspicion and gossip; and

WHEREAS, we last year enacted a resolution to require that all persons serving in any capacity of clergy leadership (elder, deacon, licensed local pastor, retired pastor, lay supply pastor, interim, student pastor) in a local church of this Annual Conference be required to show appropriate Child Abuse clearances as a condition of such appointment; and

WHEREAS, our Annual Conference Camping Board requires such Child Abuse clearances of all persons serving at our Conference Camps; and **WHEREAS,** our Methodist Home for Children requires such Child Abuse clearances of all the workers serving on their campus in any capacity.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that this Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church require, in accordance with this resolution, that "all workers with children and youth" as defined herein in its local congregations shall have on file current appropriate Child Abuse clearances in order to continue such work. This requirement shall go into effect September 1, 2005.

Notes:

"all workers with children and youth" shall be interpreted to mean all persons who work with children ages birth through 12 and youth ages 12 through 18 in any regular capacity such as Sunday School teacher, youth group leader, choir director, regular van or other drivers, regular food servers, and general helpers on a regular basis.

"A regular capacity" shall mean anyone working on a schedule that repeats such as weekly, monthly, quarterly. In addition to the "regular worker" anyone participating on-site or in transporting children or youth for an overnight or longer program, even if only a one-time volunteer, will be required to file clearances.

"Appropriate" clearances means clearances in accordance with the current policy of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Camping Board policy in any given year. Given that clearances can take a long time to clear the system and/or that emergencies arise requiring substitute workers, there must be a system to cover workers in cases of emergencies, delays, or unforeseen circumstances. In these situations, congregations would have a form to be signed by the employee or volunteer certifying that this person: 1) has no background of sexual misconduct with children or youth, and 2) pledges that no such behavior will occur during this event. (See example in Safe Sanctuaries books available from Cokesbury)

It is suggested that prospective staff will pay for their clearances as a part of their qualification for work. For volunteers, it is suggested this cost be borne by the local church, unless the volunteer wishes to pay it as a contribution to the work of the church.

It is recommended that the Staff-Parish Committee Chairperson, along with the Pastor, will be responsible to check for such clearances and shall maintain them in locked files along with other personnel records.

Compliance with this resolution shall be a matter of record at each annual Charge Conference.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Beverly T. Andrews, Chair

RESOLUTIONS

**RESOLUTION #2005-24A
RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Relating to the Discontinuance of Falls United Methodist Church/East District
Presented by the East District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference**

WHEREAS, the membership and financial resources of the Falls United Methodist Church are limited and insufficient to maintain current operations; and **WHEREAS**, the membership of the Falls United Methodist Church wishes to discontinue; and **WHEREAS**, members of the Falls United Methodist Church Administrative Board and Trustees have consulted with the District Superintendent and the District Board of Church Location and Building of the East District of the Eastern PA Conference of the United Methodist Church and received consent to discontinue; and **WHEREAS**, the Resident Bishop and Appointment Cabinet on the 24th day of January, 2005, consented to discontinue Falls United Methodist Church; and **WHEREAS**, the Falls United Methodist Church will have its closing Service of Celebration on Sunday, June 19th, 2005; **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Falls United Methodist Church discontinue effective at the close of this Annual Conference Session; **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the assets resulting from the sale of property and any other remaining assets held by the Falls United Methodist Church be distributed as requested by vote of the Falls United Methodist Church at a duly called congregational meeting on May 5, 2005;

As follows – 30% toward development of a new church start in Manayunk; 30% to the United Methodist Home for Children and 30% to the Simpson House Benevolent Fund, \$1000 each to three neighborhood partners – Friends of Falls of Schuylkill Library, the Academy Players, and Falls Presbyterian Church, representing collaboration in community ministry over several decades.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the historical record be forwarded to the archives at St. George United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, PA.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Rev. Michele Wright Bartlow, District Superintendent, East District

**RESOLUTION #2005-25A
RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Relating to the Discontinuance of Frankford Central United Methodist Church/East District
Presented by the East District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference**

WHEREAS, the membership and financial resources of the Frankford Central United Methodist Church are limited and insufficient to maintain current operations; and **WHEREAS**, the membership of the Frankford Central United Methodist Church wishes to discontinue as an active congregation; and **WHEREAS**, members of the Frankford Central United Methodist Church Administrative Board and Trustees have consulted with the District Superintendent, the District Board of Church Location and Building of the East District of the Eastern PA Conference of the United Methodist Church and the Director of Frankford Group Ministry and received consent to discontinue; and **WHEREAS**, the Resident Bishop and Appointment Cabinet on the 16th of May, 2005 consented to discontinue Frankford Central United Methodist Church; and **WHEREAS**, the Frankford Central United Methodist Church will have its closing Service of Celebration on Sunday, June 19th, 2005;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Frankford Central United Methodist Church discontinue effective at the close of this Annual Conference Session; **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the property and assets held by the Frankford Central United Methodist Church be given to Frankford Group Ministry to be used for continuing worship, fellowship, and community ministry as requested by vote of the Frankford Central United Methodist Church at a duly called congregational meeting on April 10, 2005.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the historical record be forwarded to the archives at St. George United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, PA.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Rev. Michele Wright Bartlow, District Superintendent, East District

**RESOLUTION #2005-26A
RESOLUTION TO FULL SESSION OF 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Relating to the Merger of La Resurreccion-Lindley United Methodist Church/
East District and Juniata Park United Methodist Church/East District**

WHEREAS, the membership and financial resources of both La Resurreccion-Lindley United Methodist Church and Juniata Park United Methodist Church are limited and insufficient to maintain and thrive in ministry and mission in the current reality of their separate locations; and **WHEREAS**, the membership of both churches have explored merger, studied demographics, and are developing a plan for ministry as they have become acquainted with each other's congregations; and **WHEREAS**, members of both churches have consulted with the District Superintendent, the District Board of Church Location and Building of the East District, the Director of Outreach and Church Multiplication Ministries and Director of Latino Ministries, and received consent to merge; and

WHEREAS, the Resident Bishop and Appointment Cabinet on the 16th of May, 2005, consented to the merger of both churches; **WHEREAS**, La Resurreccion-Lindley United Methodist Church and Juniata Park United Methodist Church will have a Celebration of Merger including the adoption of a new name, a new creation, on Sunday, June 19th, 2005;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that La Resurreccion-Lindley United Methodist Church and Juniata Park United Methodist Church merge effective as of the close of this Annual Conference Session;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the property and assets held by both churches be used for continuing worship, fellowship, and community ministry in Juniata Park and that the building now occupied by La Resurreccion-Lindley be sold and the assets become part of the merger of the new merged church, after consultation with the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Board of Trustees concerning necessary funds to manage the transition.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Rev. Michele Wright Bartlow, District Superintendent, East District

Clergy Session. Monday, June 13, 1:00 p.m. at Hempfield UMC.

Lay Session. Wednesday, June 15, 10:00 am. Attending Lay Session is especially important for first-time lay delegates to Annual Conference.

Lunch Seatings. There will be two lunch seatings on June 15, 2005 only. Location: The Washington Room on the third floor.
11:30 am for Clergy
12:30 pm for Laity

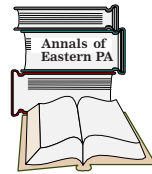
Drew Theological School Alumni/ae

Gather at Hempfield United Methodist Church, Lancaster for lunch prior to Clergy Session on Wednesday, June 13. Lunch will begin at 11:30 am. Reservations should be made with Colleen Kristula, revcolleen@enter.net or 610-926-3340.



A luncheon for the clergywomen will be held on June 13 at 11:00 am at Hempfield UMC, prior to the Clergy Session. Cost is \$7.00. Choice of Chicken, Tuna, or Egg Salad, or Wraps (including a Vegan wrap). Chips and mac and potato salad also included. Must have count by June 3. For reservations and more info, contact Alicia Juliá-Stanley at 215-945-5502, or email at revmom@safeforce.net

Used and Antique Book Sale at Annual Conference



Bring your choicest books to donate. Stop by to purchase some gems. Sponsored by the Historical Society. Proceeds will go toward preserving and telling the story of our heritage.

Find the Historical Society's used book sale in the vendor area at Annual Conference. Look for issue number 2 of "Annals of Eastern PA," our new historical journal. New and reprinted articles include a reminiscence of former lay leader John Harper by Dr. Joe Hale, an eyewitness account of the founding session of the Delaware Conference in 1864, and the story of the first woman class leader in America, Mary Thorn.

Ordination

The Service of Ordination and Commissioning will be held on Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. at Tindley Temple UMC. A combined choir from Tindley Temple and Arch Street Churches will provide music, Bishop Matthews will preach and the service will conclude with an invitation to ministry extended to all present. Transportation will be provided between the Loews Hotel and Tindley Temple.

David M. Krueger will be ordained deacon; Kerry Bart, Felicia Kumar, Kerry Leeper, Shelly Petz and Edgardo Rivera will be ordained elders; Carolene Brubaker, Susan Czarnecki, Jeff Goodman, Christina Keller, Christopher Schiavino, Barbara Seekford and Scott Friedgen-Veitch will be commissioned toward elder and Susan Sliker will be ordained deacon in transition.

Nigeria (cont'd pg1)

both body and soul in a natural, holistic, culturally specific, and effective manner.

As we strive to bring hope to children living in poverty, we again challenge Eastern Pennsylvania Conference churches and members to meet our new, shared goal of raising another \$460,000. As we did last quadrennium, half of the \$460,000 will be used for ministries impacting children in Eastern Pennsylvania whose families live below the poverty level and the other half, will provide for the property and staffing expansion of the vital medical clinic in Zing. If each church again agrees to commit just \$1,000 over the next quadrennium toward this ministry, we will exceed our goal and continue our covenant work in creating a world where, in the words of John Wesley, "all God's Children have enough and no one has too little."

Please bring your church's and your own commitment toward Hope for the Children to Annual Conference for the offering on Thursday evening, June 16.

** Members of Mission Team #5 provided this report: Bukola Ogunqua, M.D., Mary Elam, Rev. Gil Hatcher, Andrea Hatcher, Rev. Donna Jones, Kim Jones, and the Tatgenhorst family, Rev. Dave. Kathy and Elijah.*

NOMINATIONS

100 Congregational Transformation Team

Co-Chairpersons: Gary L. Meekins (C)(1)
W. Thomas Boussum (LM)(NW)(1)

100.1
Calling Disciples Resource Team
Evelyn Kent Clark (C)(SE)(1)
Anthony A. Arrington (Clergy)(C)(1)

100.2
Nurturing Disciples Resource Team
Co-Chrp: Margret M. Powell (C)(E)(1)
Alexander Daniel (LM)(SE)(1)

100.3
Addressing Community and World Issues Resource Team
Co-Chrp: Donna L. Jones (C)(C)(1)
Joan Myers (LW)(C)(1)
Lorelei K. Toombs (C)(NE)(1)

100.4
Leadership Resource Team
Dong-Jin Choi (C)(E)(1)

100.5
Administrative Support Resource Team
Co-chairpersons: Beverly T. Andrews (C)(E)(2)
Joseph F. DiPaolo (C)(C)(2)

105
Commission on Archives and History
Glenn Brown (C)(C)(1)
Frances S. Reaman (LW)(E)(1)

108
Camping Board
Dawn Taylor-Storm (C)(NE)(1)(2007)
Georgeanne Toner (LW)(E)(1)(2007)
Elaine B. Barnes (C)(E)(2)(2008)
Brunilda Martinez (LW)(NW)(1)(2008)
Shelly Petz (C)(E)(1)(2008)
Robert Ferguson (LM)(E)(2)(2009)
Teri Hackman (LW)(SW)(2)(2009)
Truman T. Brooks (C)(SE)(1)(2009)
Raymond Mungro (LM)(C)(1)(2009)

200
Board of Ordained Ministry
Philip I. Ponce (C)(C)(1)
Janet L. Brown (C)(NE)(1)
Sunil Balasundaram (C)(C)(1)
David Ryan (C)(NE)(1)
Alicia Julia-Stanley (C)(E)(1)

203
Commission on Equitable Compensation
Chrp. - Rev. Lester Groves (C)(C)(2)
Tim Duchesne (C)(SW)(DR)(1)
Robert Evans (LM)(NE)(DR)(1)
Henrietta Thomas (LW)(E)(DR)(1)
William Martin (LM)(NW)(DR)(1)
James McDonald (LM)(NW)(DR)(1)

204
Committee on Episcopacy
Thomas A. Jackmon, Sr. (C)(C)(1)
Herbert E. Palmer (C)(SE)(1)

301
Council on Finance and Administration
Thomas A. Jackmon, Sr. (C)(C)(1)
Jack A. Ross (LM)(NW)(1)
Michael S. Netznik (C)(NE)(1)
Robert Owen (LM)(NE)(1)
David Davis (C)(SE)(1)
Andrea B. Hatcher (LW)(E)(1)
Kent E. Kroehler (C)(SW)(2)
Jay Morgan (LM)(NE)(2)
James E. Carver (C)(C)(1)

301.2
Northwest District Connectional Ministries Fund Team
Rev. Margaret Kropp (1)
Rev. W. Stanford Ostman (1)
Mr. Jack Ross (1)
Rev. Steward Warner (1)

301.3
Southeast District Connectional Ministries Fund Team
Rev. Alice A. Bonham (1)
Rev. Andrew L. Foster (1)
Rev. Paul A. Gutknecht (1)
Rev. June Humpton (1)
Rev. Gerald M. McGrath (1)
Rev. Sharon Paul (1)
Mr. Ken Price (1)

301.6
Southwest District Connectional Ministries Fund Team
Mrs. Ruth A. Daugherty (2)
Rev. Marjorie Ann Harris (2)
Ms. Tammy Horning (2)
Rev. Kent E. Kroehler (2)
Rev. Steven Taylor (1)

301.7
East District Connectional Ministries Fund Team
Mr. Gregory Holston (1)
Rev. Albert Mosley (1)

302
Board of Trustees
David William Brown (C)(C)(1)(2006)
Terry Mills (C)(SW)(1)(2006)
Debra Davis (C)(SW)(2)(2007)
Andrew L. Foster III (C)(SE)(1)(2007)
Michele Bartlow (C)(E)(1)(2008)
John Dennis (LM)(NE)(1)(2008)
Dann Hall (LM)(NE)(1)(2008)
Hugh L. Myers (LM)(SE)(1)(2008)

303
Commission on Conference Sessions
Frederick Douglas, Jr. (C)(C)(1)
Andrew Krpata (C)(E)(1)
Glenn Hafler (LM)(NE)(1)
Serena Perry (LW)(NW)(1)

304
Committee on Nominations
Alice Ann Bonham (C)(SE)(DR)(1)
Neal Wicoff (LM)(NE)(DR)(1)
Joseph Barnett (LM)(SE)(DR)(1)
Ronald L. Bickhart (C)(C)(DR)(2)
Ruth T. Brodhead (LW)(NW)(DR)(2)
Paul C. Davis (LM)(C)(2)
Sally Wisner Ott (C)(SW)(2)
Mary Ann Hoffman (LW)(SW)(DR)(2)
Jorge Ortiz (LM)(E)(DR)(2)
Samuel Ramnit (C)(NE)(2)
Marion Dickert (LW)(NE)(DR)(2)
Connie Asquith (C)(NE)(DR)(1)
Mary Ellen Beckman (C)(SW)(1)
Albert Mosley (C)(E)(DR)(1)

305
Commission on Religion & Race
Chrp: George J. Schofield III (LM)(C)(1)
Cheryl H. Washington (LW)(NE)(1)
Scott Friedgen-Veitch (C)(C)(1)
Wilhemina Young (LW)(C)(1)
Sara Bergstresser (LW)(SE)(1)
William Gary George (C)(E)(1)

306
Commission on the Status and Role of Women
Chrp: Alicia Julia-Stanley (C)(E)(1)

308
Loan Fund Board
Henry Hershey (LM)(C)(2)(2008)

Joseph Jones, Sr. (LM)(NW)(2)(2008)
Doris K. Dalton (LW)(C)(1)(2008)
Gary Dillensnyder (C)(C)(1)(2009)
Owen Foizen (LM)(NE)(2)(2009)
Harry Benson (C)(SE)(1)(2009)

309
Conference Education Society
A. Moses Rathan Kumar (LM)(2)(2008)
Alfred H. Adey (LM)(SW)(2)(2008)
Carol Adey (LW)(SW)(2008)(1)
Janet M. Lloyd (LW)(SE)(2)(2009)
Shawn Wilson (C)(C)(1)(2009)

310
Board of Pension & Health Benefits
Ted McCabe (C)(SW)(2006)
James Harper, Sr. (LM)(SE)(2006)
Sook Lee Choi (LW)(E)(2006)
Sandra G. Morris (LW)(E)(2008)
Samuel L. Hess (LM)(SW)(2010)
Jean Kershaw (LW)(C)(2012)
Dustin Petz (C)(E)(2012)

400.3
Southeast Research and Design Team
Rev. Truman T. Brooks (1)
Rev. Thomas C. Davis-Shappell (1)
Mr. David Harper (1)
Ms. Linda Lyman (1)
Rev. Gerard McGrath (1)
Rev. John T. Wright (1)

400.6
Southwest District Spirit Network
Rev. Andrea Brown (1)
Rev. Richard W. Connor (2)
Mrs. Yvette Diaz (1)
Rev. Roseann Goldberg (1)
Rev. David C. Nissly (1)
Rev. Dennis R. Snovel (1)

401.1
Central District Committee on the District Superintendency
Rev. Sunil Balasundaram (1)
Rev. David G. Heberling (1)

401.2 Northwest District Committee on the District Superintendency
Rev. Robin Fisher (1)
Ms. Joanne Forbes (1)
Rev. Larry Frank (1)
Rev. Daniel Hall (1)
Mr. Brian Reading (2)
Ms. Pam Yeager (1)

401.3
Southeast District Committee on the District Superintendency
Mr. Donald Cadge (1)
Mr. Robert K. Deane (1)
Rev. Clyde S. Flaherty (1)
Ms. Kay McCoy (1)
Rev. Timothy Thomson-Hohl (1)

401.6
Southwest District Committee on the District Superintendency
Mrs. Enelly Betancourt (2)
Rev. Terry Mills (2)
Rev. Jacquie Sheely (1)
Ms. Martha Shreiner (1)
Rev. Jeffrey A. Snyder (2)

401.7
East District Committee on the District Superintendency
Ms. Frances S. Reaman (1)
Rev. Daniel P. Roth (1)

402.1
Central District Committee on Ordained Ministry
Rev. John V. Bhajjan (1)

Rev. Robert L. Johnson (1)
Rev. Sherry L. Lantz (1)

402.2
Northwest District Committee on Ordained Ministry
Ms. Sherri Shebelsky (1)
Rev. Douglas Smith (2)
Rev. Lloyd F. Speer, III (1)
Rev. Janet Steger (2)
Rev. Richard E. Wilcock (2)

402.3
Southeast District Committee on Ordained Ministry
Rev. Joan C. Charles (1)
Rev. Maridel Whitmore (1)
Rev. Kenneth E. Gelzhiser (1)
Rev. Zabdell Y. Khan (1)
Rev. Drena L. Miller (1)
Mr. William P. Thompson (1)
Rev. Charles E. Weigel (1)

402.6
Southwest District Committee on Ordained Ministry
Rev. Mary Elizabeth Hoskins (2)
Rev. Sandra Knaub (1)
Rev. Charles E. Marshall (2)
Mrs. Joan Nicholson (2)
Dr. Doug Ockrymiek (1)
Rev. Steven W. Rodgers (2)
Rev. Timothy J. Smith (2)
Mr. Ken Zieber (1)

402.7
East District Committee on Ordained Ministry
Rev. Frank H. Sanders, III (1)

403.1
Central District Board of Church Location and Building
Dr. Gary Atkinson (2008) (1)
Rev. John V. Bhajjan (2008) (1)
Rev. Laurie Ann Rookard (2008) (1)

403.2
Northwest District Board of Church Location and Building
Mr. Mike Ebling (2005) (2)
Mr. Roger M. Knisley (2005) (2)
Rev. John A. Laughlin, Sr. (2005) (1)
Rev. Richard Rogers (2005) (1)

403.3
Southeast District Board of Church Location and Building
Ms. Gail Armstrong (2008) (1)
Rev. Robert S. Booker (2007) (1)
Rev. Gertrude M. Duckett (2007) (1)

403.6
Southwest District Board of Church Location and Building
Rev. Bruce Lefever (2007) (1)
Ms. Susan Schaeffer (2007) (1)
John Spear (2007) (1)

403.7
East District Board of Church Location and Building
Mr. Sterlin C. Daniel (2008) (1)
Rev. Margret M. Powell (2008) (1)
Rev. Robert L. Strauss (2008) (1)



Blessed with a Bequest - then what?

documents and not near the sections that articulate the gift.

Second is the ministry to be supported. This is the exciting part! This is the opportunity for your church to serve the Lord in a new way - either in the ministry or manner of ministry. Please make these choices with candid conversation and prayer.

Third are the decisions that must be made regarding the investment choices to meet the cash flow or disbursement needs of the ministry, and perhaps, to care for the gift while these above discussed matters are addressed. Depending on your estimates of time, your options include a short term CD, money market account or other short term investment should be chosen to care for the gift while decisions and plans are made. The best solution is a function of the interest rates, capital security and liquidity. Once the plan is developed, the assets should be reviewed and a more permanent asset mix instituted.

Finally, celebrate, celebrate, celebrate! Celebrate the donor's stewardship, witness and thoughtfulness. Celebrate the committee's work and furtherance of that stewardship. Celebrate the gifts realized by the recipients of the ministry. Rejoice and enjoy the glory of responding to God's gifts.

Please feel free to contact me at the Foundation office with any questions that you have at any time during the process. Further, the Foundation offers several investment solutions with a minimum account size of \$5,000. One of those solutions is a Short Term Fund that may meet your needs during those times of reflection and consideration. This fund is currently paying 3.27% that is comparable to 2-year CD rates but with greater liquidity - withdrawals are permitted every quarter.

Stacy Martin is the Executive Director of the Eastern Pennsylvania-Peninsula United Methodist Foundation, Tel: 800-828-9093 x247, or email: stacy.martin@epaumc.org.

As the saying goes, time is money. The gift will need to be invested, safely.

The church office receives a phone call. The caller shares that your church was named the recipient of a gift from a member. The caller is thanked and their contact information is taken. A prayer of thanksgiving is offered for the thoughtfulness and witness of the donor and for the connection your church has made with the donor.

Now what? Get the message to the appropriate party in your membership and have the following questions addressed: what is the amount of the gift? what form is the gift - cash, stock, real estate? when can the gift be delivered? are there any guidelines or provisions regarding the use or application of the gift? do any documents need to be reviewed or signed? does the gift meet the provisions of your gift acceptance policy?

As the church member collects the answer and learns more, you will begin to see if the gift will be easily received into an account or fund already in place. If so, the gift can immediately begin its life of supporting an important ministry in your church.

If not, the process of assimilating the gift into the finances and ministries of the church will take longer. Two more important questions are: how will the funds begin to support a ministry(s) and what investment will best suit that need? Both of these questions deserve serious consideration and discussion.

First, the opportunity to serve the donor's gift with good stewardship will set an important example to other members that are considering making a similar gift. If an endowment or designated account needs to be established, secure a complete copy of the governing trust or will so you will have all of the terms and provisions of the gift. This is important as the guidelines regarding distributions, definitions of income, and permission for loans are often included in the "boiler plate" sections of these

Eastern Pennsylvania Conference to appeal Stroud decision

By Linda Bloom

An appeal of the recent decision to reinstate the credentials of a former United Methodist pastor will be filed with the denomination's top court.

Bishop Marcus Matthews, who presides over the church's Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference, announced May 3 that he was authorizing legal counsel "to proceed immediately with filing an appeal with the Judicial Council of the United Methodist Church."

The appeal will be filed within the allotted 30-day period, by May 29. The Judicial Council's next regularly scheduled meeting is Oct. 26-29 in Houston.

Last December, a trial court of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference found Irene Elizabeth (Beth) Stroud guilty of violating the denomination's prohibition of "self-avowed practicing homosexuals" in the ordained ministry. Stroud, who was associate pastor of First United Methodist Church of Germantown in Philadelphia, lost her clergy credentials but remained on staff of the church as a lay person.

On April 29, the Northeast Jurisdiction Committee on Appeals set aside the trial court's verdict and penalty because of legal errors and reinstated Stroud to clergy standing.

In a May 3 telephone interview, Stroud told United Methodist News Service she had met with Matthews that morning. She said the bishop returned her ordination credentials and offered to reappoint her to her former position, but she declined the appointment until her case is concluded.

"I thought the right thing for me to do was to turn it down," she said, explaining that she did not want to be a "political football" for various parts of the denomination. "That could just trivialize what ordination is and means."

Stroud said she would be placed on voluntary leave of absence as a clergy member but would continue her work as a lay minister at First United Methodist Church.


"While losing my credentials in the trial was painful for me and for my family and for the whole congregation, it has also been for me a time of healing and reconciliation," she told United Methodist News Service.

Stroud characterized the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference as a "close little family" that she's been involved with for years, and she has appreciated the opportunity to be open and honest with people about her committed relationship with another woman, Chris Paige.

Although she has received some "very negative messages from people that I don't know," Stroud said that all who do know her "have been very loving and very respectful... and have wanted to know about my journey and learn from it."

The entire experience, she believes, "can teach and model a way of talking about this issue that is more honest, more open, more Christian and more respectful."

Linda Bloom is a United Methodist News Service news writer based in New York.



22ND ANNUAL ACADEMY FOR LAITY

(A Biblically Based Study for People to Learn More about Their Faith)

Friday, August 5, -- Sunday, August 7, 2005
Sheraton Reading Hotel, Reading, PA

Registration Friday from 5:30 to 7:00 PM
Bishop Marcus Matthews - Opening Speaker
Rev. Michele Wright Bartlow - Closing Speaker

Theme: Visioning for Effective Leadership

<p>#1: Worship and Music with Rev Harry Benson, Pastor of Siloam UMC</p>	<p>#2 Stewardship with Mr. David Napoleon a member of Scottsville United Methodist Church</p>
<p>#3: Small Church Ministry with Rev. Alfred Maloney District Superintendent of East District of The United Methodist Church</p>	<p>#4 Eucharist with Dr. William Staton, Jr. former District Superintendent of Harry Hosier District</p>
<p>#5 The Basic Christ Servant Ministry Course, with Dr. Kenneth Morrison and Rev Donna Jones For first time attendees who want to become lay servants in their LOCAL CHURCH in the areas of CARING, LEADING AND SPEAKING</p>	<p>#6 Youth Ministry, with Elaine Smith, a member of Paoli UMC</p>

The Academy of Laity is sponsored by:
 The Board of Lay Ministry of The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church

Registration Deadline: June 20th, 2005

To register, please contact:
 Mrs. Elizabeth Gruenbaum
 1921 Park Avenue
 Bensalem, PA 19020
 (215) 638-7718

Cokesbury Bookstore
 150 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19046
 Phone: 610-265-3341

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WE NEED A FULLTIME SHIPPER/RECEIVER
AND A PART-TIME SALES ASSOCIATE
PLEASE CONTACT THE STORE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED

Vacation Bible School Program: There is still time to order your VBS program. You may order Group, Gospel Light, Standard, Augsburg, Concordia, Urban Ministries from Cokesbury.

Pulpit robes on sale: Now through June 30, Abbott Hall and Collegiate pulpit robes will be sold with a 15% discount.
July 21-23: Annual Sidewalk Sale - Mark your calendars now!

UM Conference Loew's Hotel, June 15-17; 8am - 10pm
 We hope to see you all at the Annual Conference in Phila. Cokesbury would like to invite the members of your congregations to visit us at Loews Hotel. We will have an extensive display of new release titles, gifts, and traditional books and Bibles.
 Please stop and visit with us.

Classifieds

DIRECTOR POSITION

The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church invites applications for the position of Director of Camping and Nurture Ministries. This position is located in the Conference Office in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The position reports directly to the Conference Executive Director of Congregational Transformation. Primary responsibilities include overseeing a \$2.7 million dollar Conference wide Christian camping and retreat program. There are additional responsibilities in the guidance and consultation of age-level ministries. A full ministry description can be obtained by calling the Conference Office at 1-800-828-9093 or it can be retrieved at the Conference website: www.epaumc.org. Minimum requirements for this position are a bachelor's degree or equivalent from a four year college or graduate school with experience and/or training in camp and retreat ministries. Equivalent experience in an administrative/managerial field for a minimum of five years will be considered. Extensive travel throughout the Conference is required. Salary will be determined based upon experience and educational background. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Anticipated start date is October 1, 2005. Interested candidates should send a letter of intent, resume and salary history to the Office of the Executive Director of Congregational Transformation, PO Box 820, Valley Forge, PA 19482.

PROGRAM MANAGER

Full-time, year-round salaried position at Pocono Plateau Camp & Retreat Center in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. Responsible to market, schedule, facilitate, maintain & construct challenge courses; coordinate summer camp staff & weekly programs; and develop, plan & implement camp sponsored retreats. Benefits include health, dental, pension & on-site housing. Contact Rev. Ron Schane, Pocono Plateau Camp & Retreat Center, RR 2, Box 2747, Cresco, PA, 18326, or call: 570-676-3665.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

St. Matthew's UMC of Valley Forge, located in Wayne, PA, seeks a dynamic, spirited Director of Music to lead the Music Ministry of our Church. Strong emphasis placed on the importance of music as part of Worship, and currently enjoy a Chancel Choir, two Children's Choirs, a Bell Choir, and a blossoming Praise Band. Interested candidates may request a job description or email their resumes and questions to: stmatthews1@aol.com Att: Pastor Bob Wilt.

DISCIPLESHIP ASSOCIATE (YOUTH MINISTRY)

SHOUT Youth Ministry of Hempfield United Methodist Church (Lancaster, PA) is searching for a Discipleship Associate. The position is salaried part-time (25 hours per week) and schedule will vary and is flexible. Primary responsibility will be to provide administrative leadership and support to SHOUT Youth Ministry and Youth Pastor so that youth can become more fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ. For a complete job

description and more information about our church and ministry, visit our website at

www.hempfieldchurch.org. Submit cover letter and resume or any questions to HUMC, Sean P. Williams, 3050 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17543 or swilliams@hempfieldchurch.org.

ASSOCIATE YOUTH PASTOR

Associate Youth Pastor at Grove UMC to work part-time or full time with Youth Ministry team in a strongly supportive congregation located in West Chester. Candidate should be a self-starter who is passionate about sharing God's love with others, an excellent communicator, friendly, energetic, creative in program development, and open to persons with varying theological viewpoints. College degree and previous youth leadership experience preferred. E-mail resume to judygrin@comcast.net or fax to 610-696-5625.

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY (PART-TIME)

St. John's United Methodist Church in Ivyland (Bucks County) is seeking a Director of Youth Ministry. This is a part-time position involving approximately 20-25 hours per week. Salary is negotiable, commensurate with experience. The responsibilities: Coordinate and direct a strong, well established youth program; recruit and orient volunteers; attend staff meetings; other activities as needed. Interested parties may send a resume or contact for further information: Rev. Janice Puliti, Associate Pastor, St. John's UMC, 820 Almshouse Road, Ivyland, PA 18974; 215-357-6998; e-mail: revjanp@comcast.net.

Rev. Hess is in the pink!

By Chip Lillie

The congregation at Media: First United Methodist did a double take on Mothers Day as the Rev. Janet Hess made good on her fundraising challenge to the church's youth group. The kids raised over \$1,700.00 by asking members of the congregation to vote by donation on what hair color would be most fitting of their well-respected senior pastor. Pink was the overwhelming choice.

"I can't believe she really went through with it," explained 11 year old Jeff Lillie. "She was brighter than the flowers - I needed sunglasses," said 16 year old Brittney Gardner. Rev. Hess commented, "Most people put their money where their mouth is - I just decided to put my hair where other peoples money was as a way to support our youth!"

"This is the most fun I ever had in church," explained Adele Jezorski a parishoner for more than four decades (and stylist) as she tried to hide the pink dye on her fingers.

Associate Pastor Larry Bergstresser even loaned moral support by adding a little color to his Mother's day appearance as well. The money raised will be used to for youth discipleship events.



Reverends Janet Hess & Larry Bergstresser sport pink hair as a result of an innovative youth fund raiser at First UMC of Media.

2005 class of retirees honored

Twelve retirees representing 373 years in ministry were honored in a luncheon at the Reading Country Club on Thursday, May 12. All retirees of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference and their spouses were invited to the event.

The following retirees were honored: Donald Edwards, John C. Grove,

Milton R. Hartenstine, David G. Henritz, Janet K. Hess, Richard W. Howarth, Lewis E. Powell, Russell W. Streeper, Louis E. Troester III, X. Peter Wernett, Charles Yrigoyen, Jr., and Won Kyung Yun.

Retired pastor, the Rev. David G. High, served as master of ceremonies. The Rev. Dr. Rodney Shearer played

piano and Mrs. Susan Coe sang. As each retiree was honored, each spoke of meaningful events, people, and places in their ministry. Bishop Marcus Matthews offered words of thanks and appreciation to all of the retirees. The afternoon was closed with a benediction, offered by the Rev. Amy C. Smith, chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry.



Bishop Marcus Matthews stands with the 2005 class of retirees.

Backrow: (l. to r.) Rev. Russell W. Streeper, Rev. Louis E. Troester III, Rev. Janet K. Hess, Rev. Charles Yrigoyen, Jr., Rev. John C. Grove, Rev. Richard W. Howarth, Bishop Matthews
Clergy Spouses in frontrow (l. to r.) Mrs. Diana Streeper, Mrs. Cheryl Ann Troester, Rev. Bill Blose, Mrs. Jeanette Yrigoyen and Mrs. Shirley Grove