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Orphanage opens in Nigeria

By Suzy Keenan

Ninety orphan children in Jalingo, Nigeria now have a home, school, and church, thanks to generous donations from churches and members of The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference.

The orphanage, made possible through the Hope for the Children initiative of the conference, opened in October. The complex will be accompanied by a restaurant, which will enable the orphanage to become economically self-sustaining, and which will be a place to educate students in restaurant management.

The conference set a goal of raising \$230,000 for the Hope for the Children of Africa Initiative four years ago, and then committed to double the goal to \$460,000 in order to equally support ministry with children living in poverty in eastern Pennsylvania. The conference raised \$490,000 by June of 2004 - \$30,000 more than the goal.

Over the last two years, eleven awards were presented to conference churches that work with children in poverty in eastern Pennsylvania. Seven of them were awarded at Annual Conference in 2004: one for \$10,000 and six for \$5,000. "Most churches working with the poor are also poor churches," said the Rev. Donna Jones, chairperson of the Children and Poverty Task Force. "And it's the neediest churches that are working with the neediest people. In some cases the church buildings are falling apart and they need to stop roof leaks to have viable place for ministry, and in some cases the church wants to take kids to summer camp. The awards may be used at the discretion of the church for their ministry with poor children."

Bishop Marcus Matthews and the Children and Poverty Task Force have established new goals



Rev. Donna Jones (EPA), Rev. Abinatuze, council director for UM Church of Nigeria (UMCN), and Rev. Hilda Campbell (EPA) stand near the orphanage in mid-construction. In the right foreground is Sister Fatima, also of UMCN.

for the next four years. With the completion of the orphanage, the conference will move toward supporting the rural health initiative in Nigeria. The goal is to bring quality health care into isolated vil-

lages and the bush country, where it is almost impossible to get sick children to the doctor. Mobil clinics will deliver healthcare where it is needed, and will provide mid-wife and well-baby services

including immunization against polio and smallpox. The goals for Eastern Pennsylvania are threefold. First, the conference will encourage and teach churches how to

See ORPHANAGE P17

Marshall named executive director of Congregational Transformation

By Suzy Keenan

The Rev. Dr. Sherrin Marshall has been appointed by Bishop Marcus Matthews to the position of executive director of Congregational Transformation for the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church. Marshall will begin her new appointment on July 1, 2005.

Marshall is currently Senior Pastor of Huntingdon Valley UMC in Huntingdon Valley, PA. She grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, and graduated from Shaker Heights High School, after which she attended Boston University, receiving a B.A. in History in 1964. She went on to Tufts University Graduate School and received an M.A. in His-



The Rev. Dr. Sherrin Marshall is new executive director of Congregational Transformation.

See MARSHALL P16

Maloney appointed to East District

By Suzy Keenan

Bishop Marcus Matthews has appointed the Rev. Dr. Alfred Maloney to the superintendency of the East District, effective July 1, 2005.

Maloney, currently superintendent of the Northwest District, is a native of West Palm Beach, Florida, the son of Christopher and Cora Maloney, both deceased. After graduating from Palm Beach County schools in 1961, he



The Rev. Dr. Alfred Maloney is the new East District Superintendent.

See MALONEY P16

Kurien appointed to Northwest District

By Suzy Keenan

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Jacob Kurien has been appointed by Bishop Marcus Matthews to the superintendency of the Northwest District. Kurien will begin his appointment on July 1, 2005.

Currently, Kurien is pastor of St. Matthews UMC in Reading. He grew up in south India in the Kerala State, the son of missionaries who



The Rev. Dr. Christopher Kurien is the new Northwest District Superintendent.

See KURIEN P17

Conference Calendar

March 6

One Great Hour of Sharing

Order your free One Great Hour of Sharing materials today. Call toll free, 1-888-346-3862. Then on March 6, receive the offering. Your generosity means UMCOR will be your open hearts and hands in current and future disasters. UMCOR offers additional online resources at <http://gbgm-umc.org/umcor/oghs.stm>.

March 19

Christian Rock Bands

Tabor UMC's "Burning Bush Cafe" presents another series of Christian rock bands for area youth and teens. Entertainment starts at 7 p.m. with a \$6.00 admission fee. For more information, visit their website at www.burningbushcafe.org.

March 19

Social Principles Forum

The Church and Society Work Team will be sponsoring the second in a series of six forums surrounding The Social Principles. This second forum will address the Economic Community and our role as Christians in fostering economic justice for all of God's creatures.

Bela Vora of Ten Thousand Villages will present an interactive educational piece regarding the work of Ten Thousand Villages in fostering self-sufficiency to indigenous peoples around the world. Ten Thousand Villages is a nonprofit program of Menonite Central Committee (MCC), the relief and development agency of Mennonite and Brethren in Christ churches in North America. Ten Thousand Villages has been working around the world since 1946. The forum will be held at Union UMC, 200 Brookline Blvd., Havertown, PA 19083. 9:00 a.m. for registration and a continental breakfast, 9:30 forum begins and will end around 10:45 a.m.

You may call Peggy Wood at (610) 524-5935 for more info or directions. Union UMC office phone is 610-789-1700 or you can reach Pastor Bob Coombe at 610-789-2328. The email address for Union UMC is unionhavertown@verizon.net.

March 31

Peace with Justice Grant Application Deadline

Peace with Justice Grant Applications may be submitted up to March 31, 2005 for the spring grant cycle. Applications are available on-line at cswt.pjpr.org or by contacting Dave Goss at (610) 258-0371. Please note that Volunteer in Mission trips cannot be considered.

The Church and Society Work Team also has a limited amount of funds for individual scholarships for peace with justice training events. Individuals can request up to 50% of the cost of a training up to \$500.00. For more information contact Dave Goss, Conference Peace with Justice Coordinator at revdavegoss@enter.net or (610) 258-0371.

April 1

Basic Sexual Ethics Workshop

Camp Innabah, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Leaders: Dr. Gary George and Dr. Donna Fiedler; Cost \$25 (includes lunch). Mail registration with your name, address and phone number to Dr. Donna Fiedler, 306 Buse St., Ridley

Park, PA 19078. Include check made payable to Eastern PA Conference UMC.

April 1

United Methodist Night at the "76ers"

Friday, April 1, 2005; 7:00 p.m.; "76ers" vs. the Dallas Mavericks at the Wachovia Center, Philadelphia, PA. You will be able to buy a normally priced \$39.00 ticket for \$30.00 which will include a free hot dog and Coke. Plus the Eastern PA, NJ, and Peninsula Delaware Conferences will receive \$5.00 back for every ticket sold. Churches will soon receive a ticket order form from the 76ers. Please be on the look out. For further ticket or other information contact: Ross A. Brightwell, 215/643-1269; rossbrightwell@worldnet.att.net

April 1-3, 8-10, or 15-17

Spring Confirmation Camp, Gretna Glen Camp & Retreat Center

For United Methodist Confirmation Classes. Pastors and/or Educators, bring your Junior or Senior High youth confirmation class to this weekend devoted to learn how they can use their gifts from God to help others. Cost is \$80.00 per camper. Contact the camp at registrar@gretnaglen.org or call 717-273-6525 for more information or to register your group.

April 1-3

United Methodist Men Convocation

The United Methodist Men Convocation will be held April 1-3, 2005 at Pocono Manor Inn and Golf Resort, Pocono Manor, PA. (See pg. 16 for more details.)

April 5-7

Spring Grantwriting Workshop

The Office of Urban and Global Ministries invites local churches throughout the EPA to hold these dates, April 5-7, 2005. Workshops will be held on April 5th (evening) and April 6th (morning) in Philadelphia; April 6th (evening) and April 7th (morning) in Reading. Each workshop will be in two sessions-morning/evening.

The facilitator will be Dr. Joe D. Connelly, an ordained United Methodist Minister who has served as a Church Growth Consultant for the United Methodist denomination since 1994. Dr. Connelly will cover organization readiness, drafting the proposal and grant research. This is a dynamic and interactive workshop to share the secrets of grant writing and help your church build its skills in this important method of financing ministry in your community. For further information, a brochure and registration, please call Dr. Dorothy Watson Tatem, Director of the Urban/Global Office at 215-878-8054.

April 5-7

Developing Leadership in Small Membership Churches Workshop

Led by Tony Pappas. (See pg. 18 for further information.)

April 5-7

Spring Children's Retreat at Pocono Plateau

Can't wait for summer camp? Meet up with old friends, and make some new friends at this weekend retreat designed especially for 3-6 graders.

The retreat begins on Friday, April 22 at 7:00 p.m. and ends Sunday, April 24 at 2:00 p.m. The theme, "Breakin' Out", led by Crista Myers, will explore how to follow Jesus in our everyday lives. Join us for crafts, games, fun, snacks and more! Cost is \$70 per person. To register for the retreat, contact Pocono Plateau at 570-676-3665, or camp@poconoplateau.org.

May 20-22

Youth Annual Conference

2005 Youth Annual Conference (YAC) 2005 will be held at East Stroudsburg University the weekend of May 20-22, 2005. This is to accommodate the youth who will be involved in confirmation activities on Pentecost May 15th. The theme for YAC 2005 is "Youth Under Construction" (Phil. 1:6). There will be speakers and music groups from our own Eastern PA Conference, games, workshops, small group Bible study, dancing and lots of fun! We are trying to keep costs at a minimum to maximize participation. Registration will be available on-line. Watch for a postcard and more information at the conference website in the coming weeks. If you have a recommendation for a speaker or music or drama group from the Eastern PA Conference, please e-mail the suggestion to Georgette Hall-Peterson at ghpeter@comcast.net. Make your plans now to join us at YAC 2005.

August 5-7

Laity Academy

Sheraton Hotel, Reading, PA. Study leaders will be Dr. Kenneth Morrison, Rev. Donna Jones, Rev. Al Maloney, Dr. William Staton, David Napoleon, and Elaine Smith. A Christ Servant Ministries course will also be offered.

Registration forms and additional information will be mailed in March.

For more information, contact Dr. Mary White, mwhite9891@aol.com or 610-519-9812.

Camping and Retreat Ministry 2005 Camping booklet online!

Go to <http://www.epaumc.org/NewsDetails.asp?pageID=814> for your copy.

To order a 2005 summer camp brochure, call tollfree 1-877-UMC-CAMP and press 2. You may also access the camps directly through their web sites:

CARSON-SIMPSON FARM:

www.csfarm.org

GRETNA GLEN: www.gretnaglen.org

INNABAH: www.innabah.org

POCONO PLATEAU:

www.poconoplateau.org



2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The June Session of Annual Conference will open with worship mid-day Wednesday, June

15th, include evening business sessions, and adjourn with the Ordination Service Friday evening, June 17th. Lunch will be provided on Wednesday.

As indicated in our earlier communication, the June session (except for the Clergy Session) will be held at the Loews Hotel (the recently renovated former PSFS Building) at 12th and Market Streets in Philadelphia.

Because of a recent Judicial Council ruling which now allows Clergy Sessions to be held at a separate place and time, EPA's 2005 Clergy Session will be held at Hempfield United Methodist Church on Monday, June 13th, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Church is located at 3050 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17601.

You can visit the Church's website for directions. Their website address is www.hempfieldchurch.org

The Laity Session will be held at the Loews Hotel, Wednesday, June 15th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There will also be an additional Laity meeting Thursday, June 16th during breakfast for those who cannot attend the Wednesday Laity Session.

The rates will include 2 nights stay (Wednesday & Thursday), parking and food for two and half days (2 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners). Complete details, including rates, will be available in the registration materials which will be mailed to members.

Healing the Wounds of Racism Schedule

All classes are Introductory Level 1

• *March 14-16* - Black Rock Retreat Center, Quarryville, PA

• *April 29-May 1* - The Country Place, White Haven, PA

• *May 15-17* - Camp Innabah Program Center, Spring City, PA

• *August 22-24* - St. Raphaela Mary Retreat Center, Haverford, PA

• *August 26-28* - St. Raphaela Mary Retreat Center, Haverford, PA

• *September 15-17* - Location to be announced

• *October 2-4* - Port-O-Call, Ocean City, NJ

• *November 7-9* - Kirkridge Retreat

Direct inquiries to: EPAUMC, The Office of Healing the Wounds of Racism, Attn: Hilda Campbell, Director Human Relations and Leadership, 610-666-9090, ext. 224.



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Tsunami raises "where," not "why", question about God

By Bishop Judith Craig

To ask about God's presence in the face of the tsunami that struck Asia and Africa is to ask a good question. It is not a "why" question but a "where" question.

We are long past the time when we think natural occurrences are the direct act of God — whether they are apparent interventions that spare us harm, for which we give thanks, or disasters like the tsunami that cause inexpressible sorrow and loss. We know such events are the result of the physics and forces of a natural world where shifts of tectonic plates cause the earth to tremble, and in this case, huge waves to cross the ocean's surface and crash into land.

Did God do this? Certainly not! The universe is orderly, even in its disorder, with the laws of its nature being the guidelines for its behavior.

No, we would be naïve and ignorant of natural forces to blame God for this tragedy.

But asking the "where" question puts us on an avenue to the heart of God. For God is surely in the midst of all that has occurred, watching the devastation of those made in God's image and surely reaching out in the energy of Godly love that surpasses all other sources of hope.

God is in this event — in the tears of those who mourn, in the joy of those who survived, in the numbness of those who wonder about the future, in the anguish of those who try to get through each day. God surely is in this event in the hands and feet of those who carry the stuff of relief — medicine, food, shelter.

A delegation of mission and communications leaders of The United Methodist Church visited areas of Sumatra, Indonesia, near the epicenter of the earthquake that triggered the waves.

God is in this event in the presence of those who work to clear away rubble and gently care for the bodies found and over which they weep. God is in this event in the touch of healers and the listening of counselors, and

in the prayers of religious people of all faiths.

God is in this event in the prayers and generous outpouring of financial giving and networking of relief agencies through councils of churches and private associations that turn the money into the good necessary for life and health and hope. God is in the midst of this event in more ways than we can imagine.

It is very important to ask the right question. The "why" question is imponderable, and it is as old as human kind. An answer that blames God rises out of a culture and time that did not know all that we know about how the natural world operates. It is now a scientific question, not a faith question. The faith question is the "where" question, recognizing that nothing in all creation — not even a tsunami — can separate the created order and all human creation from the love of its Creator.

And so I pray: Loving, grieving, present God, wrap your eternal arms around your precious globe called earth and hold tenderly all who tremble in the aftermath of the tsunami. Let your children of all ages, races and beliefs know of your presence. Keep our hearts tender and our souls generous as we remember that surely as you note the fall of a sparrow, you have noted the perishing of each person made in your image and have gently noted and cared for their beings as only you can.

Remove from our thoughts all judgment or smugness or pride of religion or place, that we may offer the healing energy of our prayerful love for those who struggle to rebuild their lives in safety and with hope. Thank you for those who labor with those who live, and for the human structures that make possible the binding together of those who give in one distant place and those who receive in another.

Craig is a Bishop in residence and visiting professor of church leadership at Methodist Theological School in Ohio in Delaware, Ohio.

In Memoriam

The Rev. Edgar W. Roberson, Jr.

Word has been received of the death of the Rev. Edgar W. Roberson, Jr., retired associate member, on Sunday, January 30, 2005. Rev. Roberson, age 79, died on his way to church.

Prior to retiring on July 1, 1990, he had served Hellertown: St. Paul's and Pine Grove churches.

He is survived by his wife, Loretta. Condolences may be sent to her at Apt. 4, 75 Maplewood Drive, Lewisburg PA 17837-8902.

There will be a memorial service on Sunday, April 3*, 2005, at 3 p.m. at Beaver Memorial UMC, 42 S. Third St., Lewisburg, PA.

The Rev. Warren P. Mohr, Jr.

Word has been received of the death of retired elder, the Rev. Warren P. Mohr, Jr., who died on February 12,

2005. A member of Allentown: Emmanuel UMC, he was 84 year old.

Rev. Mohr retired in 1984. Pastor Mohr served churches on the Southeast District (Rancks), the Northeast District (Tobyhanna, Pen Argyl: Grace, Wescosville: Bethany), and the Northwest District (Barnesville/Quakake).

He is survived by his wife, Dorothea and son, Dr. Philip W. Mohr, and daughter Mrs. Linda J. Howell.

Services were held at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 16, at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 2336 S. Ninth Street, Allentown, PA 18103 (610-797-1571). Calling hour was held prior to the service, from 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Condolences may be sent to Mrs. Dorothea Mohr, 34 Arch Street, Pen Argyl, PA 18072-1631.

Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to Emmanuel United



Areas of standing water such as this in Banda Aceh are a concern for relief officials worried about waterborne diseases. A UMNS photo by Mike DuBose.

"God, Why?" study resource addresses tough questions

When people experience tragedy or loss, the questions often asked are: Why did God allow it to happen? Where was God? Those questions swirl in the aftermath of a catastrophe such as the Dec. 26 tsunami that struck Asia and Africa. United Methodist Communications has produced a resource to help individuals, study groups and congregations understand

how God is present in difficult times.

"God, Why? Teachings from the Tsunamis" offers insights from bishops, theologians, pastors and others in a two-session, small-group study format. For information about the project or to preorder the \$19.95 DVD and CD, call customer service at (888) 346-3862 or visit www.umc.org.

Methodist Church or Pen Argyl: Grace United Methodist Church, 404 Mountain Avenue, Pen Argyl, PA 18072.

Appointments

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

Rev. Ralph Blanks - From: Janes UMC; To: Central District

Rev. Dr. Alfred Maloney - From: Northwest District; To: East District

Rev. Dr. Sherrin Marshall - From: Huntingdon Valley UMC; To: Exec. Dir. Congregational Transformation

Rev. Dr. Christopher Kurien - From: St. Matthews, Reading; To: Northwest District



One Great Hour of Sharing
March 6, 2005

In The Nation

United Methodists open table to homeless

By Linda S. Rhodes

Inspired to action, some United Methodists in town for a conference on creating healthy congregations left their plush hotel, walked to a fast-food restaurant and bought 400 meals for a group of homeless people living under an expressway overpass.

Nearly 100 participants at the "Healthy Churches: Transforming the World" conference were inspired by a hymn "Invitation" that, in part, says "There are tables in our city filled with lavish food and drink. Many dine there without pity, of the homeless never think."

The visit to the overpass was the idea of the Rev. We Hyun Chang, pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church in Concord, N.H., who said he had gone to McDonald's to get breakfast and saw the people living on the street.

"I was surprised by the disparity" between the fancy hotel where the conference was and the stark surroundings under the overpass, Chang said. "I wanted to do something rather than just talk about it."

About 1,300 local church and conference leaders from across the

United States met Jan. 27-30 to learn more about creating and maintaining healthy congregations. The United Methodist Board of Discipleship sponsored the event.

Chang said he was spurred to action when he heard the opening night speaker, the Rev. Leslie Griffiths, dean of the Wesley Chapel in London, encourage United Methodists to continue John Wesley's work on social justice issues. And when he read the hymn, "there was no way that I wasn't going to do something," Chang said.

About 100 guests at the concluding dinner and worship service for the "Healthy Churches: Transforming the World" conference in Houston were homeless persons living under a nearby expressway overpass. Nearly 100 participants at the conference held in Houston Jan. 27-30 bought lunches and invited the homeless to the dinner and service.

First, the church members descended on a nearby McDonald's restaurant where they spent at least \$2,000 buying more than 400 meals. Then they went out into the street to share their lunches.



The Rev. Robert Sathuri gives lunch to a homeless man in downtown Houston. A UMNS photo by Linda S. Rhodes.

"This is wonderful," said Foster Riley who added that he had lived in several missions and shelters before ending up under the expressway for two days. "I think it made everybody's day. It was a cloudy day. But you came and brightened up our day. It was a good day for everybody."

While distributing lunches, the United Methodists also issued invitations to come to dinner and worship that night at the Hilton of the Americas in downtown Houston.

"Really? Are you serious?" several of the homeless asked, expressing amazement that they were being invited to dinner. But despite their

incredulity, they came – about 100 of them.

And the United Methodists weren't sure who benefited the most from the experience.

"It was really wonderful to have at my table one of those honored guests who was living under the expressway," said the Rev. Robert Sathuri, pastor of Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Polo, Ill. "To go bring the communion bread and cup and receive communion from him, Steven, it was a fantastic, fantastic experience for my wife and I. I felt that we made room for Jesus at the table, and Jesus broke bread with us."

The Rev. Charles Emery, pastor of Calvary United Methodist Church in Villa Park, Ill., expressed pleasure that there was so much interaction between those who came as guests to the banquet and those who were attending the conference.

"It wasn't like they (the homeless guests) were sitting off in the corner," Emery said. "There was a true genuine sense of respect and openness toward each other which I thought was very hopeful."

"My big concern was that it not be too condescending to them," said Joyce Fieldstad, member of Warren United Methodist Church in Warren, Ill. "I went not knowing what to expect, but I was pleased with the result. They seemed very respectful to all of us. I really think they accepted us for what we were doing. I think they were very grateful and were very accepting of it."

Chang said, "Some of us are suggesting that maybe we should make every United Methodist event a kingdom event, and not just open the doors, but also open the table."

Rhodes is director of communications for the Northern Illinois Annual Conference.

The Nation in Brief

• WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The United Methodist Commission on the Status and Role of Women has developed four bulletin inserts in recognition of Women's History Month this March. The inserts will be available in a free pdf format at the commission's website www.gcsr.org, beginning Feb. 23. The bulletins feature four outstanding women from Methodist backgrounds, including Bishop Minerva Carcano. The inserts also include quizzes. In the late 1980s, the National Women's History Project petitioned the U.S. Congress to expand the national celebration from one week to the entire month of March. The celebration originally began as only one day—March 8, 1908—when the Social Democratic Women's Society sponsored a mass meeting on women's rights in New York. That date is now observed as International Women's Day and celebrated worldwide.

• PRAYER PAGER

Hundreds of miles from home, Jack and Anita Culp felt numb, watching their son cling to life after a wreck. As they prayed for his survival, a stranger brought something that would give them hope in the family's most trying time: a prayer pager. Soon, the family's prayers were joined by thousands from across the country. "It's kind of hard to grasp sometimes that that many people care," said Brandon Culp, 23, who is now under-

going therapy at Methodist Rehabilitation Center in Jackson. Brandon, from Harrisburg, PA, was injured Jan. 9 when a truck hit his car near Jackson. He was returning to college in Texas. The prayer pager is a ministry of Christ United Methodist Church in Jackson. Church members sent e-mails to friends asking them to pray for Brandon, call a toll-free number for the pager and enter their ZIP codes. Pages began coming in from throughout the United States, and the pager buzzed constantly. The church has since provided prayer pagers to a hospitalized child and to a church member being treated for cancer.

• UNITED METHODIST MEN

The ninth National Gathering of United Methodist Men is scheduled for July 15-17 at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind. The gathering, formerly known as the Congress of United Methodist Men, is a quadrennial event that brings together more than 4,000 men from across the globe for spiritual renewal, fellowship and instruction. For details or to register, visit www.gcumm.org or call (888) 245-0176.

• STROUD APPEAL

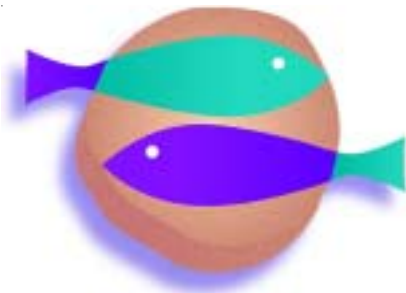
An April 28 hearing date has been set for the appeal of Beth Stroud, the former United Methodist clergywoman who lost her credentials after a church trial. The hearing will be 9 a.m. to noon at the Sheraton International

Hotel on the grounds of Baltimore-Washington Airport. Stroud, who was serving as associate pastor of First United Methodist Church of Germantown in Philadelphia, was found guilty Dec. 2 of violating the denomination's prohibition of "self-avowed practicing homosexuals" in the ordained ministry. Since losing her clergy credentials, she has remained on staff at that church as a lay member.

• HERITAGE CENTER

Many people are unaware that African Americans' involvement in Methodism dates back to the beginnings of the church in America, a United Methodist bishop says. A lot of whites don't know African Americans were a crucial part of Methodism before the racially segregated Central Jurisdiction was created in 1939, says Bishop Forrest Stith. And some African Americans have been so "obsessed with the injustices of the Central Jurisdiction" that they seldom share the stories of black involvement in the church as far back as the Christmas Conference of 1784, when the church in America was organized. Stith is leading a project for the creation of an African American Methodist Heritage Center that will help people understand the contributions that blacks have made to Methodism. The center will gather the stories, artifacts and other historical items of black Methodists from the mid-18th century to today.

Sharing God's Gifts



Serving Christ Through Our United Methodist Connectional Giving

Where the local church expense dollar goes

Of each dollar contributed, on average:

◆ 83.2 cents stays in your local church for ministries and expenses

◆ Less than 4 cents goes to United Methodist churchwide missions, salaries and administrative cost

◆ 12.8 cents goes for regional ministries in your annual conference and jurisdiction

Your church has a finance committee that recommends the budget for local mission projects, operating expenses and salaries. That budget is approved annually by your church council.

Apportioned Funds Enable United Methodists to Do Together What No Church, District or Annual Conference Could Do Alone.

We believe giving is an act of worship. We believe giving is, as 2 Corinthians 9:15, NRSV, teaches, our way of saying "Thanks be to



God" for the most generous gift of all...our Lord Jesus Christ.

John Wesley and his followers saw our work in the simplest terms. To paraphrase his inspiring words: "Do all the good you can, in all the places you can, to all the people you can."

We United Methodists follow in Wesley's footsteps, supporting one

another and helping God's children whenever and wherever we can.

One way we accomplish this task is through our apportioned funds, a method of giving that proportionally allocates the general church budget to conferences (which subsequently apportion to local churches). This method of giving has become a strong, generous

tradition and a personal, lifelong commitment.

Together, through our connected congregations, we United Methodists accomplish what no single church, district or annual conference ever could hope to do. In this way, each individual, each family, each congregation gives a fair share for the church's work. We combine our prayers, presence, gifts and service to make a significant difference in the lives of God's people...in every place we can...as often as we can.

The seven apportioned funds include:

- World Service Fund
- Ministerial Education Fund
- Africa University Fund
- Black College Fund
- Interdenominational Cooperation Fund
- Episcopal Fund
- General Administration Fund

Thank you to every church in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference for sharing the gifts God has given you.

District	District Superintendent	Connection Ministries 2004 Payment	% Paid	World Services 2004 Payment	% Paid	General Church 2004 Payment	% Paid
Central	Rev. Philip Ponce	607,759	98%	194,644	101%	190,723	101%
East	Rev. Michele Bartlow	603,052	95%	140,399	93%	132,192	89%
Northeast	Rev. Susan May	512,326	97%	165,901	98%	144,812	98%
Northwest	Rev. Alfred Maloney	421,229	97%	135,577	94%	128,504	96%
Southeast	Rev. Susan May	537,415	95%	175,007	95%	167,460	95%
Southwest	Rev. Robert Hoffman	742,460	96%	217,050	91%	208,902	90%
Total		3,424,241	96%	1,028,578	95%	972,593	95%

Central District

Rev. Philip Ponce, District Superintendent

Church ID	Pastor's Name	Church Name	Connection Ministry Fund		World Services		General Church	
			2004 Payment	% Paid	2004 Payment	% Paid	2004 Payment	% Paid
01070	Richmond Watson	Birdsboro: Christ	2,243	100%	872	100%	869	100%
01080	Maxime R. Jaouen	Birdsboro: Focht Memorial	3,537	100%	1,056	100%	3,215	100%
01100	J. V. Hastings	Cedarville	17,230	100%	6,094	100%	5,676	100%
01140	Blaine R. Wenger	Coventryville	9,301	100%	3,445	100%	3,432	100%
01150	Kenneth DeWalt	Douglassville: Hope	4,593	75%	96	19%	96	19%
01160	John J. Keretzman	Elverson	8,655	100%	3,132	100%	3,213	100%
01200	Louis E. Troester	Geigertown: St. Paul's	5,000	100%	1,500	100%	1,500	100%
01210	Paul R. Crikelair	Goodwill	3,521	100%	1,276	100%	1,306	100%
01230	Ronald L. Bickhart	Harmony	3,015	100%	1,116	100%	1,112	100%
01410	Larry D. Carl	Lincoln Park: Community	12,952	100%	4,610	100%	4,496	100%
01420	John C. Grove	Mohnton: Calvary	16,537	100%	5,744	100%	5,719	100%
01430	Jere R. Martin	Morgantown	4,974	100%	1,697	100%	1,647	100%
01460	Matthew L. Heckman	New Berlinville: St. Andrew	8,020	100%	2,673	100%	2,673	100%
01470	David M. Lewis	New Hanover	27,410	100%	10,152	100%	10,112	100%
01520	William J. Humes	Pottstown: First	6,300	100%	2,000	100%	2,000	100%
01530	Stephen Herczeg	Pottstown: Salem	3,147	100%	1,166	100%	1,161	100%
01540	Nicolas Camacho	Reading: Central Park	5,137	100%		0%		0%
01560	Nicolas Camacho	Reading: Emanuel-Olivet	836	52%	233	58%	233	58%
01580	Richard C. Holder	Reading: Grace	2,546	100%	943	100%	940	100%
01590	John T. Pfeil	Reading: Holy Cross	10,400	100%	1,443	100%	1,443	100%
01600	Christopher J. Kurien	Reading: St. Matthews	4,910	100%	1,650	100%	1,640	100%
01610	David A. Knotts	Reading: Wesley	2,799	100%	1,047	100%	1,043	100%
01660	Mark Terry	St. Peter's: Mount Carmel	2,400	100%	900	100%	900	100%
01670	Lester M. Groves	Temple	5,015	100%	998	58%	968	58%
01680	Jeff Raffauf	West Lawn	37,303	102%	12,528	100%	12,888	100%
01690	Nancy R. Dougherty	Wyomissing: Calvary	5,478	100%	1,371	100%	1,404	100%
03020	Richard J. Rimert	Berwyn	17,853	100%	6,171	100%	5,976	100%
03030	Carol A. Campbell	Bethel	5,000	67%	2,890	96%	1,500	100%
03070	Eric H. Woodworth	Charlestown	2,102	83%	677	83%	638	83%
03215	David J. Frame	Evansburg	2,331	100%	765	100%	738	100%
03300	Scott A. Widmer	Honey Brook	4,624	67%	1,598	67%	1,778	67%
03400	David M. Myers	Malvern	2,087	106%	1,175	100%	1,000	100%
03460	Timothy C. Anderman	Mont Clare: Otterbein	3,571	100%	1,234	100%	1,195	100%
03500	Charles C. Cole	Paoli	22,429	100%	7,710	100%	7,470	100%
03530	Bronwyn Yocum	Phoenixville: First	20,522	100%	6,045	100%	4,433	100%
03550	Lee F. Adams	Royersford	11,857	100%	4,055	100%	3,925	100%
03570	Richard W. Howarth	Spring City	5,950	100%	2,060	100%	1,990	100%
03620	Thomas Ebersole	Valley Forge	6,154	100%	1,979	100%	1,867	100%
03630	Robert Wilt	Valley Forge: St. Matthew's	20,692	100%	7,152	100%	6,926	100%
03650	Joseph F. DiPaolo	Wayne	32,384	100%	11,075	100%	10,724	100%
05010	Donald R. Williams	Ardmore	13,855	100%	4,000	100%	4,000	100%
05020	James F. McIntire	Bala Cynwyd	13,263	100%	1,239	100%	1,239	100%
05025	Daniel C. Yoo	Bala Cynwyd: Wesley Korean		0%		0%		0%
05030	George A. Tigh	Bethel Hill	11,953	100%	4,077	100%	3,958	100%
05040	David Tatgenhorst	Bryn Mawr: St. Luke	7,100	100%	2,200	100%	2,200	100%
05080	David M. Eckert	Conshohocken	6,333	106%	1,833	92%	1,833	92%
05150	Charlene L. Gaspar	Gladwyne	1,794	100%	612	100%	594	100%
05180	Barbara Keyser	Havertown: St. Andrews	3,678	100%	1,255	100%	1,218	100%
05200	Robert G. Coombe	Havertown: Union	9,194	100%	3,137	100%	3,044	100%
05210	Nancy L. Miller	Lafayette Hill: Messiah	8,428	92%	2,876	92%	2,790	92%
05220	Gary D. Knerr	Lansdale: Christ	25,337	100%	8,644	100%	8,389	100%
05230	David G. Heberling	Lansdale: First	30,004	120%	10,248	0%	9,935	0%
05260	Sunil Balasundaram	Narberth	2,153	100%	734	100%	713	100%
05270	Christine A. Croxall	Norristown: Asbury	9,660	100%	2,850	100%	2,880	100%
05280	Gary L. Dillensnyder	Norristown: Haws Avenue	6,304	71%	2,125	71%	2,196	71%
05290	James E. Carver	North Wales: Sanctuary	18,000	100%	7,000	100%	5,000	100%
05310	Robin M. Hynicka	Phila.: Arch Street	12,375	100%	4,125	100%	4,125	100%
05330	A. R. Reddick	Phila.: Camphor Memorial	7,046	70%	1,000	50%	1,500	50%
05340	Thomas E. Sligh	Phila.: Devereux Memorial	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
05360	Herbert N. Gibbons	Phila.: Emmanuel	6,759	100%	2,224	100%	2,158	100%
05490	Donna L. Jones	Phila.: Cookman	1,839	100%	627	100%	609	100%
05500	Reginald A. Monte	Phila.: Mid-Town Parish	1,250	100%	625	100%	625	100%
05510	Thomas H. James	Phila.: Mount Zion	4,664	100%	1,591	100%	1,544	100%
05520	Anthony A. Arrington	Phila.: Mother African Zoar	4,500	100%	2,250	100%	2,250	100%
05620	Robert L. Johnson	Phila.: Simpson-Fletcher	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
05650	Allen G. Jenkins	Phila.: St. Luke's Snyder Aven	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
05660	Allen G. Jenkins	Phila.: St. Barnabas-Bethsaida	2,000	100%	481	48%	481	48%
05670	G. K. Gilson	Phila.: St. George's	1,900	100%	550	100%	550	100%
05680	Michael Roberts	Phila.: Tioga	1,833	92%	917	92%	83	
05690	Thomas A. Jackmon	Phila.: Tindley Temple	576			0%		0%
05740	Sunil Balasundaram	Radnor	9,000	100%		0%		0%
31425	John V. Bhajjan	Havertown: Hope*	3,766		3,210	244%	3,204	246%
		Total	595,380	98%	192,757	101%	186,965	101%

*Merged congregation

East District

Rev. Michele Bartlow, District Superintendent

Church ID	Pastor's Name	Church Name	Connection Ministry Fund		World Services		General Church	
			2004 Payment	% Paid	2004 Payment	% Paid	2004 Payment	% Paid
05375	John Lewis	Phila.: Haven Peniel	12,379	100%	1,887	45%	3,757	92%
05390	Jorge Ortiz	Phila.: El Mesias	1,665	100%	550	100%	535	100%
05405	DeLois Johnson	Phila.: Hancock St John's	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
05420	Tracy L. Bass	Phila.: Kensington "Old Brick"		0%		0%		0%
05440	William Wolfe	Phila.: St. Philip's	240	100%	480	100%	1,080	100%
05460	Melvin F. Bell	Phila.: Simpson Memorial	6,620	100%		0%	1,380	100%
05475	Daniel P. Roth	Phila.: Summerfield/Siloam	4,511	74%	846	40%	822	40%
05560	Lorenza Williams Jr.	Phila.: Falls	1,495	100%	510	100%	495	100%
05585	Sandra F. Dufresne	Phila.: Roxborough, Green Lane	8,800	100%	3,100	100%	3,100	100%
05600	Andrew Krpata	Phila.: Roxborough, Ridge	7,355	100%	2,509	100%	2,435	100%
07020	Sukja Bang	Ambler: Calvary	8,905	100%	2,085	100%	415	100%
07030	Debra C. Stanton	Bensalem	13,020	100%	1,990	100%	1,990	100%
07040	Myung H. Cha	Bensalem: Korean UMC	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
07050	Bonniekaren Mullen-Holtz	Bristol: First	2,939	96%	1,054	100%	1,387	98%
07060	Thomas Brooks	Bristol: Harriman	1,096	52%	351	48%	363	48%
07070	Charles A. Green	Chalfont	1,035	83%	174	83%	504	83%
07080	Gregory K. Gilmore-Clough	Cheltenham	4,000	100%	-	0%	-	0%
07090	Charles R. Mudie	Cornwells Heights	4,100	100%	2,020	100%	920	100%
07100	Cynthia E. Skripak	Croydon: Wilkinson Memorial	1,823	100%	337	100%	328	100%
07110	Michael A. Murphy	Doylestown	28,718	100%	9,108	100%	6,228	100%
07130	Robert L. Strauss	Fairless Hills: Christ	11,029	100%	3,748	100%	2,576	100%
07140	W. T. Bach	Fairless Hills: First	12,480	100%	3,120	100%	3,120	100%
07150	H. Malcolm Whiteman	Fallsington	1,856	83%	845	109%	863	109%
07165	Cynthia L. Brubaker	Glenside/Abington	7,071	100%	4,971	100%	2,143	100%
07170	Thomas C. Haugh	Hatboro: Lehman Memorial	45,428	100%	12,150	100%	12,100	100%
07180	Lorelei M. Bach	Hulmeville: Neshamony	1,208	100%	178	100%	114	100%
07190	Sherrin Marshall	Huntingdon Valley	16,973	100%	5,527	100%		0%
07200	William M. Thompson	Ivyland: St. John's	35,256	100%	9,000	100%	9,253	100%
07210	Gary L. Nicholson	Jarrettown	27,492	100%	8,843	100%	4,784	100%
07220	Jay Newlin	Jenkintown	7,698	100%	2,655	100%	13,067	100%
07230	Roy Lewis	Lahaska	2,293	100%	671	100%	684	100%
07240	John Lutz	Langhorne	12,836	100%	4,428	100%	4,524	100%
07250	Timothy A. Kriebel	Levittown: Emilie	22,783	100%	7,862	100%	8,032	100%
07260	Menno E. Good	Montgomery Square	4,551	100%	1,395	100%	1,395	100%
07270	Frank H. Sanders	Morrisville	10,200	87%	3,135	77%	1,146	28%
07280	James B. Todd	Solebury	10,063	100%	1,677	100%	1,677	100%
07290	David R. Cramp	Newtown	12,526	72%	3,690	100%	3,880	100%
07300	Virginia Miles	Penns Park	4,209	100%	1,485	100%	1,506	100%
07310	Narie L. Grayson	Phila.: Advocate-St. Stephen	1,047	100%	132	100%	132	100%
07320	Mark Dricker	Phila.: Bethesda	450	56%	200	67%	400	40%
07330	Beverly T. Andrews	Phila.: Bridesburg	250	100%	125	100%	125	100%
07340	David W. Brown	Phila.: Bustleton	4,428	100%	1,004	100%	1,029	100%
07350	Harold E. Taussig	Phila.: Chestnut Hill	3,406	100%	1,393	100%	1,393	100%
07360	John L. Davidson	Phila.: Church Good Shepherd	5,227	100%	103	103%	103	103%
07370	David R. Carey	Phila.: Church of The Redeemer	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
07380	Robert Randolph-Davis	Willow Grove: Abundant Life	1,328	100%	331	100%	331	100%
07390	Randy M. Brubaker	Phila.: Crescentville	2,242	61%	700	100%	400	67%
07400	Stanley J. Krall	Phila.: Fox Chase	7,860	100%	456	100%	446	100%
07420	Dustin D. Petz	Phila.: FGM: Central	1,008	100%	341	100%	358	100%
07430	Laurie A. Rookard	Phila.: FGM: Frankford Memorial	7,400	100%	2,600	100%	2,600	100%
07450	Mary Elum	Phila.: FGM: St. Thomas	276	17%	38	17%	38	17%
07460	Carl H. Doerr	Phila.: Holmesburg	3,535	97%	1,111	95%	175	100%
07470	Richard H. Andrews	Phila.: Johnson Memorial	7,117	100%	2,453	100%	2,505	100%
07480	Mandy L. Stanley	Phila.: Juniata Park	1,600	100%	800	100%	800	100%
07490	Alfred T. Day	Phila.: Germantown, First	15,721	100%	5,248	100%	5,361	100%
07500	Ralph E. Blanks	Phila.: Janes Memorial	15,122	100%	1,680	100%	4,201	100%
07510	William G. George	Phila.: Grace	9,890	100%	2,180	100%	3,412	100%
07540	Chul Park	Prospectville: First Korean	1,496	100%	516	100%	527	100%
07550	Esdras Seda	Phila.: LaResurreccion-Lindley	3,430	60%	1,430	78%	1,450	77%
07560	Cookie F. Bracey	Phila.: Mount Carmel	3,056	100%	180	100%	180	100%
07570	Margret M. Powell	Phila.: St. James	1,674	50%	464	50%	476	50%
07580	Frank H. Billman	Phila.: Somerton	10,454	100%	786	100%	786	100%
07590	Dustin D. Petz	Phila.: Tabernacle Memorial	1,271	100%	111	100%	172	83%
07610	Anna R. Steward	Phila.: Trinity (Baynton)	566	65%	199	67%	207	67%
	CLOSED	Phila.: Trinity (Chelten)	590		205		209	
07640	Beverly T. Andrews	Phila.: W issinoming	1,555	42%	691	50%	258	42%
07650	Steven McComas	Pipersville: Rolling Hills	734	100%	253	100%	260	100%
07660	Alvan E. Outland	Prospectville	177	100%	62	100%	63	100%
07670	James L. Garner	Scottsville	12,836	100%	3,133	100%	3,226	100%
07680	Herbert Phillips Sr.	Trevoise	800	100%	500	100%	1,200	100%
07690	Gregory Holston	Trevoise: St. Matthew	3,688	100%	1,434	100%	1,224	100%
07700	Wendy Bellis	Warminster: St. Andrews	12,854	100%	2,551	100%	2,551	100%
07710	John Gudikunst	Warrington: St. Paul's	2,083	42%	1,323	42%	1,355	42%
07720	John S. McDermott	Washington Crossing	97,990	100%	100	100%	100	100%
07730	Daniel R. Ellis-Killian	Willow Grove	9,240	60%	4,200	82%	420	8%
07740	Maridel Whitmore	Yardley	8,379	100%	874	100%	874	100%
		Total	603,052	95%	140,399	93%	132,192	89%

If you have any questions relative to your church's information, please contact Moses Kumar at 610-666-9090, ext. 209.

Northeast District

Rev. Rodney Shearer, District Superintendent

Church ID	Pastor's Name	Church Name	Connection Ministry Fund 2004		World Services 2004		General Church 2004	
			Payment	% Paid	Payment	% Paid	Payment	% Paid
02100	Dennis G. Keen	Black Creek	4,425	100%	1,500	100%	1,575	100%
02120	Lorelei K. Toombs	Conyngham	2,832	100%	960	100%	1,008	100%
02150	Connie K. Stiller	Drums: St. Paul's	5,089	100%	1,725	100%	1,811	100%
02180	Myron Steele	Freeland: Park	303	24%	250	58%	250	55%
02220	Carol V. Lawfer	Hazleton: Diamond	2,950	100%	-	0%	-	0%
	CLOSED	Hazleton: St. Pauls	2,655		900		945	
02260	Myron Steele	Lattimer	976	100%	331	100%	347	100%
02330	Joseph Healey	Nesquehoning: Meed's Memoria	2,439	100%	827	100%	868	100%
02340	Joseph Healey	Jim Thorpe: Grace-St. Paul	3,156	100%	1,070	100%	1,124	100%
02390	William T. Kreichbaum	Summit Hill	2,739	100%	929	100%	975	100%
02680	Rodney E. Miller	Tamaqua: First	5,302	100%	1,797	100%	1,887	100%
02750	William T. Kreichbaum	Coaldale	885	100%	300	100%	315	100%
02770	Rodney E. Miller	Tamaqua: Salem	688	100%	233	100%	245	100%
02780	Dawn Taylor-Storm	White Haven	4,887	100%	1,657	100%	1,739	100%
02790	Amy Boock	Weatherly: Centenary	885	100%	300	100%	315	100%
04010	Sandra A. Parsons	Ackermanville	6,640	100%	2,300	100%	2,000	100%
04020	Melinda L. McKonly	Allentown: Asbury	57,940	100%	19,779	100%	8,289	100%
04030	Gene K. Boyer	Allentown: Emmanuel	5,500	100%		0%		0%
04040	Angel M. Lopez	Allentown: LaTrinidad	42	10%	18	10%	71	34%
04050	Connie Asquith	Allentown: Salem	9,317	100%	5,754	100%	5,833	100%
04070	David Lee Ferguson	Analomink	1,627	100%	916	100%	911	100%
04080	Christopher Schiavino	Cherry Lane	2,658	100%	1,156	100%	1,378	100%
04090	Milton R. Hartenstine	Bangor: First	11,428	100%		0%		0%
04110	Janet L. Brown	East Bangor	6,131	100%	2,156	100%	2,376	100%
04120	Sandra Nash	Belfast: Wesley	1,631	100%	539	100%	561	100%
04130	Sandra Nash	Wind Gap: First	1,450	59%	50	100%	50	100%
04140	Russell W. Streeper	Bethlehem: Epworth	5,000	100%	2,200	100%	1,800	100%
04150	Edward J. Tucker	Bethlehem: Fritz	3,483	37%	2,667	65%	1,133	38%
04160	YongHo Chun	Bethlehem: Korean	2,067	100%	1,239	100%	1,152	100%
04170	J. William Lentz, Jr.	Bethlehem: Wesley	26,681	100%	8,087	100%	8,984	100%
04180	Burgess Lee Gordon Jr.	Blakeslee	2,925	100%	1,497	100%	1,122	100%
04190	John D. Inghram	Bowmanstown: Faith Alive	8,410	100%	2,605	100%	2,300	100%
04200	Russell E. Walters	Canadensis	3,639	100%	1,562	100%	1,612	100%
04210	William Stelger	Catasauqua: Grace	3,655	100%	893	100%	816	100%
04220	Kenneth A. Klingborg	Chapman Quarries	5,260	100%	2,036	100%	2,048	100%
04230	Kenneth A. Klingborg	Bushkill	4,547	100%	1,359	100%	1,250	100%
04240	Samuel Ramnit	Cherry Valley	860	35%	349	39%	727	74%
04260	Edward C. Kimes	East Stroudsburg	20,430	100%	5,611	100%	6,549	100%
04270	Thomas S. Robinson	Easton: Calvary	5,965	100%	1,852	100%	1,892	100%
04280	Joseph Grasser	Easton: Christ	4,020	100%	1,677	100%	1,823	100%
04290	David G. Goss	Easton: First	9,492	100%	4,297	100%	4,489	100%
04300	David Felker	Effort	13,500	82%	4,406	100%	4,224	100%
04320	Glenn Brown	Hellertown: St. Paul	4,578	100%	1,258	100%	701	100%
04330	Michael S. Netznik	Springtown: Salem	5,954	100%	1,992	100%	1,835	100%
04340	Alan J. Smith	Woxall: Tabor UMC	11,065	100%	3,825	100%		0%
04350	James D. Anderman	Lehighon: Ebenezer	860	100%	470	100%	410	100%
04360	Edward A. Unangst	McMichaels	1,870	114%	932	92%	716	92%
04370	Joan C. Pacocha	Neola	2,800	100%	1,250	100%	1,148	100%
04380	Catherine P. Horn	Moore Twp.: Covenant	12,534	100%	5,470	100%	3,000	100%
04390	John E. Charnock	Mount Pocono	14,321	100%	4,407	90%	3,957	92%
04400	Barbara L. Housley	Mountainhome	9,359	100%	3,051	100%	2,800	100%
04420	James D. Anderman	Palmertown: Salem	915	100%	165	100%	120	100%
04430	Ronald McClincey	Danielsville: Salem	3,150	100%	1,385	100%	1,332	100%
04440	James D. Anderman	Parryville	400	30%	50	10%	50	10%
04450	Larry R. Mark	Pen Argyl: Grace	16,098	100%	5,570	100%	5,832	100%
04460	Blaik J. Westhoff	Perkasie	13,300	100%	3,500	100%	4,200	100%
04470	Gary L. Meekins	Pocono Lake	7,250	100%	2,700	100%	2,200	100%
04480	Samuel Ramnit	Poplar Valley: Christ	2,000	100%	932	100%	873	100%
04490	George R. Alt	Portland	1,297	100%	600	100%	581	100%
04500	David T. Ryan	Quakertown	19,500	100%	5,850	100%	6,350	100%
04510	Arthur B. Schirmer	Reeders	6,339	100%	599	100%	631	100%
04520	Robert G. Argot	Richmond	4,000	100%	1,294	100%	1,140	100%
04530	Brian C. Small	Saylorsburg: St. Peter's	3,923	100%	1,557	100%	1,635	100%
04540	William A. Abrams	Slatedale: Salem	949	67%	543	67%	523	67%
04550	Keith Bashore	Emerald: St. Peter's	2,000	100%		0%		0%
04560	Robert R. Shank	Stroudsburg	16,046	77%	4,800	100%	4,528	100%
04570	Carole A. Wood	Stroudsburg: Faith	4,680	100%	1,108	100%	1,262	100%
04580	J. W. Pratt	Swiftwater	2,150	100%	850	100%	600	100%
04590	J. W. Pratt	Paradise Valley: Keokee Chapel	2,400	100%	900	100%	900	100%
04600	Edward L. Bean	Telford: Grace	12,762	100%	5,663	100%	6,121	100%
04610	Thomas Daniel	Tobyhanna	4,500	100%	1,105	100%	1,086	100%
04620	James E. Brashear	Wescosville: Bethany	54,500	100%	13,505	100%	10,795	100%
04630	Drew A. Parsons	Woodsdale	2,250	100%	1,175	100%	1,050	100%
04640	Sharon Feuerstein	Zionsville: Salem	3,004	100%	1,386	100%	1,405	100%
31424	Margaret Kropp	Audenried- Jeanesville*	1,062		225	90%	236	90%
		Total	512,326	97%	165,901	98%	144,812	98%

*Merged congregation

If you have any questions relative to your church's information, please contact Moses Kumar at 610-666-9090, ext. 209.

Northwest District
Rev. Alfred Maloney, District Superintendent

Church ID	Pastor's Name	Church Name	Connection Ministry Fund		World Services		General Church	
			2004	%	2004	%	2004	%
			Payment	Paid	Payment	Paid	Payment	Paid
01010	Steward E. Warner	Annville	16,332	100%	6,050	100%	1,288	100%
01020	Kerry E. Leeper	Annville: Kauffman's	2,218	100%	821	100%	818	100%
01030	J. T. Fisher	Avon: Zion	6,273	100%	2,091	100%	2,091	100%
01040	Kerry E. Leeper	Bellegrove	4,025	100%	1,490	100%	1,485	100%
01050	Verna Snavelly	Water Works	1,100	100%	400	100%	400	100%
01060	Louis D. Hornberger	Berne: Salem-Berne	2,652	100%	912	100%	936	100%
01090	John T. Truitt	Campbelltown	13,816	92%	5,116	92%	3,070	92%
01120	Gary Jacabella	Cleona: Immanuel	14,141	100%	4,675	100%	4,847	100%
01130	James E. Heath	Cornwall	16,690	100%	6,181	100%	6,158	100%
01180	George C. Sackett	Fleetwood: Emmanuel	2,763	100%	1,024	100%	982	96%
01190	Kenneth P. Bell	Fredericksburg	3,636	50%	695	50%	695	50%
01220	Larry A. Frank	Hamburg: Bethany	8,717	100%	3,245	100%	2,638	100%
01240	Millard Fisher	Indiantown Gap: Emmanuel	5,515	75%	2,221	75%		0%
01260	Lloyd F. Speer	Jonestown	8,657	100%	3,195	100%	3,182	100%
01280	Robin G. Fisher	Lebanon: Bethany	6,969	100%	2,581	100%	2,570	100%
01290	Ronald A. Waite	Lebanon: Church Good Shepherd	20,369	100%	7,545	100%	7,515	100%
01300	Daniel G. Herner	Lebanon: Covenant	6,147	44%	1,000	25%	918	25%
01310	Brian G. Albert	Lebanon: Ebenezer	2,395	100%	858	100%	831	100%
01320	William Chrin	Lebanon: Hebron	8,800	100%	1,100	100%	1,100	100%
01330	John A. Laughlin	Lebanon: Kochenderfer's	11,145	100%	4,223	100%	4,113	100%
01345	Elena Ortiz	Lebanon: Iglesia Metodista	600	100%	200	100%	200	100%
01360	John Q. Taylor	Lebanon: Mountville	966	100%	358	100%	357	100%
01370	Samuel D. Fry	Lebanon: St. John's	4,168	100%	1,469	100%	1,463	100%
01380	Thomas Steger	Lebanon: St. Luke's	4,051	100%	1,500	100%	1,494	100%
01390	R. M. Young	Lebanon: Trinity	12,054	100%	4,507	100%	4,489	100%
01400	Richard Rogers	Lickdale: Trinity	10,403	100%	3,853	100%	3,839	100%
01440	Janet S. Steger	Mount Gretna	7,754	100%	1,601	59%	2,495	92%
01450	John H. Lynch	Myerstown: Zion	14,879	135%	3,208	92%	3,208	92%
01480	Daniel Hall	Ono	17,237	100%	5,302	98%	5,207	100%
01490	Richard A. Clark	Palmyra: Bethany	6,525	100%		0%		0%
01500	David P. Harris	Palmyra: First	21,349	100%	7,907	100%	7,876	100%
01510	Douglas Smith	Palmyra: Gravel Hill	18,738	100%	6,940	100%	6,914	100%
01620	Richard Hostetter	Rocherty	3,409	72%	1,319	75%	1,313	75%
01650	Lawrence E. Richard	Shoemakersville: Salem	3,444	100%	944	100%	945	100%
02010	Rose M. Marquardt	Aristes: Zion	1,567	100%	531	100%	558	100%
02020	Barbara J. Welsh	Ash Grove	3,694	100%	1,252	100%	1,315	100%
02030	Archie A. Passmore	Irish Valley	1,815	100%	615	100%	646	100%
02040	Harry L. Clark	Ashland: First UMC/Presby.	236	100%	80	100%	75	89%
02050	Nancy H. Ross	Girardville	368	100%	125	100%	131	100%
02080	Bruce Nobel	Barnesville: Bethany	788	100%	267	100%	281	100%
02090	Bruce Nobel	Quakake: Ebenezer	518	100%	86	100%	259	100%
02110	Daniel Siddle	Clark's Grove	7,327	100%	407	100%	407	100%
02130	Nancy A. Gehres	Cressona	212	100%	72	100%	76	100%
02140	Nancy A. Gehres	Cumbola	331	100%	112	100%	118	100%
02160	John T. Parker	Elysburg	6,476	100%	2,195	100%	2,305	100%
02170	Nancy H. Ross	Frackville: First	6,908	100%	2,342	100%	2,459	100%
02190	Margaret Marshman	Gilberton	-	0%	200	100%	75	36%
02200	John Wallace	Gordon: Simpson	3,034	100%	1,028	100%	1,080	100%
02210	John Wallace	Barry: Salem	2,295	100%	779	100%	817	100%
02240	Joanne Young	Kulpmont	1,623	83%	550	83%	578	83%
02250	Alvin A. Reese	Landingville: Welcome	2,741	100%	929	100%	976	100%
02270	David Alderson	Lewistown: Calvary Evangelical	2,896	100%	982	100%	1,031	100%
02280	Salim Khan	Mahanoy City: First	6,519	100%	2,210	100%	2,320	100%
02290	Beth Trone	Minersville	590	100%	200	100%	210	100%
02300	Beth Trone	Llewellyn	1,510	100%	512	100%	538	100%
02320	James McNair	Mount Carmel: First	2,360	100%	800	100%	840	100%
02350	Charles Englehart	Nuremberg: Bethany	354	100%	120	100%	126	100%
02360	Timothy J. Patterson	Orwigsburg: Salem	1,416	100%	480	100%	504	100%
02400	Ira Lydic	Pine Grove: St. Paul	3,835	100%	1,300	100%	1,365	100%
02410	Ira Lydic	Donaldson	930	100%	315	100%	331	100%
02420	Lorraine Heckman	Port Carbon: First	2,065	100%	700	100%	735	100%
02430	Margaret Kropp	Port Carbon: Grace	885	100%	300	100%	315	100%
02440	Margaret A. Reed	New Philadelphia	685	100%	-	0%	-	0%
02450	Bonnie Yeager	Pottsville: Evangelical	1,888	100%	-	0%	-	0%
02460	W. S. Ostman	Pottsville: First	15,441	100%	5,234	100%	5,496	100%
02470	Christopher Wollyung	Ringtown: Aurand Memorial	2,032	100%	689	100%	723	100%
02480	John Kropp	St. Clair-Wade	1,770	100%	600	100%	630	100%
02510	James Fryer	Dreher'sville: Salem	1,788	100%	606	100%	636	100%
02520	James Fryer	New Ringgold: Zion	472	100%	160	100%	168	100%
02530	Garry Snyder	Reynolds: Zion's	362	100%	123	100%	129	100%
02540	Garry Snyder	West Penn: Immanuel	502	100%	170	100%	179	100%
02550	Susan A. Wollyung	Schuylkill Haven: Covenant	848	100%	287	100%	302	100%
02560	Albert Mosley	Schuylkill Haven: First	13,384	100%	4,537	100%	4,764	100%
02580	Timothy R. Reichard	Johnston City: Ranshaw	1,716	100%	582	100%	611	100%
02590	Timothy R. Reichard	Shamokin: First	4,503	90%	1,696	100%	1,781	100%
02620	Albert Schell	Shamokin: Emmanuel	1,999	92%	677	92%	711	92%
02630	Nelson Alleman	Oak Grove	1,500	100%	734	100%	734	100%
02640	Betty A. Ford	Shamokin: Zion	1,770	100%	600	100%	630	100%
02650	Richard E. Wilcock	Shamokin: St. John's	5,000	100%		0%		0%
02660	David Seymour	Shenandoah: First	4,743	100%	1,608	100%	1,688	100%
02670	David Seymour	William Penn	380	100%	129	100%	135	100%
02700	Donald Boyd	Joliett-First	1,138	100%	386	100%	405	100%
02710	Donald Boyd	Tremont: St. John's	1,996	100%	677	100%	710	100%
02720	Kathryn Painter	Trevorton	3,540	100%	1,200	100%	1,260	100%
02730	Coryn E. Beck	Millers Crossroads	1,770	100%	600	100%	630	100%
02800	Rose M. Marquardt	Wilburton	282	100%	96	100%	100	100%
02810	Christopher Wollyung	Zion Grove: Davis Chapel	491	100%	166	100%	175	100%
		Total	421,229	97%	135,577	94%	128,504	96%

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Southeast District

Rev. Susan May, District Superintendent

Church ID	Pastor's Name	Church Name	Connection Ministry Fund 2004		World Services 2004		General Church 2004	
			Payment	% Paid	Payment	% Paid	Payment	% Paid
03010	Kenneth Hall	Avondale	3,011	100%	1,041	100%	1,008	100%
03040	Edward C. Goodley	Booth's Corner: Siloam	400	11%	300	24%	300	27%
03050	Jesse A. Coale	Broomall: Christ	8,424	100%	2,718	100%	2,567	100%
03060	John C. Nesbitt	Broomall: St. Mark's	16,180	100%	5,600	100%	5,420	100%
03080	Robert A. Crane	Chatham	2,773	100%	959	100%	928	100%
03090	Andrew L. Foster	Chester: Grace Community	1,400	42%	292	29%	292	29%
03100	Harry Benson	Chester: Siloam	2,082	105%	657	100%	655	100%
03110	Herbert W. Coe	Chester: St. Daniel's	9,641	83%	3,333	83%	3,227	83%
03120	Karen E. Jones	Chester: Trinity	1,167	58%	292	58%	325	65%
03140	Edgar W. Donnon	Pomeroy	3,440	100%	1,176	100%	1,140	100%
03150	H. J. Tyson	Coatesville: Olivet	25,069	100%	8,665	100%	8,391	100%
03160	Heidi Silliman	Cochranville	5,475	100%	1,892	100%	1,833	100%
03170	Dorothy M. Field	Crozerville	1,972	100%	659	100%	827	100%
03180	Charles E. Weigel	Downingtown	20,646	105%	5,687	100%	5,687	100%
03190	Christina Keller	Eddystone	1,091	100%	960	100%	471	100%
03210	Clyde S. Flaherty	Elam	20,000	100%	5,000	100%	5,000	100%
03225	Cynthia Hall	Faith Community	2,544	100%	876	100%	898	100%
03230	Kurt W. Schenk	Fremont: Union	914	100%	316	100%	306	100%
03240	Joseph L. Wenrich	Friendship	3,392	100%	1,172	100%	1,135	100%
03250	Barbara Emery	Glen Moore	4,800	100%	1,600	100%	1,600	100%
03260	June Humpton	Gradyville	680	100%	320	100%	320	100%
03270	John T. Wright	Grove	28,932	100%	9,673	100%	9,192	100%
03280	Jimmy Montgomery	Hamorton	2,880	100%	960	100%	960	100%
03290	David McMillan	Hibernia	4,949	100%	1,692	100%	1,639	100%
03310	Steven C. Morton	Hopewell	54,000	100%	15,000	100%	14,000	100%
03315	Anita A. Powell	Kennett: Church of the Open Door	3,571	100%	1,234	100%	1,195	100%
03320	David P. Bergstrom	Kemblesville	9,786	100%	3,379	100%	3,380	100%
03330	Efrain Diaz	West Grove: Cristo Rey	403	67%	50	25%	49	25%
03340	Sharon Paul	Landenberg	5,566	100%	1,924	100%	1,862	100%
03350	James R. Hallam	Lima	23,804	100%	8,228	100%	7,968	100%
03360	V. J. Durbano	Linwood Heights	1,200	20%	1,280	85%	-	0%
03380	Joan H. Trout	Lionville: Church Resurrection	4,800	100%	1,800	100%	600	100%
03390	Eric D. Ressler	Nantmeal	1,686	92%	487	92%	486	92%
03410	Sandra Ciso	Marcus Hook: Cokesbury	1,826	103%	613	100%	533	90%
03420	Edwin R. Green, Jr.	Marshallton	10,200	100%	3,400	100%	3,400	100%
03430	Linda W. George	Romansville	3,928	100%	1,358	100%	1,314	100%
03440	Janet K. Hess	Media: First	12,635	100%	3,700	100%	3,600	100%
03450	Zabdiel Y. Khan	Middletown: Christ	4,575	100%	1,500	100%	1,425	100%
03470	Thomas C. McGill	Mount Hope	22,513	100%	7,700	100%	7,454	100%
03480	Gwinyai Muzorewa	New London	3,439	100%	1,188	100%	1,151	100%
03490	Benjamin T. Taylor	Oxford	9,597	100%	3,318	100%	3,212	100%
03510	Mark Beideman	Parkeburg	4,168	100%	1,442	100%	1,395	100%
03520	Amy Emmett	Parkside	1,964	100%	679	100%	657	100%
03540	James T. Ford	Trainer: Price Street	719	100%	231	100%	218	100%
03560	Ernest Fisher	South Media: Packard Memorial	210	105%	227	100%	30	100%
03580	Russell J. Atkinson	Swarthmore	8,331	100%	1,960	68%	2,789	100%
03590	Thomas C. Davis-Shappell	Thorndale	4,800	100%	1,600	100%	1,600	100%
03600	Jon E. Swenson	Thornton: Bethlehem	24,357	88%	9,591	100%	9,287	100%
03610	James T. Ford	Trainer	1,500	68%	750	68%	750	68%
03640	John Pritchard	Wallingford: Old Union	960	100%	800	100%	340	100%
03660	Truman T. Brooks	West Chester	43,868	100%	15,570	100%	15,644	100%
03665	Evodia Villalva	West Chester: El Buen Samaritano	53					
03670	Alice M. Cook	West Grove	8,544	100%	2,953	100%	2,860	100%
03680	Drena L. Miller	Willistown	5,977	100%	2,044	100%	1,979	100%
05050	Kenneth E. Gelzhiser	Clifton Heights		0%		0%		0%
05060	Gregor G. Woodruff	Collingdale: Mariner's	500	100%		0%		0%
05090	Whymon Simmons	Darby: Mt. Zion	950	100%	315	100%	304	100%
05100	David J. Davis	Phila.: Clearview	1,150	100%	160	100%	160	100%
05110	Jerald Goodwin	Darby: Union Memorial	2,000	100%	1,000	100%	1,000	100%
05120	Paul A. Gutknecht	Drexel Hill	9,000	100%	1,500	100%	1,500	100%
05170	Chongseok Kim	Drexel Hill: New Covenant	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
05245	Timothy S. Thomson-Hohl	Lansdowne: Trinity Lansdowne	2,691	100%	918	100%	891	100%
05250	Julia Bright	Morton: Kedron	2,425	100%	825	100%	350	100%
05300	Neil Gutmaker	Norwood	2,600	100%	700	100%	700	100%
05320	Raymond Mitchell	Phila.: Berry-Long Memorial	1,794	100%	100	16%	100	17%
05350	Helen S. Fleming	Phila.: Eastwick	3,321	68%	136	8%	132	8%
05530	CLOSED	Phila.: Olivet-Bethany	4,270	100%	715	100%	715	100%
05610	Gertrude M. Duckett	Phila.: Sayers Memorial	2,186	33%	559	25%	543	25%
05700	Joy Bagwell	Phila.: Univer. City, Calvary	1,839	100%	627	100%	609	100%
05710	Robert S. Booker	Phila.: Wharton-Wesley	4,704	100%	1,568	100%	1,522	100%
05730	Gerard M. McGrath	Prospect Park: Prospect	3,690	100%	1,230	100%	1,230	100%
05750	Alice A. Bonham	Ridley Park	3,672	100%	1,379	110%	1,330	109%
05760	Annette M. Bolds	Springfield: C.C. Hancock	3,000	100%	750	100%	750	100%
05770	Sharon L. Vandegrift	Springfield: Covenant	36,532	100%	12,661	100%	12,307	100%
05795	Evelyn K. Clark	Upper Darby: New Life	250	33%	19	8%	19	8%
		Total	537,415	95%	175,007	95%	167,460	95%

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Southwest District
 Rev. Robert Hoffman, District Superintendent

Church ID	Pastor's Name	Church Name	Connection Ministry Fund		World Services		General Church	
			2004	%	2004	%	2004	%
			Payment	Paid	Payment	Paid	Payment	Paid
01110	Dennis R. Emrick	Churchtown	4,000	100%	1,636	100%	1,361	100%
01250	Frank Schaefer	Iona	6,000	100%		0%		0%
01270	Robert L. Nissly	Kleinfeltersville: Trinity	2,291	100%	782	100%	758	100%
01630	Mary Ellen B. Beckman	Schaefferstown: Zion	1,809	69%	-	0%	-	0%
01640	Robert A. Stippich	Schoeneck: Wiest Memorial	3,172	100%	1,174	100%	1,170	100%
06010	Gary L. Smith	Akron: Mt. Zion	1,350	100%	325	100%	325	100%
06040	Charles E. Marshall	Bainbridge: Ludwig	2,806	92%	950	92%	919	92%
06050	Terry Mills	Bethesda	4,662	100%	1,594	100%	1,544	100%
06060	Debra Davis	Bird-in-Hand	1,800	100%	1,700	100%	1,700	100%
06070	Dennis E. Spangler	Brownstown: Emmanuel	5,541	100%	1,997	100%	2,087	100%
06080	Fred R. Landis	Brunnerville	3,100	100%	1,800	100%	1,100	100%
06090	Randolph Smith	Christiana	2,067	67%	650	67%	650	67%
06100	Thomas A. Weeple	Clearfield	2,110	100%	729	100%	706	100%
06110	James A. Goudie	Colemanville	8,975	100%	3,102	100%	3,004	100%
06120	Jeffrey A. Snyder	Columbia	12,300	100%	4,100	100%	4,100	100%
06130	Jeannine Brenner	Conestoga	3,548	100%	1,256	100%	1,196	100%
06140	Dori H. Wilcox	Denver: Trinity	6,428	100%	2,221	100%	2,151	100%
06150	John B. Davis	Elizabethtown: St. Paul's	38,842	100%	13,422	100%	13,000	100%
06160	Timothy A. Heitz	Ephrata: First	26,181	100%	8,951	100%	8,668	100%
06170	Mary J. Kirby	Ephrata: Hope	15,291	100%	4,500	100%	4,300	100%
06180	Charles E. Marshall	Falmouth	1,900	100%	700	100%	700	100%
06190	Michael S. Remel	Georgetown	1,335	100%	1,315	100%	350	100%
06200	Michael S. Remel	Mount Pleasant	900	100%	300	100%	200	100%
06210	Marjorie A. Harris	Green Hill	3,928	100%	1,357	100%	1,315	100%
06220	Thomas W. Fries	Hempfield	98,488	100%	12,000	100%	12,000	100%
06230	John R. Miller	Highville	1,191	100%	411	100%	398	100%
06240	Dennis R. Snovel	Hopeland	7,130	100%	3,236	100%	3,134	100%
06250	Tomas A. Iraheta	Intercourse	2,641	100%	913	100%	884	100%
06260	Timothy J. Smith	Ironville	7,536	100%	1,267	100%	1,267	100%
06270	David C. Nissly	Lampeter	15,235	100%	3,256	100%	3,256	100%
06275	Jody B. Sambrick	Living Waters Christian Fellowship	1,000	100%		0%		0%
06280	Lawrence J. Whitehouse	Lancaster: Christ	4,300	100%	1,300	100%	1,200	100%
06290	Bernard J. Kefer	Lancaster: Community	6,299	100%	2,608	92%	2,526	92%
06300	Frank A. Nickel Jr.	Lancaster: Covenant	38,000	100%	1,059	8%	1,033	8%
06310	Wanda Santos-Perez	Lancaster: El Redentor	4,387	100%	1,516	100%	1,468	100%
06320	Kent E. Kroehler	Lancaster: First	68,227	100%	23,577	100%	22,836	100%
06330	Michael I. Alleman	Lancaster: Grandview	28,085	100%	9,705	100%	9,400	100%
06340	Robert A. Bailey	Lancaster: Otterbein	4,761	100%	1,645	100%	1,594	100%
06350	Debra Hebden	Lancaster: Pearl Street	26	1%	-	0%	-	0%
06360	Roseann Goldberg	Lancaster: Ross Street	4,800	100%	1,650	100%	1,550	100%
06370	John G. Smith	Lancaster: St. Paul's	2,529	50%	874	50%	846	50%
06380	Steven W. Rodgers	Leola	13,433	100%	4,325	100%	4,080	100%
06390	Keith D. Price	Limeville	1,306	100%	2,347	100%	2,272	100%
06400	Harry L. Kaufhold	Lititz	21,578	100%	7,377	100%	7,145	100%
06410	Robert C. Timlin	Manheim: Ruhls	13,243	58%	4,046	100%	5,420	75%
06420	Richard W. Conner	Manheim: Salem	10,000	100%		0%		0%
06430	Bruce Lefever	Manheim Township: Faith	3,117	67%	1,077	67%	1,043	67%
06440	Susan Sliker	Marticville	1,966	100%	679	100%	658	100%
06450	Allan T. Summerfield	Rawlinsville	1,964	100%	674	99%	657	100%
06460	Steven Taylor	Millersville: First	6,400	100%	2,600	100%	2,200	100%
06470	Barry A. Wolfe	Millersville: Grace	22,226	100%	4,274	100%	4,000	100%
06480	D. D. Woomer	Milton Grove	3,010	100%	960	100%	930	100%
06490	Michael S. Miller	Mount Hope	3,000	100%		0%	1,500	100%
06500	Paul L. Shumate	Mount Joy: Chiques	13,100	100%	4,500	100%	4,400	100%
06510	Kenneth H. O'Neal	Mount Joy: Glossbrenner	14,581	100%	5,039	100%	4,880	100%
06520	David E. Woolverton	Mount Joy: St. Mark's	23,245	100%	8,032	100%	7,780	100%
06530	Lee F. Michaels	Mount Nebo	4,840	100%	480	100%	180	100%
06540	John Cordes	Mountville: St. Paul's	5,960	100%	2,050	100%	1,990	100%
06550	David Fulmer	Narvon: Mt. Zion	3,486	100%	1,205	100%	1,166	100%
06560	David P. Unangst	Neffsville: Long Memorial	18,502	100%	5,885	100%	5,700	100%
06570	Daniel E. Unrath	New Holland: New Holland	4,523	100%	1,563	100%	1,514	100%
06580	Eric S. Ritz	New Holland: Evangelical	14,307	100%	8,480	100%	8,213	100%
06590	Kevin E. Readman	New Holland: Ranck's	4,520	53%	1,768	67%	1,093	42%
06600	Edward E. Barlow	Newtown	2,154	103%	720	100%	680	97%
06610	John N. Roberts	Oregon	600	100%	125	100%	125	100%
06620	Joseph Puckhaber	Paradise: St. John's	3,219	47%	2,350	100%	2,276	100%
06630	Cheryl Zegers	Peach Bottom: Mt. Zion	1,890	100%	630	100%	630	100%
06640	Cheryl Zegers	Pleasant Grove	238	100%	82	100%	80	100%
06650	John Longmire	Quarryville: Memorial	18,055	100%	6,239	100%	6,043	100%
06660	R. B. Deibler	Quarryville: Wesley	8,927	100%	3,085	100%	2,988	100%
06670	Sandra Knaub	Rothsville: Salem	6,378	100%	3,003	100%	2,908	100%
06680	George E. Miller	Safe Harbor	1,673	100%	164	100%	163	100%
06690	Robert A. Pope	Stehman Memorial	3,000	100%	2,000	100%	1,000	100%
06700	Timothy Duchesne	Strasburg: Wesley	9,084	70%	1,979	44%	1,549	36%
06710	Nevin R. Andes	Terre Hill: St. Paul's	4,627	100%	1,600	100%	1,548	100%
06715	Theodore E. McCabe	The Bridge	595	100%	206	100%	199	100%
06720	Jo Ann Enders	Washington Boro	2,559	100%	884	100%	857	100%
06730	C. M. Roney	West Willow	10,674	100%	4,730	100%	4,096	100%
06740	Mary E. Hoskins	Willow Street: Boehm's	5,510	100%	2,316	100%	2,243	100%
		Total	742,460	96%	217,050	91%	208,902	90%
		Total for all Districts	3,411,862	96%	1,026,692	95%	968,836	95%

The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference has received more than \$267,000 for tsunami aid.

Thank You

UMCOR receives \$15 million for tsunami aid

A total of \$15 million has been contributed to the United Methodist Committee on Relief for post-tsunami recovery work in the Indian Ocean region.

"We are extremely pleased, but we are not surprised," said Roland Fernandes, treasurer of the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries,

which is UMCOR's parent organization. "United Methodists are known for their generosity in times of great human distress."

The \$15 million figure, as of Feb. 23, includes donations from all sources—credit cards, checks sent directly to the agency and money channeled through annual (regional) conferences of the denomination.

March 2005 Mission Moments & More!

Below are Mission Moments and Newsletter Nuggets to be used in March 2005. Please feel free to use all the information given for your church publications and website. To use a direct link, please use this address:

<http://www.umcsgiving.org/Mar05mission.htm>. [March 6, 2005](#) [March 13, 2005](#) [March 20, 2005](#) [March 27, 2005](#)

March 6, 2005 - One Great Hour of Sharing

Moment for Mission

If you light a twig, it will burn out quickly. Two or three sticks together will burn a little longer. But if you pile wood in one place and light it, the fire will burn for hours because the wood continues to fuel the fire. Today we have the opportunity to "throw our wood on the fire" with other United Methodist congregations and faith communities and "keep it burning" through our gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. The money received today will help the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to assist persons, communities and churches around the world. Starving children, lost boys of Sudan, flooded towns, destroyed churches and homes, tsunami and hurricane devastation—all of these and more—require the presence and expertise of UMCOR. Imagine what would happen if UMCOR did not exist or if it could not help because no funds were available. What if churches decided not to help in this special way through One Great Hour of Sharing? We are here today to participate sacrificially and generously in sharing with others, not only now, but whenever the needs demand it.

Newsletter Nugget

Are you weary from extinguishing fires, cradling dying children, repairing houses and churches, and ministering to older adults and injured people? Are you tired from traveling thousands of miles and caring for millions of people? Maybe you weren't aware that you have been doing those things. You were present through UMCOR. Your prayers and your compassion reached out continually. Your money, through One Great Hour of

Sharing and other channels, enabled you to "be there" in ways you never could alone. In 2003, United Methodists gave more than \$3.3 million through One Great Hour of Sharing, and as of Nov. 30, 2004, gifts to that offering were up 1.4 percent over the previous year. We must continue to give faithfully.

March 13, 2005 - Africa University Fund

Moment for Mission

Sapalo Bartolmeu Dias, a young man from Angola, remarked, "I got in, got on, and now I'm getting out." He said this after five years of theological studies at Africa University in Zimbabwe. He continued, "I want to be a mediator—to challenge those who feel peace only can be achieved through war and violence. It also can be achieved through dialogue, mutual understanding, fellowship, oneness in spite of differences and the application of the gospel in day-to-day life." Mr. Dias is one of more than 1,200 students who have graduated from Africa University, the first private university in sub-Saharan Africa. Africa University evolved from a dream affirmed by the 1988 United Methodist General Conference. Our denomination offered funding and other support, and the university was chartered in March 1992, almost 13 years ago. Persons of Mr. Dias' caliber continue their education in a school supported by apportionments from local churches like ours.

Newsletter Nugget

Often we see and hear of heartache and pain. The United Methodist Church tries to wipe those tears. But we also see and hear about tears of joy and happiness. The United Methodist Church, through the apportioned Africa University Fund, has contributed greatly to the creation and substance of that 13-year-old institution, the only United Methodist school of higher education on the African continent. Although the school is supported by grants from governments, foundations, annual conferences and individuals, apportioned money through the Africa University Fund is needed to support the operating budget. From 1989 through 2002, more than \$30 million in apportioned funds was raised to support this "dream come true." As of



Be there.

UMCOR • South Asia Emergency Advance #274315

Nov. 30, 2004, giving to the fund was up 1.9 percent over the previous year. Remember this success story as we continue to strive to pay our apportioned share.

March 20, 2005 - World Service Fund

Moment for Mission

A cartoon shows two men fishing through holes in the ice. One man has made a hole like one might expect—about the size of a sewer cover. The other has dropped his line into an immense, whale-shaped hole that seems to reach to the horizon's edge! Often in life, we sell God and our faith too short. We seem to want to limit ourselves, our God and our faith by being unwilling to stretch. In our congregation, we must determine how much we want to limit the service to the world that our United Methodist church carries out. Often we see apportionments in general—and the World Service Fund in particular—as too large an amount for us to reach. We are unwilling to cut our hole into the size of a whale. The United Methodist Church does so much for so many in Christ's name. Through the World Service Fund, we send pastors, evangelists and missionaries to far corners of the world. We create resources for education, worship, stewardship, devotional life and other areas of discipleship. We are available to deal with crises at a moment's notice. Let's cut a bigger hole. Let's not limit God or ourselves.

Newsletter Nugget

What do you think when you hear the phrase "World Service and conference benevolences"? Do you just see a request for a lot of money? Remember: Those numbers are not just dollar signs. They represent people served, evangelistic and educational programs offered, resources created and ministers ordained. The World Service Fund is called our "first benevolent responsibility," implying that we are obligated to do all we can to care for the "first mile" before we commit ourselves to second- and third-mile giving. The ministries covered by

World Service dollars depend on full giving. Let us continue to earn about, know about, talk about, pray about and give to the support of World Service ministries.

March 27, 2005 - The Advance for Christ and His Church

Moment for Mission

"It is you who light my lamp; the Lord, my God, lights up my darkness."—Psalm 18:28, NRSV. The chorus at the Lee Memorial Girls' Mission in Calcutta, India, presented a song based on Psalm 18:28. This powerful testimony was significant because the girls are orphaned, fatherless or from very poor families. Many come from villages that lack education, especially for girls. Yet, these girls have learned the meaning of freedom through education and the gospel of Jesus Christ. Having discovered the importance of accepting Jesus Christ as their Savior, they are committed to sharing the good news in their home villages and beyond. Lee Memorial Girls' Mission (Advance No. 00679B) is one of 2,000 ministries that The United Methodist Church provides to be like a burning lamp shining in the world. It is supported by generous designated gifts through the Advance for Christ and His Church.

Newsletter Nugget

We hear much about our World Service and other apportioned funds, so necessary to sustain the mission and administration of our extended ministries around the world. However, we may not hear as much about the Advance for Christ and His Church. The really wonderful thing about the Advance is 100 percent of every dollar donated goes to the project of the giver's choice. Today more than 16,000 United Methodist congregations annually send more than 100,000 Advance gifts for thousands of ministries and missionaries in more than 60 countries. Thus our congregation is privileged to share in various second-mile projects (after the "first mile," World Service).

Around the World

Moment must be seized in Middle East, church leaders say

By Linda Bloom

As Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel and President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority prepared to meet in Egypt, U.S. church leaders called upon the U.S. government to take immediate "balanced, strategic action" to help bring peace to that region.

"Our conclusion is that a sliver of hope for peace does exist, but we feel strongly the moment must be seized now or the future will remain dim," the ecumenical leaders said in a statement released Feb. 7.

Led by the Rev. Robert Edgar, a United Methodist pastor and chief executive of the National Council of Churches, and Christian Methodist Episcopal Bishop Thomas Hoyt Jr., NCC president, the 11-member delegation traveled Jan. 21-Feb. 4 from Beirut to Cairo, Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

Hosted by the Middle East Council of Churches and individual partner churches, the delegation met with Christian, Muslim and Jewish leaders as well as missionaries, intellectuals and political officials from the United States, Israel and Palestine.

After eight days in Israel and the Palestinian territories, members of the NCC delegation offered a bleaker perspective than that expressed by new U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Visiting Israel Feb. 6, Rice proclaimed the current situation as "a time of optimism" in the Middle East, the New York Times reported.

Delegation members who had been there before, such as Edgar and Jim Winkler, chief executive of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society, considered the trip "our saddest journey to the Holy Land." Most shocking, Winkler told United Methodist News Service, was to witness the effect of the barrier wall being built by Israel as a deterrent against attacks. Instead of adhering to the 1967 borders, the Israelis are building 85 percent of the barrier on Palestinian land to accommodate illegal Israeli settlements on the West Bank, the delegation learned.

The result is that Palestinians have difficulty reaching schools, hospitals, farmlands and even family homes. "It is truly separating parents from kids and spouses from one another," Winkler said.



A member of the National Council of Churches delegation takes a photo of the separation wall in Bethlehem.

Confinement caused by the wall — compounded by checkpoints, gates and a network of roads open only to Israeli settlers, police and the military — offers the potential for disaster, Edgar believes. "If the powers that be want to increase humiliation and frustration of the Palestinians, they're doing a very good job of it," he noted.

The delegation's statement reaffirmed "strong support" for Israel and its right to live in peace and security, acknowledging that Israelis have suffered "from a long series of suicide bombings, which we find reprehensible."

But the group had problems with the building of a barrier on Palestinian land to protect settlements that need to be removed to achieve a two-state

solution. "Like any other nation, Israel has the right to build a barrier; however, one people's barrier should not be built on the land of another people," the statement said. "We call for the removal of the separation barrier from Palestinian territory."

The church leaders pointed out that the 1993 peace agreement stipulated the Palestinians receive 22 percent of the territory that once included Israel, the West Bank and Gaza to create their own state.

Now, with the building of the wall, expansion of settlements and construction of private road networks, the land available for a Palestinian state is down to 10 percent of the former territory, according to Winkler. "There's really no possibility of a truly viable state," he said.

Edgar believes the people of Israel, if not the government, want long-term peace, but he doesn't think that can happen without the elimination of checkpoints and the wall on Palestinian land. "Give the Palestinian state a real chance to be a separate state, side by side with Israel," he urged.

Part of the problem in the Middle East is the use of "lethal dialogue," or a dialogue of arms, instead of real efforts toward peace, the delegation said. "Dialogue and understanding between all faith communities is not an academic exercise in the Middle East; it is absolutely necessary for survival."

U.S. Christians must push President Bush and members of Congress to foster such dialogue and work harder to ensure that U.S. policy is balanced toward both Israel and Palestine, the delegation said. Members of mainline denominations "have so much potential influence that we do not exercise," Winkler declared.

Christians should not just lobby "inside the beltway" for the United States to seize the moment to make peace, but they should work across the country in their own Congressional districts, said Edgar, a former Congressman. "It's clear that many Congressmen have been taught to see the region simply through the eyes of their Jewish constituents," he explained. "That's helpful, but it's also important for other faith communities to weigh in."

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

The World in Brief

• CONGO

A prominent educator and world ecumenical leader is the new United Methodist bishop of the Central Congo in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Dr. David Kikomba Yemba, dean of the faculty of theology at Africa University in Zimbabwe, was elected at a regional conference in the city of Kamina, DRC after a delay in the voting. A large number of delegates had been stranded by a train derailment between Kamina and Kantanga. A special air lift brought them to the site so they could participate in the election. Bishop Yemba succeeds Bishop Onema Fama as leader of the Central Congo Area, which is comprised of four annual conferences with a combined membership of 200,000 persons. Bishop Onema has served in the episcopacy for 32 years and in the United Methodist ministry for more than a half century.

• NEPAL

All United Methodist missionaries in Nepal are safe in the wake of a February political crisis that includes a Maoist rebel blockage of the capital city of Kathmandu. "We have been in touch with all of our personnel and all are safe at this time," according to the Rev. Edith Gleaves, head of the mission personnel section of the General Board of Global Ministries, the international mission agency of the denomination. "The situation is not

yet stable and we ask for prayer both for our missionaries and for peace in Nepal." Currently, five of eight missionaries assigned to Nepal are there; three were out of the country at the time of the most recent political upheaval. Of the five, two are physicians, one is a teacher, and the other two are engaged in congregational development. The United Methodist Church is a major participant in the United Mission to Nepal that for 50 years has provided medical and dental services for the country that lies between India and China. Dr. Elma Jocson is a surgeon at the United Mission Hospital in Tansen, and Dr. Mark Zimmerman is medical director of the Patan Hospital in Kathmandu. Dierdre Zimmerman, also a missionary, is a nutritionist but is currently on leave. Janet McCarty is a teacher in Kathmandu.

• GUYANA

The heaviest rains in a century have flooded broad sections of coastal Guyana and displaced nearly half the population of 750,000. People have camped in schools, churches, and along the roadways to avoid stagnant pools and dead livestock. Through an initial grant, UMCOR is assisting Methodist churches in the flooded regions to distribute emergency food but the needs are overwhelming. Please consider a gift to UMCOR Advance #982450, International Disaster Response. Write "Guyana Floods" in the memo line of your check.

• SRI LANKA

When Shanta Premawardhana recently visited his native Sri Lanka on behalf of the U.S. National Council of Churches, he was amazed by the resilience of its people and found that a strong determination to rebuild exists. During the Feb. 14-15 meeting of the NCC's governing board, he said, "Despite the devastation, there were smiles," he said. After consulting with the National Christian Council of Sri Lanka, he believes there are several ways that U.S. churches can offer solidarity to their counterparts—including Methodist, Anglican, Baptist and Presbyterian congregations—affected by the tsunami. One option is to develop sister church relationships. He plans to develop guidelines on such relationships for NCC members.

• GERMANY

United Methodists in Germany elected the Rev. Rosemarie Wenner as a new bishop—the denomination's first woman named to that office in Europe—on Feb. 16. She received the needed two-thirds majority vote of the 100 delegates of the Germany Central Conference on the fourth ballot. Wenner, who takes office April 1, succeeds Bishop Walter Klaiber, who is retiring after almost 16 years in office. Wenner, 49, had served as superintendent of the church's Frankfurt District since 1996.



Stewardship - Let's define it

By Stacy Martin

Do you think, "Oh no, not another campaign!"

or "Didn't we just finish?" It appears the term stewardship has taken on a negative meaning over time and after many years of United Methodist annual fall campaigns. We all know the economy and market has changed, lifestyles have changed and insurance costs (medical and property) have skyrocketed. However, the results realized during these campaigns may not have changed. I offer the idea that perhaps we let our definition change.

Some of us view stewardship in purely financial terms. The focus is on budgets, shortfalls, increasing expenses, decreasing programs. There is no joy or celebration in these acts.

Stewardship, whether of time, money or abilities, is an issue of faith. The premise is that all that we are and all that we have received was given to us to be used or invested faithfully in God's kingdom. The Bible describes stewards as being responsible for the household - they hired, fired, kept the books, paid the bills, made sure household supplies were on hand and even handled the homeowner's investments.

Herb Mather is an author whose works you may know. In his book, *Don't Shoot the Horse (Til You Know How to Drive the Tractor)*, he states "Biblical stewardship has to do with how we manage everything in life as a trust from God." He continues, "... stewardship is much more than finances ... stewardship also has to do with ecology, with relationships, time, gifts, spirit and leadership." It is our response to God's gifts. It is how we demonstrate our faith. It is how we further ourselves on the path to discipleship. It is a joyous, positive response to the abundance God has given to us.

Mr. Mather also quotes Wallace Fisher from his book, *All the Good*

Gifts, "Stewardship is neither management nor manipulation. It is confrontation." God has given and challenged us to respond or not. The idea is that we also have the freedom to choose how to respond to God's grace and gifts.

Let's redefine our meaning of the word stewardship by adding an adjective - Christian stewardship - one of abundance, joy and faithful response to all God's gifts. Let us accept God's challenge to respond to his gifts.

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

Supreme Court to hear constitutional challenge to slot machine laws

By Penny Staver

Pennsylvanians Against Gambling Expansion Fund (PAGE) is very pleased with the decision by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to hear its constitutional challenge to Pennsylvania's Slot Machine Law (Act 71 of 2004), and to hear it on an expedited schedule, as requested.

"There is no question that this case has merit," said Michael Geer, president of PAGE Fund, the lead plaintiff in the suit. "The legislature and the casino lobbyists have no right to trample the Pennsylvania Constitution in pursuit of slot machines, as was done in the passage of this casino bill."

"The citizens of Pennsylvania should be very glad that the Court rejected the defendants' plea to throw this case out, and instead will hear it on an expedited schedule," said Geer.

Our Commonwealth has been thrown into disarray thanks to the shoddy structure of the rapidly-passed casino law. School boards everywhere are perplexed over this confusing law and its progeny. Taxpayers

are now learning that promised tax relief may be very late in coming - if it ever comes at all. And land preservationists and good-government advocates are up in arms over the unprecedented zoning veto power granted to the Gaming Control Board.

"The lesson in all of this is that Pennsylvania's Constitution is there to protect the legislature and its citizens," said Michael Geer. "When it's transgressed, as was so clearly done in the rapid-fire way the slots bill was passed, we all get hurt. Now that the Supreme Court has agreed to hear the case, with oral arguments set for March 9th, we hope that the court will hear the arguments, and decide to overturn this unjustly-passed law."

To see a copy of the original court filings in this case, go to www.sitemerit.com <<http://www.sitemerit.com>>

*Penny W. Staver is the Executive Director of A United Methodist Witness in Pennsylvania
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Fit for Life Campaign - Healthy Lifestyles

Good Health - It's A Choice

By Charles Ehninger

I Corinthians 6:19-20 - Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.



"If you have your health, you have everything." An age-old adage hard to argue with!! The pursuit of good health is a universal drive of mankind. Today the search for health and longevity is a multimillion-dollar industry and involves all ages and both genders. We want to live life to the fullest as long as we can. It is our good fortune to live in an age in which remarkable technology and scientific advances in medicine and health care provide us with multiple supports and strategies to help us live longer, healthier lives. Imaging techniques provide views within the human body indicating wear and tear, faulty growth, and weakness. Chemists and dietitians are discovering how certain foods enhance good health and sometimes how avoiding specific foods may protect us from illness. Pharmacology research is helping to create new drugs to treat illness but moreover to prevent disease.

One of the most profound and yet age old truths about health is that each and every aspect of our lives, everything from diet and exercise, friends and family, work and even sexuality is a factor in maintaining our health or systems equilibrium. Chemicals in our brain powerfully affect our moods, often lack of exercise, or over indulgence in certain foods affect these chemicals and we find ourselves with a host of ailments. Healthy choices that include prudent diet, moderate exercise, and shedding excess pounds support the balance of body systems and help to prevent a host of ailments and potential health problems. We actually can put off some of the effects of aging every time we choose how we spend our time and choose our meals!

Choices - health choices, it sounds so simple. The problem seems to be

that there are too many choices, too much information and too many variations for us to follow. That's the purpose of this series, to provide simple suggestions that will benefit all of us, helping us all to make better health choices. Moderation is always a good choice. Facing the reality about one's weight, diet, and the exercise relationship is personal assessment but definitely the place to begin a healthy life style. Accepting support from family and friends, and using them as an accountability factor, is a very healthy choice in maintaining a new commitment to breaking some old habits.

Timing is the key issue. You must start to make these choices for improved health and the time is now! We hope that this series inspires and motivates you to begin or better yet, continue to care for yourself, keeping you in the best of health.

3 John verse 2: Beloved I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul.

18th Annual
United Methodist
Church Day
with the



Saturday, August 20, 2005
@ 7:05 pm

Phillies vs. Pittsburgh Pirates

Sponsored by Eastern PA Conference, Peninsula-Delaware Conference and Greater New Jersey Annual Conference

Up to \$5.00 for each ticket sold will benefit Conference Youth Programs.

Contact Ross A. Brightwell,
215/643-1269; rossbrightwell@worldnet.att.net for details.

Denman Awards for Evangelism to be awarded at Annual Conference

The Denman Evangelism Award is presented annually to two United Methodist persons in each annual conference, a lay person and a clergy person, for outstanding work in Christian evangelism. The award is named for the late Dr. Harry Denman, distinguished lay evangelist, whom Dr. Billy Graham called, "my mentor in evangelism." The awards are made possible by The Foundation for Evangelism, which was founded in 1949 by Dr. Denman.

In the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference, nominations for the awards for both lay and clergy are submitted to the Calling Disciples Resource Team. A task force made up of members of the team will review the nominations and choose one lay person and one clergy person to receive the awards. The awards will be presented during a session of Annual Conference in June at Loews Hotel in Philadelphia. The awards include a certificate from the General Board of Discipleship and an engraved brass plate that is added to those already awarded in previous years, which are

hung on a plaque in the lobby of the Conference Office in Valley Forge.

You may obtain a nomination form by going to <http://www.evangelize.org> or by contacting The Rev. Carol A. Campbell, 952 Bethel Church Rd., Spring City, PA 19475; 610.495.6807. Nominations must be received by Rev. Campbell by Friday, April 29, 2005.

The Foundation for Evangelism, an affiliate of the General Board of Discipleship, is dedicated to keeping Christian evangelism a high priority in United Methodism. To this end, The Foundation sponsors and funds thirteen programs in evangelism, one of which is the Denman Evangelism Award. Bishop Richard C. Looney serves as president, and Paul R. Ervin, Jr., past president of the National Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders, serves an executive vice president. Mr. Lane Rees, Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, is chairman of the Board of Trustees, which is composed of twenty-six lay persons and three ex-officio clergy by virtue of their position with the General Board of Discipleship.

**Christ Servant Ministries
Basic Course**

Led by Rev. Robert A. Mongold

First Day: Saturday, April 23, 2005 9 am to 12:30 pm (break for lunch), 1:30 pm to 5 pm;
Second Day: Sunday, April 24, 2005, 2 pm to 5 pm

Saturday: Continental breakfast and lunch. Sunday: Refreshments at break.
Place: Evangelical Manor, Route 1 (Roosevelt Blvd) NE Philadelphia, PA
Cost: \$50 includes lunch (soup & sandwich plus beverage and snacks both days)

Enrollment is limited to 25 and registration will be on a first-come basis. Should we receive your check after the enrollment limit has been met, it will be returned to you.

Please mail registration and check for \$50 to:
Mrs. Frances Townsend-Coleman, Registrar for East CSM
1845 West Nedro Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19141-1323

For more information please call Frances Townsend-Coleman - 215.276.2474 or Deborah McLean 215.431.0411; mclean-deborah@juno.com <mailto:mclean-deborah@juno.com>

Make checks payable to Eastern Pennsylvania Conference. To allow time for study and homework materials to reach you, please submit your check at least three weeks before the day of class.



**Christ Servant Ministries
Southeast District
presents**

Training Sessions for
VISITATION and NURTURING
led by Karyn Fisher

APRIL 2ND: 9:00 a.m. TO 1:00 p.m. - PART I
APRIL 16TH: 9:00 a.m. TO 1:00 p.m. - PART II
ELAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1073 Smithbridge Road, Glen Mills, PA 19342
610-459-2911 - www.elamumc.org

Course Description:

This advanced training course in *Visitation and Nurturing* is designed to provide lay pastoral caregivers with the basic knowledge and skills needed to care for others in a uniquely Christian way. The course combines skill building in active listening with practical approaches for specific areas of need such as grief, illness, job loss, among others. Participants will learn how to incorporate scripture in caring ways. There will be opportunities to identify what challenges certain situations may provide for them as individuals. A workbook in Caring Ministries will be provided to each participant. Using role plays, videos, discussions, and lectures, as well as the workbook, participants will practice skills, share experiences, and, hopefully, gain new insights into the role of caring. These sessions are approved for CSM training.

Biography:

Karyn Fisher is a Licensed Professional Counselor and National Certified Counselor. She received her training at Columbia University where she earned M.A., M.Ed., and M.Phil. degrees in psychology. She maintains a psychotherapy practice through Foundations Behavioral Health in Doylestown, PA. Karyn also serves on staff at First UMC, Perkasie, PA as Director of Pastoral Care, where she is responsible for coordinating visitation, pastoral counseling, and training laity in caring ministries, among other duties. Karyn has been a Christ Servant Minister for several years, and is a certified candidate for ministry in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference.

REGISTRATION FORM*

Visitation and Nurture - Christ Servant Ministries

Name _____ Phone #: _____
Address: _____ Email: _____
Church: _____ District: _____

Please plan to attend both sessions. Price of workbook is included in fee. Make checks payable to Elam UMC. Please mail completed form and check for \$28.00 to:

Randy Schaffer at Elam UMC
1073 Smithbridge Road, Glen Mills, PA 19342

* Registrations must be received by March 22, 2005.

**Upcoming Christ Servant
Ministries Courses**

March 5 - Basic Course, Part 1 - Valley Forge

March 19 - Basic Course, Part 2 - Valley Forge

April 23-24 - Basic Course - Evangelical Manor

August 5-7 - Laity Academy - Sheraton Hotel, Reading

April 2 & 16 - 9:00 am to 1:00 pm - Advanced Course in Caring Ministries - Elam UMC - led by Mrs. Karyn Fisher, Director of Pastoral Care, First UMC, Perkasie.

For more information contact George Hollich at 717-838-2812 or email: hollich@comcast.net

Find more information on the new Christ Servant Ministries website: <http://www.gbgm-umc.org/csm/>

Christ Servant Ministers are people dedicated to spreading the Good News message of Jesus Christ to the world

...by Leading, by Caring, and by Communicating.

God calls each of us to proclaim his presence and power through all that we are and all that we do. Is God calling you to be a Christ Servant Minister? Do you ...

· Listen to others who are suffering with personal crises...

· Teach a Sunday School Class or lead a small group...

· Serve as a liturgist or help in the Worship Service...

· Visit nursing homes, hospitals, prisons, or neighbors...

Then you are already responding to God's calling in the ways of a Christ Servant Minister and can learn more about helping others grow in a life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ by reading further about the Christ Servant Ministries program.

Christ Servant Ministries programs are available to United Methodists in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference and provide opportunities that promote serving, training, and recognition of laity who lead, speak, and care about others.

A **Christ Servant Minister** is...

· An active, supportive member of a United Methodist congregation;

· Eager to serve through the church;

· Well-informed on Scripture, and on the doctrine, heritage, and the life of The United Methodist Church;

· Committed to witnessing through church and community leadership, caregiving ministries, and spoken communication;

· Willing to improve his or her skills by training for service.

<http://www.gbgm-umc.org/csm/>

The Father's Heart Conference

Did you ever think, "There's got to be more than this?"

God loves you more than you know.

Come experience the awesome love God has for you.

Friday, April 1st, Session 1, 7:00 pm
Saturday, April 2nd, Sessions 2-4, All Day

Special Concurrent Sessions for:
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<mailto:gaumc1@juno.com>

**Church and Society Work
Team Peace with Justice
Grants**

The annual Peace with Justice offering is evenly divided between the Peace with Justice fund administered by the general church and the EPA Church and Society work team. The funds that remain in our annual conference are dispersed in two ways. 1. Program Grants: Programs or projects fitting the guidelines established by the Church and Society Work Team can apply for grants of up to \$2,000 per calendar year. The next deadline for grant submissions is March 31, 2005. Applications and guidelines are available on-line at www.cswt.ppj.org <<http://www.cswt.ppj.org>> or by contacting Rev. Dave Goss, First UMC of Easton, 34 S. Second Street, Easton, PA 18042, (610) 258-0371, or revdavegoss@enter.net <<mailto:revdavegoss@enter.net>>. Please note that Volunteer in Mission trips cannot be considered.

2. Individual Scholarships: Individual scholarships are available for those attending peace with justice training events. Scholarship funds are available for up to 50% of the cost of the event with a maximum grant of \$500. Applications are handled on a rolling basis. For more information, contact Dave Goss at the abovelisted address.

Orphanage (continued from P1)

help poor people to get the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

EITC is a benefit that working families can receive after determination of eligibility by filing their taxes. However, many families often miss out on this opportunity simply because the information is not known or even understood. This benefit is available for families or individuals in low-wage jobs and covers cost of work-related transportation and childcare for families who have experienced the burden of unemployment for the first time, even for grandparents who are raising their grandchildren and for foster parents. Working families often miss out because they are inexperienced in

filing taxes, or don't even file taxes because they mistakenly assume that their wages are so low that they would not receive any tax returns for the year. The Children and Poverty Task Force is supporting the Campaign for Working Families in their efforts to get out information about the EITC, in making the information accessible, and also in directing working families to sites where they can get their taxes filed for free. They will also be providing this valuable information to the conference, as well as information on how individuals and local churches can volunteer to help working families get their taxes filed for free, or disseminate this important information.

Rev. Jones explained, "The Children and Poverty Task Force is concerned about issues of poverty and scarcity

that impact children and working families in our conference, in our churches, and in the communities around our churches. We have hope that our local churches and our conference as a whole can be an effective voice and witness about the reality of working families among us."

Another goal of the task force is to initiate an "Adopt-a-school" program. This program will help every church in the conference to adopt a school that has children who live in poverty. Information will be forthcoming by June.

Additionally, the Bishop's Awards will continue to support innovative ministries that help children living in economic poverty, reflecting Christ's concern for children and the poor.

The task force is initiating another trip to Nigeria in April. Rev. Jones

and Rev. David Tatgenhorst, pastor of St. Luke's UMC in Bryn Mawr, will travel to Jalingo, Nigeria to be in ministry with the United Methodist Church of Nigeria. Donations of robes, stoles, and clergy shirts - especially white robes used for serving communion - have been requested for clergy in the Nigeria Annual Conference. You may respond by contacting Rev. Tatgenhorst at 610-525-2396.

The support of the churches and members of The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference has made a difference in the lives of poor children at home and in Africa. Thank you. Please continue to support the work of the Hope for the Children initiative with your church's and your own offerings at Annual Conference in June.

Marshall (continued from P1)

tory and the Humanities, and a Ph.D. in Reformation Studies in 1972. Marshall then taught history at several Boston-area colleges and universities, including Tufts, Northeastern, and the University of Massachusetts at Boston.

"I loved teaching history and being engaged in scholarly work and assumed I would do this for the rest of my working life," Marshall said. But her journey next led her to academic administration, with her last position being Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of History at Plymouth State College of the University System of New Hampshire.

By this time she had held several postdoctoral fellowships and published three books, and had the opportunity to take up fellowships at the National Gallery of Art and Folger Library in Washington, D.C. in 1987. She then went to work at the U.S. Department of Education in 1988, where she worked eight years under the administrations of Presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton, ending her career there as a Senior Policy Analyst, reporting to the Assistant Secretary of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement.

The call to ministry came gradually to Marshall. "I felt fulfilled as a lay person in ministry in the church and in my professional life. I was blessed that my home church was Foundry UMC in Washington, where pastors are called equipping ministers," she said. She called her experience at Foundry "lifechanging," with involvement as chairperson of the Healing Committee, as a member of the Administrative Council, and liturgist. To Marshall, Foundry UMC's model of servant ministry was of profound influence in her life and ministry.

When she approached Foundry's pastors, the Rev. Dr. J. Philip Wogaman and the Rev. Dr. Walter Shropshire, Jr., about her call to full-time ordained ministry, she found immediate affirmation and support. Doors opened quickly for her at Wesley Theological Seminary, also affirming God's call for her to be in fulltime ministry, and she received financial support and scholarships from the seminary, the United Methodist connection, and her local church.

She spent 1995-96 serving as Student Associate Pastor at University UMC in College Park, MD, and then, since she was in the Student Pastor Track at Wesley, her resume was forwarded to other Annual Conferences. In 1997 Dr. Marshall became a local pastor in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, serving half-time at Wilkinson UMC in Crofton, and attending school full-

time. "My time at Wilkinson was one of the greatest blessings of my life," Marshall said.

Marshall was ordained as deacon in 1999 and appointed to serve St. Paul's UMC: Geigertown, where she helped guide the church through a long awaited building expansion project. Upon being ordained as elder in 2002, she was appointed to Huntingdon Valley. She has been co-chair of CTT for five years, was appointed by Bishop Matthews to serve as chairperson of the Bishop's Committee on Clergy Retreats, and serves on the Human Resources Committee. She is also a member of the Graduate Executive Council of Wesley Theological Seminary and committed to working to build connections with the United Methodist seminaries and schools.

Looking back, she sees that God was often calling her to a "new thing" and strengthening her to serve in these new areas. "Bishop Matthews feels strongly that clergy and lay persons need to be supporting one another in our common goal of making disciples for Jesus Christ and that the 'main thing needs to be the main thing.' His emphasis on servant ministry also resonates powerfully with me, along with his goal of expanding our presence and mission in the city of Philadelphia and its environs." Marshall said, "Revitalization has been a part of my church ministry and I have been touched by personal

transformation in the church. We are living into a future that God is preparing for each of us to walk in; that is true for me personally and for our Annual Conference."

Marshall's favorite scripture passage is Philippians 4:4-9, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice ... the Lord is near." These words have helped her throughout many of life's circumstances and have always given her strength and comfort.

She is married to Douglas Smith, and together they have a blended family of four grown children and five grandchildren. Marshall recalled that one of her happiest moments was baptizing her twin granddaughters, Allison and Amanda, at St. Paul's UMC in 2000. She often refers to her husband as her "partner in ministry," and people assume that he, too, is a pastor. He is retired from the Federal Government, U.S. Postal Service, where he shared responsibility for computer operations throughout southern Maryland. Marshall notes that her husband has ministered in her life and wherever they have served. She also feels blessed that in her own life, there has been a partnership of clergy and laity.

Marshall enjoys reading murder mysteries and gardening in her spare time. Her husband delights in playing his two guitars at home. They both love spending time with children and grandchildren.

Maloney (continued from P1)

attended North Carolina A & T State University, graduating with a B.A. in Social Work in 1965. He was then commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Medical Service Corp. His 28 years of service in the regular and reserve Army included two tours in Vietnam, and tours in Germany and Desert Storm; he retired from the reserves in 1993 as a Lieutenant Colonel. He also holds an M.A. in Health Facility Management from Webster University (1973).

Maloney's call to ministry was defined in a solitary moment on his way home from his job in the biomedical maintenance division of the Army in Tobyhanna, PA, working for the Surgeon General. Driving home through a wooded area one night, he heard the song by Peggy Lee, "Is that all there is?" The song echoed his feelings, that as he reached his pinnacle in his career, there must be something more. He wasn't choosing

rank and power, but felt the stirring of God's voice calling him. Maloney shared the moment with his mother, "Mom, remember when I was in high school and felt the calling to be a preacher? It's back." She responded, "What took you so long, son?"

Maloney felt the urgency to move into ministry and simultaneously entered Gammon Theological Seminary while beginning the ministry candidacy process. The president of Gammon put him in touch with the Rev. Henry Nichols, then pastor of Janes UMC in Philadelphia, who took Maloney under his wing and mentored him in his candidacy. Scholarships from the seminary and support from several churches in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference helped him and his family through the seminary years.

Maloney characterizes his experience in the Army as "the guy who put out fires and was charged with fixing up and changing." He added, "God was preparing me for this ministry. I've been in cutting edge ministry

along the way, with good challenging assignments. And, I've never been anywhere more than five years - working my way through a crisis and then thinking, 'Is that all there is?' God moves me on to meet the next challenge."

After earning a Masters of Divinity from Gammon in 1982, he was received as a deacon and was appointed as associate pastor to St. Daniel's UMC in Chester, PA. One year later, he became the founding pastor of Eastwick UMC in Chester. He then returned to St. Daniel's as senior pastor for five years, part of that appointment combined with service as director of Metro Ministries of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference. He served as district superintendent for the Harry Hosier/Philadelphia District for two years. His next appointment took him to center-city Philadelphia as senior pastor of Tindley Temple UMC. Bishop Peter Weaver appointed Maloney to the superintendency of the Francis Asbury/Anthracite District (now the Northwest District) in 2001.

He sees how his background has prepared him for his next assignment in the East District. "Bishop Matthews has called us to expand our witness in our urban centers. I will draw on my background in urban ministry as we look for something new to happen - demonstrating our witness in the neighborhoods of Philadelphia, one of the top ten urban centers of the U.S."

Lebanon Valley College in Annville, PA conferred an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity on Maloney in 2000. In addition, Dr. Maloney has done graduate studies at Oklahoma University, and post-graduate studies in Pastoral Psychotherapy.

He is married to Gloria Goode, currently district resource assistant for the Northwest District, and together they have a blended family of six grown children and seven grandchildren. The Maloney family loves to travel and, in future retirement days, will look forward to traveling and enjoying life as grandparents.

Kurien (continued from P1)

worked in the state of Andhra (his father is an elder in the Church of South India). Because of conflicts in Andhra, he stayed with his grandparents to complete his schooling. He went on to Noble College of Andhra University to receive his Bachelors in Commerce in 1978, followed by a Masters in Commerce from Kerala University in 1981.

While growing up, Kurien witnessed the faithfulness – as well as the problems and challenges – of his parents' missionary life. Working in the Parkal Mission among the Hindu people, they brought healthcare and education to the region and supported the planting of thirty to forty churches in the region, which brought many people to embrace Christianity. "I never thought I'd go into ministry, but wanted to support ministry," Kurien said. "My parents were praying with me to discern God's will. I knew the problems and challenges that my parents faced – people tearing up a Bible in front of them, harassment. I began to recognize that ministry is beautiful, realizing that unless they had experienced fulfillment and joy of the Lord, they wouldn't want this for me, too." Kurien's observed how his parents' tough initial years in ministry and persistence led to a place of respect among the people with whom they ministered, and how people would seek them out for guidance and support.

"I gave my heart to the Lord in my final year of college studies," Kurien said. After completing his Masters degree, he had many offers and opportunities in business, but it became clear to him that he wanted to actively serve God. For one year, he worked as a youth pastor and director, traveling, preaching, and writing. He then entered Union Biblical Seminary at

Serampore University, graduating with his M. Div. in 1985. This year he celebrates the twentieth anniversary of his ordination, and his father celebrates his fiftieth year as an ordained elder. Kurien's first church in Kunnida was rural and without a proper building. During his tenure, a new church building was constructed and the congregation grew in membership and ministries.

In 1988, Kurien came to Chicago to pursue doctoral studies in Pastoral Care and Counseling at the Lutheran School of Theology. While there, he served a church and helped to start a new congregation of the Church of South India (CSI). After receiving his doctorate in 1992, he returned to India to Bangalore, served East Parade Church of the Wesleyan Mission, a church with over 2500 members, and helped start two new congregations.

Kurien next became a lecturer at United Theological College in Bangalore, where he served in the counseling department to train students, developed counseling training programs for high school teachers, and practiced at the UTC Counseling Center.

In the year 2000, Kurien returned to the U.S. to work in clinical pastoral education (CPE) at Herman Memorial Hospital in Houston, Texas, serving as the lead chaplain responsible for the residency group's scheduling and other chaplaincy department activities. "My best friend, who lived in Chicago, was a United Methodist pastor from the Western Pennsylvania Conference (and is the son of Bishop George W. Bashore), and I was invited to come to Eastern Pennsylvania," he said. "I've never said no to where God calls me. My goal in life is to be faithful to God and to God's call, wherever the Lord leads me and places me."

He has served St. Matthews's UMC in Reading since 2001. "The Lord has beautifully and miraculously guided us. I am excited about the possibilities

and opportunities of growth and wonderful things for the Annual Conference," Kurien said, referring to his new appointment. "My style is one of collegiality and wanting to know the pastors and their families and the members of the congregations. We will work as a team to grow, learning from one/another's experience."

Kurien holds up the example of his grandfather, who was a great preacher, evangelist, and lay minister, whose motto of ministry was to "have the Bible in one hand and the Discipline in the other hand," working hand-in-hand together to create balance.

On the Conference level, Kurien is a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry and is also its liaison for the elders order; member of the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits; member

of the Core Team for Healing the Wounds of Racism; and member of the Multi-Ethnic Ministries Task Force.

Besides speaking his native language, Malayalam, and English, he also speaks Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, and Kannada. He has also preached all over the U.S. to Indian congregations. Kurien sings and loves church choral music and theater. He has always had a gift of relating to people, has never found it difficult to adapt to new customs, and loves taking an interest in people, sharing conversation and life experience.

Kurien is married to Christy Christopher Jacob, a former teacher and current church secretary for St. Matthew's. They have three daughters: Susan and Elsen, twins who are seniors in high school, and Ann, who at age 13 is in 7th grade.

March is National Women's History Month



Tindley Temple UMC - Women's Day Breakfast

All are invited to attend the Women's Day Breakfast on Sunday, March 20, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. with Guest Speaker, Ms. Lorina Marshall-Blake.

Lorina Marshall-Blake is an Associate Minister at Vine Memorial Baptist Church under the pastorate of Rev. Dr. James S. Allen.

There will be a freewill offering. Tindley Temple UMC, 750-762 Charles A. Tindley Blvd. (South Broad Street), Philadelphia, PA 19146. Contact - Ethel Pines/Sheila Alston, Church office - 215-735-0442

Agency offers bulletin inserts to celebrate Women's History Month

The inserts will be available in a free pdf format at the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women website: www.gcsrw.org <<http://>

Meet Minerva G. Carcaño

She was born in Texas and spent much of her childhood picking cotton. So how could Minerva G. Carcaño have emerged as anything but a bishop—right?



Under the blazing Texas sun, her family survived by picking cotton. By age 12, Minerva could pick about 125 pounds of cotton a day, less than a third of what her mother could pick. One day she was working down a row of cotton and her mother was picking in the row to her left. As the sun beat down, Minerva felt hot and dizzy, but kept on working. When she looked up, she saw that her mother had finished her own row and turned the corner, working toward her daughter. When she got close enough to speak, the mother said, "My precious daughter, remember: we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us."

Carcaño's parents bequeathed to her a relationship with Christ. That relationship carried her to adulthood. Her experiences informed the decisions she made to work for justice on behalf of women and persons of color. She served local churches as pastor and district superintendent; and from 1996-2001, served as director of the Mexican-American Program and the Hispanic Studies Program, as coordinator of the Spanish Language Course of Study School and on the adjunct faculty at Perkins School of Theology, Dallas.

In July, 2004, she became the first Latina woman to be elected bishop of the United Methodist Church.

Older Adult Ministry

By Dorothea Burnett

The Older Adult Ministry will be holding a conference on the Northeast District on Friday, October 21 & Saturday, October 22, 2005 at the Days Inn Conference Center in Allentown. The conference will feature Bishop Marcus Matthews of the Eastern PA Conference and Dr. Richard Gentzler from Nashville to discuss issues affecting older adults. The Days Inn Conference Center is located at 1151 Bulldog Drive, Routes 22 & 309 in Allentown. For more information contact Dorothea Burnett at 215.476.5504 or by email: othea9@netzero.com.

The EPA Conference Older Adult Ministries is available to assist you with planning a training workshop. For more information contact Mrs. Dorothea Burnett at 215.476.5504 or by email: othea9@netzero.com

Following is a new version just for us who have white hair, or no hair at all. For us over 40 (or even those almost there) and all you others . . . check out the newest version of "Jesus Loves Me". It is quite cute, so read, sing and enjoy!

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, this I know
Though my hair is white as snow.
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still he bids me trust in him.

Chorus: Yes, Jesus Love Me . . .
Yes, Jesus Loves Me . . .
Yes, Jesus Loves Me
for the Bible tells me so.

Though my steps are oh, so slow,
With my hand in His I'll go.
On through life, let come what may,
He'll be there to lead the way.

Chorus

Though I am no longer young,
I have much which he's begun.
Let me serve Christ with a smile,
Go with others the extra mile.

Chorus

When the nights are dark and long,
In my heart He puts a song.
Telling me in words so clear,
"Have no fear, for I am near."

Chorus

When my work on earth is done,
And life's victories have been won.
He will take me home above,
Then I'll understand His love.

Chorus

I love Jesus, does he know?
Have I ever told Him so?
Jesus loves to hear me say,
That I love Him every day.

Chorus

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Submit an article or photographs to the NEWSpirit using e-mail (we accept material via U.S. Mail, too), 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.

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"Fifty years for Christ" Theme for 2005 United Methodist Men Convocation

Since 1956 men of the Eastern Pennsylvania and Wyoming conferences have had their spiritual life enriched by the mountaintop experience gained from this event.

On April 1, 2 & 3 of 2005, all men are invited to open their lives to the transformation of their faith journey and faith experience in helping to become disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. Refresh your spirit, recommit your life to Christ, and renew old friendships and make new ones.



The theme speaker for the 2005 convocation will be Dr. H. Eddie Fox, the World Director of Evangelism, of the World Methodist Council. Dr. Fox will bring two dynamic messages during the weekend. Keynote Speaker for this anniversary celebration will be Rev. Dr. Jack Topolewsky, retired pastor and District Superintendent of Wyoming Conference.

If Christ Himself were forwarding this invitation, his letter might read as follows: "Brothers: I called those twelve men to service, and now I am calling you to leave your nets, if only for a short time, and attend an event where I can become a larger part of your life.

When I called the twelve, they willingly followed Me. Please search your hearts and attend this gathering. The 2005 convocation can make me more real in your life. Brother Jesus.

In addition to top speakers, the convocation offers a choice of several workshops, entertainment in the form of Christian singers and musicians, several robust song-fests by all, and the kind of fellowship that only



Christian men can know. Added is the fact that for all of those fifty years, the

convocation has been held in the beautiful Pocono Mountains of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Our hotel, the historic Pocono Manor Inn and Golf Club offers very comfortable and attractive rooms, excellent food, and many amenities.

Although the convocation is scheduled over three days, attendees are offered a choice of attending all of it, Saturday and Sunday when the bulk of the program is presented, or Saturday only, with no overnight stay.

A special musical program will be presented by Bruce and Josh Evans, with Dorothy Blakeslee at the piano.

Four popular features remain: "SUNRISE INSPIRATION" Bible Study; The Convocation Men's Chorus; The Upper Room Prayer Line; and the Cokesbury Book Sales Display.

Three workshops are available; participants select two choices at the convocation.

- 1) THE POWER OF A PRAYING MAN;
- 2) INTRODUCTION TO FAITH/SHARING;
- 3) HANDS -ON MINISTRY.

COST: Regular Saturday & Sunday registration, \$120 per person, double. Single, \$140. For Fri. arrival, \$179 per person, double. Single, \$219. Saturday program only, \$45 per person.

IF YOU ARE ONLY ATTENDING THE SATURDAY SESSION, YOU STILL MUST REGISTER. For registration form or if you have questions, send e-mail to eriedel@webtv.net

Developing Leadership in Small Membership Churches Workshop

Saturday, April 9, 2005, Registration: 8:15 a.m.

Workshop time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Myerstown United Methodist Church, 22 E. Main St., Myerstown, PA

Who should attend:

- small-church pastor who want to lead forward with joy
- layperson or leader who wants your small church to be all God intends
- judicatory staff member who desires to work more effectively with small churches
- seminarian preparing for-or considering-small-church ministry

This one day workshop is for you. It will focus on:

- \$ understanding the special nature of the small church
- \$ developing attitudes that make ministry in the small congregation productive and enjoyable
- \$ conveying effective strategies for transforming small churches

Participants will learn:

- Why small-churches are central to God's plan
- Four current definitions of "small church" and why three are inadequate
- Eight ways small-church culture differs from U.S. society and what to do about it
- An affirming, challenging model for understanding the nature of the small church
- Five attitudes that will help small-church leaders increase their leadership "batting average": while having more fun
- Six measures to small-church health
- Six means to turn the "headaches" and "heartaches" of small-church ministry into an agenda for health and growth
- Eleven action strategies to introduce change into your small church
- Developing an effective, small-church appropriate leadership strategy for your ministry
- Examining nine functions of a healthy small church
- Assessing your congregation's current strengths
- Targeting one or two areas for developing effectiveness

Workshop Leader: Tony Pappas, the American Baptist Area Minister for southeastern Massachusetts, pastored a small Rhode Island church for 20 years. He edits *The Five Stones-Newsletter for Small Churches* and has authored five books, including *Entering the World of the Small Church - A Guide for Leaders* and *Pastored Stress* (both published by the Alban Institute). Dr. Pappas regularly speaks in local-church, regional, national, and international conferences on small-church issues.

Developing Leadership in Small Membership Churches Workshop Registration Form

- Individual
 Church

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Church Name: _____

Your Role In The Church: _____

Additional Attendees:

Name: _____ Role In the Church: _____

Name: _____ Role In the Church: _____

Name: _____ Role In the Church: _____

Name: _____ Role In the Church: _____

(Use back of form for additional names)

Child Care Age of Child(ren): _____

Registration Fee: \$25 per person (including lunch and snacks); \$100 per church (5 or more attendees) plus \$7 per person for lunch and snacks.

Deadline is March 15, 2005

Registrations received after March 15, 2005

\$30 per person (including lunch and snacks); \$40 per person for walk-in registrations the day of the event (lunch possible, but not guaranteed).

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

Registration: 8:15 a.m. Workshop: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Please make check payable to **Northwest District** and send fee and registration to Northwest District Office, 1725 Breckenridge Road, Orwigsburg, PA 17961-9544; Phone: 570-366-1471; Fax: 570-366-1626; E-mail:

northwest4@verizon.net; Web site: www.gbgm-umc.org/northwest4

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People Alliance "Visiting Animals, Plants and Me" for the homebound elderly, among others.

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To contribute to the Methodist Hospital Foundation, please call 215-952-9006.



www.JeffersonHospital.org/methodist

The small church - a place where everybody knows your name

By Suzy Keenan

"I want to go where everybody knows my name." The popular TV sitcom, "Cheers," made this line famous.

The characters in the "Cheers" bar knew each other by name, knew each other's joys and pain, and shared a sense of belonging together.

That is the kind of intimacy and belonging that members of small churches share.

In a small church, with no more than 200 in attendance at worship, everybody shakes the pastor's hand on a Sunday morning. The pastor cries with you over the phone, is there for your funerals, your weddings, and your baptisms.

Yet, in a culture that values growth and change, how do we value what the small church offers? The Rev. Dr. Alfred Maloney, superintendent for the Northwest District said, "Everyone expects them to grow up someday. But just because you're small doesn't mean you're ineffective." Maloney

recognizes that in many of the small communities of the Anthracite region the small churches provide for and do needed missions in their immediate neighborhood. And, in some of those communities, the United Methodist church is the only church with a pastor - other churches only employ a circuit preacher once a month. In the Northwest District, 55 out of 88 churches, or two-thirds, are small membership churches.

Maloney believes that a key is to "help strengthen churches to believe in themselves rather than thinking they're a failure because they only have fifty people in attendance."

One way to help strengthen small churches is to provide leadership development training for the whole administrative board - to encourage a Biblical understanding of leadership, church structure, and spiritual gifts.

"Affirm your uniqueness," Maloney tells his small churches. He elaborated on his approach: "How do you affirm a short person on a basketball team? You affirm their gifts, and find

they can contribute their gifts to the team. Then help them get the tools they need to deal with their issues."

Some of the issues of small churches include feeling attacked by land developers and reacting by circling the wagons. Another is that small churches can be family, and be a closed family rather than being inclusive. Also, being a small church in a dying community doesn't mean the fields aren't ripe for harvest.

Maloney also emphasized the opportunity for lay persons to come to leadership through Christ Servant Ministries training in lay speaking as well as caring, leading, and nurturing ministries certification. (See page 15 for more information.)

The Developing Leaders in Small Membership Churches Workshop on the Northwest District is open to churches throughout the conference, and will address many of the challenges and opportunities for small churches in ministry in the 21st Century. (See preceding page for more information.)

Practicing forgiveness requires commitment, time

By Tamie Ross

Forgiveness is a tenet of faith and a popular sermon topic, but the practice of daily reconciliation - of cleansing the hatred from one's heart - can be a challenging goal.

Those working to give church members practical ways to implement forgiveness strategies say practicing what is preached is a matter of living it each day, with an emphasis on revisiting what was learned the day before.

"Reconciliation is a huge amount of work on the congregational level," said the Rev. Sonnye Dixon, pastor of Hobson United Methodist Church in Nashville, Tenn. "You have to believe that it's essential for your community to make it start to happen."

Last year, more than 70 of Hobson's members embarked on a yearlong journey toward forgiveness. Dixon said the idea for the program began after church leaders saw that dozens of members had stopped attending worship because of disagreements or personal issues with their fellow Christians.

During a special assembly, members were encouraged to participate in three symbols of forgiveness: a ritual of writing down their grievances, then burning them; a remembrance of their baptism; and an anointing ceremony.

Since then, Dixon said, he has worked with individuals and small groups, urging them to reconnect with those around them whom they might have pushed away.

"We all disappoint each other, and each of us has something we need to have forgiven," Dixon said. The most difficult part about it is getting people to see that they need to ask for forgiveness."

On a larger scale, the United Methodist Church is reaching out, both in educational and practical ways, to give members the tools to build upon the foundation they receive at church but may struggle to implement in their lives.

Last April, nearly 1,000 delegates to the church's top legislative body,

meeting in Pittsburgh, participated in a Service of Appreciation for African Americans who remained as members of the former Methodist Church and predecessor bodies despite the racial indignities - including segregation - that they experienced.

The United Methodist-led JustPeace Center for Mediation and Conflict Transformation in Washington has become a resource for many. JustPeace staff members help churches and individuals in need of mediation, resolution assistance or a fresh perspective on conflict.

"We must think about forgiveness not just in some abstract sort of way, but as a real spiritual practice," said Mark Mancou, director of administration for JustPeace. "From the pulpit, forgiveness is usually expressed more as a value to strive for, and then it's up to us to figure out how to live that way."

Bishop Kenneth Carder, professor of the practice of pastoral formation and director of the Center for Excellence in Ministry at United Methodist-related Duke University School of Divinity, has worked with forgiveness on many levels.

His knowledge and proximity to a particular aspect of social reconciliation led him and dozens of others on a three-year journey known as Truth and Reconciliation. The program continues under the oversight of United Methodist-related Emory University in Atlanta.

Carder, who led the United Methodist Church's Mississippi Area for four years, has accompanied groups to key sites where events critical to the civil rights movements occurred. His goal was to help congregations and individuals come to grips with the past in order to live as a reconciled community.

"We remembered where we were during those murders, those riots, and acknowledged what our role had been, recognizing that racism is a part of all our stories," Carder said. "In doing so, there is a freedom to move on, to confront the realities in this present time and to reach across racial barriers."

Forgiveness often means coming clean with our own story and past, he said. Churches can help that happen in members' lives by establishing small-group experiences in which people feel free to share their experiences and confessions.

"Worship plays a critical role, as do Bible studies ... but when there's an environment created where interpersonal sharing can take place, we have a community of reconciliation, rooted in God's forgiveness," Carder said.

The Rev. Diana Hynson is leading such a group in the Baltimore-Washington Annual (regional) Conference. Hynson, director of learning and teaching ministries for the United Methodist Board of Discipleship, is using Companions in Christ material for the eight-week study on "Spiritual Exploration of the Forgiven."

She said her group talks openly about issues related to reconciliation, and their victories and struggles to be quick to forgive and slow to condemn.

"They're thinking, they're testing the material," Hynson said. "What I see in them is that they really want to be able to think theologically and faithfully about their lives."

Mancou agreed that personal experiences and involvement in the reconciliation process lead to a forgiving lifestyle. The benefits of that lifestyle manifest themselves in myriad ways, he said.

"Perhaps learning forgiveness could be one of the missing pieces that has prevented us from really engaging one another in constructive ways," Mancou said. "Think of all the good that can be done."

Dixon says churches willing to prioritize forgiveness on the congregational level will see members transformed.

"You're going to open deep wounds," he said, "and when you pick that scab off, there's a lot of pain involved for many people. It's a healing process, absolutely, but it takes time and commitment."

Ross is a freelance journalist based in Dallas.

Mediation Skills Training

Institute for Church Leaders, Troy Conference, will sponsor intensive training in conflict transformation.

"The Mediation Skills Training Institute...was 'life transforming' for me...My faith and call to peace-making came together...My ministry and life will not be the same and I am equipped to be 'part of the solution' instead of being part of the problem."

This was the sentiment of a pastor/therapist who participated in Lombard Mennonite Peace Center's (LMPC) Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders. Other participants in the training have had similar responses.

During the week of April 25-29, 2005, the Troy Annual Conference, UMC will be sponsoring this dynamic training event led by LMPC at Shenendehowa United Methodist Church in Clifton Park, New York. The leader of the institute will be Richard Blackburn, LMPC Executive Director.

The Mediation Skills Training Institute has also been described by participants as being "A great event for developing skills in working with conflict in the church," and as "Well worth your investment of self as well as resources." One participant advises, "You must take one week out of your life to do this!"

The institute focuses on: individual styles of response to conflict; win-win negotiation skills; skills to mediate conflict between individuals; and tools to effectively manage congregational conflict. A component on group consultation and intervention is also included. Specific attention is given to mediating conflict in the church, though the skills gained are also helpful in other settings including the home, the school, and the workplace.

LMPC is committed to the mission of helping the church grow in health and wholeness, into all that Christ wants the church to be. LMPC pursues that mission by conducting workshops on biblical peace-making and conflict transformation skills, in addition to providing mediation and consultation services for conflicted churches and other groups.

The cost for this five-day institute is \$595 if registered by March 28, 2005 and \$670 after that date. A registration brochure and other information may be obtained by contacting the Troy Conference Minister's office: 802-223-3400; email: conferenceminister@troyac.org.



Classifieds

Music Director - Part-time

Seeking part-time music director for contemporary multisensory service Sundays 9:15 AM. Send resume' to Willistown UMC, 8 Hillcrest Rd., Newtown Square, PA 19073 or pastr@comcast.net.

Do your parishioners ever wonder about the history of Methodism?

Christ Servant minister and music director John Read is offering an exciting two-hour presentation on the inspiring, often hilarious and not always proud story behind our denomination. Facts and anecdotes are interlaced with hymn singing to help bring history to life — for after all, what is Methodism without singing? A look at Methodism's glorious and ghastly moments...geared to cradle Methodists and wet-behind-the-ears Wesleyans alike. Honorarium of \$150 plus time and travel for the two hour presentation. Contact John Read at (215)-248-4442 or by email at jkread58@yahoo.co



Connectional giving insert
(see page 5)

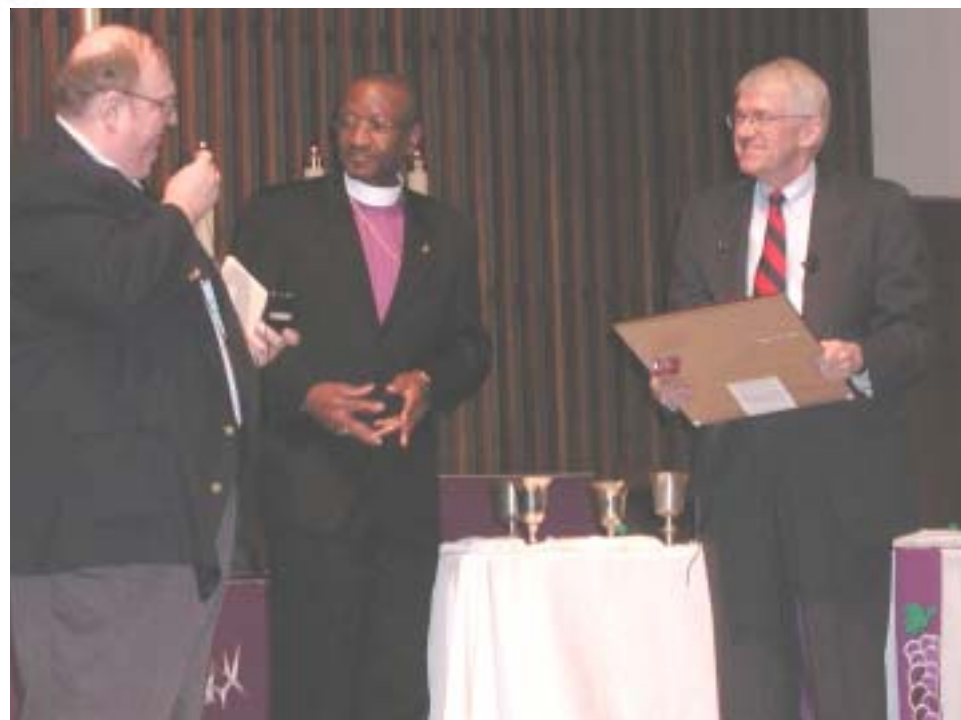
Bishop's Lenten Day Apart was "inspiring"

Nearly 400 clergy from the Eastern Pennsylvania and Peninsula/Delaware Conferences attended the Bishop's Lenten Day Apart on February 8 for a time of Lenten preparation and renewal entitled "Wholeness and the New Birth: and can it be that I should gain."

The event was organized by the Rev. Dr. Sherrin Marshall, pastor of Huntington Valley UMC, and was hosted by Aldersgate UMC, located on Route 202 in north Wilmington, Delaware.

Dr. Charles Yrigoyen, Jr., General Secretary of the Commission on Archives and History, and a member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, was the featured speaker. Dr. Yrigoyen spoke on John Wesley and the Order of Salvation.

An award for his years of service to United Methodist Archives and History was presented to Dr. Yrigoyen, who will retire in September as General Secretary of the Commission on Archives and History, which is located at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey. He was presented with the following gifts: a framed photo of a stained glass window of a church in Peninsula-Delaware Conference commemorating a railroad, a medal commemorating the bicentennial of American Methodism, and a life-time subscription to the historical journal of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual



Bishop Marcus Matthews (center) looks on as the Rev. Kevin Readman (left) presents an award of service to the Rev. Dr. Charles Yrigoyen, Jr.

Conference.

Bishop Marcus Matthews delivered a moving homily, followed by a spirited moment when he invited someone to come forward and anoint him at the altar. Many clergy came forward to kneel and be anointed in turn by the Bishop.

The Rev. Shawn Wilson, associate pastor of West Chester UMC had this reflection on the Bishop's Lenten Day Apart:

"Dr. Yrigoyen's oration on the Order of Salvation was inspiring as was Bishop Matthew's humbling and heart-felt homily on the temptation of Christ, as were the hymns. There was something for the serious academic and something for the sincere, soulful

worshipper. Bishop Matthews' invitation to the altar rail for anointing was particularly moving.

I believe that, from listening to Bishop Matthews' homily, all of us realized that we were on the threshold of a forty-day spiritual sojourn in the same place that Jesus was at his anointing in the Jordan. I processed the event in those Biblical terms as a blessing toward the end of being - together with Bishop Matthews and fellow clergy - a prophetic and public voice for God in the world.

I can sense in Bishop Matthews' leadership of the conference an obvious call to a deeper spirituality, which is critical for clergy and laity alike in their ministry."



Gravel Hill awarded advertising matching grant

Gravel Hill United Methodist Church has received a matching grant for \$3680 for cable television advertising during Lent.

United Methodist Communications offers \$1 million in matching funds annually to local churches, districts and conferences to help establish an advertising presence in their community. Matching funds can be used for placing television, radio, cinema, outdoor media or a combination of these media types.

Grants are offered three times a year in coordination with the national cable schedule (Lent, Back-to-school, and Advent).

FREE MEDIA SERVICES

Through Igniting Ministry Media Services, a local church can access the expertise of Igniting Ministry's full-service advertising agency for all their media strategies, solutions, buying and placement requests at no charge. This service is available to anyone placing any type of media — Matching Grant and non-Matching Grant alike — and can be handled as easy as contacting the Media Grants and Services office at 877-281-6535 or IMmediaservices@umcom.org

<mailto:IMmediaservices@umcom.org>.

A convenient online application form is available during each application period. If you prefer to work from a hard copy, an application form is available will full application instructions from www.ignitingministry.org. If you have any questions, please contact the Media Grants and Services office.

Grants are awarded, to the extent of available funds, based on optimum media coverage, giving the best reach and frequency throughout the United States. Applicants are encouraged to cluster with other churches in your media market to pool resources and make an effective buy with a single application. A list of churches, districts or conferences in your media market is available upon request. If you have any questions, please contact the Media Grants and Services office.

The next application period is May 1 - June 1 for both the Back-to-school and Advent media schedules in 2005.

If you would like to learn how to prepare all kinds of grant applications, see information on the Spring Grant Writing Workshop, page. 2.

Methodist Home for Children is the Child Welfare Agency of The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference

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