

# **EAST DISTRICT E-ALERT FOR October 27, 2016**

## **Editorial Policy of the East District E-Alert:**

**Check this out – have you really read this paragraph lately? Do you realize that the East District now has a website?** Because of the recent launch of a redesigned Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Website (<http://www.epaumc.org/>) which has a link, at the bottom of the Home Page, to a new East District website (<http://www.epaumc.org/districts/east/>), articles will appear for only one week, and, if pertinent, will be posted on the District web site. Previously published E-Alerts will be posted to the East District website.

The E-Alert is sent to Pastors and Church Offices on the East District and to lay people who have requested being added to the distribution list. Feel free to clip or copy any article for your church's bulletin or newsletter unless permission has specifically been granted to the East District for publication, in which case, request permission from the source. The District Office requests that pastors forward the E-Alert to church leaders and congregants who might find the E-Alert helpful and informative.

## **DISTRICT DATES**

### **WALK WITH: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE**

**What:** East District Conversation on Race Relations

**When:** Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup> in 2017

**Time:** 6 pm (Friday evening with dinner; recess at 9 pm)  
8 am (Saturday morning; adjourn at 3 pm)

**Where:** Washington Crossing United Methodist Church  
1895 Wrightstown Road, Washington Crossing PA 18977

**Who:** East District clergy and laity

**Theme:** **WALK WITH: The African American Experience**

**Cost:** \$35 per person (includes supper, breakfast, and lunch)

**Registration deadline: Dece,ber 21. 2016**

District Superintendent Bass considers this to be one of three REQUIRED District events that appointed clergy are required to attend. The conversation will begin at. The cost to register is \$35 per person and includes Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, and Saturday lunch. To register, send your name, mailing address, email address, and the name of your church, with a check payable to "**East District Superintendency Clergy Fund**" and mail to East District Office, c/o Clarita Krall, Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, The United Methodist Church, 3470 Huntingdon Pike, Huntingdon Valley PA 19006. The memo line should read "**Conversations on Race Relations.**" **Registration deadline is December 15, 2016.**

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CODE BLUE**

**Advocates for Homeless & Those in Need** (AHTN) is a local Bucks County, interfaith nonprofit that serves the homeless and those in need by providing year-long access to emergency shelter, food, and other life-sustaining services, with dignity and compassion. As the organization approaches the 8th upcoming Code Blue season, they share their needs with the local community -- volunteers (over 18 years old). One night of Code Blue requires 18 volunteers in order to open the shelter doors. AHTN can't do this without support!

Attached to this email is a document with upcoming Volunteer Orientation dates. Share this information in your church bulletin/newsletter or post it on your community board.

Should you want to know more about AHTN and Code Blue, visit [www.AHTN.org](http://www.AHTN.org). If you would like to have someone from the organization speak to your group about the services offered and how volunteers can help, contact the Managing Consultant, Karen Mineo at [Kmineo@ahtn.org](mailto:Kmineo@ahtn.org).

*Each of us must rededicate ourselves to serving the common good. We are a community. Our individual Fates are linked; our futures intertwined; and if we act in that knowledge and in that spirit together, as the Bible says: "We can move mountains." - Jimmy Carter*

## **NEW CLERGY SPOUSE RETREAT – NOVEMBER 5**

+ expectations +  
+ isolation + no authenticity +  
+ Single Parenting + pastor-less + MARITAL STRESS +  
+ FINANCES + Itinerancy +

**Is your Sunday just another brick you carry?**

**When:** Full-day retreat on November 5 from 9 am to 3 pm, lunch included

**Where:** Black Rock Retreat Center, Quarryville PA

**Fee:** \$50 (Lunch included) – Scholarships available online (up to \$25). First 10 registrants receive \$10 off!

**Register:** on-line [here](#) or at [www.ArtosRetreats.org](http://www.ArtosRetreats.org) or call 717-492-4238

**Registration deadline:** October 29

**Claiming Sabbath for Clergy Spouses: A retreat created FOR clergy spouse BY clergy spouses about how celebrating Sabbath can reduce your burdens.**

- Learn how the Bible, not the calendar, calls us to celebrate Sabbath in a way that will help you cope with your clergy spouse burdens.
- Reduce your isolation. Connect with other clergy spouses in a small group. Safely express common clergy spouse issues without having to reveal your personal situation.
- Solve real-life clergy spouse scenarios about obstacles to keeping Sabbath. Practice setting boundaries for Sabbath.
- Explore ways to lighten your load in the Sabbath Game.
- Enjoy original music to help set the rhythm of your spiritual life.

A flyer with more information is attached to this E-Alert email.

## **DELIVER SIGNED CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR PRISON INMATES BY NOVEMBER 7**

The deadline to deliver signed [Christmas Cards for Prison Inmates](#) to the East District Office or to the Conference Office is coming fast. All cards must be delivered by **Monday, Nov. 7**, so we can collect, examine, sort, and deliver them in time to area correctional institutions. Your individual or church contribution to this conference-wide effort is crucial, so that we can surpass our remarkable 2015 total of nearly 5,000 delivered cards. [Read about this ministry.](#)

Our partner institutions are participating in this ministry with us again, having seen the way our Christmas cards were so appreciated by their resident inmates last year. Share the love of Christ and the spirit of Christmas with someone who may need a personal greeting of encouragement. Suggested greetings are provided.

Please get your cards signed (first names only), collected, and delivered to the District of Conference office by Nov. 7. Thanks!

For more information, click [Eastern PA Conference Prison Ministry & Restorative Justice Team](#).

## **PLANNED GIVING WORKSHOP ON THE EAST DISTRICT**

**What: Provide and Protect: A Legacy and Planned Giving Workshop**

**When: Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Where: Christ United Methodist Church**  
501 Wistar Road, Fairless Hills PA 19030

**Time: 9:30 am** Registration  
**10 am-11:30 am** Workshop

**Cost: There is no cost for the workshop, but registration is required.**

**CEUs: Offered for pastors attending**

**Registration:** To register, call Christ UMC at 215-943-2343 or send an email to [christunitedmethodist@comcast.net](mailto:christunitedmethodist@comcast.net).

**Led by Jack Brooks, Executive Director of the Mid-Atlantic United Methodist Foundation, this Legacy and Planned Giving workshop is an opportunity to rapidly increase knowledge and experience hands-n learning in legacy and give planning.**

**Jack will be answering may questions, including:**

- With such church uncertainty, is now a time to consider planned gifts?
- How do you talk about end of life and legacy to people?
- Our congregations are poor; how could they possibly make a planned gift?

**What we do know is last year, billions of dollars were left to organizations donors felt deep connections to. We must offer this dynamic opportunity to our members as every non-profit is doing.**

**Attached to this email E-Alert are MS Word and PDF formatted bulletin inserts.**

## **S/PPRC WORKSHOP – “CLAIMING SABBATH FOR CLERGY SPOUSES”**

Clergy spouses know that S/PPRC Committees want to help, but often they don't know how to tell you what they need. This engaging workshop will give S/PPRC members ideas about how to support the well-being of the pastor's spouse.

Members of S/PPRC Committees are invited to a session exclusively for East District S/PPRCs members on **Saturday, November 12** at **Bensalem UMC** (4300 Hulmeville Rd., Bensalem 19020) from **10 am-11:30 am**. Participants will walk in the shoes of clergy spouses as they play the Sabbath Game and discuss how to support the well-being of their pastor's spouse.

The Sabbath Game was conceived for the new clergy spouse retreat. “Sabbath: Break....or Brick?” is now being offered by Artos Retreats. Participants enthusiastically requested that church leaders play the game to sensitize them about common clergy spouse issues and inspirations.

Attached to this email is a flyer with more information. Register online today on the EPA Conference website at <https://epaumc.churchcenteronline.com/registrations/events/41103>. Registering enters the registrant for a drawing of an Artos Bread Bucks gift certificate to give to a clergy spouse. The awardee must be present on November 12 to claim the Bread Bucks certificate.

For more information call [717-492-4238](tel:717-492-4238) or email [artosretreats@gmail.com](mailto:artosretreats@gmail.com). Visit the Artos website at [www.ArtosRetreats.org](http://www.ArtosRetreats.org).

## **PRAYERS**

Pray for **Mr. John Bass**, father of District Superintendent Tracy Bass, who was recently diagnosed with lung cancer.

Pray for comfort for the Rev. Nancy Ludwig, Associate Pastor of Lehman Memorial UMC, on the loss of her mother, **Mrs. Gladys W. Neff**, 97, who joined loved ones on the other side on Friday, October 21. Condolences may be sent to Rev. Ludwig at Lehman Memorial UMC, 300 S. York Rd., Hatboro PA 19040. Mrs. Neff's obituary is attached to this E-Alert email.

We have been informed of the death of the **Rev. Jack T. Buttimer** on Sunday, October 16, at the Good Samaritan Hospital, Lebanon. A retired United Methodist pastor, he was a resident of Cornwall Manor since October 30, 2013. Rev. Buttimer served the following Eastern PA Conference churches: East Bangor, Bethlehem: Wesley, Drexel Hill: Covenant, Newtown, and Lincoln Park: Community. Rev. Buttimer retired in 2003 and is survived by his wife, Mrs. Nancy M. Buttimer. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to her at: 104 Overlook Drive, Lebanon, PA 17042.

Pray for **the Rev. Gertrude Duckett**, Pastor of Haven Peniel in Philadelphia on the Central District, and former Associate Pastor at Janes Memorial in Philadelphia on the East District in her current hospitalization. Cards may be sent to her at 1255 S. Longacre Blvd., Yeadon PA 19050.

## **CLASSIFIED**

The Rev. Donna DiMeo-Hammell is offering a DivorceCare *Surviving the Holidays* kit for free. The kit includes a DVD, 16 participant guides, and 2 leader guides. Rev. DiMeo-Hammell's group has updated to the newer version, but she assures that this kit is still perfectly usable. Contact her at [caringministriespastor@gmail.com](mailto:caringministriespastor@gmail.com) if you would like to pick up this kit.

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