

# **EAST DISTRICT E-ALERT FOR December 11, 2015**

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

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.

## **NEWS**

### **#BlackChurchesMatter**

The attached flyer was sent as a separate email recently. This is a reminder, if you have not already done so, to read about this important campaign "#BlackChurchesMatter" and respond by publicizing it widely within and outside of your congregation(s).

1. Promote it to your friends via social media, your congregation via announcements, bulletin, inserts, etc., and by word-of-mouth. Please make sure you "like," Share," and "comment" on Facebook posts that you see. The more that these posts are commented on and shared, the more likely the probability of them showing up on someone's Newsfeed.
2. Attached you will find various materials for you to use on social media and also in your bulletins.
3. It is completely INTENTIONAL that there is no "R" on the end of the web address for the GoFundMe page. Due to character restrictions on the GoFundMe page, the "R" had to be left off of the end of the web address. Sorry if there is any confusion. This is the official web address: <https://www.gofundme.com/blackchurchesmatte>. However, there is an "R" while using the #BlackChurchesMatter.

If you need additional information, please contact Bethany L. Amey, Urban Coordinator/Consultant for the Urban Commission of EPA; E-Mail: [bamey@epaumc.org](mailto:bamey@epaumc.org) of phone: 215-878-8054.

### **LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD CUPBOARD AT JENKINTOWN UMC**

Recently, Jenkintown UMC's Loaves and Fishes Food Cupboard was the recipient of food donations from the Chestnut Hill branch of Weavers Way Coop. The Coop experienced a power outage on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, and co-op staffers and food pantry volunteers from the region scrambled to use the food for needy families before it spoiled. To read the press release, go [here](#).

### **THE SoSA CHRISTMAS CARD IS AVAILABLE NOW**

Click: [Learn More and Order on EndHunger.org](#). The SoSA card again features original art by Jerry Malzahn. Let your Christmas greetings honor your loved ones and feed the hungry. Each card, with a donation of \$12, provides 500 servings of food to those who are without sufficient food in the Christmas season. Order cards you can send out, or provide SoSA with your list and they will send your cards for you.

### **NEW APPOINTMENTS**

**The Rev. Thomas Chadwick** (Retired Elder) completes his ½-tim appointment at Croydon: Wilkinson Memorial, effective December 31.

**The Rev. John Cordes** (Elder) is appointed from full-time to Phila.: Fox Chase to ¾-time to Phila.: Fox Chase and ¼-time to Croydon: Wilkinson Memorial.

## **RESOURCES FOR MINISTRY**

### **INTERPRETER MAGAZINE 2016: UNITED METHODISTS USING THEIR GIFTS AND RESOURCES ALL OVER**

Do you know about the helpful content you'll get when you subscribe to *Interpreter* magazine in 2016? You can subscribe online now: [Subscribe here to Interpreter magazine today.](#) One reason that readers love getting Interpreter is the helpful "It Worked for Us!" section. Here you will find examples of how United Methodists serve God in innovative ways. You'll see how God uses United Methodists to do great things! This is one of *Interpreter's* most popular departments, and *Interpreter* looks forward to sharing another year of great ideas. Wouldn't you love to get new, proven ideas from other United Methodists every two months? You can! [Subscribe online to Interpreter now.](#)

### **JOIN OVER 32,000 PEERS IMPROVING CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS**

Get a FREE eBook when you [sign up for MyCom](#), UMCommunications' bi-weekly newsletter. MyCom tips and tools include easy inside outreach ideas, proven giving campaign plans, basic to advance social media, church leadership insights, technology for churches, and step-by-step tutorials. [Get my FREE eBook & eNewsletter!](#) *"What an awesome resource! I learned more this morning from reading your articles than I have learned in years from asking friends, family and co-workers. It was very well organized, easy-to-understand and made me feel very confident in my ability to implement lessons. Thank you!" – William Nelson, Cedar Creek UMC, Cedar Creek TX*

### **DISCOVERY SERVICE PROJECTS**

The Board of Directors of **Discovery Service Projects** (DSP) asks consideration of the following for those who shop online at Amazon and thanks all for your continued prayers and support of the mission of DSP: "Discovery Service Projects is now a part of the Amazon Smiles program. If you shop online at Amazon.com, please consider making your purchases through the Amazon Smiles program. It's very easy to do and Discovery will receive donations of ½ and 1% of the total you spend from Amazon. Simply go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and type Discovery Service Projects in the 'Select a charity' Search box on the right of the web page."

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Pray for **Mr. Daniel Hyun's** recovery from emergency appendectomy surgery on December 9. Daniel is the son of Northeast District DRA Sheila Milz.

The East District Office has learned that **Mrs. Eleanor Schol**, long-time member of the former St. James UMC and recent member of Crescentville UMC on the East District and **mother of Bishop John Schol**, Bishop of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference and former clergy member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, entered life immortal on December 4. Mrs. Schol died of congestive heart failure at the age of 85. Please keep all of Mrs. Schol's children – Susan, Stephen, John – and the entire Schol family in your prayers. A service celebrating her life and resurrection will be held on Saturday, December 12 at 1:30 pm at Wesley Enhanced Living Pennypack Park, 8401 Roosevelt Blvd., Philadelphia PA 19152. Memorial gifts may be given to [The Mission Fund Campaign](#) at 1001 Wickpecko Drive, Ocean NJ 07712.

Remember the family of **Mr. Gilbert R. Rendle, Sr.**, father of retired elder The Rev. Gilbert R. Rendle, Jr., who died on November 30. Click [here](#) to view the obituary online. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, December 19 at 11 am at First UMC of Lancaster with visitation beginning at 10 am. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Memorial Fund of First UMC (29 E. Walnut St., Lancaster PA 17602) or Camp Innabah (c/o Eastern PA Conference UMC, PO Box 820, Valley Forge PA 19482).

Remember the family of **Mrs. Jo Anne F. Boone**, wife of the Rev. George Boone, who died on November 23. A service of death and resurrection was held at the chapel of Bensalem UMC on December 1st. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to: The Rev. George Boone III, 3453 Iris Avenue, Trevoise, PA 19053. Rev. Boone served the following churches: former Phila.: Logan, Phila.: Holmesburg, Erdeneheim: St. Mark, Trevoise, and former Phila.: Tacony. For a time during the 1970s, Rev. Boone served as the Conference Coordinator of Printing.

**Mr. Mousa Dassama**, former East District Lay Leader, who has returned to Monrovia, Liberia to take a job, requests your prayers. He writes in an email received on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, "You may have heard of the re-surfacing of ebola in Monrovia, Liberia. I don't want you all to panic as I am quite well and taking all the precautionary measures. Of course quite recently, I had Malaria but got a fast treatment and I am now well and back on my feet. There is no way one can live here without

contracting malaria. It is just hard. I of course ran out of my preventive meds but I was also able to get some from the local Pharmacy. I am so proud that we are investing in the IMAGINE NO MALARIA Project. I ask for your prayers and I will do likewise. Shalom, Mousa”

Lift the **Rev. David Eckert** (appointed to Drexel Hill on the SE District) in prayer as he is experiencing some complications during his recovery from recent kidney transplantation procedure. If you would like to send cards, his address is 3212 School Lane, Drexel Hill PA 19026.

Remember the **Rev. Donald Wesley Anderson**, retired Local Pastor, in your prayers who was recently rejected as a recipient of a new kidney transplant. Rev. Anderson is now aggressively looking for a healthy kidney donor with Blood Type O. However, there is a special “Give One, Get One” program that someone who wished to volunteer who has a blood type other than Type O can still volunteer to exchange in the MatchingDonors.com database.) Pray without ceasing. Rev. Anderson served the following East District churches prior to his retirement: Green Lane, Lighthouse Fellowship, and Janes Memorial.

**From the Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships, The Council of Bishops, The United Methodist Church:** The pain of the tragic attacks in Paris, Beirut and Baghdad weigh heavily on our souls. The world is once again shaken by senseless acts of violence and terrorism. We offer our prayers and support to those affected and comfort to all who mourn.

We also renew our commitment to work for Christian unity and to promote interreligious dialogue. We know that healing and peace will only come when we are able to stand together in God's light - no matter our differences we are all God's people. Joining together in Christ's merciful love, we will find the way to peace.

The Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships is praying and working hard to join with people of all faiths to build understanding and promote peace. It will take all of us, from every faith, working together to end violence. We know we are better together. We know that with our prayers, our unity and hard work, there is hope for peace.

In solidarity, Ms. Kathryn A. Williams, *Executive Director, Finance and Administration*, Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships ([OCUIR](#))

Remember in prayer **Dr. Polly Riddle**, Education & Interpretation Coordinator, East District, United Methodist Women and former local pastor (former Trinity (Castor) and her family as they mourn the passing of her mother, **Mary Wegner**, on November 11, just one month short of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 20. Condolences may be sent to Dr. Riddle at 32418 Ann's Choice Way, Warminster PA 18974-3386.

Remember the **Rev. Esdras and Mrs. Eva Seda and her extended family** as they mourn the loss of her brother last week. Condolences may be sent to Mrs. Seda at 5761 N. Front St., Philadelphia 19120. Rev. Seda is pastor of Espiritu Santo UMC on the East District.

**Mrs. Ruth E. Myers**, 85, of Lancaster, surviving spouse of **the Rev. Stacy D. Myers Jr.**, passed away on November 4<sup>th</sup>.. With degrees in chemistry and medical technology, she had a successful career in medicine before marrying Rev. Myers. She worked alongside him in ministry during the following appointments: Berwyn; Jenkintown; Superintendency of the West Chester District; Conference Evangelist; Temple; and West Lawn. Mrs. Myers is survived by her children: Stacy D. III, husband of Silvia Myers, Boca Raton, FL; Paul C., husband of Becca Myers, Dexter, ME; Cheryl M., wife of Scott Johnson, Richmond, VA; and Mary M., wife of Kenneth Mason; Lititz. Also surviving is a brother, Charles, husband of Marion Miller, Somerset; daughter-in-law, Elaine Hutchins, Boca Raton, FL; nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to her daughter, Mrs. Mary Mason, 345 N. Farm Drive, Lititz PA 17543. Services will be Thursday, Nov. 12, at 11 am, at West Lawn UMC, 15 Woodside Ave, Reading, PA 19609. A viewing will be held from 10 am-11 am in the church. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Mrs. Myers' alma mater, West Virginia Wesleyan, 59 College Ave, Buckhannon, WV 26201 or to the United Methodist Church's General Board of Global Ministries Office, 100 Maryland Ave N.E. #315, Washington, D.C. 20002. See more at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/montgomerynews/obituary.aspx?n=ruth-e-myers&pid=176368978&fhid=23072>.

Remember the family of **Mrs. Vanessa Ross**, 59, of Wyomissing, who passed away on September 23. She was the surviving spouse of **the Rev. Thomas Ross**, who passed away in 2014. She is survived by her brothers and sisters: Candito Workman, husband of Jamilla Workman; James Speaks, husband of Maureen Speaks; Jonathan Workman, husband of Valerie Workman; Deborah Colbert, widow of Homer Colbert; Diane Liggs, widow of Daniel Liggs; Wanda Workman, Carmen Robertson, and a host of nieces and nephews. She was pre-deceased by John Workman, Michael Workman, and Mary Workman.

Rev. Thomas Ross served Tremont: First, Lancaster: First, Wyomissing: Calvary, and Willow Street: Boehm's. Mrs. Ross' full obituary may be found at <http://www.henningerfuneralhome.com/book-of-memories/2252027/Ross-Vanessa-/obituary.php>.

## **UPCOMING DATES**

### **2016 MIDWINTER RETREAT**

**Willow Valley DoubleTree Resort in Lancaster PA** is the site for the **January 12-14 Midwinter Retreat 2016**. Chaplain (Brigadier General, retired) Charles R. Bailey is the keynote speaker. Son of a United Methodist minister in the Nebraska Conference, Chaplain Bailey will be sharing with clergy and their spouses on ways to reach outside our walls to share the Good News! The offering this year is for Imagine No Malaria. **Online registration can be accomplished quite easily by clicking [here](#) and following the prompts.** Registration is \$280 for a single person; \$250 per person for double registration; \$480 per couple; and \$150 for commuter (limited availability for only first 20 who register). Additional nights are available at \$95 per night, per room for January 11<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup>.