

EAST DISTRICT

E-ALERT FOR

March 30, 2017

Editorial Policy of the East District E-Alert:

Generally, articles will appear for only one week, and, if pertinent, will be posted on the East District website (<http://www.epaumc.org/districts/east>). Or, if you are on the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference website (<http://www.epaumc.org>), there is a link to the East District website at the bottom of any page. Previously published E-Alerts will be posted to the East District website.

This 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 CONFERENCE LOCATION ANNOUNCED

The East District Conference on **Sunday, May 21** will be held in the Sanctuary of the UMC of Huntingdon Valley (3470 Huntingdon Pike, Huntingdon Valley 19006) **at 4 pm**. Names of nominees to serve as Lay Equalizing delegates may be forwarded in advance to the District Office (cakrall@epaumc.org).

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM RESOLUTION DIALOGUE ON MAY 20

Bishop Peggy Johnson will convene a one-time dialogue on the Religious Freedom Resolution (#2016-18) on **Saturday, May 20** from **9 am to Noon** at **Asbury UMC in Allentown** (1533 Springhouse Road). Resolution #2016-18 was debated, but not voted on, at the 2016 Eastern PA Annual Conference. The resolution was committed to the bishop with a request for representative dialogue and a report in lieu of legislative action. The meeting will end with a conversation on the Way Forward Commission. Please register your attendance using this link: [Resolution2016-18 Dialogue](#).

CHARTING OUR ECUMENICAL FUTURE

The 2017 Robert K. Campbell Memorial Lecture on Christian Unity, sponsored by The Lehigh Conference of Churches, on **Friday, April 7**, at **9 am**, will feature Dr. Robert P. Jones, author of [The End of White America](#) and co-chair of the National Steering Committee for the Religion and Politics Section at the American Academy of Religion. The lecture takes place at Dubbs Memorial Community Center, 457 Allen Street, Allentown. **Registration is required. Cost is \$25** (includes breakfast, lecture & discussion). For information and registration, visit www.lehighchurches.org/campbell.

CHRIST SERVANT MINISTRY SPRING 2017 CLASSES

- **May 5 & 6** - A Basic Course taught in Spanish is scheduled for Emmanuel UMC in Allentown PA, Rev. Brunilda Martinez, instructor. This course needs at least 12 participants and is limited to the first 20 registrations. **Cost \$35** (Download [Registration Form – Asbury Basic - Spanish](#) in PDF at christservantministries.net). For additional information, contact Northeast District Director, Judy Ehninger, at ehninger@ptd.net or 610-442-3140.

- **May 12 & 13** - A Basic Course is scheduled for Asbury UMC in Allentown PA, Judy Ehninger, instructor. This course needs at least 12 participants and is limited to the first 20 registrations. **Cost \$35** (Download [Registration Form – Asbury Basic](#) in PDF at christservantministries.net). For additional information, contact Northeast District Director, Judy Ehninger at ehninger@ptd.net. Of 610-442-3140.
- **May 12 & 13** – A Speaking 1 Course is scheduled for Asbury UMC in Allentown PA, Rev. Harold Burkett, instructor. This course needs at least 12 participants and is limited to the first 20 registrations. **Cost \$35** (Download [Registration Form – Asbury Speaking](#) in PDF at christservantministries.net). For additional information, contact Northeast District Director, Judy Ehninger at ehninger@ptd.net or 610-442-3140.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Details regarding Annual Conference 2017, including submission deadlines, are in a website article, "Annual Conference 2017 to focus on prayer" at <https://www.epaumc.org/news-information/2017/02/annual-conference-2017-to-focus-on-prayer/> and on the Annual Conference page under News & News & Events: <https://www.epaumc.org/annual-conference/>. More details will be added to the website as they become available.

EAST DISTRICT TOOLS for MINISTRY

Saturday, April 29, 2017

LOCATION: Bensalem UMC, 4300 Hulmeville Rd., Bensalem PA 19020

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Register now to get your first choice workshops.

Online registration now available for East District Tools for Ministry:

Click [TOOLS](#) to register online.

Registration fee includes Plenary, 2 Workshops, & Food

- Standard registration is \$20
- Group registration is \$15 per person with 5+ registrants
- Late registration is \$25 after April 21st and walk-ins

Schedule

8 am-9am Sign-in and Breakfast Foods available

9 am-9:45 am Worship, Offering received, Plenary

10 am-11:45 am Workshop Session #1

Noon - 12:30 pm Lunch

12:30 pm-2:15 pm Workshop Session #2

2:15 pm Adjourn

A 2+ page paper brochure is attached to this email. Online registrations are encouraged.

EAST DISTRICT ANNUAL PASTORAL INTERVIEW SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

This year's (2017) pastoral interviews for pastors who will be on the newly forming East District, effective July 1, 2017, are **ALL** calendared **to take place prior to the 2017 Annual Conference** (June 18-20). **Attached to this email E-Alert is the current schedule.**

Pastors who have been serving on the current East District will be meeting with District Superintendent Bass in cluster groups. If you believe your interview is erroneously placed within a particular cluster, please notify Clarita Krall (cakrall@epaumc.org or [215-914-2130](tel:215-914-2130)).

Pastors who have been serving on the current Central and Northeast Districts, but who will be on the newly forming East District, will be meeting individually with Rev. Bass. Some interviews will take place in various church locations and some will take place at the Central District Office at Simpson House.

Deacons working out of the Conference area and extension ministers have telephone call appointments. The schedule shows the telephone number to use when calling in at the appointed time.

Also **attached is the 2017 Clergy Profile**. Be sure to complete it and return it 2 weeks prior to your interview to cakrall@epaumc.org.

If you have not done so already, please check the schedule now to be sure you know when and where your interview is scheduled to take place, and **then please confirm your interview date and time via email to cakrall@epaumc.org**.

NEWS

UMAC Awards for Eastern Pennsylvania

United Methodist Association of Communicators (UMAC) 2017 award winners included several awards for Eastern Pennsylvania Conference's John Coleman, Director, Office of Communications, and Lindsey Cotman, Support Associate, Desktop Publishing. Held in New Orleans on March 23rd, the UMAC Conference was a gathering of storytellers from around the world.

During the morning worship session held at First Grace UMC, conference participants heard a powerful sermon by Pastor Shawn Moses Anglim, in which he concluded, "Sometimes you need to stay in the dark long enough for God to turn on the Light."

Later, during the evening Awards Celebration Dinner, the efforts of 160 communicators were recognized. Their entries, across 10 classes of communication, bore witness to the shining of Christ's Light at levels local to global. Awards for Eastern Pennsylvania included the following:

- John Coleman received a Best in Class award for Writing, Class III Writing Donn Doten Award of Excellence for "Pastor's healing from abuse inspires ministry and meeting with the Pope."
- John Coleman tied in Division A, Category C: Feature article for the same article noted above.
- John Coleman and Lindsey Cotman were awarded 2nd place in Division A, Category B: Newspaper for "*NewSpirit*."
- John Coleman and Lindsey Cotman were awarded 3rd place in Class 1 Best of Class Robert F. Storey Award of Excellence, Division A, Category A: E-newsletter for "*NewSpirit Digest*."
- John Coleman and Lindsey Cotman were awarded 3rd place in Division A, Category A: Website content for the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference website.

CONGRATULATIONS, JOHN AND LINDSEY!!!

To see a complete list of awards, click [here](#). To see a video of the full awards ceremony, click [here](#). To see photos from the ceremony, click [here](#).

PRAYERS

The Rev. Robert E. Stauffer, 95, of Sellersville, a retired clergy member of the Eastern PA Conference, passed away on March 22. His funeral was on March 28 at Salem UMC, 6440 Powder Valley Rd,

Zionsville PA. Rev. Stauffer had served on Honorable Location as a teacher in the Penridge School District for many years and also served the following churches: Bethlehem: St.Luke's; OH: Eldorado: Eldorado (EUB); Akron: Mt. Zion; Zionsville: Salem; and Danielsville: Salem. Rev. Stauffer leaves behind his wife of nearly 74 years, Faye J. (Cressman) Stauffer, along with three children: Robert J. Stauffer and wife Janie; Karen L. Knapp and husband Jeffrey; and Diane L. Cheer and husband John; 7 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Read [his obituary](#) for more information.

Pray for continued healing for the **Rev. Jackie A. Stewart**, Pastor of Bickley's New Beginning, following knee surgery on February 20. Rev. Stewart is now back home after several weeks in rehab.

Pray to uplift the family of **Bishop Felton Edwin May** as they prepare for his Memorial Service on this **Saturday, April 1**, at **11 am**, at **Asbury UMC**, 926 11th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001. The family hour before the service, with members of the Council of Bishops, will be at **9:30 am**. The Washington Area Episcopal Office is working to secure a block of rooms of a hotel in the immediate area of the church. Contact Ms. Joyce King at bishoppeasterlingoffice@bwcumc.org.

Bishop May, 81, died peacefully on Monday, Feb. 27. He is survived by Phyllis May, his wife of 53 years; two children, Daphne May Brown and Felton May II; and eight grandchildren. Condolences may be sent to them at 3315 Oak West Drive, Apt 123, Ellicott City, Maryland 21043.

Bishop May was both holy and bold in his words and actions," said Philadelphia Area Bishop Peggy Johnson, about her former bishop. "He challenged me to be a pastor (of Christ UMC of the Deaf in Baltimore) and he took Deaf ministry to a new place internationally and state-side. The church will long benefit from the Spirit-driven ministry and passion of this fearless man of God." [Learn more...](#)

Mrs. Ellen Khan, spouse of the Rev. Salim Y. Khan, retired elder, passed away on January 23rd. Mrs. Khan is survived by her husband and four children: Ryan, Ray, Rick, and Roger. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Rev. Salim Y. Khan, at 11064 Clayton Street, North Glenn, CO 80233. Rev. Khan served Stroudsburg: Faith and Mahanoy City: First. After retirement in 2004, he served as retired supply pastor of Phila.: Simpson Memorial and Phila.: Bethesda. A funeral was held on February 6th. Click [here](#) to read her obituary.

Pray for the family of **Mrs. Doris Kinsey Batdorf**, 94, surviving spouse of the Rev. Irvin W. Batdorf, who passed away on January 23. A member of Phi Delta Sigma sorority, Mrs. Batdorf was a research chemist but retired to raise her family. She is survived by her sister, Joan Rising; her daughters, Jennifer Buckler and Marcia Patterson (and Kevin); and several nieces and nephews. Her late husband served in extension ministry as Professor of New Testament at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. A celebration of her life will be held at the family's discretion. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Carolyn Croxton Slane House of Hospice of Central Pennsylvania. Click here for a more detailed obituary: www.legacy.com/obituaries/readingeagle/obituary.aspx?n=doris-batdorf&pid=183869048