

EAST DISTRICT E-ALERT FOR September 9, 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

DISTRICT-WIDE ONE CHURCH AT A TIME PROJECT

The next "One Church At A Time" work weekend will take place at **St. James UMC in Olney located: 199 E. Tabor Road Philadelphia 19120 on Friday, September 30 and Saturday, October 1 from 10AM- 3PM!**

Volunteers are NEEDED for the following:

CHURCH ANNEX: Take broken and unneeded furnishings out so that the space may be used again for GED classes, senior computer literacy programs, and children's church on Sundays. We will provide large dumpsters for the items to be disposed of and properly removed.

FOOD PANTRY: Olney has a growing statistic of hungry families. Therefore, St. James' food pantry needs to be cleaned, organized and re-stocked. If you choose to help with this space, please ask your friends, co-workers, and family to donate non-perishable food items AND toiletries.

YARD WORK: We at Morrisville UMC have addressed the huge dead maple tree ensconced in poison ivy, but there is still much shrubbery that needs to be addressed. The children from the school across the street and the surrounding neighborhood use the space for their outdoor recess activities and we want to make it safe. Please bring weed wackers, gardening tools, gloves, and other tools you may deem appropriate.

Please confirm your attendance by sending an email to info@stjumc.org. Should you have any questions and need more information please contact Pastor Wendy Bellis (Morrisville UMC) **215-680-9662** or Pastor John Brice (St. James UMC) **215-460-0148**.

REMINDER OF TOMORROW MORNING'S EAST DISTRICT COMMITTEE/BOARD ORGANIZING MEETING

This is to remind members of East District Committees and Boards that a training and organizing gathering is planned for TOMORROW, **Saturday, September 10**, from **9 am to 10:30 am** at the UMC of Huntingdon Valley (3470 Huntingdon Pike, Huntingdon Valley PA 19006). Gather first in **Lenhart Hall** (enter the church on the south side of the building near the flag pole in the lawn) as a large group and then convene in distinct groups to begin organizing for the 2016-2017 conference year. If you haven't RSVP'd yet, please do so via email to cakrall@epaumc.org.

INTERNATIONAL DINNER BENEFITTING ANAWIM SCHOOL OF MUSIC OF CASA DEL PUEBLO CONGREGATION

Attached to this E-Alert email is a brochure to be shared with your congregation, inviting people to an International Dinner on **September 16 at 5:30 pm** in the **Fellowship Hall of Lehman Memorial UMC** (300 S. York Road, Hatboro 19040) to

benefit the **ANAWIM School of Music**, a ministry of Casa del Pueblo, Lehman Memorial's Latino outreach ministry. Your donation of **\$15** gets you lots of food and music!

BISHOP'S DAY ON THE EAST DISTRICT

East District Clergy are expected to be in attendance to meet with Bishop Peggy A. Johnson on **Thursday, Oct. 20th at 8:30 am** at **Bensalem UMC**, 4300 Hulmeville Road, Bensalem 19020.

Later in the day, at **5 pm**, **Bishop Johnson** will meet with **Lay Leaders and other Laity** for a light supper at Bensalem UMC. A more formal time will begin at **6 pm**.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR CONVERSATION ON RACE RELATIONS: ATTENDANCE REQUIRED FOR EAST DISTRICT APPOINTED CLERGY; OTHERS PERSONS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

This upcoming year of 2017, there is no Bishop's Mid-Winter Retreat planned. Instead, the East District will host an **Overnight Gathering for Conversation on Race Relations, Friday, January 20 through Saturday, January 21** for East District clergy and laity. **District Superintendent Bass considers this to be one of three REQUIRED District events that appointed clergy are to attend.** A retreat site has not yet been confirmed, but we are negotiating for a location that is not too distant from the East District with comfortable sleeping accommodations. **We need your commitment to attend and participate as we move forward with plans.** Please email the East District Office (cakrall@epaumc.org) with your commitment to participate so that we can move forward with the best negotiated venue.

2017 LENTEN DAY APART

A District-wide Lenten Day Apart is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2017 in the morning. Mark your calendar now. The gathering will take place in the Sanctuary of the UMC of Huntingdon Valley, 3470 Huntingdon Pike, Huntingdon Valley 19006.

SAVE THE DATE FOR 2017 MISSION u

When: July 21 to 22, 2017

Where: The Inn at Reading

What: Geographic Study – Missionary Conferences of the UMC
Issue Study – Climate Justice
Spiritual Growth Study – A Covenantal Community

Who: men, women, pastors (CEUs available, youth leaders, confirmation teachers, Sunday School teachers, youth (grades 6-12), and children (grades 1-5)

What else: counts for advanced course credit for CSM & CLM

A Save-the-Date flyer is attached for your use in publicizing this information.

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