

Conference members dialogue in search of UMC's 'Way Forward'

Bishops call for talking, praying, listening, learning

BY JOHN W. COLEMAN

The United Methodist Council of Bishops and its special study commission completed their lengthy deliberations in May, recommending "A Way Forward" for the denomination, as it grapples with long-standing challenges to its unity and uniformity in doctrine and discipline.

Yet, the way forward is no clearer for many who wait for the 2019 Special General Conference to determine whether the church will continue to reject homosexual clergy and marriages or restructure itself so that divergent beliefs and

practices can all fit under its big tent.

During the wait, members are being urged to continue talking, praying, listening and learning, all in a spirit of peace, humility and openness to the Holy Spirit's guidance.

The Eastern PA Annu- **Continued on page 4.**



Annual Conference to hear voices of change, welcome, diversity

The 2018 Eastern PA Annual Conference, June 14-16, will fill its stage with diverse sights and sounds, voices and visions, styles of worship and witnessing that together demonstrate the conference's vision statement, adopted in 2017, "United in Christ, Committed to Transformation."

The conference's 232nd Annual Session, returning to the familiar Expo

Center in Oaks, Pa., will affirm who we are and who we are becoming—too slowly for some—as Christ's beloved community that welcomes all. Indeed, the conference's prophetic theme, "We Will All Be Changed," taken from 1 Corinthians 15:51, may be a timely one for a denomination that may soon undergo dramatic changes in structure and doctrine.

Continued on page 8.



As a new hurricane season begins, Puerto Rico still struggles to recover from 2017's Maria. But help is there, and more is on the way. See **page 5.** Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class David Flores, Coast Guard



Bishop Peggy Johnson

Rev. Justin Hancock

Rev. Eric Law

Bishop Cynthia Moore-KoiKoi



Butterfly Project takes flight

Eastern PA Conference staff (from left) the Revs. Bruny Martinez and William Bawner join Bishop Peggy Johnson, Connectional Ministries director the Rev. Anita Powell and Trustees Board chairman William Thresher as key leaders review institutional racism concerns expressed by racial-ethnic groups in the conference's Racial Justice Transformation Project. **John Coleman photo**

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JUNE

JUNE 9

Transitioning Pastor's & SPRC Workshops: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm West Lawn UMC, Reading

JUNE 9

Racial Justice Transformation Project: Combined groups dialogue. 10 AM - 4 PM St. Matthew's of Valley Forge UMC.

JUNE 14-16

2018 Eastern PA Annual Conference: 8 AM, June 14 - 5 PM, June 16 Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, Oaks, PA

JULY

JULY 14

Volunteers in Mission Team Leader Training Event: 8:30 am - July 14 @ 3:30 pm West Lawn UMC, Reading

JULY 20-21

Mission U 2018: 12 pm June 20 - 4 PM June 21 The Inn at Reading 1040 North Park Road Wyomissing, PA

JULY 21

UM Night at the Phillies: 7:00 - 10:00 pm at Citizens Bank Park

JULY 28

Healthy Transitions for Clergy Spouses: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Black Rock Retreat Center

AUGUST

AUGUST 3-5

2018 LAITY ACADEMY: Quakertown UMC

AUGUST 19

Campus Ministry Sunday

AUGUST 25

BASIC SEXUAL ETHICS: SEXUAL BOUNDARIES. 10:00 am - 3:30 pm Conshohocken UMC.



United Methodist Night at the Phillies, July 21

Come see the Phillies play the San Diego Padres at 7:05 PM. Ticket discounts for United Methodists and their guests: **\$20-\$47**. Proceeds will benefit Eastern PA Conference UM Men's ministries

Visit mlb.com/phillies/tickets/specials/methodist. Click on the "Buy Now" button and use password **METHODIST** to order tickets today. **For groups of 25 or more**, contact Bryan Angione, Group Sales, 215-463-5000, ext. 5465.

See you and your guests at Citizens Bank Park!



Celebrate & Support Higher Learning

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The Eastern PA Conference Board of Higher Education & Campus Ministry asks churches to observe **Campus Ministry Sunday on August 19** (or on a more convenient Sunday).

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For info: Jean Twardzik, t214@comcast.net.



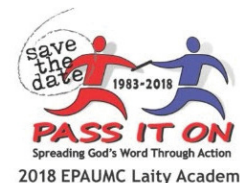
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Dwelling in Unity

BISHOP PEGGY A. JOHNSON

"Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell in unity. It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the Lord has commanded the blessing: life forevermore." Psalm 133

I have always found this tiny psalm to be curious. The image of sacred oil poured on God's priest in such volume that it runs down his beard and onto the collar of his holy vestments does not exactly sync with my idea of unity. Get the tissues! Dew on Mt. Hermon also is a puzzling analogy, this gentle water that covers an entire mountain! What they both have in common is a sense of pervasiveness. The oil and the dew are in abundance and they both are symbols of the Spirit which hovers consistently over the face of the earth and among all people.



Unity is like that. When people are living in harmony with one another it covers everything that has been divisive, it gets into the crevices of partisan debate and intellectual and ecclesiastical pride. The result of unity is abundance and provision for all. Psalm 133 says it is a blessing and it leads ultimately to everlasting life.

Unity is the oil and the water that is the fuel and sustenance that best drives the church into mission and ministry. Only as we are in unity can we get the job done with all of our varied gifts and graces working together for the good of the whole.

Unity is often mistaken for uniformity of thought and heart but it is much deeper than that. It is a passionate commitment to stay in communion with one another despite even huge differences. It is born of the love that "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things and endures all things." (I Corin-



thians 13:7)

Dwelling in unity is my prayer for The United Methodist Church. For years we have been a church divided over many social issues. But in particular, the practice, ordination and marriage of people who are lesbian and gay has taken center stage at every General Conference. Since 1972 there have been paragraphs in our UM Book of Discipline that forbid homosexual people from being ordained and our churches and pastors



cannot perform holy unions or same gender marriages.

At the 2016 General Conference the bishops were charged with the task of leading the way in finding a solution to this impasse once and for all. What resulted was the creation of a 32-member "Commission for the Way Forward" (a group of highly diverse United Methodists from all over the world) who studied and prayed and worked on a plan for the bishops to consider for presentation at a specially called session of General Conference. The work has been done with grace and faithfulness for almost two years.

At the spring meeting of the Council of Bishops we voted to recommend the following:

Having received and considered the extensive work of the Commission on a Way Forward, the Council of Bishops will submit a report to the special session of the GC in 2019 that includes:

All three plans for a way forward considered by the Commission and the Council. ("The Traditionalist Plan," "The One Church Plan" and "The Connectional Conference Plan.")

The Council's recommendation is "The One Church Plan."

An historical narrative of the Council's discernment process regarding all three plans.

According to the bishops the rationale for this response is to invite the church to go deeper into the journey of the Council and Commission. The Council makes all the information considered by the Commission and the COB available to the delegates of the General Conference and acknowledges that there is support for each of the three plans within the Council. The values of our global church are reflected in all three plans. The majority of the COB recommends the One Church Plan as the best way forward for the UMC.

We will have conversations about this proposal at our sessions of annual conference this year. In addition all of the documents will be available for further reading and study after July 8th. This will give our interpreters time to translate the documents into our ten international languages. In the fall we will be holding town hall meetings on each district to discuss these plans further. Members of our delegations will also be available for additional meetings and conversation in order to receive feedback and answer questions.

The General Conference will ultimately vote on this recommendation at the special session that will be held February 23 - 26, 2019 in St. Louis, MO. There are 12 delegates from the Philadelphia Area (8 from Eastern PA and 4 from Peninsula-Delaware) who will be among the 864 delegates from this world-wide church. What comes out of this General Conference will be the final decision of the church. We will have more conversations and meetings after General Conference to interpret the decisions and to plan further into our future together.

We are still on a journey and as we travel together we will pray, we will have



respectful conversation, we will study and seek the Word of God. We will continue to be in ministry and mission to a world that Christ loved and died for. We will engage in justice ministries and works of compassion and healing. We will preach good news of salvation to all.

Through it all my prayer is for the unity of the church; unity that is pervasive and life-giving. Ultimately when we dwell together in unity we will be blessed and it will best enable us to be a blessing to the world out of love for Christ.

Faithfully Yours,
Peggy A. Johnson



2017-18 Extended Cabinet

Back row, from left: NancyJo Fielding (Executive Director of Administrative Ministries, Director of Pension & Health Benefits), David Koch (Conference Lay Leader), James Brown (Conference Treasurer), The Rev. Bumkoo Chung (West District Superintendent), The Rev. Tracy Bass (East District Superintendent), The Rev. Steve Morton (North District Superintendent - July 1, 2018), The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm (South District Superintendent)
Front row, from left: The Rev. Irving Cotto (North District Superintendent - until June 20, 2018), Bishop Peggy Johnson, The Rev. Dr. Anita Powell (Executive Director of Connectional Ministries). *Michael Johnson photo.*

Conference members dialogue --continued from page 1.

al Conference will set that example by engaging members in prayer, presentations and brief but candid conversation on its first evening, June 14.

Less than 30 minutes of table talks among diverse members will follow short presentations by Presiding Bishop Peggy Johnson and representatives of the conservative Evangelical Connection and the progressive Reconciling Ministries caucus.

The Rev. Joan Trout, pastor of Boehm's UMC in Willow Street, will speak for the former group. The Rev. Sukja Bang, pastor of Swarthmore UMC, and layman Jerry Noone from First UMC in Media will speak for Reconciling Ministries, joined on video by several other members.



All speakers have agreed to address the Council of Bishops' recommendation of a new **One-Church Model** that would place decisions about whether to ordain LGBTQ clergy or to officiate at same-gender unions closer to the congregational level.

The plan would remove restrictive language condemning the practice of homosexuality from the denomination's *Book of Discipline*. It would also assure pastors and conferences who in good conscience cannot perform same-sex weddings or ordain "self-avowed practicing" gay clergy that they won't have to do so. Central conferences — church regions in Africa, Asia and Europe — could maintain current restrictions.

The plan "encourages a generous unity by giving United Methodists the ability to address different missional contexts in ways that reflect their theological convictions," said the Council of Bishops.

'Church's mission is our unity'

"It is my prayer that people will truly listen to one another in a spirit of humility and love," said Bishop Johnson. "There is so much more that we agree on than disagree on. The church's mission is our unity; and Jesus is our guide and strength, as Christ overcomes our walls of division."

Two other restructuring models offered by the bishops' Commission on a Way Forward, but not endorsed by the bishops, will nonetheless be included in their report to the Special General Conference, only for its information.

The **Traditionalist plan** would affirm the denomination's current disciplinary language and restrictions, but also seek to strengthen enforcement of its laws. The **Connectional Conference plan** would allow conferences to choose

among three connectional conferences for their affiliation, based on their dominant theological perspectives on ordained ministry with and by LGBTQ persons—be it traditionalist, progressive or a combination of approaches. This plan would require multiple amendments to the denomination's constitution.

Detailed explanations of the three models will be available to members after July 8, giving interpreters time to first translate the documents into the denomination's 10 constituent languages. Those details should address conditional changes in the clergy membership and appointment system, clergy pensions, the likely fate of denominational program agencies, and so on.

Legislative petitions permitted

Meanwhile, the UMC's Judicial Council has opened the door for the Special General Conference to receive legislative petitions from more than just the Council of Bishops. The top court ruled recently that any church member or organization may submit petitions (by the July 8 deadline) "as long as the business proposed to be transacted in such petition is in harmony with the purpose stated in the call."

Determining what qualifies as being "in harmony," the Judicial Council says, is the job of General Conference itself, "through its committees, officers and presiders" and its "rules and procedures." Business deemed not in harmony will not be allowed unless approved by a two-thirds vote.



"While I understand the rationale for allowing submissions, I am concerned that the limitations on our time, due to the abbreviated conference (Feb. 23-26), will make our work more chaotic than focused," said the **Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm**, co-leader of Eastern PA's General Conference delegation. "The delegates will need to enter this General Conference more prepared and more prayerful than ever before."

With the full plans in hand, the conference will hold five district town hall meetings to discuss them, but primarily the One Church Plan, with Bishop Johnson in the fall. The expansive North District will host two sessions in its eastern and western regions. The bishop and members of our General Conference delegation will also be available for additional meetings and conversation to receive feedback and answer questions.

"Our delegation meets regularly, and we are committed to prayer, dialogue and listening to the voices of our Annual Conference," said Taylor-Storm.

Delegation members are willing to visit and talk with individual churches and

Mission Connections. (Send visitation requests to delegation co-chairs: the Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm at dtaylorstorm@epaumc.org or Judy Ehninger at judy.ehninger@gmail.com.)

Meanwhile, several districts and mission connexions are holding additional dialogues to offer more time and opportunity for listening, learning and holy conferencing. South District clergy will dialogue around tables Sept. 12 at Berwyn UMC. The Philadelphia Mission Connexion will host Bishop Johnson for remarks and dialogue June 5.

And the North District held an amicable, half-day Dialogue and Discovery gathering of about 40 members on Saturday, April 28, at Asbury UMC in Allentown.

North District Dialogue

Shared viewpoints ranged from conservative to progressive at that event. Five small groups addressed questions about their faith values and core convictions and about resources available for those who seek unity and understanding. Some answers centered on:

- the importance of welcoming inclusion of all people and manifesting God's love and grace above all else;

- knowing the denomination's core Wesleyan doctrines but also its history of theological diversity and division; and

- perceiving how God's transcendent Spirit may reveal new insights and directions even within our Scriptures, traditions and experiences.

"If we start splitting up, where will it end?" asked one group. "Embrace the things that unite us," said another. "Our way forward is about getting along when we disagree, not about getting us all to agree." That group urged members to be "honest about where we are stuck, but stay in dialogue.... Work at not perpetuating the



polarization that prevents us from discussing or changing our perspectives."

For helpful resources, participants recommended several books, including *The Anatomy of Peace* by the Arbinger Institute, *God and the Gay Christian*, by Matthew Vines, and *The Great Spiritual Migration*, by Brian McLaren.

The Rev. Anita Powell, Eastern PA Conference Connectional Ministries Director and facilitator of the dialogue, thanked participants "for sharing your honest thoughts, feelings, even anxieties, as we all seek a way forward in Christ."

Bishops urge prayer, fasting, dialogue in a quest for unity

In seeking "A Way Forward" for the United Methodist Church, Bishop Peggy Johnson joins her episcopal peers in appealing to members to "enter into a time of serious prayer and fasting."

The Council of Bishops and The Upper Room launch Phase 3 of their Praying our Way Forward campaign in June, resuming what they began in 2016. Now they want UMs to fast and pray through the Special Session of General Conference, planned for Feb. 23-26, 2019, as the denomination charts a path through its quandary over homosexuality and church law.

The bishops ask us to pray for the church daily for at least three minutes, from 2:23 to 2:26, AM or PM, in recognition of the dates for the 2019 special session. They also invite us to fast weekly -- those who safely can -- from Thursday sundown until Friday noon.

"The mission of the church, to make disciples of Jesus Christ, is still the main thing, and we are united by that," Bishop Johnson emphasizes. "Let us be united also in our fasting and prayers."

Meanwhile, she says, all churches should engage in small-group conversations using either the Arbinger Institute's book *The Anatomy of Peace: Resolving the Heart of Conflict* and/or the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry's four-lesson study *The Unity of the Church and Human Sexuality: Toward a Faithful United Methodist Witness*.

More study resources are featured on our conference website's *Way Forward for the UMC* page.



2 disaster response trainings set for July 14

The Eastern PA Conference's new Disaster Response ministry team will sponsor two simultaneous training events for UM Volunteers in Ministry (UMVIM) July 14, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, at West Lawn UMC, Reading.

One training will be for people wanting to be **UMVIM Team Leaders**. The other will be for people wanting to serve



on **Early Response Teams (ERT)**, whose mission is to provide skilled support to disaster survivors as soon as communities allow response teams into disaster-impacted areas.

Leading the two trainings will be:

- The Rev. Tom Lank (Deacon), North-eastern Jurisdiction UMVIM Coordinator,
- Ben Botti, retired Eastern PA Conference UMVIM Coordinator, and
- The Rev. Russell Atkinson, new Eastern PA Conference UMVIM Coordinator
- Robert Simcox, the conference's new Disaster Response Coordinator, who will lead the ERT training.

Each training costs \$45 per person and includes the book *Mission Journey* and a light breakfast and lunch. UMVIM trainees will receive the updated *VIM Team Leader Resource Toolkit*. ERT trainees will receive the UMCOR ERT training book.

Register through the conference website. For UMVIM training information contact: Russell J. Atkinson at ratkinson@epaumc.org or 610-675-7187. For ERT training information contact Bob Simcox at drc@epaumc.org or 610-427-0470.

'Caring, listening, Christian presence'

Early Response Teams are "background-checked, badged, trained and motivated to be a caring, listening Christian presence," said Simcox. "You will learn how early responders prevent further damage by tarping roofs, stabilizing structure, and clearing out debris and water-soaked materials. ERTs know how to prepare a structure for VIM recovery teams to do their work and how to provide hope to desperate survivors that God's people do care about their lives and their homes."

"Great passion and interest have

been expressed throughout our conference for the continuing struggles of the people of Puerto Rico following Hurricanes Maria and Irma last year," said Atkinson. "The Methodist Church of Puerto Rico has developed a sound disaster response plan, which our conference has been asked to support."

Following ERT efforts, more UMVIM teams from Eastern PA are needed to help repair homes, churches, community centers and heavily damaged Puerto Rico Methodist Church Camp Fred P. Corson. The recreational camp in a mountainous area was created in 1961 when Methodists there were part of the Philadelphia Episcopal Area.

Teams are also needed to respond to



(From left) The Rev. Nick Camacho, who heads the Helping Puerto Rico Rise Again campaign; Robert Simcox, new Disaster Response Coordinator; the Rev. Russell Atkinson, new Volunteers in Mission Coordinator and Ben Botti, Disaster Response Team Advisor.

other disasters in the Northeast region—including Maryland and West Virginia—as well as Texas and Louisiana after Hurricane Harvey, and elsewhere.

Eastern PA churches reported sending 55 UMVIM teams and 733 persons to serve across the U.S. and around the world in 2016, but the real numbers are likely higher, reports Atkinson, who is also pastor of Drexel Hill UMC. "Often, we don't get to hear the stories of many UMVIM teams" he said. "So please, we need more teams and individuals to share their mission plans, experiences and insights with us."

Disaster response grows, but Puerto Rico's recovery is slow

BY JOHN W. COLEMAN

In Puerto Rico the 2018 hurricane season began June 1, with over 11,000 residents still lacking electrical power and an estimated 5,000 or more lives lost from the September 2017 hurricanes Maria and Irma, based on a new Harvard University study. But behind those numbers are many more people still struggling to overcome the sheer devastation the eight-month-old disaster caused to their lives, homes, churches, businesses and communities.

Hundreds of buildings that lost roofs are still covered by blue tarps. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has removed most of the debris, but much still remains. And while power has been restored to most of the 3.3 million residents, after the longest lasting power outage in modern U.S. history, Puerto Rico's repaired power grid is still fragile and could easily fail again if—or when—a new hurricane hits the island.

Thousand left island

Thousands have left the island, most of them to try to build new lives in New York and here in Pennsylvania. Those who remain are still waiting for needed repairs, for payment of insurance claims, for use of their homes and churches again... waiting for evidence that someone cares about them and their tiny, beleaguered U.S. territory.

The UM Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is among the many faith-based organizations trying to provide that evidence, working alongside the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). UMCOR has hired volunteer coordinators and other staff to work with UM Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) teams, in cooperation with the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (MCPR), based on its needs and priorities.

The relief agency approved grants of \$16.8 million to the MCPR in April, part of \$46 million approved for U.S. disaster relief in general, and on the heels of \$3.6 million in funds and eight cargo containers of supplies delivered there last fall. UMCOR also gave the MCPR \$1 million to repair 39 destroyed or damaged churches; and it has engaged churches in managing supplies and doing relief and recovery work for their communities.

Ruben Velez, director of logistics for the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico, told a UMVIM team in March that the island is finally transitioning from response to recovery and rebuild. The queue of work teams waiting to come is growing, as he works to match them with homes and churches needing help.

\$66,000 raised so far

Eastern PA Conference churches and members have given \$66,112 as of June 1 to the conference's Helping Puerto Rico Rise Again campaign, launched in

January to support Methodist churches in recovery there. Some have also sent funds directly to UMCOR and possibly to partner churches in Puerto Rico. Fundraising efforts have included culinary competitions, dinner and bake sales, and mission offerings received at district events.

Churches are urged to send additional offerings to Annual Conference in June. A special offering will be received there, and online giving will be available, all in hopes of surpassing the conference's \$100,000 goal.

In addition, the Rev. Nicolas Camacho of West Lawn UMC, who resources the campaign with information about relief needs and efforts in Puerto Rico, has submitted Annual Conference Resolution 2018-26, calling for a special conference-wide "Love Offering for Puerto Rico" in the fall to help with long-term recovery needs. He recommends the offering be received on Sept. 16, the first Sunday of National Hispanic-Latino Heritage Month.

"The extent of destruction and other challenges are so great that people and churches there will need all the help they can get for many years to come," said Camacho, who, like many of the Latino members of our conference, is from Puerto Rico.



The simultaneous UMVIM Team Leaders and Early Response Team training events scheduled for July 14 will focus in part on need-to-know information related to UMVIM participation in Puerto Rico, especially as Eastern PA members and churches make plans to join those recovery efforts. Teams should contact their district superintendents and the conference disaster response and UMVIM coordinators before going.

Editor's Note: We ask Eastern PA Conference members to please let us know if you or your church have recently done or are planning to do disaster recovery work in response to hurricane damage in Puerto Rico or in the Southeast or South Central U.S. Also, please tell us what creative activities your church has done to raise funds for hurricane relief and recovery efforts. Contact us at communications@epaumc.org.

Conference's Butterfly Project takes flight

Leaders to address racial-ethnic groups' claims of institutional racism

BY JOHN W. COLEMAN

Eastern PA Conference lead decision-makers met May 21 to hear frank, revealing criticism about observed and experienced institutional racism expressed in dialogue by three groups of racial-ethnic conference members and in a written report from the Committee on Native American Ministries (CONAM). They will hear more and try to seek solutions June 9 in a lengthy dialogue and planning session with representative members of those groups.

It is another of many steps in this potentially history-making quest to dismantle racism in the conference's policies, practices and propensities. What follows will be creation and implementation of a strategic plan, led by the conference's Connectional Ministries Office and Commission on Religion and Race and assisted by leaders of Black Methodists for Church Renewal and the General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR).

The name "Butterfly Project," shorthand for the conference's new Racial Justice Transformation Project, refers to eventual but real change in form and function; and that is the goal of conference and church leaders who have invested much time, treasure and truth in this endeavor.

Call to Action resolution

The project is an effort to fulfill the Call to Action resolution, endorsed by delegates and bishops at the 2016 Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference, that calls on each annual conference to make "efforts to address, confront, and otherwise demand systemic fundamental and institutional change both within the church and the world..."

The Eastern PA and Peninsula-Delaware conferences co-employed organizational consultants Dragonfly Partners to conduct structural, or institutional, racism assessments with each confer-

ence separately, using candid, in-depth discussions with groups of racial-ethnic members and key conference leaders. The two conferences are sharing the considerable cost of the consulting service to make it affordable.

Eastern PA's racial-ethnic group members—Latino, Asian-American (Korean and Indian Americans) and people of African descent (including African and Caribbean Americans)—gathered April 28 and May 5 for separate, confidential conversations guided by Dragonfly Partners. CONAM members also submitted a requested letter containing their responses to a set of questions.

The guided dialogues covered current



(From left) The Rev. Giovanni Arroyo of GCORR, Sara Joffe and Amadee Braxton of Dragonfly Partners, and the Rev. Anita Powell of Eastern PA Conference will work together to devise an implementation plan for the Butterfly Project, once the study is completed and a transformation strategy is determined.

as well as historical, institutional policies, practices and behaviors that may have present-day ramifications for some, including perceived mistreatment of racial-ethnic clergy and churches. Conference staff and Cabinet members did not attend the groups' discussions, which were each limited to about 20 people to optimize participation.

However, consultants Amadee Braxton and Sara Joffe shared an overview and "common themes" and "ideas for change" with a roomful of conference leaders in decision-making roles, from Bishop Peggy Johnson, Cabinet members and executive staff, to chairs of key ministry boards and committees. In summary, they described the racial-ethnic groups' discussions as "deeply felt from

experience" and described participants as "animated and extremely engaged."

Commonly held views shared included concerns about:

- A power imbalance between large, wealthy predominantly white churches versus small, under-resourced racial-ethnic minority churches, leading to white privilege and racial inequities in conference attention, expectations, resources, leadership representation and deference in appointing pastors.
- Expected assimilation that requires people and churches of color to "fit into the white way" of doing ministry, resulting in detrimental prejudice against those who do not.
- Racial-ethnic groups being "pitted against each other" in competition for conference attention and funding for ministry.
- Lack of respect, inclusion and language interpretation in conference meetings and media for members whose first language is not English, thus discouraging their participation. Also, failure by many to see cultural differences as an asset from which others can benefit.
- Historic, debilitating injustice decades ago that required some black churches to merge with and occupy large, burdensome buildings of declining white urban churches, whose members were leaving Philadelphia's inner city for its suburbs.

Huge amount of skepticism

Braxton and Joffe reported that some participants "had waited a long time to share their views but would not have shared them directly with leadership," for fear of retaliation. And they reported hearing "a huge amount of skepticism that anything would really change." None of the comments from the groups were attributed to individuals.

Conference leaders analyzed the various criticisms in small groups and shared their feedback, which included



surprise for some but not for others and concern that real, perceivable changes must happen to honor the intention and integrity of the project.

"While the Call to Action may be the impetus for this initiative, we want to expand our assessment of racism that may affect all racial-ethnic clergy, laity and congregations in our conference," said the Rev. Anita Powell, Executive Director of Connectional Ministries. "We're taking on the challenge to examine conference structure, systems and behaviors that have long affected people in different ways. So, we want candid viewpoints that can get to the heart of these concerns, in order to forge systemic change and attempt reconciliation."

Implementations in the fall

Following the final, June 9 dialogue, the Dragonfly consultants will prepare a report during the summer, with strategic recommendations from its study. The Butterfly Project's managers will seek to implement the recommendations beginning in the fall, aided by the Rev. Giovanni Arroyo of GCORR, who has consulted with the conference and taught Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural Ministry workshops here in the past. Arroyo credits Eastern PA and Peninsula-Delaware with being the only conferences he knows of across the denomination to undertake institutional racism assessments.

"This conference's vision is to be 'United in Christ, Committed to Transformation'" said Bishop Peggy Johnson, leader of both conferences in the Philadelphia Episcopal Area. "We know that vision requires righting wrongs, healing wounds and establishing a foundation of trust. There may be some anger that surfaces, but if it leads to wisdom, healing and reconciliation, if it leads to repairing the breach, then it will have been worth the struggle."

Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural ministry explored

About 30 clergy and laity, some in teams, attended the Eastern PA Conference's fifth annual Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural (CR/CC) Ministry training event June 2 at Cedarville UMC in Pottstown. The Rev. Grace Pak, Director of Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural Leadership at the General Commission on Religion and Race, led the session, helping attendees become more familiar with challenges, opportunities and discoveries inherent in this ministry context.

Some of the participants will experience a CR/CC pastoral appointment for the first time this summer. Others have engaged in this growing ministry trend for some years. The six-hour training helped them develop "intercultural competency" through lecture, interactive exercises and guided "vital conversations."

"It's important for lay members to be present with clergy here because they may have more to learn and a bigger influence on their fellow members," said Pak, who served in cross-racial pastoral appointments for over 20 years. Several attendees voiced a desire for more competence and confidence to talk honestly about race, racism and culture without fear of making mistakes.

While table conversations filled most of the agenda, Pak shared resources and taught important concepts about implicit bias and other mindsets and behaviors that often hide beneath the surface of superficial interactions.

Check our website during June for more coverage of this event and of an earlier forum where clergy of color discussed their CR/CC experiences and challenges.



District conferences lift up ministries, mission and milestones

Inspirational music and messages, prayers and praise reports, clergy comings and goings, information-sharing and generous offerings for mission—these and other important matters filled the busy agendas of four district conferences for two hours on Sunday, May 6.

Nearly 700 clergy and lay members congregated simultaneously in four churches spread across the Eastern PA Conference. They congratulated, welcomed, bid farewell to and prayed for transitioning leaders. And while lifting up area ministries of special concern, they also gave nearly \$6,000 in total to mission.

North District



Rev. Irving Cotto

More than 120 North District members convened at Faith Alive UMC in Palmyra. The popular Free Spirit Band led worship, encouraging attendees to hold hands in unity while singing “Bind Us Together.”

The Rev. Irving Cotto, departing District Superintendent, inspired the crowd by preaching on “Shout for Joy” and reported on his February visit to Puerto Rico and the hurricane recovery efforts going on there.

Then Rev. Ron Schane, Director of Pocono Plateau Camp & Retreat Center, updated members on retreats, facilities and plans for summer camp. A total of \$876.78 was received in the offering, to be divided between scholarships for children whose families cannot pay the full summer camp fee and ongoing recovery efforts from last summer’s hurricanes Harvey and Maria that struck hardest in Texas, Louisiana and Puerto Rico.

District Resource Assistant Sheila Milz, who leaves her position June 30 due to



Sheila Milz

relocation of the district office, presented a financial update on these North District mission projects. The district’s goal for 2017-2018 is to raise \$100,000 for hurricane relief and \$5,000 for camperships. With

this latest offering, the current totals are \$68,588.77 and \$3,255.22, respectively. The campaign continues until June 22, 2018. (For more information, please email the District Office at nesuper@rcn.com.)

West District

With up to 170 in attendance, the West District Conference based its agenda on the four Annual Conference themes. Music by Salem UMC Mannheim UMC choir and a sermon by the Rev. Cheryl Zegers, of Mt. Zion UMC Peach Bottom highlighted the themes “We Will All Be Changed” and “We Will All Be Present,” respectively.

Nearly \$1,500 was given to the Helping Puerto Rico Rise Again recovery assistance fund, as the assembly sang “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” symbolizing the Annual Conference subtheme “We Will All Be Connected.”

The Rev. Joe DiPaolo, of First UMC Lancaster, and the Rev. BK Chung, District Superintendent, offered glimpses of the UMC’s “Way Forward” proposals, followed by a brief Q & A session. And attendees were treated to a slide presentation set to music depicting ministries of district churches. Their final hymn, “Go Make of All Disciples,” evoked the final Annual Conference subtheme, “We



Rev. Cheryl Zegers

Will All Be Sent.”

South District

Nearly 200 members of the South District gathered at First UMC Phoenixville, where the Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm, District Superintendent, offered a passionate message about love, related to the UMC’s search for a Way Forward. Members showed their love in action by giving \$2,770 to support the district’s 2018 mission project, “Giving Sight to the Blind,” supporting the Congo Partnership mission’s goal to build a pediatric eye care clinic in Mpasa, DRC.

Other highlights included inspirational music from the host church’s bell choir and the West Philadelphia Mission ConneXion Choir, directed by the Rev. Eric Carr, who will lead music at Annual Conference.

The Rev. Sherry Lantz, DCOM Co-Chair, John Paylor, Co-Lay Leader, and the Rev. Jeffrey Raffauf, Jeremiah 29 Team Chair, were thanked for their outstanding recent work with district teams.

East District

The East District gathered at Light-house Fellowship UMC Glenside, which provided hospitality and music. Members heard reports on the work of their active Mission Connexions from the Rev. Gary Nicholson, strategic team leader.

The Rev. Tracy Bass, District Superintendent, introduced four urban UMC churches that would be the district’s lo-



The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm prays for South District transitioning leaders.

Rev. James Mundell photo.



Rev. Tracy Bass

cal mission focus in 2018: Haven-Peniel, Midtown Parish and St. James—all African American churches in Philadelphia—and Haws Avenue, a multiracial church in Norristown.

District members gave \$819 to the Helping Puerto Rico Rise Again recovery assistance fund. Conference Board of Pension & Health Benefits Ex-

ecutive Director Jo Fielding introduced them to the HealthFlex health insurance plan the conference will propose changing to in 2019.

All District Conference attendees recognized and prayed for newly appointed, retiring, departing and arriving pastors, as well as clergy to be ordained and commissioned at Annual Conference, new Certified Lay Ministers and others in leadership transition.

They also received resolutions for Annual Conference and voted for equalizing lay members to balance clergy voting at the upcoming session.

Thanks to District Resource Assistants Kristin Reifsnnyder, Sheila Milz, Rev. Lin George and Michael Yancey for providing information for this article.

New additions in time for summer camp!

After decades of longing, since the 1990s, Gretna Glen Camp & Retreat Center has an exciting, new and much-needed bathhouse that retreaters and summer campers will love. “The space is awesome and accessible, which is such a blessing,” said director Apryl Miller. “We have raised \$240,000 and completely paid for it with donations.” Here the Rev. Dan Lebo, pastor of nearby Annville UMC and a faithful camp supporter, helps dedicate the new building during Gretna Glen’s open house, May 19.

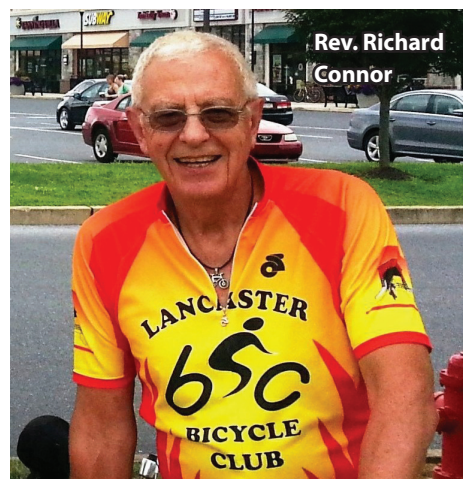
Meanwhile, Innabah Camp & Retreat Center recently received its long-awaited,

also donation-funded new playground equipment. Staff and volunteers are busy assembling it now to have it ready for summer campers to use. Visit our Camp & Retreat Centers webpage to learn more and see more photos.





Scenes from the 2017 Annual Conference Service of Ordination and Commissioning. Sabrina Daluisio, James Mundell and Paul Davis photos



Rev. Richard Connor



Apryl Miller



Cokesbury UMC

'We Will All Be Sent!'

The Annual Conference Service of Ordination and Commissioning, always a climactic event, will again commence with robed clergy in a stirring procession, followed by sacred worship with powerful music and preaching. Then comes the high moment when vows are pronounced, stoles are yoked onto bowed shoulders and hands are laid on bowed heads, conveying the awesome but humble office and responsibility of pastoral ministry.

Finally, there is the presentation and celebration of new ordinands and commissionees (see the list below), and the invitation to all others who wish to come forward and declare their desire to explore this same sacred path. Those who respond are welcomed warmly in joyous fellowship by waiting clergy.

This year's ceremony will draw upon the subtheme "We Will All Be Sent," taken from Jesus' Great Commission in Matthew 28:19-20. But it will include another, unusual but ideal high moment: a commissioning of two new Global Ministries missionaries.



Rebecca Parsons

Rebecca "Becky" Parsons, a member of the Eastern PA Conference, is the UM mission agency's Mission Advocate for the U.S. Northeastern Jurisdiction, where she helps NEJ confer-

ences and churches learn about and participate in global missions. She is a former Church and Community Worker.

Brenda Nguwa, from Zimbabwe, is serving as a community outreach developer at John Wesley Seminary in Jakarta, Indonesia. She is a Global Mission Fellow, serving in a two-year mission assignment designed for young adults.

Both women were among eight new missionaries who completed training and were celebrated in a service of blessing at Global Ministries' Atlanta headquarters in May. All eight are to be presented, commissioned and given their anchor crosses and certificates at annual conference sessions this spring.



Brenda Nguwa

ORDINANDS & COMMISSIONEES

Ordination to Elder in Full Connection

Mercedes O'Connor Case
Deanna Marie Geiter
Dorcas Kumba Kamanda
Bradley Matthew Leight
Walter Jerome Unterberger

Ordination to Deacon in Full Connection

Diana A. Esposito

AC 2018 awards to honor ministry efforts

The Eastern PA Conference Connectional Ministries Office grants awards at each Annual Session to recognize people, churches and institutions doing exemplary work in evangelism, church growth and urban ministry. Such recognition spotlights not only the recipients and the work they do but also the importance of these missional values in the work of discipleship that all are called to do, and do well, in service to Christ.

The **Harry Denman Evangelism Awards**, sponsored by the UM Foundation for Evangelism, honors nominated United Methodists in each annual conference "whose exceptional ministries of evangelism—expressed in Word, Sign and Deed—bring people into a life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ." They are clearly committed to introducing others to Christ's good news in various ministry settings.

This year the Eastern PA Conference awards the clergy Denman Award to the **Rev. Richard Connor**, a retired but still serving pastor, and the laity Denman Award to **Apryl Miller**, Director of Gretna Glen Camp & Retreat Center.

Connor has been an "intentional interim pastor" at Bethesda UMC in southern Lancaster County for two years. He has served 11 churches since his first appointment in 1967, including several since his retirement in 2010. Trained in evangelism ministries, he led congregations to start innovative outreach

programs and contemporary worship services to reach new and younger people. He is also an avid bicyclist and participates in marathon bike rides to help raise funds for research in Multiple Sclerosis.

Apryl Miller has served at Gretna Glen since 2005, directing operations there since 2009. She eagerly invites and welcomes church and non-church-related campers and retreaters from across the conference and throughout the Lebanon area, always sharing a spirit of hospitality. Reportedly, numbers of campers and retreat groups have increased, providing opportunities for more people to experience the love of Christ in Gretna Glen's scenic setting. "The way she interacts with staff," reads her nomination form, "the way she appreciates volunteers, the way she points people to Christ in each conversation speaks volumes for her suitability for this award."

Each year the UMC's Discipleship Ministries awards churches recommended by Annual Conferences the **One Matters Award**, recognizing churches that have grown from zero to at least one new profession-of-faith member, or more, in one year. This year **Cokesbury UMC in Marcus Hook** is recognized for its growth from 0 to 7 new members since 2016. The church has become a popular place for children and families especially due to its summer Lunch and Learn reading improvement program and its monthly, first-Sunday **Continued on page 10--AWARDS**

Annual Conference 2018 to vote on 27 resolutions

Members of the 2018 Eastern PA Annual Conference will consider and vote on 27 resolutions submitted and now posted online. They are being printed for distribution at the four District Conferences on Sunday, May 6, where members will get a preview of matters to come before Annual Conference, June 14-16.

The diverse resolutions range from proposed changes in conference rules and financial policies, to supporting racial-ethnic justice and missional concerns, to advocating against assault weapons and the offensive use of Native American team names and mascots in sports. One calls for creation of a Conference Committee on Domestic Violence, while another urges greater awareness of sexual harassment, sexual abuse, misconduct and misogyny.

Only two resolutions address The United Methodist Church's "Way Forward," as it considers, during a Special General Conference in 2019, whether or not to change church laws prohibiting LGBTQ members' participation in pastoral ministry and marriage within the church. That number is far from the usual spate of resolutions addressing this controversial issue.

Seeking 'a fair and gracious exit path'

One resolution asks the Annual Conference to "strongly urge the 2019 General Conference to include in any plan it passes provisions for a fair and gracious exit path for congregations who cannot in good conscience abide by the stance of the church regarding LGBTQ+ ministry.... Such an exit path should allow congregations to leave the denomination with their buildings and assets, assuming their own liabilities, but without demanding burdensome payments to the conference."

"Can we not bless one another in pursuing the various paths of ministry we believe God is laying before us?" asks the resolution, submitted by the Rev. Joseph

DiPaolo, senior pastor of First UMC Lancaster, who is leading the organization of a local chapter of the conservative Wesley Covenant Association.

The other resolution asks the Annual Conference to advocate to the Council of Bishops that "any restructuring of the Church in response to the Commission on the Way Forward must actively seek to redress the legacy of racism, heterosexism, ableism, classism, sexism, and all other systems of oppression." Titled Agape Love for All and submitted by a group of 15 churches, it further calls for General Conference to "remove all language that diminishes the humanity and dignity of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people--and thus, enhance the dignity of us all."

Canceling churches' prior-years' balances

A key pair of resolutions from the Council on Finance & Administration (CFA) proposes cancelling churches' unpaid "prior-years' balances" of apportionments and certain other billings, as of the end of 2017. Apportionments are amounts churches pay into three main connectional expense funds: the Connectional Ministries Fund to support conference-wide operations; and the World Service and General Church funds, which undergird denominational administration and programs. "Other billings" include reimbursement to the conference for its payment of pastors' health care and church vehicle insurance.

Prior-years' balances that cannot be canceled include money still owed for clergy pensions, health insurance benefits for clergy and lay staff, Workers Compensation, and property and liability insurance.

While one resolution exempts those balances from cancellation in general, another would extend a larger cancellation of balances—including unpaid property and liability insurance—"as an act of justice," to all black churches. That group includes 29 predominantly black churches that belonged to the former, all-black Delaware Conference, as well as to the former Philadelphia Conference and the current Eastern PA Conference.

While many of the churches have large outstanding balances that would be daunting, if not impossible, to pay off, some attribute part of those balances to the costs that came with occupying large, inner city church buildings left by declining white congregations decades ago. All the black churches would be relieved of responsibility for prior-years' bal-

ances accumulated prior to December 31, 2017, except where the UMC's Book of Discipline "disallows such action... in paragraph 639.4, concerning Pension Benefits and Health Insurance Benefits arrearages."

CFA also proposes to repeal several fiscal management procedures approved by the 2012 Annual Conference to help fund the pre-1982 unfunded clergy pension liability—procedures it has found to be unworkable. It promises to continue reducing the pension liability while caring for other needs.

Support for ministries of mercy and justice

Another financial resolution proposes a new special offering to help the conference aid the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico in its long, painstaking recovery from 2017's devastating Hurricane Maria. The Rev. Nicholas Camacho, who heads the conference's Helping Puerto Rico Rise Again campaign, is proposing, with support from Bishop Peggy Johnson and the Cabinet, that churches receive a special love offering on Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018, the first Sunday of the annual National Hispanic/Latino Heritage Month (Sept. 15 to Oct. 15). Offerings would be sent to the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico to support its churches' recovery efforts that will likely last for many years.

The Committee on Native American Ministries asks the Annual Conference to "demonstrate commitment to continuing the journey begun at the 2016 Act of Repentance and to 'stand in solidarity with American Indians.'" In one resolution, it seeks "support for the elimination of logos, mascots and names demeaning to Native Americans by schools, colleges, and professional sports teams." In another, it urges public advocacy to protect sacred Indian sites and reverse recent White House decisions to reduce the size of national monuments on public lands.

A resolution on gun violence asks the conference to affirm the resolve of General Conference 2016 and its Resolution 3428 "Our Call to End Gun Violence" and to support members working to "Demand the Ban" and make deadly assault-style weapons illegal.

Other resolutions propose moving the conference's health insurance coverage to Wespath's HealthFlex program, approving changes in equitable compensation for pastors in economically disadvantaged churches, and changes in housing allowances for retired and disabled clergy.

Nine Advance Special projects are proposed for endorsement to solicit second-mile funding from churches. And nine changes are proposed in the Annual Conference rules of order. One church, Avon: Zion UMC, is being recommended for discontinuance.

SENT--continued from page 9.

Commissioning to Provisional Elder

Rodney A. Brailsford
Towanda N. T. Connelly
Greg Impink
Shayla L. Johnson
Laurie Jean Pfahler
Tamie Scalise
Lori Wagner

Commissioning to Provisional Deacon

Jane Elizabeth Rupert Dutton
Shellie Sterner

Note: The Rev. David Alderson will also be recognized as a new Full-time Licensed Local Pastor.

AWARDS--continued from page 9.

community dinners, among other ministries.

Finally, the conference this year will expand its yearly **Kim Jefferson Award for Urban Ministry** from one recipient to eight recipients, two for each of the four districts.

Each superintendent was asked to identify two ministries--whether chartered or mission churches, cooperative ministries or related mission institutions—that exhibit "a passionate desire and effective pursuit" to address needs in their various "urban" communities. While several of the awardees are being commended for their achievements, others are being recognized (and encouraged) for creatively investing strategic vision, talents and resources into their pursuits.

The 2018 Kim Jefferson Awards for Urban Ministry will be presented to:

North District

- Salem UMC, Allentown
- Emmanuel/La Trinidad UMC, Allentown

West District

- LUMINA, Lancaster
- Anchorage Breakfast Ministry, First UMC Lancaster

East District

- Haven-Peniel UMC, Philadelphia
- Casa del Pueblo at Lehman UMC, Hatboro

South District

- Union Memorial UMC, Darby
- Clifton Heights UMC

(Joint award for their new Urban Alliance)

Learn more about these awardees in upcoming stories published on our conference website.



Three voices may be heard from the stage during debate and voting at Annual Conference: Bishop Peggy Johnson, the Rev. Lloyd Speer (right), who, as Conference Secretary, facilitates the work of the conference, including recording votes and minutes; and the Rev. Bruce Rogers, as guest Parliamentarian, who advises the bishop, and the body if requested, on correct debate rules and procedures.

Rogers, a familiar face each year, is an elder in the Peninsula-Delaware Conference. He will also be the keynote speaker at the Laity Session on Thursday, June 14, where he will help laity understand more about parliamentary procedures and holy conferencing. *Sabrina Daluisio photo*

Eastern PA Conference 2017 Local Church Connectional Giving Report

Capital campaign nears its completion

Church giving to the conference's Connectional Ministries Fund (CMF) was \$3,341,464 through December 2017. That total was \$141,000 more than projected and \$165,000 more than the 2016 giving total.

Conference expenses through December 2017 were \$2,888,318. That total was \$218,000 less than budgeted.

Local churches paid \$16.07 million or 91% of the total amount of all funds billed to churches. This was an improvement over the prior year, when local churches paid 90% of the total billed.

For our main conference and denominational apportioned funds—CMF, the World Service Fund (WSF) and the General Church Fund (GCF)—giving in 2017 was \$5.61 million or 85% of total budget. That was an increase over the 2016 total, which was \$5.54 million or 84% of the budget.

Update on Resolution 2012-21 progress

The 2012 Annual Conference approved Resolution 2012-21 to secure funds to eliminate the conference's liability for unfunded pre-1982 clergy retiree pensions. The resolution's three components were to:

- garner savings from the sale of church buildings;
- achieve Connectional Ministries Fund budget reductions; and
- raise \$3 million in a three-to-five-year (2014-2018) capital campaign.

The total of funds applied to fulfill Resolution 2012-21, as of December 30, 2017, was \$4.82 million. The total figures from the Fulfilling Our Covenant capital campaign are:

- \$3.93 million pledged
- \$3.45 million paid (88% of total amount pledged).

Final pledges and payments will be announced in the fall issue of NEWSpirit, when the capital campaign officially ends.

North District

| Church Name | 2017 Budget | 2017 Paid | Balance | % Paid | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------|--------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Allentown: Asbury | \$165,741.81 | \$165,741.81 | \$0.00 | 100% | Nuremberg: Bethany | \$6,433.08 | \$6,433.08 | \$0.00 100% |
| Analomink | \$6,251.52 | \$6,251.52 | \$0.00 | 100% | Zion Grove: Davis Chapel | \$4,224.36 | \$4,224.36 | \$0.00 100% |
| Stroudsburg: Faith | \$30,670.32 | \$30,670.32 | \$0.00 | 100% | Barnesville: Bethany | \$4,733.88 | \$4,733.88 | \$0.00 100% |
| Wooddale | \$17,288.28 | \$17,288.28 | \$0.00 | 100% | Quakake: Ebenezer | \$3,984.00 | \$3,984.00 | \$0.00 100% |
| Bangor: First | \$55,058.03 | \$55,058.03 | \$0.00 | 100% | Danielsville: Salem | \$8,401.56 | \$8,401.56 | \$0.00 100% |
| Bethlehem: Epworth | \$36,662.74 | \$36,662.74 | \$0.00 | 100% | Bowmanstown: Faith Alive | \$75,045.08 | \$75,045.08 | \$0.00 100% |
| Belfast: Wesley | \$7,112.40 | \$7,112.40 | \$0.00 | 100% | Leighton: Ebenezer | \$8,989.20 | \$8,989.20 | \$0.00 100% |
| Bethlehem: Fritz | \$31,755.00 | \$31,755.00 | \$0.00 | 100% | Orwigsburg: Salem | \$48,932.28 | \$48,932.28 | \$0.00 100% |
| Bushkill | \$10,516.20 | \$10,516.20 | \$0.00 | 100% | Port Carbon: Grace | \$5,368.44 | \$5,368.44 | \$0.00 100% |
| Canadensis | \$14,977.56 | \$14,977.56 | \$0.00 | 100% | Paradise Valley: Keokee | | | |
| Chapman Quarries | \$32,232.90 | \$32,232.90 | \$0.00 | 100% | Chapel | \$7,513.80 | \$7,513.80 | \$0.00 100% |
| Neola | \$18,087.84 | \$18,087.84 | \$0.00 | 100% | Pottsville: Evangelical | \$14,065.08 | \$14,065.08 | \$0.00 100% |
| Poplar Valley | \$10,105.56 | \$10,105.56 | \$0.00 | 100% | Dreherstown: Salem | \$3,667.80 | \$3,667.80 | \$0.00 100% |
| East Bangor | \$43,365.60 | \$43,365.60 | \$0.00 | 100% | Lewistown Valley: Calvary | | | |
| Easton: Green Pond | \$65,478.36 | \$65,478.36 | \$0.00 | 100% | Evangelical | \$7,045.56 | \$7,045.56 | \$0.00 100% |
| East Stroudsburg | \$120,149.76 | \$120,149.76 | \$0.00 | 100% | Schuylkill Haven: | | | |
| Jim Thorpe: Grace-St. Paul | \$25,822.63 | \$25,822.63 | \$0.00 | 100% | Covenant | \$9,997.92 | \$9,997.92 | \$0.00 100% |
| Mountainhome | \$53,668.56 | \$53,668.56 | \$0.00 | 100% | Shoemakersville: Salem | \$12,813.36 | \$12,813.36 | \$0.00 100% |
| Mt. Pocono | \$55,240.26 | \$55,240.26 | \$0.00 | 100% | Berne: Salem-Berne | \$9,538.44 | \$9,538.44 | \$0.00 100% |
| Nesquehoning: Meed's | | | | | Coaldale | \$4,972.44 | \$4,972.44 | \$0.00 100% |
| Memorial | \$9,402.36 | \$9,402.36 | \$0.00 | 100% | Ackermanville | \$47,697.84 | \$47,697.84 | \$0.00 100% |
| Blakeslee | \$7,921.68 | \$7,921.68 | \$0.00 | 100% | Allentown: Salem | \$56,234.76 | \$56,234.76 | \$0.00 100% |
| Richmond | \$17,353.20 | \$17,353.20 | \$0.00 | 100% | Moore Twp.: Covenant | \$56,203.19 | \$56,203.19 | \$0.00 100% |
| McMichaels | \$15,703.68 | \$15,703.68 | \$0.00 | 100% | Bethlehem: Korean | \$18,711.72 | \$18,711.72 | \$0.00 100% |
| Stroudsburg | \$69,317.78 | \$69,317.78 | \$0.00 | 100% | Hellertown: St. Paul | \$22,248.72 | \$22,248.72 | \$0.00 100% |
| Summit Hill | \$5,762.40 | \$5,762.40 | \$0.00 | 100% | Emerald: St. Peter's | \$22,042.68 | \$22,042.68 | \$0.00 100% |
| Cumbola | \$3,628.68 | \$3,628.68 | \$0.00 | 100% | Water Works | \$3,456.92 | \$3,456.92 | \$0.00 100% |
| Frackville: First | \$53,107.38 | \$53,107.38 | \$0.00 | 100% | Ash Grove | \$16,913.64 | \$16,913.64 | \$0.00 100% |
| Girardville | \$3,627.36 | \$3,627.36 | \$0.00 | 100% | Clark's Grove | \$43,284.48 | \$43,284.48 | \$0.00 100% |
| Llewellyn | \$3,720.84 | \$3,720.84 | \$0.00 | 100% | Pine Grove: St. Paul | \$13,091.40 | \$13,091.40 | \$0.00 100% |
| Minersville | \$6,723.24 | \$6,723.24 | \$0.00 | 100% | Tremont: St. John's | \$5,777.40 | \$5,777.40 | \$0.00 100% |
| Port Carbon: First | \$7,830.12 | \$7,830.12 | \$0.00 | 100% | Shamokin: First | \$20,736.60 | \$20,736.60 | \$0.00 100% |
| Pottsville: First | \$33,263.28 | \$33,263.28 | \$0.00 | 100% | Shamokin: St. John's | \$25,130.64 | \$25,130.64 | \$0.00 100% |
| Quakertown | \$77,301.96 | \$77,301.96 | \$0.00 | 100% | Shamokin: Emmanuel | \$6,204.36 | \$6,204.36 | \$0.00 100% |
| Saint Clair Wade | \$11,441.28 | \$11,441.28 | \$0.00 | 100% | Shamokin: Zion | \$4,381.80 | \$4,381.80 | \$0.00 100% |
| Schuylkill Haven: First | \$87,332.40 | \$87,332.40 | \$0.00 | 100% | Cherry Lane | \$14,984.64 | \$14,984.59 | \$0.05 100% |
| Donaldson | \$3,277.44 | \$3,277.44 | \$0.00 | 100% | Elysburg | \$18,263.88 | \$18,263.88 | \$0.00 100% |
| Joliett: First | \$4,390.92 | \$4,390.92 | \$0.00 | 100% | Reeders | \$43,255.18 | \$41,148.16 | \$2,107.02 95% |
| Wescosville: Bethany | \$382,816.98 | \$382,816.98 | \$0.00 | 100% | Allentown: Emmanuel | \$32,480.52 | \$29,756.13 | \$2,724.39 92% |
| Landingville: Welcome | \$4,805.04 | \$4,805.04 | \$0.00 | 100% | Mahanoy City: First | \$22,436.68 | \$20,481.32 | \$1,955.36 91% |
| Conyngham | \$19,088.28 | \$19,088.28 | \$0.00 | 100% | Hazleton: Diamond | \$15,595.32 | \$13,628.14 | \$1,967.18 87% |
| Black Creek | \$44,612.42 | \$44,612.42 | \$0.00 | 100% | Cherry Valley | \$46,907.28 | \$40,804.84 | \$6,102.44 87% |
| Oak Grove | \$7,627.92 | \$7,627.92 | \$0.00 | 100% | Pen Argyl: Grace | \$95,153.64 | \$82,620.17 | \$12,533.47 87% |
| Lattimer | \$5,685.36 | \$5,685.36 | \$0.00 | 100% | Saylorsburg: St. Peter's | \$13,862.04 | \$11,304.75 | \$2,557.29 82% |
| Gordon: Simpson | \$11,315.28 | \$11,315.28 | \$0.00 | 100% | Palmerton: Salem | \$7,595.04 | \$5,958.73 | \$1,636.31 78% |
| Audenried-Jeanesville | \$3,679.20 | \$3,679.20 | \$0.00 | 100% | Effort | \$50,567.40 | \$38,513.01 | \$12,054.39 76% |
| Kulpmont | \$6,030.72 | \$6,030.72 | \$0.00 | 100% | Bethlehem: Wesley | \$119,389.44 | \$83,988.70 | \$35,400.74 70% |
| Mount Carmel: First | \$21,875.28 | \$21,875.28 | \$0.00 | 100% | Tamaqua: First | \$34,211.28 | \$23,708.40 | \$10,502.88 69% |
| Millers Crossroads | \$18,477.00 | \$18,477.00 | \$0.00 | 100% | Hamburg: Bethany | \$13,935.96 | \$9,221.68 | \$4,714.28 66% |
| Trevorton | \$9,607.44 | \$9,607.44 | \$0.00 | 100% | Ashland: First UMC/ | | | |
| Weatherly: Centenary | \$7,643.20 | \$7,643.20 | \$0.00 | 100% | Presby. | \$9,108.60 | \$5,921.16 | \$3,187.44 65% |
| White Haven | \$21,099.60 | \$21,099.60 | \$0.00 | 100% | Gilberton | \$6,033.48 | \$3,682.43 | \$2,351.05 61% |
| Ringtown: Aurand | | | | | Barry: Salem | \$9,772.40 | \$5,863.44 | \$3,908.96 60% |
| Memorial | \$12,169.32 | \$12,169.32 | \$0.00 | 100% | Wilburton | \$3,968.16 | \$2,241.96 | \$1,726.20 56% |
| | | | | | Pocono Lake | \$50,387.03 | \$22,951.46 | \$27,435.57 46% |
| | | | | | Tobyhanna | \$28,632.18 | \$12,878.52 | \$15,753.66 45% |
| | | | | | Irish Valley | \$5,859.36 | \$2,240.76 | \$3,618.60 38% |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-----|----------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-----|
| Aristes: Zion | \$5,111.52 | \$1,703.84 | \$3,407.68 | 33% | Easton: Christ | \$29,593.68 | \$4,711.12 | \$24,882.56 | 16% |
| New Ringgold: Zion | \$4,293.84 | \$1,383.64 | \$2,910.20 | 32% | Allentown: La Trinidad | \$20,154.12 | \$2,594.61 | \$17,559.51 | 13% |
| Wind Gap: First | \$7,101.96 | \$1,914.60 | \$5,187.36 | 27% | Slatedale: Salem | \$7,788.48 | \$0.00 | \$7,788.48 | 0% |
| Reynolds: Zion's | \$2,585.76 | \$646.44 | \$1,939.32 | 25% | Hazleton Enlarged Ministry | \$1,251.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,251.00 | 0% |
| Drums: St. Paul's | \$18,904.56 | \$3,982.61 | \$14,921.95 | 21% | | | | | |

South District

| Church Name | 2017 Budget | 2017 Paid | Balance | % Paid | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------|---------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| Geigertown: St. Paul's | \$37,467.54 | \$37,467.54 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Charlestown | \$10,075.92 | \$10,075.92 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Drexel Hill | \$70,096.50 | \$70,096.50 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Coventryville | \$60,874.68 | \$60,874.68 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| NorthStar | \$11,393.16 | \$11,393.16 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Downingtown | \$71,056.92 | \$71,056.92 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Exton | \$76,086.20 | \$76,086.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Elverson | \$54,234.48 | \$54,234.48 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Bethel | \$58,045.80 | \$58,045.80 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Glen Moore | \$20,067.80 | \$20,067.80 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Cedarville | \$92,613.45 | \$92,613.45 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Harmony | \$17,160.24 | \$17,160.24 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Evansburg | \$14,153.46 | \$14,153.46 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Hibernia | \$39,743.88 | \$39,743.88 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Phoenixville: First | \$109,153.58 | \$109,153.58 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Hopewell | \$314,619.06 | \$314,619.06 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Reading: Grace | \$5,977.68 | \$5,977.68 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Nantmeal | \$6,578.28 | \$6,578.28 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Holy Cross: Reading Campus | \$88,096.72 | \$88,096.72 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Parkesburg | \$34,314.12 | \$34,314.12 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Royersford | \$68,540.94 | \$68,540.94 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Simpson-Fletcher | \$10,846.32 | \$10,846.32 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Temple | \$10,710.48 | \$10,710.48 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Valley Forge: St. Matthew's | \$102,945.60 | \$102,945.60 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Avondale | \$14,961.66 | \$14,961.66 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Pomeroy | \$6,140.52 | \$6,140.52 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Broomall: St. Mark's | \$62,546.76 | \$62,546.76 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Thorndale | \$52,513.02 | \$52,513.02 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Chatham | \$24,431.64 | \$24,431.64 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Valley Forge | \$20,038.44 | \$20,038.44 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Middletown: Christ | \$23,510.76 | \$23,510.76 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Wayne | \$179,037.63 | \$179,037.63 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Clifton Heights | \$16,422.08 | \$16,422.08 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Birdsboro: Christ | \$8,081.76 | \$8,081.76 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Cochranville | \$14,540.04 | \$14,540.04 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Faith Community | \$6,725.16 | \$6,725.16 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Eddystone | \$9,961.20 | \$9,961.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lincoln Park: Community | \$67,939.50 | \$67,939.50 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Elam | \$131,530.35 | \$131,530.35 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Mohnton: Calvary | \$82,369.08 | \$82,369.08 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Gradyville | \$5,439.60 | \$5,439.60 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Reading: St. Matthews | \$9,586.32 | \$9,586.32 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Hamorton | \$11,503.20 | \$11,503.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | West Lawn | \$205,477.20 | \$205,477.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Lima | \$75,599.70 | \$75,599.70 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | West Chester: El Buen Samaritano | \$27,044.52 | \$27,044.52 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Marcus Hook: Cokesbury | \$11,149.89 | \$11,149.89 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Broomall: Christ | \$28,663.20 | \$28,663.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Marshallton | \$57,096.36 | \$57,096.36 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Mont Clare: Otterbein | \$16,028.16 | \$16,028.16 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Mount Hope | \$146,364.84 | \$146,364.84 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Pottstown: Salem | \$9,582.76 | \$9,582.76 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| New London | \$15,459.60 | \$15,459.60 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | St. Peter's: Mount Carmel | \$14,604.24 | \$14,604.24 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Norwood | \$49,506.68 | \$49,506.68 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Friendship | \$15,782.88 | \$15,782.88 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Oxford | \$58,549.20 | \$58,549.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Grove | \$140,450.52 | \$140,450.51 | \$0.01 | 100.00% |
| Phila.: Univer. City, Calvary | \$44,915.52 | \$44,915.52 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Bryn Mawr: St. Luke | \$79,674.16 | \$79,674.00 | \$0.16 | 100.00% |
| Phila.: Clearview | \$9,129.12 | \$9,129.12 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Media: First | \$65,734.08 | \$64,089.29 | \$1,644.79 | 97.50% |
| Kennett: Church of the Open Door | \$38,918.40 | \$38,918.40 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Berwyn | \$99,469.62 | \$89,641.82 | \$9,827.80 | 90.12% |
| Prospect Park: Prospect | \$27,615.60 | \$27,615.60 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Pottstown: First | \$33,438.96 | \$30,043.09 | \$3,395.87 | 89.84% |
| Ridley Park | \$27,573.12 | \$27,573.12 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Paoli | \$93,633.48 | \$83,448.48 | \$10,185.00 | 89.12% |
| Romansville | \$16,480.02 | \$16,480.02 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Landenberg | \$24,657.84 | \$21,202.90 | \$3,454.94 | 85.99% |
| Booth's Corner: Siloam | \$26,115.75 | \$26,115.75 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Fremont: Union | \$11,424.90 | \$9,823.05 | \$1,601.85 | 85.98% |
| Springfield: Covenant | \$148,389.96 | \$148,389.96 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Coatesville: Olivet | \$83,126.72 | \$70,501.56 | \$12,625.16 | 84.81% |
| Springfield: C.C. Hancock Memorial | \$24,753.36 | \$24,753.36 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Havertown: Hope | \$59,910.60 | \$48,153.89 | \$11,756.71 | 80.38% |
| Swarthmore | \$64,281.48 | \$64,281.48 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Drexel Hill: New Life | \$41,739.24 | \$31,955.24 | \$9,784.00 | 76.56% |
| Trainer | \$14,928.24 | \$14,928.24 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Douglassville: Hope | \$41,869.80 | \$31,756.20 | \$10,113.60 | 75.85% |
| Willistown | \$37,884.71 | \$37,884.71 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Sayers Memorial | \$57,102.36 | \$42,749.26 | \$14,353.10 | 74.86% |
| West Chester | \$138,632.28 | \$138,632.28 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Chester: Trinity | \$20,200.80 | \$15,100.00 | \$5,100.80 | 74.75% |
| West Grove | \$93,651.20 | \$93,651.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Kemblesville | \$50,781.38 | \$37,864.71 | \$12,916.67 | 74.56% |
| Ardmore | \$71,311.56 | \$71,311.56 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Fleetwood: Emmanuel | \$17,658.96 | \$12,424.74 | \$5,234.22 | 70.36% |
| Havertown: Union | \$78,660.60 | \$78,660.60 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lansdowne: Trinity | \$34,083.24 | \$23,123.06 | \$10,960.18 | 67.84% |
| | | | | | Lansdowne | \$15,993.72 | \$10,828.68 | \$5,165.04 | 67.71% |
| | | | | | Radnor | \$71,100.36 | \$45,707.61 | \$25,392.75 | 64.29% |
| | | | | | Chester: St. Daniel's | | | | |

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|--------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------|
| Linwood Heights | \$36,316.20 | \$21,315.57 | \$15,000.63 | 58.69% | Goodwill | \$13,936.44 | \$5,414.57 | \$8,521.87 | 38.85% |
| Phila.: Camphor Memorial | \$45,317.16 | \$25,023.88 | \$20,293.28 | 55.22% | Darby: Union Memorial | \$10,972.56 | \$3,620.11 | \$7,352.45 | 32.99% |
| Phila.: Wharton-Wesley | \$45,297.11 | \$24,000.00 | \$21,297.11 | 52.98% | Phila.: Berry-Long Memorial | \$25,110.24 | \$7,000.00 | \$18,110.24 | 27.88% |
| Phila.: Eastwick | \$44,075.04 | \$23,209.69 | \$20,865.35 | 52.66% | West Grove: Cristo Rey | \$9,104.88 | \$1,500.00 | \$7,604.88 | 16.47% |
| Darby: Mt. Zion | \$20,467.20 | \$10,089.24 | \$10,377.96 | 49.29% | Chester: Grace Community | \$22,553.76 | \$3,679.68 | \$18,874.08 | 16.32% |
| Alice Focht Memorial | \$19,642.20 | \$8,184.25 | \$11,457.95 | 41.67% | Chester: Siloam | \$12,536.88 | \$1,951.65 | \$10,585.23 | 15.57% |
| Thornton: Bethlehem | \$150,938.88 | \$60,446.52 | \$90,492.36 | 40.05% | | | | | |

East District

| Church Name | 2017 Budget | 2017 Paid | Balance | % Paid | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------|---------|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| Phila.: New Vision | \$42,632.88 | \$42,632.88 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lansdale: Christ | \$114,825.54 | \$114,825.54 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Bensalem | \$58,003.32 | \$58,003.32 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Trevose: St. Matthew | \$9,873.64 | \$9,873.64 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Bristol: Harriman | \$23,942.28 | \$23,942.28 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Janes Memorial | \$66,890.70 | \$66,890.70 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Cornwells Heights: Cornwells | \$17,057.88 | \$17,057.88 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Trinity | \$40,541.16 | \$40,541.16 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Ivyland: St. John's | \$87,691.68 | \$87,691.68 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Mother African Zoar | \$26,670.84 | \$26,670.84 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Fairless Hills: First | \$53,501.64 | \$53,501.64 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Doylestown | \$171,669.12 | \$171,668.98 | \$0.14 | 100.00% |
| Fallsington | \$14,931.00 | \$14,931.00 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Morrisville | \$86,125.19 | \$86,125.19 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Huntingdon Valley | \$65,659.88 | \$65,659.88 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Warminster: St. Andrews | \$63,169.50 | \$62,200.75 | \$968.75 | 98.47% |
| Bensalem: Korean | \$29,726.52 | \$29,726.52 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lahaska | \$8,622.72 | \$8,123.00 | \$499.72 | 94.20% |
| Newtown | \$57,613.92 | \$57,613.92 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Perkasie: First | \$40,575.76 | \$38,088.16 | \$2,487.60 | 93.87% |
| Phila.: Bickley's New Beginning | \$20,246.16 | \$20,246.16 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Devereux Memorial | \$21,996.60 | \$19,687.00 | \$2,309.60 | 89.50% |
| Phila.: Bridesburg | \$11,632.68 | \$11,632.68 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Germantown, First | \$164,732.07 | \$144,883.99 | \$19,848.08 | 87.95% |
| Phila.: FGM: Frankford Memorial | \$39,028.92 | \$39,028.92 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: El Mesias | \$13,064.64 | \$11,450.24 | \$1,614.40 | 87.64% |
| Phila.: Holmesburg | \$18,190.80 | \$18,190.80 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Langhorne | \$70,637.76 | \$60,000.15 | \$10,637.61 | 84.94% |
| Phila.: Wissinoming | \$14,864.64 | \$14,864.64 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Somerton | \$52,351.92 | \$44,442.64 | \$7,909.28 | 84.89% |
| Scottsville | \$62,512.32 | \$62,512.32 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Church Good Shepherd | \$49,795.20 | \$41,935.60 | \$7,859.60 | 84.22% |
| Washington Crossing | \$217,163.96 | \$217,163.96 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Willow Grove | \$66,846.68 | \$55,727.60 | \$11,119.08 | 83.37% |
| Yardley | \$82,555.32 | \$82,555.32 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Ambler: Calvary | \$51,075.88 | \$41,718.68 | \$9,357.20 | 81.68% |
| Lafayette Hill: Messiah | \$51,837.60 | \$51,837.60 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Glenside: Lighthouse Korean | \$15,429.24 | \$12,499.97 | \$2,929.27 | 81.01% |
| Bethel Hill | \$75,564.00 | \$75,564.00 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Green Lane | \$56,393.54 | \$44,666.26 | \$11,727.28 | 79.20% |
| New Berlinville: St. Andrew | \$61,769.25 | \$61,769.25 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Mount Zion | \$62,277.72 | \$46,567.24 | \$15,710.48 | 74.77% |
| Conshohocken | \$41,629.56 | \$41,629.56 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Woxall: Tabor | \$87,368.64 | \$63,534.60 | \$23,834.04 | 72.72% |
| Glenside: Lighthouse Fellowship | \$62,465.88 | \$62,465.88 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Springtown: Salem | \$19,876.72 | \$14,167.52 | \$5,709.20 | 71.28% |
| Hatboro: Lehman Memorial | \$137,957.16 | \$137,957.16 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Grace | \$66,375.54 | \$46,044.53 | \$20,331.01 | 69.37% |
| Jarrettown | \$105,221.88 | \$105,221.88 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Penns Park | \$7,839.24 | \$5,431.24 | \$2,408.00 | 69.28% |
| Lansdale: First | \$102,433.20 | \$102,433.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Solebury | \$17,675.40 | \$12,244.80 | \$5,430.60 | 69.28% |
| Montgomery Square | \$25,923.36 | \$25,923.36 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Haven Peniel | \$40,687.02 | \$28,005.97 | \$12,681.05 | 68.83% |
| Warrington: St. Paul's | \$80,680.32 | \$80,680.32 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Crescentville | \$24,598.04 | \$15,952.40 | \$8,645.64 | 64.85% |
| Norristown: Asbury | \$51,003.72 | \$51,003.72 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Croydon: Wilkinson Memorial | \$13,497.36 | \$8,465.60 | \$5,031.76 | 62.72% |
| North Wales: Sanctuary | \$86,986.68 | \$86,986.68 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Pipersville: Rolling Hills | \$13,362.60 | \$8,204.30 | \$5,158.30 | 61.40% |
| Prospectville: First Korean of Phila | \$24,613.41 | \$24,613.41 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Chalfont | \$42,246.00 | \$25,808.92 | \$16,437.08 | 61.09% |
| Phila.: Mid-Town Parish | \$18,195.06 | \$18,195.06 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Fox Chase | \$32,999.64 | \$18,513.36 | \$14,486.28 | 56.10% |
| Phila.: Summerfield/Siloam | \$68,424.48 | \$68,424.48 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Levittown: Emilie | \$103,430.04 | \$54,707.28 | \$48,722.76 | 52.89% |
| Phila.: Arch Street | \$92,925.84 | \$92,925.84 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Hulmeville: Neshamony | \$11,647.08 | \$6,110.44 | \$5,536.64 | 52.46% |
| Phila.: St. George's | \$47,042.70 | \$47,042.70 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Norristown: Haws Avenue | \$41,192.70 | \$20,623.68 | \$20,569.02 | 50.07% |
| New Hanover | \$195,508.68 | \$195,508.68 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Bethesda | \$7,782.60 | \$3,891.30 | \$3,891.30 | 50.00% |
| Phila.: Roxborough, Ridge Avenue | \$23,353.32 | \$23,353.32 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Bristol: First | \$26,572.08 | \$12,968.90 | \$13,603.18 | 48.81% |
| Fairless Hills: Christ | \$80,937.96 | \$80,937.96 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Chestnut Hill | \$17,784.24 | \$8,602.08 | \$9,182.16 | 48.37% |
| Zionsville: Salem | \$9,573.36 | \$9,573.36 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Tindley Temple | \$63,363.48 | \$28,727.45 | \$34,636.03 | 45.34% |
| Telford: Grace | \$41,431.92 | \$41,431.92 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Phila.: Emmanuel | \$33,615.11 | \$14,597.73 | \$19,017.38 | 43.43% |
| | | | | | Phila.: Espiritu Santo | \$23,873.28 | \$9,946.66 | \$13,926.62 | 41.66% |
| | | | | | Phila.: Church of The Redeemer | \$25,971.36 | \$10,727.36 | \$15,244.00 | 41.30% |
| | | | | | Phila.: St. Philip's | \$19,546.68 | \$7,861.68 | \$11,685.00 | 40.22% |

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|--------------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------|----------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------|
| Phila.: Kensington (Old Brick) | \$11,392.08 | \$3,597.36 | \$7,794.72 | 31.58% | Jenkintown | \$27,692.16 | \$3,000.00 | \$24,692.16 | 10.83% |
| Phila.: FGM: St. Thomas | \$31,297.92 | \$4,542.64 | \$26,755.28 | 14.51% | Trevose | \$22,478.88 | \$950.00 | \$21,528.88 | 4.23% |
| Phila.: Johnson Memorial | \$25,967.28 | \$3,000.00 | \$22,967.28 | 11.55% | Phila.: Servants of Christ | \$29,646.36 | \$587.50 | \$29,058.86 | 1.98% |
| | | | | | Phila.: St. James | \$24,329.76 | \$0.00 | \$24,329.76 | 0.00% |

West District

| Church Name | 2017 Budget | 2017 Paid | Balance | % Paid | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------|---------|--|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| Limeville | \$24,357.36 | \$24,357.36 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Annville | \$43,625.64 | \$43,625.64 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Lancaster: Nueva Creacion | \$52,658.28 | \$52,658.28 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Indiantown Gap: Emmanuel | \$33,882.30 | \$33,882.30 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| The Bridge | \$5,637.48 | \$5,637.48 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lickdale: Trinity | \$42,530.58 | \$42,530.58 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Clearfield | \$10,169.16 | \$10,169.16 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Campbelltown | \$27,905.76 | \$27,905.76 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Columbia | \$67,744.68 | \$67,744.68 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Cleona: Immanuel | \$51,648.72 | \$51,648.72 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Peach Bottom: Mt. Zion | \$9,113.28 | \$9,113.28 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Falmouth | \$8,875.68 | \$8,875.68 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Pleasant Grove | \$6,846.72 | \$6,846.72 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Iona: Zion | \$31,632.00 | \$31,632.00 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Marticville | \$8,049.96 | \$8,049.96 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Jonestown | \$35,463.24 | \$35,463.24 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Bethesda | \$24,776.40 | \$24,776.40 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Fredericksburg | \$16,723.56 | \$16,723.56 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Rawlinsville | \$13,834.92 | \$13,834.92 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lebanon: Church of the Good Shepherd | \$155,908.92 | \$155,908.92 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Quarryville: Memorial | \$56,745.60 | \$56,745.60 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lebanon: Kochenderfer | \$62,933.39 | \$62,933.39 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Colemanville | \$55,508.20 | \$55,508.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lebanon: Ebenezer | \$36,178.32 | \$36,178.32 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Safe Harbor | \$6,869.76 | \$6,869.76 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lebanon: Covenant | \$67,283.72 | \$67,283.72 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Strasburg: Wesley | \$34,041.84 | \$34,041.84 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lebanon: St. Luke's | \$19,661.40 | \$19,661.40 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Willow Street: Boehm's | \$36,481.32 | \$36,481.32 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Milton Grove | \$10,162.32 | \$10,162.32 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Christiana | \$18,334.74 | \$18,334.74 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Mount Gretna | \$44,042.89 | \$44,042.89 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Churchtown | \$8,438.76 | \$8,438.76 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Myerstown: Zion | \$65,844.24 | \$65,844.24 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Cornwall | \$77,987.28 | \$77,987.28 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Bellegrove | \$11,639.76 | \$11,639.76 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Georgetown-Mount Pleasant | \$14,946.72 | \$14,946.72 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Annville: Kauffman's | \$9,187.80 | \$9,187.80 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Honey Brook | \$20,141.28 | \$20,141.28 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Palmyra: Bethany | \$18,225.66 | \$18,225.66 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Lancaster: First | \$273,535.08 | \$273,535.08 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Palmyra: First | \$88,679.88 | \$88,679.88 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Lancaster: Grandview | \$139,671.66 | \$139,671.66 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Palmyra: Gravel Hill | \$95,672.76 | \$95,672.76 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Lebanon: Trinity | \$36,960.36 | \$36,960.36 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Rocherty | \$25,762.08 | \$25,762.08 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| New Holland: New Holland | \$22,542.60 | \$22,542.60 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Schaefferstown: Zion | \$8,042.04 | \$8,042.04 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Washington Boro | \$14,502.00 | \$14,502.00 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Kleinfeltersville: Trinity | \$13,088.16 | \$13,088.16 | \$0.00 | 100.00% |
| Lebanon: Mountville | \$6,605.16 | \$6,605.16 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Bainbridge: Ludwig | \$13,476.60 | \$13,476.53 | \$0.07 | 100.00% |
| Ono | \$78,407.64 | \$78,407.64 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Avon: Zion | \$19,922.40 | \$19,922.05 | \$0.35 | 100.00% |
| Brownstown: Emmanuel | \$19,694.88 | \$19,694.88 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lebanon: Hebron | \$48,316.56 | \$45,771.72 | \$2,544.84 | 94.73% |
| Brunnerville | \$11,714.64 | \$11,714.64 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | New Holland: Ranck's | \$50,263.56 | \$47,305.95 | \$2,957.61 | 94.12% |
| Denver: Trinity | \$17,350.20 | \$17,350.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Rothsville: Salem | \$16,789.58 | \$15,188.38 | \$1,601.20 | 90.46% |
| Elizabethtown: St. Paul's | \$123,772.08 | \$123,772.08 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lancaster: Otterbein | \$52,218.36 | \$47,122.26 | \$5,096.10 | 90.24% |
| Ephrata: Hope | \$61,339.19 | \$61,339.19 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Leola | \$71,174.76 | \$64,051.77 | \$7,122.99 | 89.99% |
| Highville | \$5,549.16 | \$5,549.16 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Ironville | \$45,039.48 | \$39,630.00 | \$5,409.48 | 87.99% |
| Hopeland | \$70,194.90 | \$70,194.90 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lebanon: Bethany | \$29,131.20 | \$25,205.22 | \$3,925.98 | 86.52% |
| Intercourse | \$7,692.84 | \$7,692.84 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Mount Joy: St. Mark's | \$166,522.44 | \$142,522.44 | \$24,000.00 | 85.59% |
| Manheim Township: Faith | \$27,428.40 | \$27,428.40 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Hempfield | \$196,313.88 | \$167,840.40 | \$28,473.48 | 85.50% |
| Lancaster: Community | \$17,127.36 | \$17,127.36 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Mount Joy: Chiques | \$50,940.78 | \$43,020.70 | \$7,920.08 | 84.45% |
| Lancaster: Covenant | \$143,529.48 | \$143,529.48 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Millersville Community | \$138,013.68 | \$116,506.47 | \$21,507.21 | 84.42% |
| Manheim: Salem | \$78,548.73 | \$78,548.73 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Mount Nebo | \$31,896.60 | \$26,636.83 | \$5,259.77 | 83.51% |
| Mount Joy: Glossbrenner | \$75,346.20 | \$75,346.20 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lancaster: Ross Street | \$14,744.64 | \$12,294.48 | \$2,450.16 | 83.38% |
| Mountville: St. Paul's | \$43,687.92 | \$43,687.92 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lampeter | \$85,408.20 | \$70,986.84 | \$14,421.36 | 83.11% |
| Oregon | \$7,174.80 | \$7,174.80 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lititz | \$140,753.88 | \$115,673.56 | \$25,080.32 | 82.18% |
| Newtown | \$8,448.12 | \$8,448.12 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lebanon: St. John's | \$14,307.03 | \$10,729.23 | \$3,577.80 | 74.99% |
| Paradise: St. John's | \$25,733.64 | \$25,733.64 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lancaster: Christ | \$33,586.68 | \$24,861.96 | \$8,724.72 | 74.02% |
| Narvon: Mt. Zion | \$16,421.28 | \$16,421.28 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lancaster: Pearl Street | \$17,326.20 | \$12,504.28 | \$4,821.92 | 72.17% |
| Manheim: Ruhl's | \$81,365.78 | \$81,365.78 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Akron: Mt. Zion | \$18,882.72 | \$13,406.85 | \$5,475.87 | 71.00% |
| Schoeneck: Wiest | \$12,755.40 | \$12,755.40 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Ephrata: First | \$132,533.16 | \$86,031.96 | \$46,501.20 | 64.91% |
| Stehman Memorial | \$46,387.68 | \$46,387.68 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Conestoga | \$42,182.16 | \$25,583.13 | \$16,599.03 | 60.65% |
| Green Hill | \$7,457.52 | \$7,457.52 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Lebanon: Iglesia Metodista Unida Nuevo N | \$21,939.48 | \$12,842.16 | \$9,097.32 | 58.53% |
| Terre Hill: St. Paul's | \$12,870.24 | \$12,870.24 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | Mount Hope | \$14,343.24 | \$7,517.13 | \$6,826.11 | 52.41% |
| West Willow | \$31,774.23 | \$31,774.23 | \$0.00 | 100.00% | New Holland: Evangelical | \$91,957.00 | \$44,794.48 | \$47,162.52 | 48.71% |
| | | | | | Neffsville: Long Memorial | \$31,435.68 | \$13,568.08 | \$17,867.60 | 43.16% |
| | | | | | Bird-in-Hand | \$17,686.68 | \$6,052.49 | \$11,634.19 | 34.22% |

In Memoriam

Full death notices are available at www.epaumc.org/death-notice

The Rev. George Thomas

The Rev. George E. Thomas, age 100, a Retired Elder, died on Wednesday, May 9, 2018. He retired in 1985, after serving as pastor to the following churches: Malvern UMC, Millersville: First UMC, Washington Boro UMC, and Berwyn UMC.

He also served in extension ministry as a chaplain: US Navy; Pennington School, NJ; and at Perkiomen School, Pennsburg.

George was the husband of Carmel M. Thomas, who passed in 2011, the father of twin sons, George and John, and a grandfather and great-grandfather. Condolences to the family may be sent in care of George's son, John W. Thomas, 116 Lee Avenue, Lexington, VA 24450.

The Rev. Harry B. Irwin III

The Rev. Harry B. Irwin III, 88, of Yarmouthport, Mass., a Retired Elder of the Eastern PA Conference, passed away on May 4, 2018. In his 44 years of pastoral ministry in our conference, he served the following churches: Grove, Luc-know, Wayne. Phila.: Lawndale, and Norristown: Asbury.

He served in his retirement at First Congregational Church, Yarmouthport, and Union Chapel, Hyannisport, Mass.

Rev. Irwin is survived by his loving

wife of 40 years, Sallie (Moyer) Irwin, and by two daughters: Cindy Irwin and her husband, Bill Singer; and Susan Irwin and two granddaughters.

Expressions of sympathy may be send to Mrs. Sallie M. Irwin, at 1013 W Yarmouth Road, Yarmouthport, MA 02675.

The Rev. Betty A. Ford

The Rev. Betty A. Ford, 80, of Shamokin, died on May 3, 2018. She was a retired local pastor, who served Shamokin: Emmanuel UMC and Shamokin: Zion UMC, while in active service. In retirement, she served Ranshaw: Johnston City UMC.

She is survived by sons and daughters: Cheryl Ann Kleman and husband, Richard; Robert D. Ford; Janet E. Shriner; John Ford and wife, Marlene; eight grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by a brother, Melvin Arnold, in 2016.

The Rev. Paul L. Shumate

The Rev. Paul L. Shumate, of Elizabethtown, died on Friday, May 4, 2018. He served the following churches: Goodwill, Philadelphia: Roxborough Emmanuel (closed), Elizabethtown: St. Paul's, Thorndale, Lampeter, Havertown: Ebenezer (closed), and Mount Joy: Chiques.

Expressions of sympathy may be send to Mrs. Joan Louise Welk Shumate, his wife for nearly 50 years, at 58 Timber Villa, Elizabethtown, PA 17022-9220.

Mrs. Ruthann W. Gotwols

Mrs. Ruthann W. Gotwols, age 94, the surviving spouse of the Rev. G. Webster Gotwols, died March 14, 2018. Together they served the below Eastern PA Conference churches from 1962 to 1986: Goodwill, Columbia: Cookman (closed), Manayunk: Ebenezer (closed), Reading: St. Matthews, Former Shamokin: Lincoln Street (closed), Former Lebanon: Memorial (closed), Lebanon: Mountville, and Reading: Grace.

Mr. Russell Welsh

Mr. Russell Welsh, 74, spouse of the Rev. Barbara J. Welsh, died April 13, 2018. Rev. Welsh served as Licensed Local Pastor to Ash Grove UMC and then retired in 2015. After retirement, she served Mount Carmel: First & Ringtown: Aurand Memorial.

Cards of sympathy may be mailed to: The Rev. Barbara Welsh, 1824 Plum Creek Road, Sunbury PA 17801.

Mrs. Amelia Bemesderfer

Mrs. Amelia Bemesderfer, age 103, died March 28, 2018. She was the surviving spouse of the Rev. James O. Bemesderfer. Together they served the below Eastern PA Conference churches: Birdsboro: Christ, Pottstown: Salem, Allentown: Trinity (closed), Cleona, Lebanon: St. John's, and Mount Gretna. Memories and condolences may be shared at www.FinkenbinderFamily.com.

Rev. Moses Chin Ho Lee

The Rev. Moses Chin Ho Lee, 96, a retired clergy member of the Eastern PA Conference, dies on April 3, 2018. He served First Korean Church of Philadelphia, in Prospectville, from 1982 to 1986, when he retired. His spouse, Mrs. Young-Sun Park Lee, passed away in 2007.

Condolences may be sent to a surviving daughter, the Rev. Mee Sook Lee Park, at 8801 W. Golf Road, Apt. 10A, Niles, IL 60714-5720. Other surviving children for Rev. Moses Chin Ho Lee include: Hyun Sook Hwang (Daughter), Myung Sook Baik (Daughter), Kwang Yoon Lee (Son), Kyung Sook Lim (Daughter), Kwang Sook Lee (Daughter) and, and Ji Sook Lee (Daughter).

Mrs. Eleanor R. Roberts

Mrs. Eleanor R. Roberts died on March 29, 2018. She was the surviving spouse of The Rev. John N. Roberts. Rev. Roberts' service record is as follows: Hamorton, Columbia: First (closed), Mountainhome, Chester: Trinity, Phila.: Camphor Memorial, Lebanon: Covenant, Bangor: First, Lancaster: Otterbein, and then Retirement.

Surviving children are: Mary R. Kelly, John Roberts Jr. & Andrew Roberts. Expressions of sympathy may be send to John Roberts Jr., at: 1649 Krim Courts, Lebanon, PA 17042.



UMC's turns 50!

The United Methodist Church was officially formed on April 23, 1968 with the unification of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church, along with the dissolution of the Central Jurisdiction, a segregated group of African American congregations. This year marks its 50th anniversary.

"Let us rejoice and be glad in this faithful, though not faultless, heritage we share as United Methodists," invites Bishop Peggy Johnson. "Let us clothe ourselves in love, seeking always to be transformed as those redeemed through grace. And let us be glad for our unity in a Christ who 'binds everything together in perfect harmony'" (Colossians 3:14).



BMCR meets with bishop, advances caucus initiatives

Philadelphia Black Methodists for Church Renewal members pray for Bishop Peggy Johnson and her husband, the Rev. Michael Johnson (center), as they depart the caucus' April 15 meeting at Bickley's New Beginning UMC. During her annual visit with the caucus, the bishop spoke and answered questions about plans for Annual Conference, progress and expectations for the Council of Bishops' Commission on A Way Forward and others matters.

BMCR, which meets again June 10 at Evansburg UMC, is involved in the conference's Call to Action initiatives and is raising funds for recovery efforts after 2017's destructive hurricanes. The caucus also cosponsors an annual college scholarship fund and awards luncheon; and it has a new webpage on the conference's website at www.epaumc.org/bmcr.



United Methodist Women urged to boldly change world

A comment on the UM Women's Assembly by Bishop Peggy Johnson:

It was the best one ever! The UMW Assembly was a time when the Holy Spirit moved among us and spurred us on for social justice ministry like never before. UMW General Secretary Harriet Olson encouraged us to lead, to involve as many people as possible and to become actively involved in activism. May it be so!



Latino Commission's Holy Convocation

The conference's Latino Commission held its annual, all-day *Santa Convocación* May 19, hosted by Casa del Pueblo at Lehman UMC, Hatboro. With the theme *El Espíritu Santo en Nuestra Tradición Wesleyana* (The Holy Spirit in our Wesleyan Tradition), they engaged in worship, fellowship and workshops that examined the Holy Spirit's role in various facets of ministry. They also reported on their church ministries and celebrated the leadership of the Rev. Irving Cotto, as he leaves the Cabinet and returns to the local church. *John Coleman photo*



New Lancaster Urban Alliance to improve housing

Seven Lancaster churches and their joint community outreach partner, LUMINA, signed a covenant with conference Urban Ministries coordinator the Rev. William Brawner May 18 to become the Lancaster Urban Alliance. With Urban Commission start-up funds, they will collaborate to address the city's severe lack of affordable housing, high poverty rate and "deteriorating sense of community." Partnering with IMPACT Missions, a local Christian housing ministry, they will renovate a vacant property to sell affordably as they adopt a blighted, high-crime residential block. They plan to dedicate the reborn home with a neighborhood block party June 3. Visit our website to learn more. *Stacy Parmarter photo*



CONAM explores Native American history, concerns, relationships

The conference's Committee on Native American Ministries (CONAM) has led two Loss of Turtle Island interactive demonstrations, the latest at Lititz UMC April 14. The poignant historical journey explores the colonization, broken treaties, forced removal, assimilation and extermination of Native peoples here by early European colonizers and the U.S. government, often with complicity by churches. On April 15, Native American Ministries Sunday, CONAM presented its annual spring worship and learning program at Camp Innabah. It featured illustrated talks by local church leaders about their mission activities and relationships with several Native American schools and communities in the West. *John Coleman photo*



New Certified Lay Ministers celebrated

The 2018 class of newly trained Certified Lay Ministers were celebrated June 3 at Christ UMC Lansdale and presented to a sanctuary full of supporters by program coordinator Judy Ehninger. Bishop Peggy Johnson preached and joined Cabinet members in presenting certificates to the graduates: (front, from left) Elouise Nedwood, Thomasenia Harrell, Sheri Kentner and Nancy Langerfeld; (middle, from left) Marge Kramer and Cathy Cramer; (top, from left) Scott Rafferty, Lela Hartranft and Roger Kresge. *John Coleman photo*