

NOTES ON THE WAY

JUNE – JULY, 2010

A Note from Dean

DS Diggings,

Oh have I been digging these days! No, not in earth or soil, but digging among news publications from BD local churches that are regularly delivered to my office.

I dug into all the local church newsletters I received in a month, read from every single page! My eyes got tired and my muscles a stiff from sitting so long in one chair. I spent the better part of a full day's work just reading through our district churches' news mailings.

I learned a lot. What a very active bunch of local churches we are! You gave many snippets to publish as a list of "The GOOD STUFF," ways we reveal "Countersigns" to the generally bad drift of things around us. I hope you read the entire "COUNTERSIGNS and OTHER GOOD STUFF" column. Share it with your people.

And yet... I realized something else when I read all this printed material about local church life and activities. I realized what an internal focus we all seem to practice. I saw it in the most familiar terms and phrases we use: "the church," "worship *attendance*," "local church members," "worship service," and that vague, imprecise, generic word, "ministry," or, its plural, "ministries."

I saw Calendar listings galore, schedules and lists of officers, offerings, church bills paid and church bills overdue, prayer "concerns," meetings, committees, boards, music rehearsals, building issues, more meetings, Mother-daughter banquets, Kid's and Family

programs, classes, councils, fairs, outings, bazaars and myriad fund-raisers, yet more meetings, programs, projects, collections, causes, seminars, small groups and, of course, important meetings coming up. "*Mark your calendars NOW!*" (There's a *churchy* word!)

I don't criticize these things except to note how much time, money and energy goes into "leading or running a church," and how little seems given to passionate and explicit witness to the world around us of God's mercy, grace and call upon people's lives.

It isn't that all these church activities are wrong, just that they are often detached from our deepest purpose, and that is to express Christ's own compassionate, forgiving, dying, rising, Spirit-directed and God-adoring life, and to *INVITE and GUIDE (teach) OTHERS* to receive and live in that Christ-focused life as well.

It's like baking a cake without the flour. All the other ingredients are useful, valuable and important, but, without the key ingredient that binds them all together, they will not produce the effect they are supposed to produce.

I felt devious as I wrote up inspiring examples of work and witness being done by our local churches. I decided to omit from my reporting the utterly familiar insider language like "local church," "church members," "attendance," and "worship service." Instead I used other language to remind us who we are and why we gather.

And I want to use it as a means to remind us all of our focus this November 5th and 6th when we convene CLUE DAY III – which has a Friday afternoon session for clergy this year, and a Saturday session for clergy AND laity.

Your CLUE DAY III planning team believes that we UM Christians and Churches have largely lost something absolutely vital - a constant, compassionate and confident voice of witness to the Grace and Salvation of God in Jesus Christ.

We know how to care. We try to let people see our "good works." We hope to witness by example. But often the "cup of cold water" we give is passed along without serious mention of the Name in which we give it. That's the part that makes us uncomfortable.

Pastor Brad Kalajainen, UM colleague and faithful practitioner/teacher of grace-filled, explicit Christian witness, will come among us again at Harmony-Zelienople UMC to hold teaching/learning conversations on Christian witness with all District pastors on Friday afternoon November 5th. That conversation will focus on how we can model and teach faithful witnessing to our people.

On Saturday, pastors *and* laity will gather for a deeper study of the practice of Christian witnessing. We'll reflect upon ways, means, methods and creative possibilities that both honor Christ, and honor who we are as individuals with our varying gifts, temperaments personalities, and life experiences.

DS – Diggings continued.

We will also look at how our faith community's *corporate* witness can be given and at how our individual lives and voices share in that.

So, I DO hope you will MARK YOUR CALENDARS now (Please!)

These witness-honing conversations will be much blessed if we come to them with spiritual hunger in our hearts.

Love and Prayers for All!

Dean D. Ziegler, District Pastor

(Who also needs practice in Christian witness)

"COUNTERSIGNS" and other GOOD STUFF on the District

– taken from local church newsletters!

- **Walking around on good-sized feet? It could cost you...!**

Unionville Christian Believers are having fun with a "Shoe Rally" to raise money for a fall mission trip to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Friends and family of trip participants "pay for their shoe size" as a donation for the trip costs. Size 8? You donate \$8. Wearing number 12's? Give \$12.

Say, has anybody called the Bishop about this?

- **Thought-provoking**

Replied one Christian to another who lamented having to pay its UM worldwide network Mission Share because, "the church furnace could go out and we might need that money right here."

"Well then, you won't be seeing any more giving from me."

"Uh, why not?"

"Because... My home furnace could go out and I might need that money right at home!"

Hmmm....

- **Grief Support**

Walter Chapel Christ-followers practice the way of Jesus by blessing those who mourn, and "weeping with those who weep." They host monthly a Grief Support group for those who are in, or who are facing, bereavement, from loss of a loved one. A Hospice Chaplain and a licensed Social Worker guide the conversations.

- **Seeing Jesus in our neighbors: the hungry fed, the homeless sheltered...**

Butler District's Allegheny River Valley UM faith communities are backbone supporters of the region's AVAC (Allegheny Valley Association of Churches) Food Bank program. In 2009, a quarter-million pounds of food was distributed to hungry neighbors. Senior citizens, children, and disabled persons made up 15%, 32% and 26% of total recipients, respectively.

Our Allegheny Valley UM faith communities also house and feed in their facilities, on a rotating basis, homeless individuals and families for week-long periods during which time they share God's love and witness to God's grace and call.

- **Into all the world... and, "washing feet"**

Late in May, Harmony-Zelienople UM Christians will send a dozen local Christians to Tanzania to serve and witness among the people of that land.

Meanwhile, one of HZ's Kids Club dads came and CLEANED THE LARGE STOVE in the church kitchen. (Kitchen workers pronounced the results AMAZING! The large object was previously thought to have been an old dishwasher. ^_^)

It may not qualify as washing feet, but it was probably harder to accomplish, and the servant leadership demonstrated was in the same spirit.

- **Twenty-first Century Giving, plus, BIBLE BIKERZ Motorcyclist Club**

Cabot UM Christians provide online electronic donation options to encourage faithfulness in giving tithes and offerings.

Some Cabot Christian followers reach out to area adults through a club that organizes warm season motorcycle rides, monthly Bible study (year round) and small service projects as a means of blessing witness. In sharing their enthusiasm for motorcycles and cyclists, Cabot Christians' BIBLE BIKERZ CLUB also shares faith with its neighbors.

- **UMCOR Kits steadily flowing in – and out!**

King's Chapel Jesus-Disciples, with 20+ kits assembled or in progress, is just one of dozens of our District faith communities that prepare Health Kits and Cleaning Buckets to channel through our very own "Mission Barn" UMCOR Depot on the grounds of Eastbrook UM's parsonage property (part of a lovely farm bought by this Christian community).

- **Rethinking "Connection"**

"*Thar's GOLD in them thar hills...!*" Well, maybe, and maybe not. But there IS gold to be found if we revisit the power of our UM Christian connectedness. Example: All the UM Christian bodies in the New Castle region will send members to a strategic, focused, Pentecost Sunday afternoon "World Café Conversation" to uncover ways they can work with each other to bless, nurture and strengthen the Christian formation of their own children and those in their neighborhoods and communities. Is your UM faith family optimizing its connectedness these days? Have you considered, lately, this means of renewal and empowerment?

- **What? You have to do Community Service? No, we GET to do community service!**

Nixon UM Christ's-Way followers will follow up on last year's successful Penn Township Community Day with a 2nd event held on their grounds this August 14th. Nixon UM Christians actively bless the community around them in this way, and invite their neighbors to connect with the Nixon UMC faith community as well as with their local street-address communities.

- **Yes we CAN! (Excel in ministry and faithful financial stewardship)**

Creighton: Janes UM Christian apprentices beautified their grounds, repaired falling-down embankment walls with a major redesign/rebuild, and spiffed up signage along the busy thoroughfare fronting their congregation's place of meeting. Every driver that passes now sees that this is a UM faith body with expanding energy and life. The outside of their neighborhood ministry home base speaks of good happening inside.

Janes UM believers' "We See Signs" ministry continues to sow seeds and build connections with members of the deaf community, a difficult sub-culture to penetrate and build trust among. When a body of Christians finds its best ministry, using its members' gifts – in this case, the ability to welcome, accept and bless folks with all manner of physical or mental/emotional challenges – it discovers its own true life, and others are drawn to it. The Janes UM faith family has experienced steady significant growth in Koinonia as well as in worship gatherings over the past several years.

OH! Almost forgot. The \$42,000 loan taken to cover their facilities improvement was paid in full in just 2 years and 7 months, YEARS ahead of schedule. If Janes can meet a sudden financial challenge - where borrowing is the only option at the time - perhaps your local UM Christian Community can be inspired meet its financial challenges as well.

- **Beyond the walls? Yes, beyond even the sea!**

College Hill's UM Christ-honoring women collect and send items needed by the Maternal and Child Health Units of the Mutambara Mission Hospital in Zimbabwe. Thanks, CHUM Women for modeling discipleship that goes "into all the world," and for showing just one way that our regional UM partnership with Zimbabwe can be expressed.

- **Major UM Faith Community Milestones**

On Easter Sunday, Butler First UM's resurrection people sent their Sunday morning Crossfire Service worshipers to a new site north of town, after extensively renovating a building they leased there. It was virtually an SRO opening! Each Sunday since Easter as well has brought *full capacity* gatherings for worship at this new site.

Though now exploring a multi-site strategy, Butler First Christ-revealers remain committed to a compassionate center city presence and witness. Together, they purchased a large, vacated multi-level Knights of Columbus building located behind its downtown home ministry base to house their addiction recovery and other neighbor and people-blessing ministries.

Chippewa UM Christians will soon break ground for a new Community Life Center near their chief gathering facility. Evangelistic outreach to youth and families through believer-run athletic programs is a key goal of this project, as well as blessing and witnessing to all neighbors in general. Already, several schools and at least one college have inquired about renting the new full size gymnasium in the community center, when completed, for basketball tournaments, volleyball games and practices and other events.

- **Creative Caring**

Through “Bead Parties,” UM Christ-expressers, based at New Castle’s Croton Avenue neighborhood site, promote sales, and directly buy, beaded jewelry made by African women to market among Christ-followers and others in America. The parties are fun, the products colorful and pleasing, and the end result is a grass-roots commerce project that witnesses to the oneness of Christ’s body and helps eradicate poverty among African women and families “one bead at a time.”

- **Outward Focused Faith Community**

Beginning with Mission Share, but not ending there, Sarver: Zion UM Jesus-witnesses sent \$7,462 - or 21% of their March income – to serve, and bear witness to, the great and needy world beyond them. These UM Christ-believers gave \$5,600 to a wide variety of United Methodist works (includes their \$3,400 March Mission Share), and another \$1,800+ to local community and other congregation-connected mission sites or projects.

It is clear that Sarver: Zion UM Disciples consistently look beyond themselves. Is it eye-opening (it should not be!) that financial pressure is rarely a problem for this body of Christ-obeyers? They find that more they give, the more their ability to give grows!

- **Thinking Ahead for Vital Ministry**

Mars UM and Dutilh UM Christians voted in April to merge and *become one Christian Family Group, worshiping at two different sites*. Mars United Methodists are very strategically located and want to focus on authentic ministry and witness to the population around them, rather than merely surviving. By joining with Dutilh United Methodist Christ-witnesses, they now have deeper resources to help them reach the tens of thousands of people living in, or moving into, the greater Mars region. While pastoral leadership will be supplied by the Dutilh UM faith family’s two Elders and one Deacon, Mars UM Kingdom-workers bring their own unique resources and Gospel gifts into the merger as well. Christians at both sites find strength and encouragement from one another, and ministry grows stronger at both sites because of their shared life and vision.



Alyce Weaver Dunn Installation Set: Alyce Weaver Dunn will be installed as the Johnstown District Superintendent at 6 p.m., June 20 at Belmont UMC in Johnstown. All are invited to attend.



June

3 Cathy Newport-Poff
7 John Jefferis
26 David Wilson

July

11 Bruce Mould
17 Fred Smith
19 Rex Wasser
24 Molly Brown

June 18 Elise Jefferis

July

4 Nancy Wilson
5 Jim Cummins
7 Andrew Wasser
10 Adam Goswick
11 Caroline Judd
16 Tracy Cox
18 Shannon Wasser
21 Sarah Cox
26 Joy Durlless

Happy Anniversary

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call or email the District Office, we would like to celebrate your special day with you!

June

3	Matt & Allison Judd
5	Russ & June Perry
6	Jean & Wayne Smith
12	Glenn & Janet Kohlhepp
14	Roger & Sally Shaffer
15	David & Suzanne Ealy

July

1	Hope & Jim Cummins
4	Ron & Emma Naugle
11	Dean & Linda Ziegler
13	Willard & Carol Morse
27	John & Elise Jefferis
27	Frank & Mary Garlathy
27	OJ & Joy Jones

Prayer

- Continued prayer for Glea Foster , Chicora & Karns City UMC, for ongoing cancer treatment.
- Greg Cox, College Hill UMC, was hit by a care while biking in North Park Greg underwent surgery on his shoulder on May 25.
- David Wilson, Aliquippa UMC, had back surgery on May 4th and was readmitted to Montefiore Hospital after developing an infection. David spent some time in ICU in Montefiore, being diagnosed with spinal meningitis and staph infection. He has had several surgeries after being readmitted to the hospital. David was discharged on May 24th.
- Update from Rob Kifer, Pulaski UMC, and his granddaughter, Kylie. To update you...Kylie has been hospitalized in Philadelphia since last Thursday. She started the Hershey Eating Disorders program on Monday (5/10) and the Doctors discovered critically low Potassium levels and a serious pattern of heart arrhythmias. She was put in Hershey for medical stabilization and transferred by ambulance to Friends Hospital where they have a specialized Inpatient Eating Disorders unit. Kylie's recovery is going well (Praise God!) and she has set a goal to be discharged by next Friday, so that she can be home for her High School Graduation during the week of 5/31. We are hoping and praying that she will be able to participate in her Graduation (6/3 & 4). After Graduation, she will return to Hershey's ED program for a 2-3 month period. At least that is a Monday through Friday program so we can be together as a family weekends and in worship!
- Kenn Jacobs, Bethel & Tucker UMC, will have eye surgery at Mercy Hospital on May 28 for a possible torn retina. It is same day surgery, but will require a long healing process.

JUNE-JULY CANDENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE	1	Book Club session 5 – Christ Community UMC	10 AM
	3	Cabinet AC Prep Day	
	6	Lay Ministry School Review – time and place	TBA
	9-13	<u>Annual Conference – Grove City College</u>	
	13	Ordination Service – All Pastors & Deacons present	
	16	DCOM – Reorganizational meeting – H-Z UMC	9 AM
	20	Installation Service for Alyce Weaver Dunn – Belmont UMC	6 PM
	21-22	Cabinet	
	24	<u>CHARGE CONFERENCE BRIEFING – H-Z UMC</u>	10 AM
	27	CLERGY FAMILY PICNIC – MORaine STATE PARK Early arrival to swim/bike/hike – on your own.	5 - 7 PM
JULY	8	<u>CHARGE CONFERENCE BRIEFING – H-Z UMC</u>	10 AM
	12	DS – Fifth year mini-leave begins	

Charge conference briefings are two identical sessions. Please choose one to attend!

BUTLER DISTRICT APPOINTMENT CHANGES

Corner, Larry T.

From Boyers and Eau Claire: Bethel

To Centerville and Taylor

Updegraff, Richard D.

From Noblestown, Federal, and McDonald

To Boyers and Eau Claire: Bethel

Zahn, Nancy G.

From Centerville and Taylor

To Beaver Falls: Riverview

Knobel, Kurtis A.

From Thorncreek and Emory Chapel

To Thorncreek, Emory Chapel, and Connoquenessing... (new charge alignment)

Verner, R. Andrew

To Baden

Hilton, Gary

From Homewood

To Homewood and Volant... (new charge alignment)

Shute, Nancy K.

From Connequenessing

To Union Roads

Bailey, D. Edward

From Baden

To New Castle: First

Parkinson, James W.

From Beaver Falls: Riverview

To Union City: First

Vanderhoff, Jeffrey A.

From Johnstown: Bethany

To Brackenridge: Trinity

Weaver Dunn, Alyce

From Brackenridge: Trinity

To Johnstown District Superintendent

Wasser, Rex A.

From Epworth/West Pittsburg

To Epworth/New Wilmington/West Pittsburg

Nelson, Patrica M.

From New Wilmington

To Butler: First Assoc.

Retiring in 2010

Orville "OJ" Jones from Rochester: Zion UMC

John D. Miller – from New Castle: First UMC

- Audit Reports are now overdue. Please submit your local church audit.
- **PASTOR EVALUATIONS ARE NOW DUE.**

WE WILL BEGIN ONE ON ONES IN JUNE THIS YEAR
PRIOR TO DEAN'S RENEWAL LEAVE.

Your Pastor Evaluation must be in the office prior to your One on One.

Thelma will be begin vacation on May 31

and will return to the office on June 7.

Phone messages and emails will be answered when she returns.

Pastor Dean works at his home office at times, and can be reached there.

(H) 724-452-0585 (Cell) 724-504-7355

MISSION SHARE PAID THROUGH APRIL 30, 2010

Church Name	Charge Name	2010 MS	Paid through 4/30/2010	Pct%
Aliquippa: First	Aliquippa	\$25,693	\$5,028	19.6%
Ambridge: First	Ambridge/Economy	\$12,077	\$3,019	25.0%
Economy	Ambridge/Economy	\$3,681	\$1,228	33.4%
Ambridge: Fellowship	Ambridge: Fellowship	\$2,652	\$0	0.0%
Baden	Baden	\$21,722	\$0	0.0%
Bairdford	Bairdford	\$7,385	\$2,462	33.3%
Beaver County: Bethel	Beaver County Bethel/Tucker	\$3,392	\$1,700	50.1%
Tucker	Beaver County Bethel/Tucker	\$3,357	\$3,357	100.0%
Wampum	Beaver Falls: North	\$5,791	\$2,413	41.7%
Clinton	Beaver Falls: North	\$3,123	\$521	16.7%
BF: Bennetts Run	Beaver Falls: North	\$2,491	\$0	0.0%
BF: Central	Beaver Falls:City Charge	\$8,108	\$1,110	13.7%
BF: First	Beaver Falls:City Charge	\$5,148	\$1,287	25.0%
BF: Otterbein	Beaver Falls:City Charge	\$5,604	\$560	10.0%
Beaver: First	Beaver: First	\$14,759	\$4,825	32.7%
BF: College Hill	BF: College Hill	\$21,752	\$3,625	16.7%
BF: Concord	BF: Concord	\$64,134	\$18,706	29.2%
BF: Riverview	BF: Riverview	\$14,832	\$4,113	27.7%
Boyers	Boyers/Eau Claire: Bethel	\$6,240	\$1,050	16.8%

Eau Claire: Bethel	Boyers/Eau Claire: Bethel	\$7,913	\$1,200	15.2%
Brackenridge: Trinity	Brackenridge: Trinity	\$32,150	\$6,000	18.7%
Bridgewater	Bridgewater	\$5,980	\$0	0.0%
Bruin	Bruin	\$5,011	\$1,670	33.3%
Ridgeville	Bruin	\$3,485	\$0	0.0%
Petrolia: Fairview	Bruin	\$1,528	\$1,528	100.0%
Brush Run	Brush Run	\$12,903	\$2,640	20.5%
Craigsville	Buffalo	\$1,456	\$0	0.0%
Fenelton	Buffalo	\$1,252	\$0	0.0%
McKee Chapel	Buffalo	\$1,478	\$494	33.4%
Christ Community	Butler: Christ	\$39,390	\$9,848	25.0%
Butler: First	Butler: First	\$141,381	\$44,309	31.3%
Cabot	Cabot	\$33,085	\$11,032	33.3%
Karns City	Chicora/Karns City	\$7,963	\$2,654	33.3%
Chicora	Chicora/Karns City	\$6,068	\$2,250	37.1%
Chippewa	Chippewa	\$91,285	\$30,572	33.5%
Connoquenessing	Connoquenessing	\$8,326	\$2,776	33.3%
Millerstown	Country Chapel	\$3,304	\$826	25.0%
Walter Chapel	Country Chapel	\$3,274	\$2,000	61.1%
Creighton: Janes	Creighton: Janes	\$9,625	\$3,220	33.5%
Eastbrook	Eastbrook	\$11,591	\$0	0.0%
Ellwood City: First	Ellwood City	\$19,647	\$1,943	9.9%
Freeport	Freeport	\$18,460	\$3,077	16.7%
Georgetown	Georgetown/Smiths Ferry	\$2,265	\$400	17.7%
Smiths Ferry	Georgetown/Smiths Ferry	\$1,671	\$418	25.0%
Harmony-Zelienople	Harmony-Zelienople	\$60,536	\$20,373	33.7%
Homewood	Homewood	\$3,287	\$1,400	42.6%
Kaylor	Kaylor/Queenstown	\$1,890	\$630	33.3%
Queenstown	Kaylor/Queenstown	\$1,668	\$150	9.0%
Koppel: First	Koppel	\$3,438	\$1,160	33.7%
Mars	Mars	\$19,074	\$816	4.3%
Midland	Midland Ecum Parish	\$2,182	\$0	0.0%
Green Valley	Midland Ecum Parish	\$1,978	\$659	33.3%
Monaca	Monaca	\$17,677	\$4,419	25.0%
Natrona Heights: Center	Natrona Heights: Center	\$26,193	\$1,741	6.6%
Natrona Heights: Grace	Natrona Heights: Grace	\$14,455	\$1,500	10.4%
NC: Croton Ave	NC: Croton Ave	\$11,988	\$910	7.6%
NC: Epworth	NC: Epworth/West Pittsburg	\$17,426	\$0	0.0%
West Pittsburg	NC: Epworth/West Pittsburg	\$2,665	\$889	33.4%
New Castle: First	NC: First	\$27,799	\$86	0.3%
NC: King's Chapel	NC: King's Chapel/Wesley	\$11,321	\$1,079	9.5%
NC: Wesley	NC: King's Chapel/Wesley	\$7,847	\$0	0.0%
NC: Savannah	NC: Savannah	\$14,725	\$4,912	33.4%
New Brighton	New Brighton	\$36,933	\$9,233	25.0%
New Wilmington	New Wilmington	\$14,846	\$250	1.7%
Nixon	Nixon	\$20,622	\$5,156	25.0%
Pulaski	Pulaski	\$12,932	\$800	6.2%
Rochester: First	Rochester	\$28,533	\$8,210	28.8%

Rochester: Zion	Rochester: Zion	\$4,864	\$634	13.0%
Forestville	Saint Johns/Forestville	\$2,594	\$649	25.0%
Slippery Rock: Saint Johns	Saint Johns/Forestville	\$5,919	\$1,480	25.0%
Sarver: Zion	Sarver: Zion	\$40,938	\$13,668	33.4%
Slippery Rock	Slippery Rock	\$23,875	\$2,331	9.8%
Springdale	Springdale	\$13,517	\$2,872	21.2%
Emory Chapel	Thorncreek/Emory Chapel	\$7,714	\$944	12.2%
Thorncreek	Thorncreek/Emory Chapel	\$11,953	\$3,000	25.1%
Unionville	Unionville	\$18,954	\$5,700	30.1%
Valencia	Valencia	\$11,395	\$2,142	18.8%
Volant	Volant	\$4,231	\$2,131	50.4%
Hilliards	West Liberty	\$1,872	\$633	33.8%
Branchton	West Liberty	\$3,973	\$331	8.3%
West Liberty	West Liberty	\$4,176	\$348	8.3%
Wurtemberg	Wurtemberg	\$13,262	\$3,136	23.6%
BUTLER DISTRICT TOTALS		\$1,231,684	\$288,232	23.4%

Imagine NO Malaria

The DS and some Mission Team members recently met with Laura Meenges, the field coordinator for 'Imagine NO Malaria' (the second stage of Nothing But Nets), to discuss how our District can be part of a concerted effort to combat malaria worldwide. Laura presented a plan which is working successfully in two other United Methodist conferences and is now being launched in our own Western Penna. Conference. Several persons have been asked to attend a training session, conducted by Laura, and will be sharing the campaign with every church in the District.

Where Nothing But Nets provided treated mosquito nets to persons in Africa, this next stage will provide prevention (nets plus medication), education (how to: recognize symptoms, what causes malaria, where and what treatment is available), communication (a radio station/towers broadcasting health information AND the Gospel of Jesus Christ), and treatment (more: medications, nets clinics and hospitals).

Malaria is more than a treatable disease, it is a "beatable" disease!! When you are contacted by one of the District presenters, please provide a setting/s for them to share the campaign with your congregants.

Two information gatherings have been held with four more regional times planed in June.

From that growing group – a Mobilization Team will be created. Members of the team will be available to speak with your church leaders, to help your church get on board.....together we can meet the goal to eliminate malaria by 2015

Butler District United Methodist Women

2010 Dates to Remember

July 12-16 Cooperative School of Christian Mission

July 16-18 Week-end School



School of Christian Mission 2010

The Cooperative School of Christian Mission will be held at Grove City College. Mark your calendars now. The four day school will be July 12-16th and the weekend school will be July 16-18th. Both programs will be at Grove City College. Check the WPA Conference calendar for details and to register.

Mark your calendar!

CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE

Please address all Butler District Office correspondence to: Butler District Office, 317 German Street, Harmony, PA 16037

Phone: 724-452-0589 (remains the same)

Fax: 724-452-1628 (changed when we move to our new location)

Mail to the District Parsonage: (remains the same)

Rev Dean (and Linda) Ziegler, 204 Gregg Drive Ext, Harmony, PA 16037

Volunteers In Mission Updates

Trucker Needed: The Eastbrook Mission Barn is looking for a licensed (CDL) trucker, preferably with a semi rig, to volunteer to deliver a load of verified UMCOR kits to the Sager-Brown UMCOR Depot in Baldwin, LA. All expenses will be paid. If you can make this delivery, contact Rev. Nelson Thayer at 724/ 462-4090.

CONFERENCE ENCOUNTER COMMITTEE SELECTS COLOMBIA CHURCH BUILDING PROJECT

by David Stains, Conference Liaison

When the Conference Committee on Encounter with Christ in Latin America agreed to take on a church building mission in Malambo, Colombia, it was a surprise to find how this dovetails with other current projects. In fact, a number of conferences have been taking on similar projects across the United States, as awareness grows of both the needs and potential of the Colombian Methodists. Robert Rabb, the brother of Clinton Rabb, the VIM Director who lost his life in the Haiti earthquake, is the prime advocate for the wave of church building projects in Colombia. According to Mr. Rabb, the Methodist Church is experiencing great success in Colombia partly because it represents a ministry of care and tolerance in a society that has been experiencing turmoil and upheaval. The growth of the church in numbers has awakened the need for the construction of church buildings. Greg Forrester, the VIM Director of the Northeast Jurisdiction, has also responded to this need with a plan to build an important church center not far from Bogatá.

Our own Conference project in Malambo grew from a visit of one of our committee members, Mrs. Magaly Johnson of Evans Memorial UM Church, to her native Colombia. As she visited the office of the Bishop, she was introduced to the congregation in Malambo as a project worthy of attention. The growing congregation has been meeting in homes and vacant lots, and only recently has acquired a lot for building. The Encounter Committee has proposed to send a VIM team in March of 2011. Person who would like to consider volunteering should contact Dr. David Stains, Box 427, Lewis Run, PA 16738. Contributions to the building project, estimated to cost \$40,000.00, can be sent to the Conference Treasurer's office using the Advance Special # SS005100CSA.

CHANGE the WORLD

...a missional network...partnership with Gimghamsburg Church

Life is too short,

the **mission** to critical,

the **call** too compelling,

to simply

“play church”...

Kick off event – October 20-22, 2010

(brochures available from the district office.)

Westbury's 21st Annual Chicken BBQ and Craft Fair

Westbury United Methodist Community, 31 N. Park Ave, Meadville, PA 16335 814-332-9000

Sunday, July 18, 2010

11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Admission is Free

Donations for Meals are \$9.00 for Adults

And \$4.00 for Children (age 10 or younger)

Proceeds benefit Wesbury Residents!

June 18, 2010

Pittsburgh Pirates

-VS-

Cleveland Indians

Game time is 7:05 pm.

Seats are \$21 and are in sections 125 and 127.

It is Bill Mazerowski Canvas Photo Wrap Night and receive a free Clemente T-shirt!

Order Information: Order online at www.wpaumc.org. Tickets will then be sent to you.

Make check payable to WPAUMC; send to 1204 Freedom Rd. Cranberry Township PA 16066. Tickets will be sent out to you. Please indicate game date on check.

Stop by the Conference Center to purchase and pick up tickets .

BUTLER DISTRICT ANNUAL CLERGY FAMILY PICNIC

Moraine State Park

June 27, 2010

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Pavilion 04 - Lakeview

Hotdogs, buns and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish to share, table covering, and place settings.

Come early - to swim/bike/hike – on your own

Please note: Road construction will change the traffic pattern. See the Home Page of the Butler District Website for directions and a map. <http://wpaumc.org/districts/detail/24>

Application for Church Renewal Grant

Grant Application will be available on the Conference website under forms.

For a church to receive funding there will have to be a clear plan in place for the making of new disciples for Christ and that requests will only be considered where new ministry will be done and any possible future funding will be granted only when an accounting is provided for funds received and progress is being made toward new vitality.

Vision: To ignite and sustain a passionate, spiritual connection with Christ among all people in Western Pennsylvania.

Mission: To provide leadership, connection, and resources to disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Core Value: Our core value is love: We love the Lord our God with all our hearts, souls, minds and strength and our neighbors as ourselves. This value is commanded by Jesus, inspired by our Wesleyan heritage including to spread scriptural holiness over the land and witnessed through our integrity, accountability and inclusiveness.

Renewal Grants are available to help churches implement their disciple-making plans.

Grant Process

1. Develop a disciple-making plan for your church or group of churches
2. Determine the resources needed to implement the plan. Determine what resources you currently have or can obtain. Determine what funds via the Renewal Grant are needed to implement the plan.
3. Complete application cover page
4. Write a narrative, following the directions on the application. Write at least a short paragraph about each point. The narrative should be detailed enough to describe your plan.
5. Complete the application budget page
6. Attach copies of the current church budget, previous year's audit report and the current Treasurer's report
7. Show payment history for the previous 5 years for Mission Share.
8. Obtain signatures from the Pastor, Chair of the Church Council, Project Manager and the District Superintendent. If the project is a cooperative effort, obtain signatures from the other churches.
9. Submit the application and supporting documentation by email to Jeff Bobin, crd@wpaumc.org
10. Provide additional information, if requested by the Parish and Community Development Committee
11. Evaluate your project and submit feedback to the committee, as agreed upon when the grant was awarded

Awarding Process

1. Funds must be available.
2. Grants will be given to congregations that want to develop and/or redevelop discipleship in their church and/or community.
3. Grants will be targeted specially to congregations with limited resources and may not be used to fund budget items, ongoing projects or regular expense shortfalls.
4. Maximum grant will be \$10,000.
5. Grants will be given **one time**, and no more than three can be received in a 10 period.
6. Applications will be reviewed after May 1 and October 1 each year.

NON-PROFIT STATUS

Don't put your non-profit status in jeopardy! -----Have you submitted your Pa Dept of State - Annual Statement - Nonprofit Corp.

Direct link - <http://wpaumc.org/forms/detail/508>



Butler District
317 German Street
Harmony, PA 16037

Phone: 724-452-0589

Fax: 724-452-1628

Butler.office@wpaumc.org (Office)

Butler.district@wpaumc.org (DS)

Notes On the Way

June-July 2010