

## At AC08, Build on Foundation of Love



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This June, join United Methodist

from across Western PA in *Building on a Foundation of Love*. Pray for the nearly 1,800 clergy and elected lay members of the 2008 Annual Conference, June 12-15 at Grove City College, and the volunteers working concurrently to blitz-build a United Methodist Habitat House in nearby Mercer.

Work on the UM Habitat House begins June 7, the Saturday before the conference session, and continues through the week, with video feeds from the site to allow sessions participants to see the progress. You can volunteer to help.

"The blitz-build project demonstrates the reality that we as United Methodists are in mission while we are in meeting," said Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton. "We are a multi-faceted, multi-talented people who use all of our gifts to bless God's people."

The Bishop chose *Building on a Foundation of Love* as the theme for 2008 Annual Conference because it ties in the UM Habitat House and the core value of *Love from our Believe Again! Plan for Ministry*. "We have to build a foundation of love if we are ever to realize our hope for a transformed denomination and transformed local churches," he explained.

Visitors are welcome any time during AC08. Come to sing with the Conference Choir, visit the displays, bring UMCOR kits, enjoy the music and rhythms of the

**Youth are vital to annual conference as pages, voting members and, above, for a fun factor.**

Rev. Chris Heckert and the Global Praise Band and hear two dynamic guests who will offer their preaching and teaching.

Bishop Greg Palmer of the Iowa Area, the new president of the Council of Bishops, will be guest preacher, bringing messages Friday and Saturday. The Rev. Grace Imathiu, a native of Kenya who has led studies at several international evangelism events, will be Bible study teacher on Friday and Saturday morning.

"I love annual conference and I look forward to sharing a week of grace and love with all the members and participants in our session, as well as the UM Habitat House project." Bishop Bickerton said. "I hope and expect that we will have another wonderful time of inspiration and discernment."

To learn more, volunteer, join the choir or watch streaming video during annual conference, go to [www.wpaumc.org](http://www.wpaumc.org).

-- By Jackie Campbell, Staff Writer



Join United Methodists throughout Western Pennsylvania in studying these Bible passages from the *Revised Common Lectionary* and praying for these ministers and persons:

### May 18-24

**Read:** Gen. 1:1-2, 4a; Ps. 8 (UMH 743); 2 Cor. 13:11-13; Mat. 28:16-20  
Trinity Sunday/First Sunday after Pentecost: White

**Pray for:**

- ✚ Seneca UMC, Franklin Dist., Robert H. Wilson, pastor
- ✚ Belle Vernon:First UMC, Connellsville Dist., David Zona, pastor
- ✚ Perryopolis & Concord UMCs, Connellsville Dist., Michael Long, pastor
- ✚ Corry:First UMC, Erie-Meadville Dist., John Zimmerman, pastor
- ✚ Valter UM Charge, Indiana Dist., Rick Butler, pastor
- ✚ Franklin:First UMC, Franklin Dist., Richard K. Harry, pastor

### May 25-31

**Read:** Is. 49:8-16a; Ps. 131 or 62:5-12 (UMH 787); 1 Cor. 4:1-5; Mat. 6:24-34  
Second Sunday after Pentecost: Green

**Pray for:**

- ✚ Shanksville & Central City UMCs, Johnstown Dist., Randall Newell, pastor
- ✚ West Homestead UMC, Pitsburgh Dist., Robert Critchlow, pastor
- ✚ Tucker UMC, Washington Dist., Wayne Schar, pastor
- ✚ Rector UM Charge, Greensburg Dist., Richard E. Bowser, pastor
- ✚ New Covenant UM Charge, Franklin Dist., Robert P. Hermon, pastor; Kenneth Hughes, associate

### May 4-10

**Read:** Acts 1:6-14; Ps. 68:1-10, 32-35 (UMH 792); 1 Pet. 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11  
Seventh Sunday of Easter: White or Gold

**Pray for:**

- ✚ Duke Center UMC, Kane Dist., Paul G. Fields, pastor
- ✚ Harrison City:Community UMC, Greensburg Dist., John E. Ciampa, pastor; Patricia Ciampa, deacon
- ✚ Harrisville:Pleasantview UMC, Franklin Dist., Ronald L. Hankey, pastor
- ✚ Corry:Evangelical UMC, Erie-Meadville Dist., Anette Gerber, pastor
- ✚ Sharon:First UMC, Franklin Dist., Jeffrey D. Sterling, pastor
- ✚ Madison UMC, Greensburg Dist., C. James Kutiz, pastor

### May 11-17

**Read:** Acts 2:1-21; Ps. 104:24-34, 35b (UMH 826); 1 Cor. 12:3b-13; John 7:37-39  
Day of Pentecost: Red

**Pray for:**

- ✚ US Air Force, Kelvin G. Gardner, chaplain
- ✚ Monongahela UM Parish, Washington Dist., James Lewis, pastor
- ✚ Timblin UM Charge, Indiana Dist., Justin Judy, pastor
- ✚ Bairdford UMC, Butler Dist., Jerry Pawloski, pastor
- ✚ Shepherd Wellness Center, Pitsburgh Dist., B. Scott Peterman, executive director
- ✚ New Castle:Wayside Emmanuel UMC, Butler Dist., Hope Cummins, pastor