

Franklin District NewsNotes 2-20-2014

Many links are included in this publication. If you have trouble with the link....hold the Ctrl key down and click on the link.

New & Updated items in this issue of NewsNotes:

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Happy Birthday!

February:

2/20 Lynne Bargar
2/22 Rev. William Smith
2/26 Ruth Crocker

Happy Anniversary!

February:

-None for this week

Prayer Concerns

- Dee Henley will be having knee replacement surgery next week at Greenville Hospital. (2/27)
 - Barb Hehman, wife of Rev. Walt Hehman, recovering from surgery
 - Maryne Eddinger at the passing of Rev. Dick Eddinger
 - Harry Applegate, husband of Rev. Julie Applegate. He is now on home hospice care.
 - Cabinet during the appointment season
 - Churches and pastors receiving new appointments this year
 - Ruth Higginbotham –testing and treatments
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NEW-March is Women's History Month [Celebrating Women of Courage, Character and Commitment](#)

GCSRW (General Commission on the Status and Role of Women) offers prayers, calls to worship and liturgies that can be used throughout the month of March as we mark Women's History Month.

[Information](#)

Deadline Extended-Youth Invited to Apply for **Zimbabwe Trip**-Deadline to apply is **March 1st**. Senior high school-age students are invited to apply to be part of a youth team traveling to Zimbabwe from **August 5- 21** to participate in a revival known as the Ebenezer Convention. Info and application: [Youth Zimbabwe Trip](#)

Lenten Resources for 2014 - Take time this Lent to focus on your spiritual life with the Society of St. Andrew Lenten Devotions Program, [Create in Me a Clean Heart](#). Make room in your busy days throughout the season of Lent (**March 5 – April 20**) for a few minutes each day reading scripture, reflecting on a brief meditation, and praying, to prepare your heart and your life to experience the grief of Jesus crucified and the glory of him resurrected.

TONIGHT! - Thursday, February 20, 2014 - WPA Conference United Methodist Ministers' Chorus at 7 pm – Sugarcreek UMC, 443 Sugarcreek Drive, Franklin. Admission is **FREE!** A free-will offering will be received.

Next concert on March 20, 2014 at Summerville U. M. Church, Indiana District

To schedule a concert, contact [Rev. John V. King](#), Ministers' Chorus Secretary at 724-475-2660

Friday, February 21: Third Friday Dinner at Barkeyville UM Church, 5420 Pittsburgh Rd, Harrisville, PA 16038. Menu: Lasagna, salad, homemade bread and dessert. Donation Only. 4:30 to 6:30 pm.

Moodle 300: Course Facilitation - Registration will be open through Monday, February 24

This course is not recommended for beginners. Previous attendance in Moodle Basic, Moodle Advanced training, or a working knowledge of online learning is highly recommended.

Start Moodle Course Facilitation when it best fits your schedule and move at your own pace. This course includes eight weeks of instruction. A course facilitator will respond to your work and answer questions via forums.

A limited number of virtual seats are available and are first come, first serve. Registration closes at the end of the day on **Monday, February 24.** [Moodle 300](#)

NEW-United Methodism 101 Course: February 26 - April 23

[United Methodism 101](#) is designed for new church members and anyone else wanting to know more about our:

- History
- Beliefs
- Challenges
- Structure
- Ministries

Cost: \$9.99 | [Preview](#) | [Register](#) The course includes four web-based lessons, each with many interactive features. Lessons take about 30 minutes to complete. Start each course when it best fits your schedule and move at your own pace. Each course includes six weeks of instruction. A course facilitator will respond to your work and answer questions via forums. **A limited number of virtual seats are available. First come, first serve.** Seats will no longer be available after the course is full or after Monday, February 24.

2014 Confirmation Class Tours at the WPA UMC Conference Center

February 27, 2014-Thursday at 1 pm [Register](#)

March 21, 2014-Friday at 9 am [Register](#) and 1 pm [Register](#)

March 28, 2014-Friday at 9 am [Register](#) and 1 pm [Register](#)

March 29, 2014-Saturday at 9 am [Register](#)

April 4, 2014-Friday at 9 am [Register](#) and 1 pm [Register](#)

May 1, 2014-Thursday at 9 am [Register](#) and 1 pm [Register](#)

Living into Scripture as an Inclusive Church - Bishop Grant Hagiya and Dr. Steve Tuell will be partnering to lead a seminar "**Living into Scripture as an Inclusive Church**" on **February 28, 2014** at St Paul's United Methodist Church in Allison Park, PA. This is the second event hosted by Western Pennsylvania Reconciling Ministries. Clergy who participate will receive a .5 CEU credit. [Living into Scripture as an Inclusive Church.pdf](#) Questions? Contact any member of the WPA Reconciling Ministries Core Team listed in the flyer or Tracy Merrick TRACYRM@aol.com

From This Day Forward: Author and speaker Dan Seaborn, founder of the Winning at Home ministry, will lead a Marriage Enrichment Weekend from **February 28-March 2** at the Sheraton Station Square in Pittsburgh. It's sponsored by Christian Counseling Associates, which has offices in several Western PA churches. [Get details.](#)

Updated-2013 AUDIT REPORT--DUE MARCH 1, 2014 An Excel [auto-calculation](#) Fund Balance Report form is downloadable from <http://www.gcfa.org/forms> under Charge Conference forms. Audits are due in the District office by Mar. 1st. This allows adequate time for Audit Committees to complete their work.

Tricky Business: Saturday, March 1 from 9 am – 4 pm - *Tricky Business: Making Change for a Diverse World*. Rev. Michael Russell and Mr. James Addington from Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training will lead the daylong event at Anne Ashley UMC, 334 E 22nd St, Munhall, PA 15120. Food, beverages, and child care provided. [Please RSVP by February 21st to ewr54@comcast.net](#) [Details](#)

2014 Certified Lay Minister (CLM) Training-The **commuter school** begins on **March 1st** and runs through the end of April (no classes will be held Easter weekend). Location: Manorville UMC (near Kittanning), 800 Water Street, Manorville, PA 16238. The **summer residential school** will be held August 3 - 13th at Olmsted. [clm spring 2014 application.pdf](#)

MTSO hosts Brodbeck Organ Concert March 2

Methodist Theological School in Ohio Organist in Residence Joshua Brodbeck will present an organ concert at 7 p.m. March 2 in the Alford Centrum on the MTSO campus, 3081 Columbus Pike in Delaware. The concert is open to the public. A freewill offering will benefit music education at the seminary.

A concert organist since the age of 12, Brodbeck has performed live throughout the United States and for television and public radio. He won the Indianapolis American Guild of Organists' Young Artists competition in 2007 and has received numerous other awards. Brodbeck holds certificates from the American Guild of Organists and is a member of the Royal College of Organists. He has studied at the Capital University Conservatory of Music and Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. In addition to his position at MTSO, he is minister of music and artist in residence at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Upper Arlington. The concert will feature works by J.S. Bach, Craig Phillips and William Albright, among others, played on the Alford Centrum pipe organ. www.mtso.edu.

NEW Scholarships

Apply by March 5 for UMC Scholarships, Loans: Applications for low-interest student loans and scholarships are being accepted through March 5 by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. [Get details.](#)

WPAUMC Scholarships: Scholarship descriptions and application forms are available at WPAUMC.org/scholarshipforms

Clergy Tax seminar

Updated-March 6, 2014-The annual **Clergy Tax seminar** will be held from **9 am – 2:30 pm** at Grace UMC, 210 South Broad Street, Grove City, PA 16127. It has been designed to help clergy better understand the filing of their income-tax returns for 2013. Cost is \$35 for clergy and \$10 for spouses, which includes materials, morning refreshments, and lunch. [Register](#) **Registration deadline: Friday, February 28.** [CEU credit is available upon request.](#)

District Clergy Worship Gathering

Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 10 am at First UMC, 1102 Liberty Street, Franklin, PA 16323. Lunch served. **Please notify the Franklin District Office if you plan on attending the lunch. 814-437-5857**

NEW-Volunteer In Mission Team Leader Trainings - You are invited to 1 of 13 trainings to learn more about UMC Missions, UMVIM, and to receive certification (re-certification) as a VIM Team Leader. We will cover materials from "A Mission Journey" the newly published VIM Handbook from the General Board of Global Ministries based on VIM experiences and current mission practices. [Read more about the handbook.](#) Bulletin inserts are attached to this email for use in inviting congregation members. Space is limited so register soon at wpaumc.org/missions for one of the following trainings:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| • Friday, March 7 | 9:30a.m. – 3 p.m. @ West Freedom UMC |
| • Sunday, March 9 | 2 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. @ Garden City UMC |
| • Wednesday, March 12 | 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. @ Grace UMC, Somerset |
| • Friday, March 14 | 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. @ Stone UMC, Meadville |
| • Wednesday, March 19 | 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. @ First UMC: Kane |
| • Saturday, March 22 | 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. @ First UMC: Greensburg |
| • Monday, March 24 | 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. @ Ebensburg UMC |
| • Sunday, March 30 | 2 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. @ Grace UMC, Grove City |
| • Monday, March 31 | 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. @ First UMC: Waynesburg |
| • Saturday, April 5 | 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. @ Zion UMC, Sarver |
| • Sunday, April 6 | 2 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. @ Christ UMC, Bethel Park |
| • Saturday, April 12 | 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. @ UM Center, Cranberry |
| • Wednesday, April 30 | 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. @ Lakeside UMC, Dubois |

The cost for a training session, including a hard copy of the handbook, is \$18. Participants can opt to pay \$6 for the training only and use an e-book version of the handbook, available from amazon.com or bn.com for \$9.99.

Register for a training session | Learn more about UMVIM. | Download a VIM Training Bulletin Insert

Stephanie Gottschalk, WPA UMC Missions/VIM Coordinator [Email me!](#) or call 724.776.23000 ext. 241

NEW-Sat. March 8 – Braised Steak Dinner at Grace Church of Rocky Grove from 4-6 pm. Menu is: Braised Steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, applesauce, rolls & butter, and drink & dessert. This dinner benefits our annual work mission trip to Oak Hill, WV. Price is by donations. Take outs available.

CLARIFICATION: FAITH SHARING SEMINAR-Faith Sharing Made Simple

March 8, 2014 at Cranberry United Methodist Church, 7212 US 322, Cranberry, **VENANGO COUNTY**, PA 16319. (Just past the intersection of US 322 and Route 257.) Join us for an exciting learning experience on FAITH SHARING sponsored by the CHRISTAR Cluster of the United Methodist Church. **(Please note: This is in the Franklin District, NOT Cranberry Township, PA, close to Pittsburgh.)**

SPEAKERS

Rev. Seth McPherson - "Sharing Faith with the Lost Generations"
Rev. Roy Gearhart - "Sharing Faith with the De-Churched"
Paul Morelli - "Sharing Faith With Those Who Have Never Believed"

To Register or for questions contact Rev. Calvin Cook.
Call 814-354-2305 or E-mail FertigsUM@venustel.com

Updated-Franklin District 2014 Pastors Retreat at Olmsted Manor. – **Sunday-Tuesday, March 9th – 11th 2014**

Arrive in late afternoon or the evening on the 9th (no meal). Leave after breakfast on the 11th. Cost: \$10 (subsidized by the Franklin District and payable at the retreat). There will be two Continuing education opportunities - "Small Groups" with Rev. George Porter and "Financial Planning" with Rev. Jerry Belloit.

Register by contacting the District Office by phone or e-mail.

Wanted: Conference Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services

The Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church seeks a results-oriented leader to serve as treasurer. The treasurer must be able to instill trust and earn the respect of the Bishop, clergy, laity, and the Council on Finance and Administration (CFA) by demonstrating competence in financial management, stewardship and commitment to serving the church's mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The Conference Treasurer serves as the Director of Administrative Services and in this capacity supervises seven employees. The Treasurer is elected by the Annual Conference and oversees an annual operating budget of \$43 million, in addition to more than \$20 million in investment funds. The Conference Treasurer is accountable to the Conference CFA and works closely with the Bishop. The Conference seeks a Treasurer who will encourage good stewardship and align resources to support ministries. The offices are located in Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania.

Minimum requirements include active membership in a United Methodist church, a bachelor's degree in accounting or related field and five to 10 years' experience in finance. A CPA is desirable. For more information, download the profile at <http://thenovakconsultinggroup.com/western-pennsylvania-umc-treasurer>.

Apply online only at <http://thenovakconsultinggroup.com/apply-online-treasurer-western-pennsylvania-umc> with a cover letter, resume, and list of 3-5 professional references. Contact Catherine Tuck Parrish, Executive Search Practice Leader, The Novak Consulting Group, at apply@thenovakconsultinggroup.com for more information. **Application deadline: March 6, 2014.**

CHOIR ROBES-FREE

Free to a good home: First UMC in New Bethlehem has 35 choir robes, plus 2 for director/accompanist available to any church that would like to have them. They are beige with red trim. Most are in good shape. If you're interested, please contact Rev. Jodie Smith 814-275-3900 or jbarronsmith@gmail.com.

Clergy Evaluation Training Video

2014 – A new evaluation process begins and a training video is available on the Conference website at <http://www.wpaumc.org/trainingvideo> OR by contacting the District Office for a DVD of the training. There are 18 available. This is the same DVD that was available at the SPRC workshops at Skill Day.

Jan/Feb is the time for the SPR Committee to complete sections I & II of the new evaluation form.

Mar/Apr is the time for the SPR Committee to complete section III of the new evaluation form (8 questions), dealing with the "annual focus area". Theology will be the focus area in 2014.

May 15th – Deadline for submitting the completed evaluation form to your district office

2014 FRANKLIN DISTRICT LAY SERVANT MINISTRY TRAINING

for certification, re-certification or personal enrichment

Dates: March 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6

Time: 2:00 – 5:30 pm

Location:

Strattanville United Methodist Church

401 Washington Street

Strattanville, PA 16258

Advanced Registration is Required

Deadline: March 1, 2014

Cost: \$20

[Lay School Brochure 2014 vs2 prelim.doc](#)

Gay Mix, Franklin District Director of Lay Servant Ministry Training at 724-815-9621 or gaymmix@gmail.com

Can't make this training? Try one of the 4 neighboring district trainings-Butler, Erie-Meadville, Kane and Indiana. **Brochures are available from the Franklin District Office upon request.** If you attend the Lay Servant Ministries School in another District, be sure to give a copy of your certificate to Gay Mix, Franklin District Lay Servant Ministries Coordinator.

We are Able – Creating an inclusive atmosphere for campers with special needs

March 14-15, 2014 from 8 am – 5 pm at the Conference Center, 1204 Freedom Rd, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066.

[Details.](#) Contact Jessica Gamache at 724-776-2300 Ext 231 or Jessica Gamache@wpaumc.org

2014 Youth Retreat at Cherry Run Camp

March 14th-16th. The weekend speaker will be Jeff Smith, a Blairsville, PA native who founded Salt and Light Ministries, which uses creative arts to proclaim God's Word. www.saltandlightmin.org Music will be provided by "Reach the Masses," a local band from Punxsutawney. **Contact the District Office for the brochure.** Any questions? Please contact Brett Dinger at 814-715-0008 or at brettdinger@yahoo.com

Spring Women's Spirituality Retreat

"Both-And Spirituality: How to be 'doers' of the Word AND stay connected to the Word." -, led by the Rev. Stephanie Gottschalk, at Olmsted Manor Retreat Center from **Sunday evening, March 16** through lunch on **Tuesday, March 18.** [Get details.](#)

NEW-March 22 – Men & Boys Dinner at Calvary UMC, 115 E. 1st St., Oil City, 6:00 to 9:00 pm. **FEATURED SPEAKER** will be JEFF HARTINGS - Penn State University All-American. Played ten years in the NFL with the Detroit Lions and Pittsburgh Steelers. In 2005 on Steelers' Super Bowl XL championship team, and was a two-time Pro Bowl selection. An All Pro Dad Speaker! **RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!** Door Prizes ! R.S.V.P. by March 17! **COST \$10 each.** Register online at WWW.TEAMCSI.ORG PHONE 724-453-1400

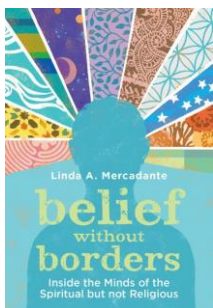
Saturday, March 22, 2014 10 AM - 3 PM "C 2 C" **"Children to Christ - Christ to Children"**-Children's Ministry Workshop. Guest speaker, "Ricardo Miller". For Directors and Volunteers of Children's Ministries. Lakeside UMC, 420 1st Street, DuBois, PA 15801. Snack and Lunch provided. For more information please contact; Michelle M. Polohonki District Children's Ministry Coordinator 814-371-3615 or lakeside_mdo@yahoo.com.

Bishop's Academy for Clergy on the Wesleyan Way, featuring Bishop Scott Jones

Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at the Crossroads UMC, 1000 Crossroads Drive, Oakdale, PA, from 9:00AM to 3:00PM, lunch provided. The cost is only \$10 for a .5 C.E.U. event! The topic—**Theology**—is the special focus of the 2014 clergy evaluation cycle. **More details to follow.**

Presenter: Bishop Scott J. Jones, resident bishop of the Great Plains Area UMC, and author of the popular **The Wesleyan Way** study. He holds an M.Div. from the Perkins School of Theology and a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Southern Methodist University. His website: extremecenter.com.

NEW-MTSO faculty author delves into the 'spiritual but not religious'



Methodist Theological School in Ohio Professor Linda Mercadante will present a faculty lecture, "The Fleeing Nones: Food for Thought from the Spiritual but not Religious," at 7 p.m. **March 27** in the Alford Centrum, MTSO campus, 3081 Columbus Pike, Delaware, OH. The event is free and open to the public. www.mtso.edu

Mercadante, who holds the Straker Chair of Historical Theology at MTSO, has spent five years researching her new book, "Belief Without Borders: Inside the Minds of the Spiritual but not Religious," which is being published in March by Oxford University Press. "Publishers Weekly" says the book "paints a group that applies typically American values of personal

responsibility, freedom, and self-determination to the realm of belief."

Mercadante was named a 2010-11 Henry Luce III Fellow in Theology for her work on the topic. Among Mercadante's other books is "Bloomfield Avenue: A Jewish-Catholic Jersey Girl's Spiritual Journey."

In her faculty lecture, sponsored by the Theological Commons at MTSO, Mercadante will share insights gleaned from her academic work as well as interviews with hundreds of so-called "nones" or "SBNRs." Among the questions she will address are these:

- Why do some SBNRs exempt themselves from organized religion – and why do some within the church see themselves as SBNR?
- What do SBNRs believe? Are they "salad bar spiritualists" or is there a coherent narrative that cuts across class, race, geography and economics?
- What will their effect on society be?
- What can organized religion learn from SBNRs, and what might it offer them?

Mercadante discussed her book and research in a Jan. 10 interview with the "Columbus Dispatch."

One Great Hour of Sharing is March 30th – This offering helps underwrite UMCOR's cost of doing business every day. It ensures that 100% of all other contributions go directly to the projects specified, instead of covering administrative or fundraising costs. Contributions to this offering can be made all year around. [UMCOR Hotline for February](#). [Watch this promotional video](#) to learn more, and [click here](#) for additional resources such as sermon starters, bulletin inserts, and posters.

Harry Denman Evangelism Award: Each year at Annual Conference, this award is presented to a clergy, lay-person and youth who are excelling in the work of increasing the Kingdom of God. Nominations are needed by **April 1, 2014**. Nominations forms can be downloaded from the Foundation for Evangelism website: www.evangelize.org and sent to Pastor Al Kimmel, Grace UMC, 61 Hillcrest Drive, Punxsutawney, PA 15767 or by e-mail to alk2733@gmail.com.

Change the World-Lead Strong! April 3-4, 2014. Annually held at Ginghamburg UMC in Tipp City, Ohio, is designed for all church leaders who are ready to stop playing church and start being the Church. [Register](#)

PAUMCS (Professional Assoc. of United Methodist Church Secretaries) Annual Conference **April 3-6, 2014** in Asheville, NC. [Brochure & registration form](#). PAUMCS members registering by February 17 save \$50! Contact [Cheryl Thompson](#). ***Complete the PDF-fillable registration form by computer, print and mail with payment.***

2014 Youth Opportunity: Epworth Center in SE Ohio-Announcing three scholarships for camper fees for SOWER Work Mission, summer 2014. Theme: "Rebuild. Restore. Renew." Two scholarships available for youth ages 12-17, on their first mission trip through the First-Steps program. One scholarship is for a full week SOWER participant ages 12-24, on his/her first mission trip. More information: www.epworthcenter.org or 740.484.4705. These scholarships will allow young people who may not be able to afford the mission trip to be able to have the experience of helping others and faith building. **Deadline** for application is **April 15, 2014**.

UPDATED: **Make it Happen at UMW Assembly 2014** - Women from around the country and mission partners from across the globe are called to the 19th quadrennial Assembly of United Methodist Women, set for **April 25 -27, 2014** at the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, KY. [Registration and Details](#)

Engaging All Generations: Continuum - "Engaging All Generations," 2014 Large Church Initiative Conference will be held **April 28–30, 2014** in Johns Creek, GA at Mount Pisgah United Methodist. [Online registration, early bird rates, and complete conference schedule](#).

2014 Large Church Initiative April 28-30, 2014 at Mount Pisgah United Methodist Church in Johns Creek, Ga., for United Methodist churches with 1,000 or more members and/or with an average attendance of 350 or more in worship. [Details](#).

Run for the Woods – 5K Run and Fun Walk

Saturday, May 10, 2014 This event is for the entire family, at the same time supporting a Christian camp that has changed lives for countless children and adults. The Run for the Woods, a 5K run, 5K fun walk, and youth and toddler runs, will take place at and benefit the ministry of scenic Wesley Woods Camp, Grand Valley, PA.

Race day begins with registration from 11:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. with the 5k race beginning at 1:00 p.m., followed immediately by the 5k fun walk at 1:01. Youth and toddler fun runs will take place at 2:30 p.m.

Awards will be given for the first male and female overall as well as the top three in each age group (12 & under, 13-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+.) All children and youth of camp age who participate in a 5k event or the toddler/youth fun run will have their name put into a drawing for a full camp scholarship to the Wesley Woods summer camp of their choice

[Details for Run for the Woods 2014 & Registration Form](#) Online registration is available at RunSignUp.com

Print some [posters](#) and distribute them in your community (local YMCAs, school cross country teams, health providers and runners). Help obtain 2014 sponsors with the [Donor letter](#)

Many, many volunteers are needed for a variety of duties. Volunteers need to arrive by 9 or 9:30 am and stay until about 3 pm. Volunteers will receive a t-shirt to identify them. Questions or to volunteer, contact Chris Grubbs at cegrubbs6@gmail.com or 814-337-5455.

Health Care Credit for Churches - Filing deadline is **May 15, 2014** - The information regarding the credit for small employers is now available on our conference website along with instructions and the required forms. This is a credit the churches may be eligible to receive for premiums paid towards healthcare costs in 2013. Go to: <http://www.wpaumc.org/formsandinformation> Kathleen Lasky, WPAUMC Conference Benefits Officer 724-776-2300, EXT# 274

Change the World Sunday is coming **May 17-18!** If you haven't started planning an outreach to take church into your community, start now before the Lent-Easter season gets underway. Resources can be found [online](#) or contact me, [Stephanie Gottschalk](#), if you'd like some assistance in planning.

2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE – JUNE 5-8, 2014: Clergy: *Plan to attend!* Do not schedule weddings, mission trips, vacations, etc. during Annual Conference.

NEW-WALK TO HELP THE HOMELESS – You can help those who are homeless, just by walking. Join Erie United Methodist Alliance (EUMA) for the **Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community** on **Sat, June 7** at Presque Isle State Park. This 5K walk (and optional one mile fun walk) is presented by Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield to benefit area non-profits – and we are one of them. Walk for EUMA (or support a walker) – **and 100% of your pledges/donations goes directly to fund our programs to the homeless community.** Registration is now open! Visit our website at www.euma-erie.org for a link to the Highmark Walk registration site.

UM Youth in Mission Event at Bakerstown UMC July 6-12 - Youth Groups (grades 7-12) of all sizes are invited to participate in a week of local mission work, spiritual growth, and community building. This event is sponsored by U.M. A.R.M.Y. (United Methodist Action & Reach-out Mission by Youth) - Read more [online](#). Register now for great group rates!

Mission u-July 11-13, 2014-Weekend Event

Mission u-July 13-17, 2014-Weekday School

Children's Mission u and Youth Mission u Discovery-July 13-17

PAUMCS 2014 CERTIFICATION INSTITUTE - July 13-18, 2014: The Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries (PAUMCS) certification classes are to be held at the GCFA Ministry Center in Nashville, Tennessee. [Click here](#) for registration information and the brochure for the 2014 Certification Institute. (The attached brochure is formatted to print on legal size paper.) If someone needs financial help to attend, we do have a limited amount of scholarships that cover the cost of the registration fee. *A written request explaining the need for the scholarship is required when applying.*

Cherry Run Camp Meeting - beginning on **July 26** and ending **August 3, 2014**. Details to be announced.

Algonquin Canoe Trip: July 28-August 6, 2014 It's more than just a challenge, more than just an adventure. For more information or to register, go to www.wpaumc.org/camping.

Developing Healthy Clergy & Congregations Conference- **August 19-21, 2014** - Discovery UMC, Richmond, VA - Training on how to handle conflict and become a more healthy church. [Healthy Clergy & Congregations](#)

Friday – Sunday, August 22-24, 2014 – Autism Family Retreat at Jumonville Camp and Conference Center. Read about the 2013 retreat at <http://www.wpaumc.org/news/detail/964>.

CLERGY: CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Cabinet and the Board Of Ordained Ministry (BOOM) are underwriting a Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program for interested clergy. Congregation-Based Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) teaches pastoral leadership and pastoral care for clergy and lay ministers in the church from a Bowen Family Systems Theory perspective. It is designed for experienced pastors, lay workers, and ministers and seminarians new to pastoral work. Ministers strengthen their pastoral and leadership skills, address tension and conflict in the church, and work on their personal growth in ministry. The program focuses on in depth systemic change and leadership development that reduces congregational anxiety and addresses long-term issues in the church.

The 2014 summer/fall unit for Western New York/Pennsylvania is still in the planning stage but will run August through December of 2014 in either Cabot (PA) or Meadville (PA). Contact Bob Spilman at (716) 479-7933.

The **Retreat for Those Affected by Disability** will be at Olmsted Manor, 17 E. Main St, Ludlow, PA 16333 from **Sunday afternoon, September 7, 2014, to Tuesday afternoon, September 9, 2014**. Details to come.

Leadership Conference October 19-21, 2014 at FUMC Arlington, TX. This conference will provide information in all areas of leadership from planning, finances, management, staffing, evangelism and effective leadership.

UPDATED-CLERGY SPOUSE RETREAT --- SAVE THE DATE! - October 24-25 --- East Ohio – Western Pennsylvania clergy spouse retreat- Returns to Twinsburg, OH Hilton Garden Inn & Conference Center [2014 Clergy Spouse Save the Date.doc](#)

2014 Lands of the Bible, Then and Now! with Bishop Bickerton-**Nov. 12-21, 2014** www.eo.travelwithus.com
Brochures available from the Franklin District Office.

ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR WESLEY WOODS SUMMER CAMP - 2014 Summer Camp brochure, schedule at a glance, printable registration and scholarship forms, and Online Registration are available on our website: <http://www.wesleywoods.com/index.php/summer-camp> or you may download a .pdf copy of the brochure. [2014 final output.pdf](#) Questions? Contact us at info@wesleywoods.com or 814-436-7802. [Click Here to Register Online](#) See page 7 for the Run for the Woods 5K and Fun Run.

Help Wanted: Bookstore Manager: Cherry Run Camp is a ministry of the Franklin District of the WPA Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. The camp is located in beautiful Clarion County near Rimersburg, PA. The camp is open to people of all denominations, and is dedicated to the cause of Jesus Christ and the preaching of the Word of God. Camp Meeting will be held this year **July 26 - August 3, 2014**.

A volunteer(s) is needed to manage our Bookstore during Camp Meeting. The manager(s) will be responsible to set up the bookstore prior to Camp Meeting with a variety of inventory as provided by a local Christian bookstore. The manager(s) will then be responsible for the operation of the Store during the Camp Meeting. The Bookstore has traditionally been open a few hours in the afternoon and an additional few hours in the evening before and after worship services. The store is closed on Sundays—there are no Sunday sales. Resources and advice will be offered by the Camp to get you started! Interested? Contact Rev. Wade Berkey, 814-236-1720 or wade.berkey@icloud.com.

Golden Sneaker Walking Program - *Walking With the Poor: A Lenten Devotional for the Spirit, Soul and Body*
A wonderful new Golden Sneaker walking program for your church. Written by the Rev. John Zimmerman, our Conference General Evangelist, the devotional will be available in paperback and e-book form through Amazon.com. But through collaboration with the WPAUMC Health as Wholeness and Poverty teams and the Erie UM Alliance, it can be downloaded free from the Conference website wpaumc.org beginning February 12, 2014. The first devotional starts on Ash Wednesday. [Walking with the Poor Lenten Devo.doc](#)

CONTINUING EDUCATION: UMC CYBER CAMPUS - UMC Cyber Campus features short video training sessions and lectures to build your Christian leadership skills and a catalog of accredited online theological education courses & degree programs. UMC Cyber Campus aims to enhance global access to free and affordable high-quality theological educational resources throughout the world. We strive to develop confident and knowledgeable Christian leaders on an ongoing basis. Please visit our new website by [clicking here](#).

Stock up and score great savings of up to 60% on **2014 United Methodist Program Calendars**

Act quickly! **This offer ends February 28.** [Order now!](#) shop.umc.org/calendars | Phone: (888) 346-3862

2014 Youth Page to Annual Conference application

Now available at <http://www.wpaumc.org/youthministry>.

Contact Renaye Hoffman with questions: Renaye.Hoffman@wpaumc.org.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH AT WESLEY WOODS

On March 31st, Rick Frederick, our current Executive Director will be leaving to take a new call in Kentucky. Rick has served faithfully for the past 3 years as our director and we have seen many improvements in facilities and in new ideas for programming. We wish him well and now seek a new leader to continue the progress. The Board and Personnel Committee are beginning the process of seeking out the next leader for Wesley Woods. If you are interested or know of someone who may feel a call to this ministry please contact either Becky Costello at rrcostello2@msn.com or Bruce Davis at bkdjed@verizon.net for a full job description.

Feed the Hungry with Society of St. Andrew - Support SoSA through Your VBS Mission Offerings

New for 2014! Two Options

Option 1: Vacation Bible School Mission Supplement

15-20 minutes daily, up to 5 days (expandable to 45 minutes, w/optional mission activities)

Connect with the Society of St. Andrew through:

- Daily Mission Stories
- Optional Mission Activities
- Daily Mission Offering Emphasis

- [See more](#)

Option 2: *Abundance Orchard* Complete VBS Curriculum

Year 1: Old Testament

2-3 hours daily, up to 5 days

A stand-alone, all-in-one COMPLETE hunger-action themed Vacation Bible School

- [See more](#)

Get Three Bonus Months of Live Streaming Free Through TechShop and myUMClive.com

Does hectic living make it difficult for people to attend worship services regularly? Live streaming is one of the fastest-growing services offered by congregations wanting to reach out to members and seekers. It allows people to watch live video broadcasts of your church worship service or special event through their computer, tablet or mobile device. Equally important, live-streaming is one of the most cost-effective ways to keep members involved.

Be ready to stream during Lent and Easter! Through this special offer, your church can enjoy a **bonus three months at no additional cost** when you sign up for 12 months of live-streaming service.

Sign up today at myUMClive.com. Use discount code, **Lent**, on the *Contact Us* form. But hurry; this **offer ends March 15, 2014**.

COKESBURY---VBS RESOURCES, 2014 Due to cold temperatures, Cokesbury has extended their up to 15% off VBS resources until **Feb. 16th**. Check out their website: www.cokesbury.com or call Cheryl at 412-918-0427

NEW-Youth Minister Wanted

St. John United Methodist Church, a Christ-centered congregation, worshipping 350 weekly in Scott Depot, West Virginia, is looking for an equipped Youth Minister to serve students, their immediate families and families in the geographical area. Building on a current core group of about 30 active youth, the position will be responsible for leading and expanding a program that inspires discipleship for youth, commitment and trust with parents, and dedicated involvement for volunteers. The Youth Minister will lead SJUMC's efforts to maintain the nurturing and welcoming faith community that already exists in order that students can build and strengthen their relationships with Christ, their families and one another. The Youth Ministries program serves youth from sixth through twelfth grade.

The successful candidate will have a college degree in a related field and, preferably, significant experience in youth ministry leadership as well as a strong personal faith consistent with the United Methodist tradition. Resumes can be sent to Tammy Ward at tammyward@sjumcwv.org. All inquiries can be directed to Pastor Martin Hallett at martinhallett@sjumcwv.org or 304-757-6343.

NEW-Mission Barn Ministry Continues to Grow [Story](#)

As of mid-February, the most-needed UMCOR kits were:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Layette kits• Sewing kits• Bedding packs | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health kits• School kits |
|--|---|

For kit "recipes", go to <http://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies>.

Western Pennsylvania Conference on FaceBook - <https://www.facebook.com/wpaumc>

Keep up with upcoming events: <http://www.wpaumc.org/events>

Save the dates for next year's **SPARK: January 9-11, 2015**. This year's event drew in 500 youth!