

CONNECTICUT DISTRICT NEWS

Published bi-monthly by:

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER2009

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Volume 26, Issue 1

Now Pinch-Hitting.....

One of the problems with most pastors is that we don't always know when to sit down and shut up. It is with that truism in mind that I yield this page to our own Marjorie Nunes, pastor of the Summerfield UMC in Bridgeport.

"We have heard it over and over again during these difficult economic times – people are suffering. It is happening to some of us, to members of our family, to our friends and co-workers, and to our neighbors. Even our churches and places of worship are feeling the effect of this economic recession.

The picture of a father and his two sons on the front page of the Connecticut Post on Friday, August 14, 2009, highlighted again the difficult times we are facing. The man is Wilson Lauture of Stamford, CT and six months ago he lost his job. He is an Accountant with a B.S. in Accounting from the City University of New York and an MBA from the University of New Haven – he has his qualifications. But like many, Mr. Lauture, a native of Haiti, lost his accounting job three months after buying a three bedroom condominium. The newspaper states, "As with millions nationwide, he's stuck with real estate that's difficult to sell and a mortgage he cannot afford. Mr. Lauture says, "I've been having a really hard time to pay my mortgage and things are getting scary, a minimum wage is not a living wage, especially with two sons to support." Mr. Lauture's wife, Marie-Nicole, works for low wages as a cashier at Food Mart in Greenwich, CT. But even though the Lautures are facing difficult times, they did not give up hope. This father of two took to the streets, to the highways and byways. Instead of staying home, the family decided to turn their "lemon into lemonade", or at least seek the means to do that. Thus, they came upon the idea to make sandwich boards detailing the hardship the family is experiencing. Then, Mr. Lauture and his boys began going to several cities drawing attention to their plight, and in so doing, the plight of many others. Mr. Lauture and his boys, Widky 12 and Marcus 8, have traveled to Washington, D.C., and throughout the cities of CT: Stamford, Greenwich, Bridgeport, Danbury, Milford and Hartford. Wilson Lauture and his boys are professionally dressed in dress shirts and ties in the middle of the heat—nothing seems to stop them. This father is determined to take care of his family. Please understand that Mr. Lauture continues to work at two part-time jobs and volunteers doing accounting work to help others. If you know of the availability of any accounting jobs, you may call Mr. Lauture at (203) 252-7304. I even called Mr. Lauture and invited him to speak on the radio show I co-host, "The People's Forum", where he told his story. I have also distributed his resume in a small attempt to help him. This story should give us all hope, in that we too, must not give into the circumstances and situations that we may face.

For surely, we who believe in God, know that God is always with us; that God promises never to leave us or forsake us. Thus the Psalmist tells us in Ps. 46:1-5.....
Let's keep hope alive for God is with us. Pastor Marjorie"

RACE FOR MISSION

In connection with the Hartford Marathon
And the Bishop's Partners in Mission

OCTOBER 10, 2009

at Bushnell Park, Hartford at 8 a.m.

Join Bishop Park in the Hartford Marathon at 8 a.m. on Saturday, October 10th as they run for Mission. To register to run go to www.hartfordmarathon.com. Not a runner but want to help go to www.active.com/donate/umc. Enjoy a meal before the race and/or after. Check below:

Pre-Race Carbo-Load Pasta Dinner & Fellowship on Friday, October 9 at 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church of Hartford. RSVP: Rev. Bryan Hooper (860-523-5132) bryan@umcofhartford.com.

Post-Race Barbeque Saturday, Oct. 10 at the West Hartford UMC .for more information: Heather Sinclair at heathersinclair@umcshelton.org or 203-929-3537

SAFE SANCTUARY WORKSHOP WOODBURY UMC OCTOBER 17, 2009

This training is for churches who have completed their Safe Sanctuary policy.

Don't forget to sign up for the Safe Sanctuary training at Woodbury UMC on October 17th from 9:30 a. m. to 10 a. m. The workshop begins at 9:30 a. m. for registration and the event will begin right at 10 a. m. Please send a copy of your churches policy before October 10th to: **Beth Perry at beth@bethperry.net** so it can be reviewed prior to the workshop. **Any questions or to register call the Conference Resource Center at 914-997-1570 Ext. 230.**

RETIRED MINISTERS' BREAKFAST

The retired Ministers' Breakfast will be held twice in October, both times at 9:30 a. m. at Denny's, 621 Queen St. (Route 10) in Southington, just off I-84, exit 32. They will gather on their regular date, Oct. 15, the third Thursday. They also will meet on Friday, Oct. 23, when Bob MacDonald, visiting from Florida, will join them.

The November breakfast is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 19, same time and place. For additional information, contact Ralph Roy at (860) 620-1711 or Ralphroy@aol.com



CT DISTRICT UMW
Invites you to
FALL GATHERING & LUNCHEON*
Saturday, October 17, 2009
9:30 A. M – 3:00 P. M
THEME: "TAKING IT TO THE STREETS"

Guest Speaker



Dr. Anele E.
President,
Policy Institute

Heiges, OP
International Public

ECOSOC and DPI Non-Governmental Org.
At United Nations, New York, Vienna, Geneva

FAIRFIELD GRACE UMC
1089 Fairfield Woods Road
Fairfield, CT 06825
(203)374-6528

****RSVP by October 10, 2009: Martha Wood, (203) 255-5339***

**Celebrating the Appointment of
REV. KENNETH KIEFFER, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT**

**CONNECTICUT DISTRICT
NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

WHERE? STRATFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, CT

2600 Main Street

Phone: (203) 375-5851

When? Sunday, October 25, 2009 @ 4:00pm

BRING? A plate of finger food

DIRECTIONS: The best route is via the Merritt Parkway to Exit 53S (Route 110 & Stratford – the Sikorsky exit). Stay on Route 110 South to the first traffic light. Continue straight ahead on route 113 (you're now on Main Street). You'll find the center of town in about 3 miles. The church is on Main St. (Route 113) on the left side of the street next to the firehouse.

*Clergy should come robed with red stole (where applicable).

Bishop Park & the Cabinet will be celebrating with all of us that day.

MILAL CHOIR TO PERFORM AT NAUGATUCK UMC

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2009

6:00 P.M.

Naugatuck UMC invites you to attend a concert given by the Milal Choir from New York City. It is a near professional choir with 50 volunteer members including a mini-orchestra. Later this year they will be performing at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Please plan to come and enjoy their music. Contact Steven Kim, Pastor, at 203-729-4236 for more information.

CT DISTRICT'S HAITI INITIATIVE BENEFITING THE FURCY CLINIC 2009

The Connecticut District has sponsored a doctor to visit the Furcy Clinic in Haiti once a week for over a year starting June 1, 2008! In addition to sponsoring a doctor, each church was assigned a week to keep the Clinic and the Haitians in their prayers. Those who donated two weeks (\$400) or more were given extra weeks which has taken us through December 23rd. Thanks to all the churches and individuals who made this happen. Below is the list of churches who are sponsoring the doctor from September - December of this year.

September 1-7	Simsbury
September 8-15	Windsor
September 16-23	Huntington
September 24-November 7	Newtown
November 8-22	Hartford
November 23-30	Easton: Jesse Lee
December 1-7	Windsor
December 8-15	Bloomfield
December 16-23	Gaylordsville

DISTRICT DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

The new District Directory was just distributed to the pastors. There are two corrections to date:

Page 3

Avon: Florence's home phone should be listed as: **860-707-0183**

Page 7 and 11

Lakeville and Sharon:

E-mail address for Larry Dunlap. Remove optonline address and add larry@dunlap.org

A REPEAT REMINDER RE: AT&T TELEPHONE CHANGES

NEW DIALING PROCEDURES: We all have been asked to start dialing the area code, and then the number for all local calls. This will become mandatory by November 14, 2009.

* 911 will still be 3 digits

*if these numbers are available in your area: 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 & 811 they will remain 3 digit numbers.

* All local calls now will remain local calls BUT you must use the AREA CODE

*There will be no change in charges for local calls

Starting now, be sure to include your area code on all business stationery, advertising materials, personal checks and your personal or pet ID tags. You will need to update programmed equipment ie: cell phones, alarm systems, etc. to be sure area codes are included.

WHY YOU ASK? According to an AT&T insert, two new area code overlays will be in place in Connecticut during the next year or two. An overlay is an area code in addition to an already existing area code in an area. Presently CT has two area codes: 203 and 860. Starting in December 2009, area code 475 will be added into the same area as 203. **THIS WILL NOT CHANGE YOUR PRESENT AREA CODE OR PHONE NUMBER.** In the near future, the new area code 959 will be added to the same area as 860. **AGAIN, THIS WILL NOT CHANGE YOUR PRESENT AREA CODE OR PHONE NUMBER.** **QUESTIONS?** Call AT&T at the customer service number on your bill.

Find-A- Church

www.find-a-church.org

...from United Methodist Communications

United Methodist Communications has launched a massive promotional campaign to update the denomination's **Find-A-Church** website. Each of our churches has its own profile within this directory of UM Churches. Recently they updated this service to include personalized church ministries (times, dates and a comment section). The Rethink Church national advertising began August 3rd and has the potential to connect your churches to more than 280,000 visitors a month. The campaign's themes are: economic relief, job training, literacy, day care, ecology, sports programs to list have few. Churches that have related ministries will want to quickly update their profile page. In the CT District, 22% of our churches have updated their Find-A-Church listings. You can update online by going to: www.rethinkchurch.org/churchupdate. If you have questions or need assistance, contact United Methodist Communications at: FAC@umccom.org or phone 1-800-251-8140.

RESOURCE LIBRARY NOW ON LINE

from Ann Pearson, Director of Connectional Ministries, NYAC

The Learning Center at 20 Soundview Avenue houses thousands of resources, including books, DVDs and curriculum kits, puppets, music and more which are available to borrow by churches in the New York Annual Conference. You may view a list of these resources by going to our Conference website at www.nyac.com and selection **Resources** from the menu at the top of the home page. From there, go to The Learning Center/The Resource Library. You may search for resources according to age-level, topic, title or by description. When you click on "search", a list of titles will appear. Select a title to view and if it meets your need, you may order it by clicking on the link and filling out a simple form. Your order will come to the Learning Center in an e-mail. If the resource is currently in the building, we will send it to you. We are pleased to offer this service to our churches from our Conference because of the faithful payment of shared ministry apportionments by our churches!

AMONG OURSELVES

Let Us Remember and keep in our prayers the families of:

The Reverend William C. Carroll (R) who died on August 12, 2009 in Cromwell, CT at the age of 87. In our Conference, he served as pastor at Winsted, West Hartford and Avon. He is survived by his wife Doris and daughter Christine.

The Reverend Frederick C. Clark (R) who died on August 19, 2009 in Cheshire, CT at the age of 73. Reverend Clark served in our Conference at East Village, Bloomfield and Southington: Grace. After retiring in 1981, he began a career as a licensed psychotherapist.

The Reverend Richard Hudson (R) who died on July 10th at the age of 88. He was a United Methodist minister and a teacher at Quinnipiac University as well as a parishioner at Faith UMC. He is survived by his wife Beatrice and two children.

Over the summer several of our clergy lost members of their families, please keep them in your prayers also:

Reverend Al Scholten (R) and his family on the loss of his twenty-seven year old grandson, Alin Clark Tew on July 31st.

Reverend Mel Kawakami (Newtown) and his family on the loss of Mel's father, Wright, on July 5, in California.

Reverend Woody Eddins (Simsbury) and his family on the loss of Woody's mother, Anna Ruth, on June 30 in Monroeville, Alabama. Anna Ruth was 89

Reverend Sara Goad (Rev. Ed Horne's wife, Westport) and her family on the loss of sister, Martha Wood, in Johnstown, NY. Martha was 50.

PRAYERS FOR:

Robert Hamilton (R) Bob is at Yale New Haven Hospital as of Sept. 23. He is able to receive phone calls, visitors and cards.

Congratulations to:

Bishop Jeremiah Park and his wife Lisa on the birth of their first grandchild, a granddaughter named Gemma this summer to their daughter, Cathy and her husband Robert.

George and Carolyn Engelhardt (Easton) on the birth of their third granddaughter, Miira Sofia, who was born on July 30th in Massachussetts. Miira is the first child of their son, Jeffers and wife Triin.

Mark and Dru Chatterton (Middletown) on the birth of their first grandchild, granddaughter named Emeline Skye Maas on August 15th in Burlington, Vermont to their daughter Sarah and her husband Steve.

Russ and Karen Waldmann (Plainville) on the birth of their first grandchild, a grandson names Noah Forrest Helvie who was born on July 13th to their daughter Lisa and her husband Forrest.

SAVE THESE DATES

January 24 **District Resourcing Day** **Place TBA**

May 2 **District Conference** **Place TBA**

**DEADLINE FOR November/December DISTRICT NEWS:
October 15, 2009**