



## WELLSBORO DISTRICT QuikNEWS 2/19/09

Wellsdo@ptd.net

[www.gbgm-umc.org/wellsboropadistrict](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/wellsboropadistrict)

800/892-4675/570-724-2831

District Office Hours are: Monday through Thursday

(9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.)

CLOSED ON FRIDAYS

### FROM THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK:

#### TWO CHALLENGES FOR EVERY CHURCH IN THE DISTRICT

We may have received enough snow last evening to require my driveway to be plowed and my sidewalks to be shoveled, but it's also time to start thinking about church camp! Our Mini-Camp Planning Task Force met this past Saturday and they have issued two challenges to every United Methodist Church in the Wellsboro District: **(1)** To contribute \$50 toward the cost of our volunteers' lodging and meals as well as towards snacks for everyone at this year's camp (July 19-22) **and (2)** to send at least one child or youth to our Mini-Camp at His Thousand Hills outside Wellsboro. Our Church Camping program is a way for every congregation—whether or not they have children and youth regularly attending—to be involved in children's and youth ministry. Why not start planning now to underwrite at least one child or youth from your community to attend our Mini-Camp? What better way to kick start your church's children's or youth ministry? The cost of our Mini-Camp this summer is \$145 per camper, or \$140 if they are registered before May 1<sup>st</sup>. To make a donation toward camp, to register a camper, or to volunteer as a counselor or Bible Study leader, contact our Camp Director, Mrs. Sharon Haskins, 122 Cherry Springs Road, Coudersport, PA 16915. Her telephone number is 814-274-8360, and her email address is: [sharonh@zitomedia.net](mailto:sharonh@zitomedia.net)

#### OUR MINI-CAMP (7/19-22) NEEDS COUNSELORS AND BIBLE STUDY LEADERS

The theme of this year's Mini-Camp is "God Uses Kids." Break-out session (Bible studies) will focus on these characters from the Bible: Samuel, David, Mary, Timothy, and the little boy who had five loaves and two fish to share with 5,000. We need Bible study leaders who will come to His Thousand Hills Camp just outside Wellsboro to lead Bible studies morning and afternoon. In addition, we will be needing camp counselors who are willing to stay overnight. Everyone who works with children and youth at camp requires Safe Sanctuary clearances. If you don't yet have them, we can work with you to get yours. Counselors will be gathering at His Thousand Hills Camp outside of Wellsboro on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. for a covered dish meal at 2:00 and training to follow. To volunteer, contact our Camp Director, Mrs. Sharon Haskins, 122 Cherry Springs Road, Coudersport, PA 16915. Her telephone number is 814-274-8360, and her email address is: [sharonh@zitomedia.net](mailto:sharonh@zitomedia.net)

#### MISSION TRIP UPDATE & PRAISE

Carl Koch, one of the organizers of the latest Wellsboro District mission trip to Mississippi, was in the district office today sharing blessings from the trip. Of course, one of the greatest blessings was being able to provide a new home for a woman who was living among mold, thus making frequent trips to the hospital, since Hurricane Katrina. Other blessings were the bond & fellowship among the volunteers and the construction skills of many of the volunteers. As of this date, approximately \$53,000 in donations was raised for the trip. The work team spent \$33,991 of that money in construction costs and gave \$15,981 to Camp Hope to finish up the house and for future projects. Our hope is to send additional funds after all expenses have been paid. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Pictures of the mission trip can be found on the district website: [www.gbgm-umc.org/wellsboropadistrict](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/wellsboropadistrict). **The group has been in discussion and believe that God is calling them for their next step to be a more local construction outreach ministry within our own district.**

### ***Special Days for Pastoral Leaders & their Families***

#### **March Birthdays**

- 1 Donald Busch, Certified Lay Minister Candidate, serving the Roulette Charge
- 1 Lloyd Treat, husband of Nettie, Certified Lay Speaker, serving the Five Star Parish
- 1 Paula Schmidt, wife of Jerry, pastor of the Tri-County Parish

- 3 Richard Noggle, pastor of the New Creation Christian Parish
- 11 Tom Shatto, pastor of Sweden Valley Faith Community UMC
- 11 Deborah Watkins, pastor of the Five Star Parish
- 13 Vicki Jordan, wife of Dan, pastor of the New Albany Charge. Vicki also serves in the Williamsport District.
- 15 Kathy Diehl, wife of Keith, pastor of the Mountainview Parish
- 22 Florence Harmic, wife of Tom, pastor of the Liberty Charge
- 29 Ellen Bartholomew, Certified Lay Minister Candidate, serving the Middlebury Parish.

### **March Anniversaries**

- 1 Nettie & Lloyd Treat (Nettie serves the Five Star Parish as a Certified Lay Speaker.)
- 13 Florence & Henry Campbell (Florence serves New Era UMC as a Certified Lay Speaker.)
- 16 Francis & Jean Montgomery (Jean is the pastor of the North Towanda Charge.)

### **Praises**

- **Francis & Jean Montgomery** will celebrate 35 years of marriage on March 16.
- **Florence & Henry Campbell** will celebrate 55 years of marriage on March 13.
- **Tom & Pat Shatto** escaped serious injury in a car accident earlier this month.
- **Barbara Busch's** foot surgery went well, and Barbara is back to work.
- **Three churches in the district: Leona; 1<sup>st</sup> UMC, Mansfield; & 1<sup>st</sup> UMC, Troy**, have paid off their loans from the Conference Loan Fund!

### **Prayers**

- **Sandy Brant's dad** has been struggling with various health issues.
- **Marty Willard's mom** is having choking/swallowing problems and will be having a medical procedure done tomorrow, February 20.

### **Deadline for Items to be Submitted in QuikNEWS**

The Wellsboro District QuikNEWS is distributed monthly. If you have any items to be included in it, please email the information to the district office, [mwillard@cpcumc.org](mailto:mwillard@cpcumc.org) or [wellsdo@ptd.net](mailto:wellsdo@ptd.net), by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. **Please try to send your announcements to the district office in time to be included in the QuikNEWS, so that we won't need to send out additional items each month.**

## **CONFERENCE NEWS**

### **Central PA Conference UMW Retreat: "Resurrection Women-The Sequel"**

March 27-28, 2009; Holiday Inn (Holidome), York, PA

Registration fee is \$125/person

Make checks payable to "CPCUMW" and send to Hattie Lehigh, 1074 Village Way, York, PA 17404

### **Teacher Training Offered by Conference Office of Connectional Ministries**

Saturday, April 25: 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Mt. Asbury Retreat Center

For teachers of children, youth, or adults.

Leadership by: Mary Jane Pierce Norton & Carol Krau, General Board of Discipleship

Cost \$25 for the first person; each additional person from the same church is \$15.

Questions? Contact Anne Horton or Joy Wilcox, 1-800-874-8474

Registration forms are available from your pastor or the district office.

### **CONFERENCE CALL: Help Middle Schoolers Discern a Call into Ministry**

CONFERENCE CALL is a new activity-based curriculum by Teryl Cartwright of First UMC, Hanover. The material is available to all UM Churches in the Central Pennsylvania Conference. The leader's guide contains the student guide plus extra activities, an object lesson and cassette for an audio "journal."

- Each student's guide contains the study; a talking strip and a CD of four pastors' call stories.
- Explore God's call to serve through interactive Bible study.
- Meet different learning styles and student needs with activities that can be customized.

- Integrate flexible lessons into existing curriculum of present them in Sunday School or workshops.
- Utilize the devotional activities for youth leaders.

Leader's Guides: \$10 each (plus shipping)

Student's Guide: \$3.75 each (plus shipping)

This is non-profit and includes only the actual cost of supplies.

Please contact the author for more information! [tctwrt@comcast.net](mailto:tctwrt@comcast.net)

### **Free Online Course Available**

A free online course is available on the UMC's four key areas of ministry. The self-directed course, "Four Areas of Focus," is offered by UM Communications from now to December 31. The four areas address developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world; creating new places for new people and revitalizing existing congregations; engaging in ministry with the poor; and combating the diseases of poverty by improving health globally. To register, go to <http://moodle.umcom.org/> and select "Four Areas of Focus" from the United Methodist Basics category. —UMNS

### **United Methodist Men Central PA Conference Spring Rally**

First UMC - Dorcas St, Lewistown PA – Friday, April 3, 2009

Music - Singing - Fellowship

Speaker - David Adams, United Methodist Men General Secretary

Singing beginning at 6:30 pm - Program at 7:00 pm

Paid Reservations and Final Counts need to be in as soon as possible but no later than Tuesday March 24 AND MUST BE PREPAID BY THIS DATE

Checks payable to: J. F. Daski and mail to PO Box 3038, Altoona PA 16603

### **DISTRICT NEWS**

#### **Next Small Church Initiative Gathering is this Saturday!**

The next Small Church Initiative event is scheduled for this **Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Mansfield United Methodist Church.** The gathering will focus on Bishop Robert Schnase's book Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations. This event is for all small churches (125 or less in worship) and is for both clergy and laity. Tom Willard will serve as leader. There is no cost involved, but please indicate to the district office (570-724-2831 or 1-800-892-4675 or [wellsdo@ptd.net](mailto:wellsdo@ptd.net)) how many we should expect from your church or charge. Remember that carpooling is strongly recommended since parking is limited

#### **District Youth Ministry Offering In March**

Once again churches across the district are asked to receive a special offering for youth ministry across our district sometime during the month of March, or whenever best suits your local congregation. **Checks should be made payable to CPCUMC and sent to the Wellsboro District Office at 35 Fairview Acres Road, Wellsboro PA 16901-6916.**

#### **Leadership University Dates & Classes for Spring, 2009**

**March 21 & 28; 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; UMC of Wellsboro (All classes will meet both days.)**

“United Methodist Polity” Instructor: Rev. Tom Willard (Meets CLM requirements)

“Care of the Congregation” Instructor: Pastor Sherry Good (Meets CLM requirements)

“Leading from a Spiritual Base – Prayer” Instructor: Pastor Robin Baer

“PLACE Ministries” Instructor: Marty Willard (meets Spiritual Gifts requirement)

**Contact the district office if you need a registration form or you can download a form off of the conference website: [www.cpcumc.org](http://www.cpcumc.org). **Registration deadline is March 14.****

#### **Women, Save the Date for the Wellsboro District Women's Retreat!**

Saturday, April 25, 2009, 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.; Warren L. Miller Elementary School, Mansfield

“Living with Fear: Afraid of the Uncertainties of Life”

Facilitator: Rev. Pat Woolever, Pastor of the Millerstown Charge in the New Cumberland District

A registration flyer is attached or you can download one from the district website: [www.gb-gm-umc.org/wellsboropadistrict](http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/wellsboropadistrict)

## **Farewell Service & Reception for Tom Willard, District Superintendent**

Sunday, May 31, 3:00 p.m.; UMC of Wellsboro

More information will follow at a later date.

## **LOCAL CHURCH NEWS**

### **Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner @ Roseville UMC**

**February 28;** 3:00-6:30 p.m.

Adults: \$8.00    Children 6-12: \$4.00    5 & under: Free

### **Three Colors of Ministry (Spiritual Gifts Class) to be Offered at Whitneyville**

Four Mondays: 10:00 a.m.-Noon; March 9-30

Four Tuesdays: 7:00-9:00 p.m.; March 3-24

Cost of book is \$10.00.

Contact Pastor Keith Diehl if you are interested in attending this class: [keithdiehl@cpcpastors.org](mailto:keithdiehl@cpcpastors.org) or 570-404-2273

### **Community Dinner @ 1<sup>st</sup> UMC, Mansfield**

**Friday, March 6;** 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Chicken and Biscuits, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Green Bean Casserole, Fruited Jello Salad, Dessert and Beverage.

Cost is \$8.00

### **Bible Study @ Morris UMC**

“Last Week of Jesus”; Mondays, March 9-30; 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Contact Pastor Keith Diehl if you are interested in attending this class: [keithdiehl@cpcpastors.org](mailto:keithdiehl@cpcpastors.org) or 570-404-2273

### **THE SHACK by William P. Young: A Dramatic Reading**

Part 1: March 16                      Part 2: March 23                      Part 3: March 31

Knoxville Community Center; 7:15 p.m.

Contact Pastor Joel Coleman for further information: [joelcoleman@cpcpastors.org](mailto:joelcoleman@cpcpastors.org)

## **MISSION NEWS**

### **Mercy Kasambira Scholarship Fund in Need of Funds**

Mercy Kasambira was an African pastor in our conference who was both recommended out of the Wellsboro District and also served here twice before dying in a car crash in 1995. Mercy was born in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), Africa. She was recommended for ministry by 1<sup>st</sup> UMC, Mansfield. She served as pastor at East Canton/Windfall Charge (1980-1986) and also at the Liberty Charge (1993-1995). Mercy had a real heart for helping educate African students in the US. The Mercy Kasambira Scholarship Fund continues her legacy at Mansfield University. The MKSF Board of Directors is comprised of lay persons and pastors from the district. They select one or two African students each year to receive \$500 scholarships per semester. However, the funds were too low this past semester, so each only received \$450. These students are available to speak in local churches. **Churches of the district can support the MKSF by sending their contributions to the conference treasurer's office with their monthly remittance, and marking it 'Mercy Kasambira Scholarship Fund.'**

### **The Mission Central HUB at Westfield Can Always Use Kit Items & Volunteers!**

Health & School kit items can be found on the Mission Central website: [www.missioncentral.org](http://www.missioncentral.org). Please remember that we can accommodate groups of six or less. On Tuesdays the optimal time is 1:30 through 3:30 and on Saturdays 9:30 through 11:30. If these times are impossible for a willing group, please let us know and we will work with your times. There are several ways to contact us about volunteering:

HUB telephone                      (814) 228-5804

HUB email                              [wumcmmissioncentralhub@yahoo.com](mailto:wumcmmissioncentralhub@yahoo.com)

Or either coordinator:

Janet Erway                      [wjerway@netsync.net](mailto:wjerway@netsync.net)    or telephone (814) 228-3480

Kay Hoag                              [khoag4@stny.rr.com](mailto:khoag4@stny.rr.com)    or telephone (570) 835-5095

## **News from Mission Central!**

We teamed up with Bethesda to send food, paper goods, and a variety of our Mission Central kits to Blakely, GA, the town that was home to the Peanut Corp. of America which was at the root of recent salmonella outbreak in peanut butter. The plant has been shuttered and the only other industry in town, a Georgia Pacific paper mill, recently closed as well.

Combined, we sent them about 27,000 lbs of product with the Mission Central portion valued at over \$11,600. Joe Skasko at Bethesda was able to arrange free shipping for us. God is good!! ABC 27 was going to send a news crew out but declined at the last minute☹. Too bad, but the important part is that we will be providing necessary supplies to people in need.

The mayor of Blakely has arranged for public works employees to help unload the truck at the local food bank – which is a cooperative among the Baptist, Episcopal, and United Methodist Churches. The truck should arrive around noon tomorrow (Thursday).

## **Mission Central's Needs List for February**

- Blankets or fleece throws.
- Clothesline for UMCOR Cleaning Buckets (50ft. or 100ft. size).
- Spools of ribbon (not bows), trim, or yarn, (to tie kits together instead of using plastic bags).
- UMCOR Sewing Kit supplies: a spool of thread, a sewing scissors, 5-8 matching buttons, 3yds. of cotton or cotton blend fabric, plain or printed, and a pack of needles placed in a one gallon zip-lock bag.

## **Harrisburg District Urban Workcamp**

***Be a Volunteer In Mission in the city of Harrisburg, our state capitol***

Sunday, July 12 – Friday, July 17, 2009

Sunday, August 2 – Friday, August 7, 2009

### *You and your church can help:*

Pray for the workcamp; Volunteer as a worker (Minimum age must have completed 6<sup>th</sup> Grade); Volunteer to go for supplies; Individuals with first aid or Nurse's training are needed; Congregations are needed to supply meals and snacks; Donations of Lowe's/Home Depot gift cards; Cash Donations. *Everyone* can be a part of the TEAM! For more information, call Eileen Vizthum in the Harrisburg District Office: 717-545-0525.

## **DISTRICT CALENDAR (dates not included above)**

<b>March 3</b>	Noon	Good Samaritan Board of Directors @ Penn-Well Hotel
<b>March 14</b>	Noon	Pastors' Wives' Luncheon @ District Parsonage
<b>March 17</b>	9:30 a.m.	Pastors' Supportive Fellowship @ 1 <sup>st</sup> UMC, Troy
<b>April 4</b>	10:00 a.m.	District Leadership Team @ 1 <sup>st</sup> UMC, Mansfield
<b>April 20</b>	9:30 a.m.	Pastors' Supportive Fellowship @ 1 <sup>st</sup> UMC, Blossburg w/Bishop Middleton
<b>May 4</b>	9:00 a.m.	dCOM @ UMC of Wellsboro
<b>May 14</b>	Noon	Kasambira Scholarship Fund Board Meeting @ "Cast & Crew" Restaurant, Mansfield
<b>May 17</b>	4:00 p.m.	District Clergy Farewell @ Calvary UMC, Lawrenceville
<b>June 4-6</b>		Annual Conference @ Messiah College
<b>July 19-22</b>		Mini-Camp @ His Thousand Hills, Wellsboro