



WELLSBORO DISTRICT QuikNEWS 5/26/09

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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 Your Departing District Superintendent

Dear Friends,

As I write this, we are waist-high in boxes, and we move in less than three weeks. It's hard to imagine that six years have flown by so quickly. When we arrived, we knew almost no one in the Wellsboro District. Now we are keenly aware how many good friends we are leaving behind us here. I've been telling folks that these six years have been a gift from God to us, and I mean that sincerely. Both Marty and I have loved our time here in the Wellsboro District, and it is indeed with mixed emotions that we are returning south. We know it's time—particularly because of the health concerns of Marty's mom—but it is still hard to say good-bye to so many good friends. The Lord has used so many of you as blessings in our lives, and we are grateful to God for you! I know that we probably won't have an opportunity to say a personal good-bye to all of you at the official Farewell on May 31st, but please know that we are grateful to God for each and every one of you.

I will probably not miss all the traveling between here and Mechanicsburg, and also all the travelling involved in overseeing 64 churches spread out over 6,000 square miles and four counties, but make no mistake about this. We will both miss you, God's faithful people here in the United Methodist churches of the Wellsboro District. God has used you to enrich our lives and bless us on the journey. I want to thank you especially for your openness to step out in faith in new ventures as we've followed God's Holy Spirit together.

When I arrived six years ago the district had recently raised about \$6,000 for two Rapid Response Riders for Ludhiana Christian Hospital and Medical School in India. Shortly after I arrived, Seeds of Hope was born and one of our first projects was to build dozens of beds for children in our own area who had none—and all the bedding they needed. Our next challenge again came from Ludhiana who was looking for a group to raise about \$32,000 to outfit an ambulance. I remember thinking at that initial meeting where we agreed to do that, what a huge stretch that would be for us. But, thanks be to God! The churches of the district came through faithfully, and there is a new ambulance working in the streets of Ludhiana, India, thanks to your generosity! About this same time our churches were challenged to participate in the Holy Grounds Campaign. I didn't expect that there would be a great deal of response to Holy Grounds here since most churches in the district don't send children and youth to our church camps because of how far away they are located. Once again I discovered that I had greatly underestimated your generosity. Wellsboro District out gave several other districts to this campaign!

Our next step was the Bishop's call for every district in the annual conference to plan a mission trip to the Gulf Coast in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Who would have believed then that we would launch three separate trips to the Gulf Coast and raise over \$100,000 for Hurricane Katrina relief—even building an entire house from the ground up? The next step we felt God calling us to take was to open the Mission Central HUB in Westfield. You have marvelously supported our mission outpost with ongoing donations of kit items and volunteers to assemble them from UM churches all over this

district. And now a second church on the eastern end of the district is poised to serve as our second HUB site just as our annual conference is poised to expand in that direction.

And now, as I leave, a new outreach is developing, a district Volunteers in Mission (VIM) team whose vision is to tackle construction and repair projects right here in our own district. So far the group has already helped rebuild a barn belonging to a United Methodist layperson in one of our Mansfield Cluster churches. There are plans already underway to re-roof a church in the Wellsboro Cluster. God is so good!

One of the great lessons I take away from the Wellsboro District is that we can never underestimate what God can and will do through faithful hearts and willing hands—even when our resources appear to be extremely limited! What makes this even more astounding is that all this took place through the generosity of mostly small country churches dealing with the economic repercussions of the worst economic downturn in history since the Great Depression. God is indeed the Giver of every good and perfect gift! May God truly bless you as you continue to follow where God leads you into a future with more ventures of faith ahead!

Marty and I will be watching your continued faithfulness to Christ from afar, and we will continue to applaud your generosity and faithfulness. May the Lord bless you richly as you continue to step out of the boat in faith with your eyes on Jesus!

In God's wondrous and amazing love,

---Tom & Marty

The Willards' new address:

Tom and Marty Willard
231 Fineview Rd.
Camp Hill, PA 17011

Special Days for Pastoral Leaders & their Families

June Birthdays

5 **Henry Campbell**
8 **Alex Guillaume**
14 **Maxine Mills**
18 **Pat Shatto**
19 **Louise Strozyk**
28 **John Baney**
29 **Phyllis Noggle**

June Anniversaries

2 **Dan & Vicki Jordan**
6 **Kristi & Steve Webster**
9 **Bill & Eunice Lusk**
17 **Maxine & Randy Mills**
21 **Jason & Beth Guillaume**
22 **Chris & Becky Nauta**
27 **Rich and Phyllis Noggle**

Praises

Dan and Vicki Jordan will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary on June 2.

Scott Ogden and Shirley McAuley have announced their engagement and plan to be married on June 9, 2009.

Joel Coleman will be ordained at Annual Conference on Saturday, June 6, 2009.

Chris Schafer will be commissioned at Annual Conference.

Tom Harmic will receive his GED as he graduates along with the 2009 graduating class of Liberty High School.

Prayers

Carol Campbell, retired pastor living in Middlebury Center, continues to recover from foot surgery necessitated by an accident in her home that crushed part of her foot. Her foot is healing but the process will be very slow and involves hyperbarack pressure treatments for several weeks.

Niki and Joel Coleman need to be kept in prayer as they anticipate the birth of their twins. Niki is now on bed rest.

DISTRICT NEWS

Farewell Service & Reception for Tom Willard, District Superintendent

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

A worship service, including various ministries & churches throughout the district, will be followed by a reception.

The offering will go to the Kasambira Scholarship Fund.

Each Church in the District Encouraged to Recruit a Child/Youth for Mini-Camp

Here's a way every church can be involved in children's and youth ministry: sponsor someone from your church or community to attend our district Mini-Camp, held July 19-22 at His Thousand Hills outside Wellsboro. Cost before May 1st is \$140.00 and \$145 afterwards. Mini-Camp is for children who have completed 4th through 12th grades. Registration forms will be available from your pastor or the district office. Contact Sharon Haskins at sharonhaskins35@yahoo.com or call her at 814-274-8360 if you have further questions.

Chi Rho Singers to Present an Evening of Music at the UMC of Wellsboro

Thursday, May 28; 7:00 p.m. This choir of the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church includes approximately 45 pastors under the direction of Rev. John Dromazos, pastor of the First UMC of Chambersburg. Pastor Sandy Brant is a member of Chi Rho. The concert will celebrate God's love through music. Various styles of music will be presented including classical, traditional, contemporary, folk and folk-rock selections. Several instruments are used to accompany the choir. As times, the audience is invited to join in the singing. You are invited to hear this choir and celebrate God's love through music. A free will offering will be received. A flyer is attached.

A Day at the Old Burlington Church

On **May 30** there will be a Day at the Old Burlington Church, which was built in 1822 and used until 1855. It is the oldest Methodist Church building in Bradford County.

-9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Gathering Time, coffee and snacks on church yard)

-10:30 a.m. Morning Worship, presentation by John Wesley (Greg Rapp) and Hymn Singing led by David Wohlgemuth

-Noon Picnic Style Fellowship at the Endless Mountain Mission Center

-1:30 p.m. Afternoon Worship, Guest speaker, and more Hymn Singing

-2:30 p.m. Fellowship on Church Grounds, coffee, punch cake and chips

The service planned for May 30 is designed to give worshipers a feel for the way our early churches worshiped on the frontier. The church is primitive and has remained much as it was when first constructed.

The Reverend Greg Rapp will appear as John Wesley. David Wohlgemuth, of the Monroeton United Methodist Church, will be our song leader. We will be singing several hymns a cappella and use the pump organs for additional hymns. There will be a picnic style lunch of Beef Barb-B-Q, ham, baked beans, potato salad, macaroni salad, chips, pickles and cake provided at the Endless Mountain Mission Center, between the worship services.

Your Presence is Requested at the Retirement Celebration in Honor of Rev. James T. Dawes

Sunday, June 28, 2009; Reception: 3:00-4:00 p.m.; Worship & Recognition: 4:15-5:15 p.m.; Dinner 5:30-6:30 p.m.

First United Methodist Church, 64 W. Chocolate Avenue, Hershey, PA

Please respond by Friday, June 14. Call Church Office: 717-533-9668 or email trisha.wymer@firstumchershey.org.

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

Mitford Dinner at Genesee Church

The Genesee Church will host its annual Mitford Dinner Saturday, May 30, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

If you've read Jan Karon's Mitford Series, you love the people and wish you had a piece of Esther's Orange Marmalade Cake. May 30 is your chance!

Ester's famous cake and the Rector's Old Faithful Meatloaf top the menu.

A free will offering will be accepted.

St Paul-Nauvoo Strawberry Festival

Friday, June 12- 5:00 p.m. until we run out

Serving, BBQ, hot dogs , chili dogs, strawberry shortcake, strawberry pie, strawberry and hot fudge sundaes

DISTRICT CALENDAR (dates not included above)

June 4-6	Annual Conference @ Messiah College
July 18	District Committee on Ordained Ministry Meeting, 9:00AM, Wellsboro
July 19-22	Mini-Camp @ His Thousand Hills, Wellsboro
August 15	District Leadership Team, 10:00AM , Mansfield
September 8	Good Samaritan Board of Directors, 12:00PM, Penn Wells Hotel, Wellsboro
November 14	District Leadership Team , 10:00AM, Mansfield

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 or wellsdo@ptd.net, by the 20th 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

Special Offerings Announced for Annual Conference

Memorial Service:

Nothing But Nets is a grassroots campaign to save lives by preventing malaria, a leading killer of children in Africa. The people of the United Methodist Church have been working with the Nothing But Nets partners to help stop a deadly disease - malaria. In sub-Saharan Africa, a child dies every 30 seconds from this preventable disease. Just \$10 buys a bed net, distributes it to a family, and provides education on how to use it. By answering Jesus' call to "minister to the least of these who are members of our family," we can beat this awful disease and save future generations. So give a child the opportunity to live a life of health and happiness. Pray. Communicate the need. Buy a bed net. And save a life.

Ministry Celebration:

The Cup of Water Fund is used by the Cabinet in support of Lay families who are facing financial hardships. In 2008 20 grants were issued ranging from \$175 - \$3500.

Service of Ordination:

Mission Central is the Distribution Center Ministry of the Central Pennsylvania Conference which provides logistical support to over 220 local, national, and global ministries. Mission Central gathers, stores, and ships humanitarian supplies for their ministry partners. Mission Central's approximate \$300,000 annual budget is funded 100% by charitable giving.

Lay Speaking Ministries Recertification Retreat

2009 Central PA Conference Lay Speaking Ministries Recertification Retreat

COURSE: ADVANCED: Lay Speaking in the Small Membership Church
Course Instructor: Rev. Dr. Lewis Parks

WHEN: August 28-29, 2009

TIME: Friday, August 28 check in by 5:30 finishing **Saturday, August 29** in the evening.

WHERE: Hartman Center, 5725 Old US Hwy. 322, Milroy, PA 17063 (directions are on their web page)

Cost: Persons staying at Hartman Center will be \$75.00, persons commuting will be \$53.00, (first post marks will receive bottom bunks if bunking is needed)

Course description: This course will look at the various responsibilities of the preacher/speaker in the unique setting of small membership churches. We will consider the work of the preacher/speaker as student of scripture, anthropologist, writer, speaker, storyteller, theologian, leader, pastor, prophet, and evangelist.

Deadline for registration is **July 15, 2009**

For more information and registration form please contact: Edna R. Brehm, 86 Old Stone House Rd. So. Carlisle, PA 17015. Phone: 717-697-8299, e-mail is: erebrehm2@paonline.com

Adult God's Call Event

If you are an adult over the age of 25, questioning whether you are being called into the ordained ministry, you are invited to the God's Call event for Adults. Members of the Enlistment and Interpretation Committee will provide information on the ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church. This is an exciting opportunity for those discerning a call to ministry. The 2009 event will occur on Saturday, August 15, at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Mechanicsburg. For more information please contact Rev. Fred Fields at ffields2@verizon.net

MISSION NEWS

Hub Needs Kit Items

The Wellsboro District Mission Central Hub is in dire need of kit materials!

The Hub can use all items on the School Kit and Health Kit shopping list.

School Kits: Lined paper or spiral bound notebooks; Pencils(no advertising); Crayons (24 box); Scissors (blunt); wooden, plastic or metal Rulers; Erasers (not pencil-end toppers); Pencil Sharpeners (must have well)

Health Kits: Hand Towels(no kitchen towels); Wash Cloths; Metal Nail Files or Nail Clippers; Individually-packaged Toothbrushes; Bar Soap; Band-aids.

Please Email Wellsborodistrictmissioncentralhub@yahoo.com for pick-up or deliver materials to the Hub at the Westfield Youth Center. The Hub is open each Tuesday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and the second and fourth Saturdays of each month.

Watch for the second annual Blueberry Sale. Information coming soon.

“Give Ye Them to Eat” Mission Trip to Mexico

You are invited to join a Work/Study team traveling to the "Give Ye Them to Eat" training center in Puebla, Mexico, October 9-18, 2009. Central PA has been sending teams to "GYTTE" for more than 15 years. You will learn, work, tour, and shop in the city of Puebla and at the training center in the village of Tlancualpican! Most importantly, you will be sharing the love of Christ with our brothers and sisters in Mexico. We love having folks with construction related skills. BUT NO SPECIAL SKILLS are required. The cost is \$1400, including all meals, lodging and transportation. You must be at least 18 and in reasonably good health. For more information and an application contact Rev. Marian Hartman at marianhartman@cpcpastors.org or by phone at 570-724-3138. Pastors can receive 3.3 CEUs.

Mission Central is Collecting Eyeglasses for Thailand

Please bring eyeglasses to Mission Central where they will be prepared for a 2010 mission team to take to villagers in Thailand. If there is a surplus of glasses, they will be sent to Sierra Leone, the Dominican Republic, or wherever there is need. Rev. Jeff Fisher is planning this trip and working with our UM missionaries there, Mike and Sherri Morrisey from Kentucky. They are excited about folks coming to help, as well as bringing a team along to teach English as a second language. It would be great to have a core of young people to go to help teach English through games and fun activities. If you are interested in being part of a team to travel to Thailand, please contact Rev. Jeff Fisher at jefffisher@cpcpastors.org and bring eyeglasses to Mission Central in the meantime.

Schools of Christian Mission

Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA 17837 **July 16-19, 2009**. Child care is available, as are scholarships, too! A quick synopsis of what to expect includes:

The Study on *Sudan* (8 hours on Thurs/Fri only)

The Study on *Food and Faith* (8 hours on Fri/Sat/Sun)

Inspiring daily singing and worship times

Mini-Session – Choice of *Native American Survival*, *Sudan*, movies and more

Mission Carousel – *A Sudan Experience*

Optional Hands-On Mission Encounters

Mission Books & Resources available on site.

For registration and information, contact Judith Grove, Registrar at (717) 741-4366, 613 Green Valley Rd., York, PA 17403 or by email: judygrove@verizon.net.