



THE NEW YORK/CONNECTICUT DISTRICT CONNECTOR

A publication of
The New York/Connecticut District, of the
New York Annual Conference, of the
United Methodist Church

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June 2009 Edition

Reflections of an Itinerant Preacher i.e., A Word from the D.S.



Dear fellow disciples and apostles:

One of the privileges accorded to district superintendents by the Discipline is a Renewal Leave of up to three months during their time as a district superintendent. In as much as I am entering my sixth year as a D.S., I will be taking that renewal leave this summer, and specifically from July 1st through September 7th. This appointment season has been extremely active on our district (look at the list below, and understand that it needs to be added to appointments already made, and vacancies now to be filled!). For that reason I am very much looking forward to this. Also, for that reason, I have few plans made, other than to catch up on reading, perhaps take a course or two at a local college, and prepare to get rid of five years of accumulated stuff that I do not want to bring with me in the next move.

While I am gone, please do check in at the office if you need information. I do not yet know Chan's vacation schedule, but the answering machine will tell you if she is away. If you need another D.S., then the following are on call these weeks during the summer:

July 1 – 12: Ken Kieffer (CT District)

July 13 – 26: Noel Chin (MT District)

July 27 – August 2: Adrienne Brewington (LIE District)

August 3 – 16: Kenny Yi (LIW District)

August 17 – 31: Jim Moore (CATHUD District)

September 1 to 7: call me if you absolutely must.

Have a safe summer, and may this season be filled with energy and enthusiasm for our ministry for Jesus!

Jeannette

THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHEDULE

June

- 1: Day:** Cabinet Conference Call and Office
Evening: Appointment Introduction
- 2:** in office
- 3: Day:** Cabinet
Evening: Appointment Consultation
- 4: Day:** in office
Evening: Appointment Consultation
- 5:** Day Off
- 6:** Cabinet Conference Call and Appointment Consultations
- 7:** Worship & Appointment Consultations
- 8: Day:** office
Evening: appointment introduction
- 9: Day:** office
Evening: appointment introduction
- 10: Annual Conference**
- 11: Annual Conference**
- 12: Annual Conferenc**
- 13: Annual Conference**
- 14:** worship and probably continuation of appointment process
- 15:** in office
- 16:** in office
- 17:** Cabinet meets at Camp Olmsted
- 18:** Cabinet meets at Camp Olmsted
Evening: Buildings & Locations, Diamond Hill UMC
- 19:** Day off
- 20:** ?
- 21:** ?
- 22:** In office
- 23:** In office
- 24: Day:** Cabinet
Evening: Parish Development (Conference)
- 25:** Disaster Response Training for D.S.s
- 26:** City Society Board Meeting
- 27:** Cabinet farewell to Gunshik Shim and George Englehardt
- 28:** ?
- 29:** In office
- 30:** In office



This & That

Exploration 2009

A three-day event to help high school seniors and young adults up to age 24 hear, discern, and respond to God's call to ordained ministry as deacon or elder in The United Methodist Church.

November 13 – 15 Dallas TX

Check out www.gbhem.org/exploration
Scholarships available

HELP WANTED... The New York Annual Conference is trying to be a bit more radical in our hospitality during Annual Conference, June 10-13 2009. We need your help! Would you please solicit volunteers to assist us in this most exciting venture? You may send their names and telephone numbers/email addresses to Rev. Barbara Mungin at bjmungin@optonline.net. We will contact them and arrange for assignment depending on their availability.



TRINITY UNITED METHODIST PARISH
1 OWENS ROAD, NEWBURGH
(AT THE CORNER OF FOSTERTOWN AND NORTH FOSTERTOWN
ROADS)

FIRST FRIDAY MUSIC FEST

Visit our website at www.cornerstonechristiancafe.com
Or contact Jim Schoonmaker for more information

Appointments, effective July 1, 2009...

Rev. **Anne Bracket** to **First UMC of Yalesville** (CT District) from UMC of Darien
Rev. **Gordon Bienvenue** to **Riverhead UMC** (LIE) from Van Cortlandtville Community
Rev. **James Hoffman** to **UMC of Darien, CT**
Rev. **Jennifer Morrow** to **Rowayton UMC, CT**
Pastor **Amenda Iahn** to **Trinity UMC, LaGrangeville**
Pastor **William Resling** to **Van Cortlandtville, NY**
Rev. **Kirt Watkins** to **Sea Cliff, NY** (LIE) from Highland Mills, NY
Pastor **Lizz Williams** to **Faith, Staten Island** (MT) from Bellvale & Sugar Loaf
Pastor **Charles Gockel** to **AIEM** from Newburgh/Trinity
Pastor **Timothy Henderson** to **Bullville** (CATHUD) from Cold Spring & So. Highland
Pastor **Don Adams** to **Greenwich, Diamond Hill (Assoc.)**
Pastor **Gene Ott** to **Stevens Memorial, South Salem, NY**
Rev. **Dorothy Weigert** to **Norwalk, East Ave.**
Pastor **Julia Weiddemann** to **Stamford, Springdale & Ridges/Roxbury**
Rev. **Alexis Carol** to **AIEM**

Out and About the District

Christian Motorcyclist Association, International sponsors a once-a-year fundraiser to support efforts in spreading the Gospel around the world, partnering with three other ministries (Jesus Film Project, Ventures, and Open Doors). Saturday, May 2nd, Disciples of the Cross (a forming chapter of CMA) co-sponsored a 100+ mile motorcycle ride as well as a BBQ and Bike(er) Blessing with the **Warwick UMC**.

More than 100 bikes took part in the day, and members of other biker clubs including the Omega Knights (Goodwill Church, Montgomery, NY) Honor Bound (Port Jervis, NY) and a few other secular clubs came together with CMA to ride and pray together for the Glory of God. The Warwick UMC Youth Group helped serve the BBQ at the church, and Rev Chris Yount participated in blessing the bikers and their bikes. The local Run raised over \$400, which has been sent off to CMA Int'l. as part of the chapter donation.



Bikers gathered for prayer at the top of Perkins Drive at Bear Mountain Park.



On April 25th, volunteers from **Hyde Park UMC** and many local sponsoring organizations, including various businesses, gave up part of their weekend work on a project in Red Hook, NY. for Rebuilding Together Dutchess County Day. This was the 18th annual National Rebuilding Day for Rebuilding Together Dutchess County, a non-profit organization, formerly known as “Christmas in April”.



When many people think of June, they think of the end of school, June brides, and lazy days at the beach, **East Avenue UMC** adds “Peanut Butter and Jelly Sunday” to that list. This year that day will be on Fathers’ Day, June 21 and they expect that the altar will be overflowing so that the shelves of the Food Pantry at Christian Community Action will groan with the supply. This will help make sure that children in Norwalk have something for lunch this summer when school is out and they are hungry.

East Avenue UMC *EAUMC Events*



In observance of Father's Day on June 21st, **Vail’s Gate UMC** will again take an offering for the Church World Service project, Blankets+. This outreach extends around the world bringing everything from housing assistance in Bosnia, to earthquake recovery in Pakistan, to youth employment programs and health care in Sierra Leone and to blankets for the homeless and economically disadvantaged in Connecticut, Washington state and South Dakota right here at home.

Vail’s Gate UMC *Vail’s Gate Visitor*



In May, **Grace UMC** opened its Youth Outreach Kitchen, that will serve dinner Saturday of each month, filling a void in the City of Newburgh, as presently there is people in need on Saturday nights. Grace UMC also supports **First UMC’s** Feeding lunch on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Grace UMC *Sojourner*



from 5-6 pm on the second no location serving meals to Ministry, which serves

Out and About continued...

On Sunday, June 7, **Trinity-Boscobel UMC** will join with other churches to take advantage of an incredible opportunity for service, an opportunity to put their faith into action. First they will gather that morning for worship as usual. Following a short worship service they will go out into the community. Less able-bodied and elderly members will go into the community hall for sit-down projects such as assembling UMCOR health kits and knitting infant caps for the hospital. The rest of the congregation will divide into teams to do different service projects, such as singing in a nursing home, cleaning up a local park, and painting rooms in the Jan Peek Shelter. At 3pm they will gather with **Mount Kisco UMC**, at the **Yorktown Heights UMC** to share their experiences from the morning and celebrate communion together.

Trinity-Boscobel UMC *The Tower*



On April 25, **Warwick UMC** hosted its second annual women's retreat. Almost 200 women attended "Faith for Life's Journey" from Warwick area and as far away as Yorktown Heights and New York City. All were treated to a day of rest and renewal through teaching, singing, worshipping, praying, sharing and fellowship. Many of the woman brought handmade cancer caps, which were placed in a "Basket of Hope" and are to be delivered to a cancer care facility. The day began with a sumptuous breakfast and gathering. Keynote speaker, life coach and author Esther Hughes' morning program followed. She shared her spiritual testimony, saying that we should grasp God's hand, listen for His voice, accept His guidance, draw on His strength and then follow His plan for us.



During the mid-part of the day, the women were able to participate in various workshops or discussion groups. The afternoon session included a Christian comedian and the singing of praise songs and favorite hymns. During the day, the women who attended had the opportunity to write on a card those things that had a hold on them: the cross that they bear. During the afternoon session the cards were collected, presented to God and placed on the altar. The day closed with a communion service. The Warwick UMC is working on its third annual retreat scheduled for April 16-17, 2010. The guest speaker will be Renee Swope, author and co-host of Proverbs 31 Ministries' radio program.

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*From the editor... We would like to have the September issue of the **CONNECTOR** overflowing with reports of mission trips from around the NY/CT District.*

***PLEASE SHARE...** Send reports about the mission trips by people in your congregation. Include pictures, and share the experience – mccarte@optonline.net*

2009 Cooperative School of Christian Mission

RT 17A WARWICK NY

July 23rd - 25th, 2009

Western Connecticut State University
University Blvd. Danbury, CT 06810

*This is My Body,
BROKEN for You!*

(Luke 22)

Studies:

Spiritual Growth – Food & Faith

General Studies – Giving Your Heart Away:

Native American Survival

Geographical Study – Sudan

All Forms are available on the School of Mission website:

www.gbqm-umc.org/nyaccscom

Please visit www.wpaumcyouth.com and click on ELEVATE

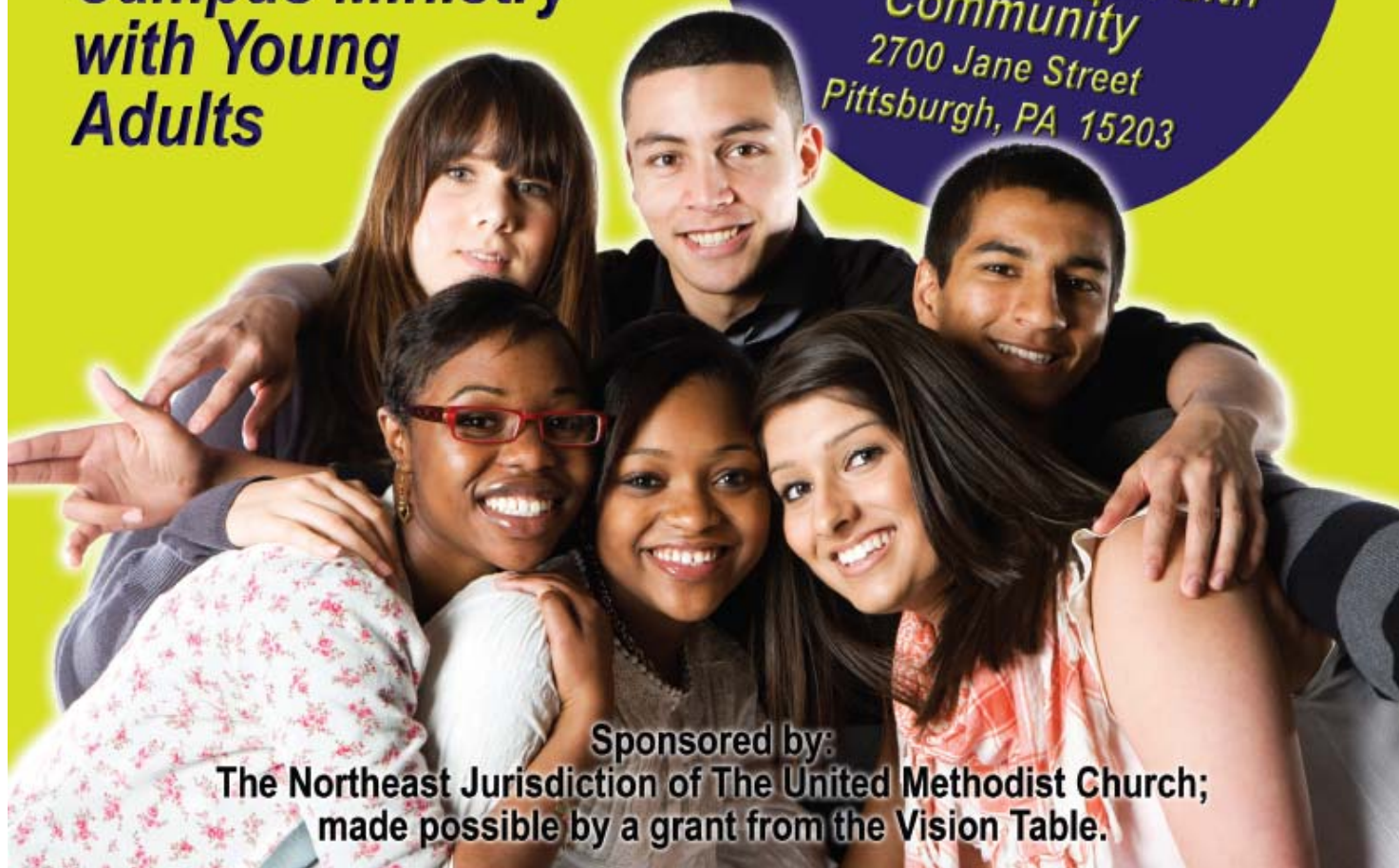
elevate

taking young adult ministry to the next level

July 10-12, 2009
Pittsburgh, PA

**Resourcing
Congregational and
Campus Ministry
with Young
Adults**

**Sheraton
Station Sq. Hotel**
300 West Station Square Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
with Saturday Sessions at:
**Hot Metal Bridge Faith
Community**
2700 Jane Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203



Sponsored by:
The Northeast Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church;
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Friday, July 10, 2009

Sheraton Station Square Hotel, 300 W Station Square Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

8 p.m. Worship and Plenary
Ginger Gaines-Cirelli, Preacher and Adam Swiger, Worship Leader

Saturday, July 11, 2009

On site at Hot Metal Bridge, 2700 Jane Street Pittsburgh, PA 15203

9:30-10 a.m. Devotions (*Jim Walker, and musicians from Hot Metal Bridge will lead our time of worship*)

10:30-Noon Workshops, Session 1:
Congregational Ministry with Young Adults
Jim Walker
Taking Young Adult Ministry to the Next Level
Ginger Gaines-Cirelli
Ministry on Campus
Indiana Grace UMC

Noon-1 p.m. Lunch

1-2:30 p.m. Workshops, Session 2
repeat of session 1

3-4:30 p.m. Creating and Strengthening a Conference Committee on Young Adult Ministry
Leader, TBD

4:30-8 p.m. Dinner on your own

8:30-11 p.m. Gateway Clipper Dessert Cruise

Sunday, July 12, 2009

On-site at the hotel

9:30 a.m. Worship
Jay Williams, Preacher and Ingomar UMC/ Worship Team

11 a.m. Closing Plenary – *What is God calling me to be and do?*

Cost:

\$129.00 (2 per room) by May 15.

\$149.00 (2 per room) by June 15.

Questions? Need more information? For questions about registration contact Renaye Hoffman at youth@wpaumc.org or 1-800-886-3382, ext. 224. For all other questions please contact Shane Hinderliter at shinderliter@pen-del.org or 1-877-736-3351, ext. 15.

CONTRIBUTORS

Jay Williams

Jay is a Master of Divinity student at Union Theological Seminary in New York. Prior to becoming a student at Union, Jay was an assistant vice president at Merrill Lynch in private banking. While pursuing ordination as an elder, he presently serves as the assistant pastor of Metropolitan Community UMC in East Harlem, New York. He is also the director of the church's start-up community development corporation; he led his delegation to the 2000 and 2004 General Conferences



Ginger Gaines-Cirelli

Ginger currently serves as Minister for Younger Adults, at Christ Church UMC in New York, NY. She is serving part-time to develop young adult (20s/30s) ministries. She also assists in worship, teaching Bible Studies and providing pastoral care and support.



Jim Walker

Pastor Jim Walker (Full Ordained Elder) is a graduate of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (2003). Jim and co-pastor Jeff Eddings have been working together in ministry since they served together as camp counselors at Ligonier Camp in 1989. After graduating from Point Park College in 1991, they spent many years using drama to proclaim the Gospel in churches and camps across the country through a ministry called "Crosslight Productions." They also created an outreach to elementary schools through the Pittsburgh Children's Museum- performing plays about conflict resolution, handling peer pressure, and reading. They are now serving the Lord together again, along with their families and many, many friends at Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community on the South Side.



Karen Salser

Four years ago she became the Director of Campus Ministry at Grace UMC and has spent countless hours interacting with and ministering to college students. Coordinating an on-campus worship service, a mid-week Bible study, events both within the church and on-campus, as well as discipling young adults are just some of the ways in which she is able to serve the students of Indiana University of Pennsylvania.



Eric Detar

Eric Detar is the Associate Pastor of Grace UMC, in Indiana, PA. He and his wife, Paula, just recently celebrated their 15th anniversary. Together, they have two children, Anna – 9 and Noah – 8. Before coming to Grace, Eric was the pastor at New Stanton UMC, in New Stanton, PA. He moved to Grace, to pursue a calling in campus ministry. Eric is a leader of GRIP, Grace's campus ministry. He co-leads an on-campus worship service at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) called "12:12" and a mid-week study with college students called "Cross Examine." He is an IUP Campus Minister and a member of the IFC (Interfaith Council) at IUP. Eric is passionate about Jesus, his family, music, authentic community, outdoor stuff and the Steelers.



The purpose of this event is to identify and further equip and empower young adults and those who share in ministry with them so that they can return to their annual conference and strengthen congregational and conference young adult ministry efforts.

The Oratory of the Little Way Presents:
**Recession, Depression...So, Who's Going to Bail
You Out?**



Wednesday, June 17, 2009
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
at The Oratory of the Little Way in Gaylordsville, CT.
Admission: Free

With seemingly everyone but us getting a bailout these days, how are we going to survive these tough economic times? Can we really expect someone to support us? Actually, there is someone.

Come and join us on Wednesday evening at The Oratory from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm to learn about who that special someone is, and the practical ways and solutions available to help solve your financial issues.

The seminar will be conducted by A. Paul Ramunni CPA, former Board President of the Oratory of the Little Way and author of the book "The Poor Catholic; The Road to Grace." Paul will present some new and fresh ideas as to how we might successfully develop a life plan for the immediate future. He will draw on his 37 years of professional experience as a CPA in public practice and also merge the financial wisdom of the Scriptures into the presentation.

It will be an uplifting evening that you will not want to miss.

Seating is limited. Please RSVP to (860-354-8294)

Email oratory1@sbcglobal.net

Donations to the Oratory are welcome
and are tax deductible