

Mission Statement: To Cultivate Christian Growth

Living Water

Five Rivers District Office Newsletter



News From Our District Superintendent

Friends and Colleagues:

Special points of interest:

Lonnie Bailey will be arranging for pickup of **Health Kits for Haiti** February 2nd—5th at District Drop Off points. Contact Lonnie at lbailey@kseast.org with questions.

Five Rivers District Drop Off Points for Health Kits.

Ottawa 1st UMC, Clearfield UMC, Plum Creek UMC, Princeton UMC, Lawrence 1st UMC, Iola Wesley UMC, Lousiburg UMC, Paola UMC.

Disaster Response Training

Ottawa 1st UMC, Feb. 27th 1-5 PM

UMW District Spring Meeting

Ottawa 1st, April 17th

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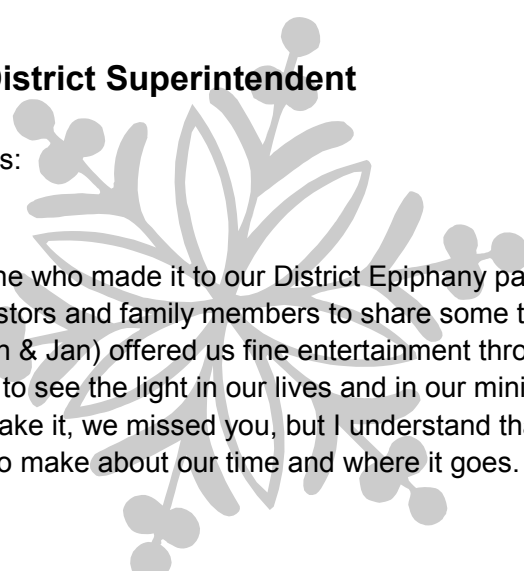
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I want to thank everyone who made it to our District Epiphany party. It was fun to get together with pastors and family members to share some time in fellowship. The Todds (Mitch & Jan) offered us fine entertainment through their music, and challenged us to see the light in our lives and in our ministries. For those who could not make it, we missed you, but I understand that there are choices that we need to make about our time and where it goes. Maybe next time will work for you.

There are many things to be accomplished in 2010. Among them is the review of our ministry structure as a district. I feel that we need to continually be aware of what is going on within the district and position ourselves to respond with effective ministry. The District Leadership Team has done some brain storming about the needs of the 5R District and what role the distinct can play in helping local churches make disciples of Jesus Christ. The frontline of ministry happens in and through the local church. My expectation is that the district will offer ministry that will enhance and support what is happening, or needs to be happening, in the local church. Please see the information about the brain storming session of the Leadership Team elsewhere in this newsletter.

May God's blessing flow in and through each of us as we do all we can to build up the body of Christ and to transform the lives of people with God's grace and love!

Thanks for all that you do!



Five Rivers District Leadership Team Minutes

Group: The Five Rivers District Leadership Team
Date: Thursday, January 21st
Place: Five Rivers District Office, 801 7th St, Baldwin City, KS

Members present:

Mary Brooks (Lyndon UMC), Rev. Tom Brady, Rev. Dr. Felix Burrows, Carol Milroy (Wellsville UMC, UMW), David Wasserfallen District Director of Lay Speaking Ministries, Marvé Ralston District Communications, and Rev. Dr. Dennis Ackerman District Superintendent.

Opening prayer and devotions were led by Rev. Ackerman. Devotions were on Ephesians 4.

“As a district, we need to be about the business of supporting the local church.”

“We should be sharing the love of Christ in this place and time,” he added.

Our role as a District Leadership Team

The first question Rev. Ackerman asked was “How can the district help local churches be more effective?”

The group brainstormed and these are some of the areas discussed for emphasis.

Youth events

Leadership training

Help define vitality and sustainability

Encourage and affirm

Find common ground

Resource sharing

People resources available currently in our district

Off site document security

Mission opportunities (local and district)

Enhance the UMC connection

Understand how the UMC structure benefits

List of gifts and graces

Understand the administrative organization

Tri-Mission Offering



Of Possible Interest to you

It's time to register for the upcoming Small Church Leadership Institute, March 8-12 at Mount Sequoyah Conference Center in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Space is limited - register today! Register at: www.mountsequoyah.org. Early Bird discount offered until February 15.

- **Are you frustrated that your church is stuck at 25, 50 or 100 on Sundays? Are you saddened that your worship attendance is slowly declining each year? Does your heart break to see a bus load of school children drive past your building each weekday, but your children's department is empty on Sunday? Do the tears flow because your own sister stopped coming to worship?**
- **Are you excited that your church has recently experienced growth, new households are attending, the congregation is filled with new energy and new life?**
- **My friends, I dream of the day when every one of our United Methodist churches are alive, vibrant, and filled beyond capacity praising and worshipping the Lord Jesus Christ every Sunday.**
- **This event is just for you. The Small Church Leadership Institute is designed to equip laity and pastors with the knowledge and skills to lead their small attendance church to a higher level of health and vitality.**
- **The generous financial support of five Annual Conferences (Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas East, Kansas West, and Arkansas) and the United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas - has enabled us to attract the best authorities on small church transformation in the country: (Alice Mann, Dr. Tim Reaves, and Dr. Doug Anderson (*The Race to Reach Out*))**
- **Alice Mann, Senior Consultant with the Alban Institute and author of several books including *Can Our Church Live? Redeveloping Congregations in Decline*, and [Holy Conversations: Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations](#), will be our opening keynote speaker.**
- **I look forward to seeing you at Mount Sequoyah!**

Five Rivers District Prayer Calendar

Feb. 1st	Edgerton UMC Rev. Gayla Rapp
Feb. 8th	Lawrence Central Rev. Maria Campbell
Feb. 15th	Devon-Mapleton UMC Pastor Glen Duderstadt
Feb. 22nd	Richmond Rev. Jerrald Harnden

Drop Off Points for Health Kits

Ottawa 1st UMC,	203 E Fourth St, Ottawa, KS 66067
Clearfield UMC	597 E 2200 Rd, Eudora, KS
Plum Creek UMC	31910 Plum Creek Road, Paola, KS
Princeton UMC	321 Prairie St, Princeton, KS
Lawrence 1st UMC	946 Vermont, Lawrence, KS
Iola Wesley UMC	301 E Madison, Iola, KS
Louisburg UMC	249 N Metcalf, Louisburg, KS

UMCOR is asking for health kits. A list of contents for health kits is available on the Kansas East Website at www.kansaseast.org. Remember, due to international shipping rules, contents must be only items listed...no variations.

New request from UMCOR: When making your health kits, please collect \$2 per kit - \$1 for the toothpaste that they will add and \$1 to help with the shipping costs to Haiti. Please put all of these dollars in one separate envelope along with your kits. If your church would like to act as a drop off point, please contact Julie Pohl at: kseast-vim@yahoo.com. as needed.

Clergy Birthdays

Connie McKee	Feb. 3rd
Jacob Cloud Holloway	Feb. 24th

February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

- Feb. 3-4 Appointive Cabinet, DS in Wichita
- Feb. 6 District Committee of Superintendency, Garnett UMC, 9 AM
- Feb. 7 Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13), Psalm 138 (UMH 853), 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11
- Feb. 9-10 Appointive Cabinet, DS in Wichita
- Feb. 14 Valentines Day
- Feb. 14 Exodus 34:39-35, Psalm 99 (UMH 819), 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)
 Boy Scout Sunday (Scouting Ministries Sunday)
- Feb. 16-18 Extended Cabinet 16th, Appointive Cabinet 17-18, DS in Wichita
- Feb. 21 Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 91:1-2 (UMH 810), Romans 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13
- Feb. 23-24 Appointive Cabinet, DS in Wichita
- Feb. 25 North Incubator Group, Countryside UMC, 9 AM-5 PM
- Feb. 27 Disaster Response Training, 1-5 PM, Ottawa 1st, register with Julie Pohl at kseastvim@yahoo.com
- Feb. 28 Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18, Psalm 27 (UMH 758), Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35

Five Rivers District Epiphany Dinner



Debbie and Dennis Ackerman



Paul and Connie Wilson



Keith and Maria Campbell



Paul and Debbie Babcock, Ira DeSpain, Gayla Rapp, Dr. Washington and Dr. Burrows, Becky Johnson and Debbie Ackerman



Alice and Billy Hughes



Glen and Hilary Duderstadt, Kevin and Kathy Symes, Melody Kimbrel, Donna VotEAU, Jerrald and Dee Anne Harnden

**Five Rivers District Office
Newsletter**

Cultivating Christian Growth

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Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor: Marvé Ralston



John and Barb Clinger



David and Goldana Shrum



Five Rivers District Epiphany Dinner

Jim and Linda Hopwood



Orrin Potter, Nick Woods

