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From Your District Superintendent

Well it is official – we are becoming the Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church. The actions of the Uniting Conference held last week in Salina were clear and almost completely unanimous. There was a good spirit present in the meeting and it feels like we are getting off to a very good start.

There are some things coming out of the adopted Plan of Organization that will have some level of impact on local churches.

New Minimum Salary numbers for 2014

Full-Time Local Pastor	\$34,000
Associate Member	\$36,200
Provisional Member	\$38,400
Full Member	\$40,600

So, local churches please plan accordingly. Also know that the current “utilities” line will count toward the minimum salary total. More details will come your way.

Annual Conference Health Insurance

Beginning in 2014, three-quarter time churches will be required to provide health insurance for the pastor. I believe that I have been in contact with all of the current three-quarter time churches on the Five Rivers District about this development. To my knowledge, all of the impacted churches have a plan to address this issue.

Building and Other Insurances

From the Uniting Plan: *“Churches in the former Kansas East Conference will continue to be covered by the current group policy that provides all insurance needed by each local church.”*

Also: *“The Great Plains United Methodist Conference (GPUMC) will obtain Worker Compensation insurance to not only cover conference staff but staff (including pastors) of all local churches within the GPUMC. Each local church will be billed for the actual cost of the premium incurred based on compensation paid to staff of each church.”*

But the main thing of the conference was about the main thing that we are called to do. Bishop Jones did a fine job of reminding us what our main mission is as United Methodist Christians. He shared in one of his sermons the main tenets of Wesleyan theology. It boils down to our need to make disciples of Jesus Christ. And to do that, we need to remember who we are and to let others know who we are as followers of Jesus.

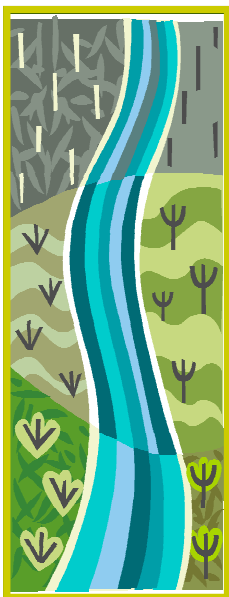
So, remember who you are a follower of Jesus and let others know!

In Christ,

Bishop of the Great Plains Episcopal Area
Scott Jones

Five Rivers District Superintendent
Rev. Dr. Dennis Ackerman

Newsletter Editor/Admn. Assistant
Marvé Ralston



September 2013

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
29	30					

Sept. 5th ~ District Clergy Meeting
9 a.m.-noon at Ottawa 1st UMC

Sept. 7-8th ~ Project Revolution 5R District Youth Rally at Lawrence 1st West Campus

Sept. 9-11th ~ Extended Cabinet Retreat

Sept. 14th ~ All District **Hands-On** Work Day in Garnett. Details attached. All are invited to participate.

Sept. 16th ~ D.C.o.M. organizational meeting at Wellsville UMC 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sept. 25-27th ~ Admn. Asst. Meeting in Wichita. District Office Closed.

District Prayer Calendar

Sept. 1 Vinland
Pastor Shirley Edgerton

Sept. 8 Haiti Missions

Sept. 15 Humboldt/Big Creek
Rev. Marge Cox

Sept. 22 Overbrook
Rev. Hyun Jung Choi

Sept. 29 Williamsburg
Pastor Libby Oberdorf

District Superintendent: Dennis Ackerman

Imagine No Malaria totals from Five Rivers District: \$20,451.61

Here is the link to learn more: www.greatplainsumc.org/pages/detail/344

The goal is simply that every church in the Great Plains Conference do something.

Clergy Birthday ~ Rev. Lori Stevens ~ Pastor at Richter UMC ~ September 24th



Pictures from the Uniting Conference ~ The Great Plains Conference

See streaming and other information here.

<http://www.greatplainsumc.org/news/detail/150>



At the Uniting Conference 8/22-23/13



3 Conferences of Lay Members and Clergy voting

Of Possible Interest to You:

One God, One Day, One Love Youth Event

Middle and High School Students and Youth Workers ~ Youth must be accompanied by adults (2 adults for every 10 youth)

9/21/13

9:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Fairway: Old Mission UMC

5519 State Park Rd

Fairway, KS 66205-2664

Link for registration and more information below:

<http://www.youtheology.org/#!one-god-one-day-one-love/cp6>

Evidence of Journey Concert

Topeka: Susanna Wesley UMC

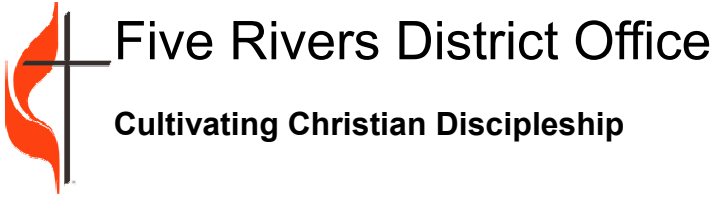
7433 SW 29th St

Topeka, KS 66614-4700

9/29/13

6:30 p.m. Free Will Offering after band expense all proceeds to **Imagine No Malaria**





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Flint Hills District ~ Crystal Fore (right), Parson's District ~ Jane Reeves (center) and Five Rivers District ~ Marvé Ralston (left) Administrative Assistants have a chance to get caught up and meet counter parts in Nebraska and Kansas West.



Bishop Jones giving one of several inspiring sermons.

<http://www.greatplainsumc.org/videos/detail/65>

