

'ARISE'

Williamsport District Supervisory Area Monthly News April 4, 2024



2024 SESSION OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2024 Session of Annual Conference will be held at the Community Arts Center in Williamsport, Pa Thursday, May 30 - Saturday, June 1, 2024.

Registration will ONLY be open through April 22, 2024. (There will be no **Registration Fee** this year!)

All registration needs to be within this timeframe. If you miss the registration deadline, you will be able to attend as a visitor to the Session of Annual Conference, but you will have no voice and no vote.

Registration will be offered exclusively online and available on our website at <https://www.susumc.org/annual-conference>.

Check and double-check the accuracy of the email address and all information when registering before submitting. Please communicate with your church and pastors to ensure registration is completed and to avoid double registration issues. Pastors, please communicate with your laity to help avoid conflicts later. If a member of your church does not have access to the internet, please help them register. Again, this is your registration for clergy or laity session also.

Questions may be directed to Chris Sims, Annual Conference Registrar at one of the following, email: registrar@susumc.org, or phone: (717) 800-1551.

NEW HEALTH INSURANCE WEBSITE

For full-time clergy enrolled in our Conference Health Insurance, there is a new website where your family can access their health insurance: mywespathhealth.com. This is your one stop shop for ID cards, claims summaries, provider searches, and wellness benefits. The old site, through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois, has been disabled for our participants. Clergy themselves can still access their health benefits at my.benefitsaccess.org

PASTORAL TRANSITION WORKSHOPS

The Susquehanna Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits is offering two workshops around transitions for clergy spouses.

- A free SPRC workshop for all churches receiving a new pastoral appointment, focusing on supporting the clergy spouse and family. This workshop, also put on by ARTOS, will be **April 20 (9:30-11:30am) via Zoom**. **Registration deadline is April 18.**
- For all spouses of clergy who are moving to new appointments this year.

ARTOS retreat ministry will be hosting a retreat **via Zoom on May 4 (9 - 11am) for \$25**. **Registration is due by April 20**. Have questions? Please reach out to Michelle Bodle at mbodle@susumc.org.

COLLECTING ITEMS FOR MISSION CENTRAL CARE KITS

This year we are collecting items for Care Kits for Mission Central. You are invited as a Church to collect items and have your pastor or lay delegate bring them to Annual Conference. There will be a place in the Grand Ballroom at the Genetti to drop off donations as well as assemble kits from the collected items.

Each Supervisory Area is asked to provide items used to build the Care Kits. For more details on the specification of items, please follow this link <https://missioncentral.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Mission-Central-CARE-Kit-Instructions.pdf>.

Williamsport- Nail clippers or metal nail files and combs

There are 593 United Methodist Churches in the Susquehanna Conference. Our goal is to bring enough supplies to make 1000 kits so that as a Conference we can be a blessing to others.

APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month: a great opportunity for us to bring attention to the hard truths of child sexual abuse and the need for effective Training to prevent it. This year, for the entire month of April, we're giving away Parent Training!

Please send this FREE Training to everyone you know! To help you do so, we've put together some resources to make it easier! Use the graphics in the button below for email signatures and social media posts and banners - however you can best reach your community.

Visit MinistrySafe.com/April to access this free Training, or find it in your Control Panel. Billing has been turned off, so send this Training to anyone in your ministry at NO COST!

Questions? Please reach out to a MinistrySafe Team Member at 833-737-7233 or Support@MinistrySafe.com.

SERIES HIGHLIGHTS WHAT'S NEW FOR GC2024

This new Ask The UMC series tackles new petitions and updated reports in the recently released Advanced Daily Christian Advocate. Part 1 explored the new proposed budget for the General Church. Parts 2 and 3 will address disaffiliation and new legislation regarding higher education and ordained ministry. LEARN MORE: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-whats-new-for-gc2024-series>

ELEVATOR INSPECTION & TESTING

In addition to regular maintenance, elevators are subject to state-required inspections every six (6) months and hydraulic tests every three (3) years.

A SUMMER TO REMEMBER AWAITS!

We are so excited to share that REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the 2024 event year! You can register online through our website or by paper registration form. Have questions? Email camps@susumc.org.

BACKPACK TRIP FOR CLERGY/PASTORAL LEADERS

Deep Green Journey, an extension ministry here in the Susquehanna Conference, invites all pastoral leaders (clergy, CLM's) to come enjoy an overnight adventure in the beautiful mountains of PA. This backpack trip is designed for beginners or seasoned backpackers just interested in spending some time away from the office,

learning and laughing around the campfire and simply enjoying some time apart. We will be hiking in the Michaux State Forest on the Rocky Knob loop, approximately 6 miles total with moderate elevation. All equipment and food is provided. Beth Jones, director of Deep Green Journey will guide our time together.

Please go to the DEEP GREEN JOURNEY website at: <https://www.deepgreenjourney.com/> for more information.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

3	Rev. Franklin Helt
4	Mrs. Sharon Gladfelter
9	Rev. Arlene Beechert Mr. Michael Forshey
13	Rev. Rick Robinson Rev. Dr. Paul Amara
18	Mrs. Rose Ann Wallace
23	Pastor Scott Ryan
25	Rev. Dr. Michele Somerville
29	Mr. Dennis Renninger Rev. Carol Campbell
30	Pastor Ann Runnels Pastor Jennifer Jones



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

4	Rev. Rick & Jody Robinson Pastor Adam & Asantha Barborich
10	Pastor Chris & Brianna Weems
29	Rev. Gere & Betty Westlake-Reist

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY:

- **Rev. Robert W. Harris, Retired Elder, died March 25, 2024 at Regional Hospital, 746 Jefferson Ave, Scranton PA 18510.**
- **Pastor William R. Bair, Retired Local Pastor, died March 22, 2024 in Hershey, PA.**
- **Rev. William A. Jones, Sr., Retired Elder, died March 21, 2024. He served as Superintendent of the Scranton District of the former Wyoming Conference from 1986-1992.**
- **Rev. Donald C. Nolder, Retired Elder, died March 20, 2024 at Shook Home, 55 S 2nd St, Chambersburg PA 17201.**
- **Rev. Dr. Richard A. Hughes, Retired Elder, died March 27, 2024 at home.**

YPMC MISSION TRIP TO MCCURDY MINISTRIES

The Young People's Ministry Council (YPMC) is co-sponsoring a mission trip to McCurdy Ministries in Espanola, New Mexico this year! This trip is open to youth, youth workers, and other persons interested in experiencing a deeply meaningful mission opportunity and learning how to lead mission trips and groups at the same time. This is a very special avenue to serve and grow in leadership. The trip dates will be August 3-10. The subsidized cost is only \$500 which covers airfare also.

FAREWELL GATHERING

We are planning a service of celebration and thanksgiving for Paul's ministry among us:

Sunday, May 19, 2024

Wellsboro UMC, 36 Main Street, Wellsboro, PA 16901

Service at 3:00 pm

Reception to follow

Page 3 of 5

This farewell gathering for Paul and Kadie is **open to everyone**. Please share this invitation with your church(es). If a church would like to contribute a monetary gift for Paul and Kadie as an expression of thanks, they can be sent to Jill at the District Office. (If you want to make a check out to me (Jill Johnston) I'll cash all checks and put the money together in an envelope for them.) **Please contact the District Office (570-323-7452 / williamsport@susumc.org) to register. Deadline to register is Friday, May 10.**

MISSIONS BENEFIT DINNER

Saint John's- Newberry, Heshbon Park, Saint Paul's-Calvary and Faxon-Kenmar will be sponsoring a missions benefit dinner at: Saint John's-Newberry United Methodist Church, 2101 Newberry Street, Williamsport

Chicken and Biscuit Dinner

Saturday, April 13, 2024

4 PM until 7 PM

Tickets: \$10.00 in advance / \$12.00 at door

Children 6 and under \$5.00

Take Out Available

Benefits: Sojourner Truth Ministries & Penn College Student Food Inefficiencies

RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE WITH FOOD BY MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

When: April 13, Sat., 8:00-2:00pm

Where: St. Paul-Calvary UMC, 1427 Memorial Ave., Williamsport

Please enter by back corner door--elevator entrance

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Choir Director for Saint John's – Newberry United Methodist Church, 2101 Newberry Street, Williamsport. Part time position to direct an adult and youth vocal choir and oversee other aspects of music ministry. Salary negotiable and commensurate with experience. Employment application required. Application and job description are available by contacting the church office 570-326-5569 Monday through Thursday or visit the church website www.stjnumc.com. PA state clearances and FBI fingerprint clearances required.

CREATIVE ARTS WORSHIP DIRECTOR

The role of the Creative Arts Worship Director is to provide leadership, vision, and oversight in the areas of contemporary worship. You will work closely with the Pastor and partner with and recruit music teams, sound/media teams and other programming. Leading worship on Sunday mornings is a must. This is a part-time position. View full job description at www.pinestreetumc.org. Resumes accepted at 441 Pine Street, Wmspt, PA or office@pinestreetumc.org. Please contact Pastor James Wooster @ (570) 323-4604 with questions.

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

Secretary/Receptionist for Saint John's – Newberry United Methodist Church, 2101 Newberry Street, Williamsport, PA. Part time position, Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm., no benefits.

Experience with Microsoft Word, Publisher and Excel required. Employment application, PA state clearances and FBI fingerprint clearances required. Application and job description available by contacting the church office 570-326-5569 Monday through Thursday or visit the church website www.stjnumc.com.

OFFICE MANAGER

First United Methodist Church, 602 S. Market Street, Muncy, PA 17756.

Hours needed – Tuesday-Friday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM salaried position. Please see attachment for all the details.

Williamsport District Supervisory Area Office

2420 Nottingham Road

Williamsport, PA 177701

570-323-7452

williamsport@susumc.org

Rev. Dr. Paul C. Amara

Conference Superintendent

570-323-7452 / pamara@susumc.org

Rev. Edward E. Prowant

Assisting Elder

570-551-0549 / eprowant@susumc.org

Rev. Helen M. Learn

Assisting Elder

570-721-1009 / hlearn@susumc.org

Jill Johnston

Administrative Assistant

570-323-7452 / williamsport@susumc.org

DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Closed Fridays

**To be removed from this mailing, please
email: williamsport@susumc.org**