

The Covington District Newsletter



Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ - and the great things that He is doing in and around the Covington District of the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

A Monthly Newsletter

April, 2011

Page 1
Reflections
*A word – or two –
from our District
Superintendent*

Page 2
**District News and
Prayer Concerns**
*Please remember
those that need your
prayers*

Page 2
Ida Spence
How you can help.
UM Women
**Paul's Journeys cruise
with the Bishop**

Page 3
Parish Health Ministry
Willing to share
District Ministry Goals
District Conference

Page 4
LACE makeup
UM Men
join the fellowship

Page 4
Cokesbury Tent Sale
Cov. Trinity Fish Fry

Page 5
**Annual Conference
Needs**

Page 6
**Church History
Workshop at AC**

**News from the
Disciple Now
weekend**

Page 7
**Summer Feeding
Program**
Important !!!!

Page 8
Jim Griffin Workshop
Registration Form

Page 9
New Church Start
The Community UMC

Page 10
Clergy Birthdays
DS's Calendar



This year's Annual Conference Missions Offering will be divided between a new church in Thailand and support for the education and development of new church planters in Venezuela. The goal is \$120,000.

The challenge will be to help our congregations understand that this offering is not "just another offering" but is an opportunity to reach others in Thailand and Venezuela with the Gospel! We'll need to be very intentional in how we promote the missions offering with our congregations. People will support a ministry when they are connected with the story! You can go to www.kyumc.org/pages/detail/1740 to find bulletin inserts and more information on the new church in Thailand and the church planter training in Venezuela. There will also be stories and videos posted there in the future. You don't have to wait until May to promote and collect this mission offering. You can begin promoting it now!

I hope your church's contribution to this offering will not just be a set amount given from the church's budget. This robs the members in the pews of the opportunity to participate in reaching our goal. It also underestimates their generosity.

Last year our Annual Conference Mission Offering goal was \$100,000. Together, we exceeded that goal, giving more than \$200,000 to the Red Bird Missionary Conference! Be sure to report to the district office what your church has collected so that we can celebrate what God is doing in and through us this year!

Grace & Peace. Kevin

District News and Events

- *Minerva Dinner and Auction*
Sat. March 26 at 5:30 For more details call
April at 606 267 4224.
- Covington Trinity Fish Fry
(see page 4)
- Clergy Meeting April 6 Asbury
- Taylor Mill UMC is in need of a piano player.
Contact pastor Michael at (859) 431-7504 or
pastormichael@taylormillumc.com

Covington District UM Women

April 4 One Great Hour of Sharing

**April 15 – 16 Spiritual Growth Retreat at
Camp Kavanaugh**

The Letters of John

Registration Deadline April 12

April 30th UMW Spiritual Day Apart

Paul's Fourth Missionary Journey

with Bishop Lindsey Davis

Travel to:
Greece • Egypt • Turkey • Italy
October 1-14, 2011



Prayer Concerns to remember:

- Ida Spence Mission and Director
Tiffany Hollums
- New Church Start -- *The Community*
UMC in Hebron -- Matt Johnson, pastor
- Our Bishop and Cabinet
- The Appointment process
- Grace Ministry in Covington
- George Edwards, pastor at Scott



YOU CAN BE A PART OF THE IDA SPENCE UNITED METHODIST MISSION

Easter Baskets

Easter baskets are being made for the 100+ children who attend worship every Sunday afternoon!

Needed: candy, small toys/prizes, cellophane BAGS, Easter eggs, and baskets. Contact Tiffany 581- 9174 – take to Ida Spence or District Office

Summer Camp

Consider adopting a child from Ida Spence to attend summer camp. This is a life changing experience that would not be possible without your generosity

Make checks payable to Ida Spence Mission and send to P.O. Box 121319, Covington, KY 41012-1319

Covington District Ministry Goals 2009-2012

- **Creating new places for new people and revitalizing existing congregations.**
 - Start three new faith communities (at least one African-American) in our district by 2012.
 - Increase professions of faith and worship attendance by 5% each year
 - District staff to help revitalize the ministry of our small membership churches through self-assessment and ministry goal setting.

- **Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world.**
 - Increase the number of lay and clergy leaders in our district under the age of forty by 20% by 2012.
 - Increase the practice of spiritual disciplines by our lay and clergy leaders (measured through self-report).
 - Strengthen lay and clergy leadership by providing leadership training opportunities annually.

- **Engaging in ministry with the poor.**
 - Emphasize two days each year in which we engage in projects across our district that help provide safe housing for the poor (e.g., remodeling, repairing, or winterizing).
 - Designate two district food drive collection days each year in which local churches collect food for their local food pantries.

- **Combating the diseases of poverty by improving health globally.**
 - Start three new Parish Nurse Ministries in the district by 2012.
 - Engage as a district in international partnerships that are working to improve the health of those living in East Africa (e.g., clean water in Darfur, "Nothing But Nets").

Parish Health Ministry

At Asbury UMC, caring for the wholeness of "body, mind, and spirit" continues to be an important value and call. A vital part of our holistic approach to ministry is our Parish Health Ministry. We offer blood pressure screenings, office hours for questions and concerns, bereaved ministry, care and consultation for those hospitalized and other therapeutic services.

We would love to share our ministry (free of charge) with your Church! We would be glad for our volunteer team to share these resources with you by offering our services to your church or by helping you to establish your own Parish Health Ministry team.

**For more information, please contact Linda Howarth
Asbury UMC Parish Nurse, at 859-572-9110.**

District Conference

Sunday, May 1,
2:00 pm
at Immanuel UMC

Worship Service
Speaker Rev. Julie Love

Annual Conference Delegate
Training

Annual Conference
Volunteer Training

**Next Clergy Meeting
Tuesday, April 5, 2011
at 10:00 am
Asbury UMC in Highland
Hgts.**

**Marian Smith will be the
speaker**

**Next United Methodist Men
will be Thursday, May 19,
at Cynthiana First UMC
*Come Join in the fellowship***

LACE

*Make-up date for the cancelled class
is Sat., April 9, from 9 - 3:45 pm at
Alexandria UMC*

Contact Brian Wilson at 363-7893 or
revbnw@fuse.net for information

F I S H F R Y

at

**COVINGTON TRINITY
UMC**

101 E Southern Ave, Latonia

Every Friday Night During Lent
Through April 15 th.

5 - 7:00 pm

Fried and baked fish, chicken
nuggets for children

Three sides and a homemade
dessert

Adults \$ 7.00

Seniors \$6.00

Children \$ 3.00

Come join in the fellowship

Cokesbury's Spring Tent Sale

Mark your calendar now for
Cokesbury's Spring Tent Sale

May 13 & 14 at the
Northern Hills United Methodist Church
located at 6700 Winton Road in Cincinnati.

Save **50 %** on Friday, May 13 and **75%** on
Saturday, May 14 on select Christian books,
church supplies and a lot more.

Shop early for the best selection during the
hours of 9 am - 6 pm both days.

Contact Brenda Harris,
your local Cokesbury Sales Representative,
513-477-2172 for more information.
All sales final, no other discount apply.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

Join our district-wide team of volunteers who will meet, greet and serve our United Methodist brothers and sisters during Annual Conference at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center, June 7-11 (with Opening Session on June 8). Contact one of the volunteer coordinators below today!

Don't forget – Our District Worship Service and Volunteer Training will be on Sunday, May 1st at Immanuel UMC in Lakeside Park from 2:00-4:00pm.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED IN THESE AREAS:

Greeters (Tues., 6/7 thru Sat., 6/11)

- Contact Pam DeWolfe
- dewolfer1@juno.com
- 859-689-0064 (home) or 859-653-0340 (cell)

Information Desk (Tues., 6/7 thru Sat., 6/11)

- Contact Doug Garner
- doug.garner@century21.com
- 859-363-9900 (home) or 859-391-2100 (cell)

Pages (youth volunteers) (Wed., 6/8 thru Sat., 6/11)

- Contact Pastor Larry Karow
- safy@aol.com
- 859-441-1949 (Highland UMC)

Registration (Tues., 6/7 thru Fri., 6/10)

- Contact Carole DeLong or April Garner
- caroledelong@gmail.com or april.garner@century21.com
- 859-371-2765 (Carole) or 859-620-1241 (April)

Stage prep and Sign placement (Tues., 6/7 thru Sat., 6/11)

- Contact Doug Epperson
- 859-743-0852 (cell)

Set up (unload trucks on Tues., 6/7) and Tear Down (load up trucks on Sat., 6/11)

- Contact John Minor
- jminor17@insightbb.com
- 859-341-9699 (home) or 859-750-4207 (cell)

Ushers (Wed., 6/8 thru Sat., 6/11)

- Contact Mark Burns
- meburns08@insightbb.com
- 859-743-4526 (cell) or 859-586-7487 (home)

**During Annual Conference – Check out this workshop
Church History as part of Public History**

Speakers include----

**Professor Mike Davis
Northern Kentucky University's Dept of Public History**

**Paul Whalen
"Lincoln and the Methodists"
(previously presented at The Conference on Illinois History)**

**Tuesday June 7, 2011
Grace Campus (First Methodist Covington)
Parish House
Corner of Greenup & 5th Street
Behind Kenton County Library
Covington, KY 41075**

**Registration 12:30 pm Fee \$5.00
contact Paul Whalen (859) 466-3450
Workshop 1 - 5
plewellinwhalen@aol.com
CEU Credit Available**

Disciple Now Weekend for Youth

5 churches joined together for a Disciple Now weekend in Fort Thomas. The churches involved were **Asbury UMC, Faith Community UMC, Ida Spence Mission, Taylor Mill UMC and Highland UMC**. Over 60 youth gathered together for fellowship, food, recreation and learning about God's plan for our sexuality.

The weekend included a trip to the Freedom Center to see how the world is filled with human trafficking, and the kids took a few hours out to go lazer tagging. The focus of the retreat was on purity of the heart, understanding how much God loves us, and that our bodies are not our own--they were bought with a price. One student accepted Christ as his savior for the first time; over 50 took a purity bracelet to indicate their desire to covenant with God to keep their bodies pure until marriage.

Many thanks to Pastor's Lisa, Michael, Rachel and Tiffany for making this such a wonderful weekend. To be included in the next retreat weekend, please call Pastor Larry at Highland UMC, 859-757-5416.

Greetings, to all our sister Methodist Churches:

Summer Feeding Program

As we have in the past few years, Highland United Methodist will once again be participating in the Summer Feeding program. This program allows us to provide, for free, full meals and snacks to ANY location where there is an identified need (need is based on one of your local schools having a 50% or more participation in the free/reduced lunch program). There are NO limitations on what you can or can't say about Jesus. You can teach the Bible without hesitation or fear of reprisal, and still get these meals for FREE. These are available for regular feeding programs (daily) or special events (such as Vacation Bible School).

Last year, we partnered with Ludlow UMC and Erlanger UMC, as well as other non-UMC entities to serve over 28,000 meals in Northern Kentucky.

This is an invitation to join in this wonderful program. There is no cost to you, and the paperwork is minimal. You do not need to reveal anything about your church or your finances; simply the name of the contact person. The daily paperwork simply consists of making a checkmark when you give away a meal or a snack.

All meals are hot meals, prepared for you and delivered to you. All paper products are included, as are beverages. For your VBS, you would have NO OUT OF POCKET COSTS for any food or snack, if you are in an eligible area.

If you are interested in participating, simply send me the following information:

1. Contact name and number
2. Your local Elementary, Middle and High School
3. Dates of your event (e.g. daily feeding program or VBS)
4. Estimated number of people under 18 who will participate (we would hope that a target number of 50 could be achieved)

If you have any questions, please call me at 441-0587 or email me at safy@aol.com.

Pastor Larry, Highland Methodist

*How to Get
More Members*



Each team must include the senior pastor and at least three key lay members, (preferably 5 – 8).
 “Regaining a heart for your mission field.”

When: October 8-9, 2011

Registration begins @ 9:30am

Workshop runs Saturday, 9:30 – 5:30; and Sunday, 8-1

Where: Covington Marriott Hotel 10 W. Rivercenter Blvd., Covington

What: This workshop is for church teams to learn:

- How to Reconnect with your mission field
- How to get more members in your church
- Why the old ways to growth no longer work & What works now!
- Why most Pastors want to reach new people but can't
- What new people look for when selecting a church

Who: Our leader will be Jim Griffith, a consultant who works with hundreds of congregations all over the country on issues of church vitality.

Early registration: If your team registers by August 19, 2011, the cost is \$200 per church team (you may bring an unlimited number for your team).

After August 19, 2011: The cost is \$250 per church team.

NOTE: Pulpit supply needs to be arranged so the pastor can attend the entire sessions.

Registration

Name of Church: _____

Senior Pastor (must attend): _____

Number of Laity attending (minimum of three must attend): _____

Contact e-mail: _____

Please detach this registration form and send it with a check made out to the Covington District UMC for \$200 and send to: Covington District UMC, 36 John's Hill Road, Suite C, Highland Heights, KY 41076

This event is sponsored by the Covington District of the Kentucky Annual Conference. The reduced cost is made possible by your "Our Mission Together" contribution.

Community United Methodist Church

> Good Afternoon, Friends,

> It's a beautiful Spring afternoon in Northern KY. Kyle, the barista at the Starbucks where I'm working today put an extra shot of espresso in my coffee, so I'm moving quickly and finding myself to be super productive. There's definitely an advantage to being a "regular!"

>

> God is on the move. That's the only way that I can describe the past month at The Community. On March 5th we held our first worship gathering and had almost 30 people in attendance. This was a great way to start things off, and we are giving thanks to God for the work that God is continuing to do in the hearts and lives of people in Northern KY. We talked about Jesus and the Woman at the well...about the way that Jesus redeems her brokenness and restores her to community. It's a beautiful story of belonging and finding the ways that we can reach out to those that society sometimes shuns. We're having another worship gathering for Easter, complete with Easter Dinner as we strive to be a place where people can belong.

>

> Last week I stumbled on a new coffee shop (yes, I drink A LOT of coffee) and I met Jacob. Jacob is a former bar bouncer turned barista who is tattooed from head to toe. Jacob approached me one afternoon and asked me what I do. I told him and together we started a conversation about Jesus. I talked about Jesus and community and what it looks like to belong. Jacob looked at me and said "If I had heard someone talk about Jesus the way that you do 10 years ago, my life would be very different." Jacob is longing for a place to belong and meet Jesus, but he is married to a staunch atheist, and he's sure that going to church would be the end of his marriage. We're praying for a miracle conversion, knowing full well that God isn't done with Jacob (or his wife!) yet. Please join us in that prayer.

>

> On St. Patrick's Day our small Launch Team met at our local bar to spend the evening together watching basketball and playing cards. One of our team members brought 4+ dozen cupcakes to hand out, but we didn't expect to meet very many people. Little did we know what God had in store...apparently, everyone loves to play Uno on St. Paddy's Day, and by the end of the night, we were crammed around a table, playing Uno with a huge group of people, inviting them to come and belong at The Community. One of the regulars, Geoff, said to his friends "You'll find that the best thing about hanging out with Matt and Beth is that they come with awesome people." I smiled, knowing that Geoff had realized something beautiful...when you hang out with our group, you find a place to belong, and when you belong, you find Jesus. Thanks be to God for the beautiful inbreaking of God's Spirit at a bar on St. Patrick's Day.

>

> God continues to be on the move. Please continue to pray for Geoff, Jacob, Jill, Zach, Arica and many others that we're meeting on a daily basis who are seeking to belong...to God and to a group of people who love them. May God continue to use all of us to seek out those that are missing and that God loves.

>

> Matt

U M C O R responds to the earthquakes and tsunamis in the Pacific
 UMCOR giving advance number is 3021317
 Send to Conference Office or District Office

Covington District
The United Methodist Church
36 Johns Hill Road, Suite C
Highland Heights, KY 41076

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



The Covington District
of the United
Methodist Church
www.covingtondistrictumc.com

DISTRICT CALENDAR AND BIRTHDAYS

April Birthdays: 3, Chris Morgan; 13, Donald Fryman; 28, Barry Robinson.

Superintendent's Calendar for April 2, Bd of Laity; 5, Clergy Meeting; 7, Workshop Bowling Green; 11 - 14 , **Cabinet Meetings** ; April 24, **Easter**; April 26, Annual Confer. Mtg; 28, Workshop; DCOM Mtg. 29 – 30, **Red Bird Annual Conference**

36 Johns Hill Road
Suite C
Highland Heights, KY 41076

Rev. Kevin Burney
District Superintendent

PHONE:
(859) 442-5444
(859) 409-2239 Cell

FAX:
(859) 442-7444

EMAIL:
covdistumc@fuse.net

Check out our updated website at
www.covingtondistrictumc.com
It's a work-in-process, so all comments will be appreciated!

Have something you'd like to see there?
Changes/corrections/additions to your individual church
information? Let us know!

Contact us at covdistumc@fuse.net or call the district
office at 859-442-5444
Debbie Maskey, District Website Coordinator, can help your
local church establish a website.
Contact her at 859-240-8799.