

Growing holy hearts for a whole community

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

Volume III, Issue 12

December 2013 Issue

Thoughts from the District Superintendent

Advent is here and it is time to Pray and Invite!

The word Advent originates from the Latin word “adventus” which means “coming”. Of course, it is the season when we prepare to celebrate the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ! I truly believe that a part of our preparation for this holy season is to pray and invite people to come and experience what Christmas is all about, namely the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Once again, I am recommending that every church in the Covington District utilize a simple “3 Step Advent Prayer Emphasis”. Below is an outline of the plan and an actual bulletin insert which may be used is located on [Page 6](#) of this newsletter.

Step 1. You list 5 un-churched people that you desire to pray for during the season of Advent which begins on Sunday, December 1st.

Step 2. Starting December 1st, you pray for the 5 persons each day during Advent.

Step 3. You commit to inviting these 5 people to a worship service or a special Christmas event at your church.

We believe in the power of prayer. Studies indicate that most people will come to church if invited by someone they know and trust. This “3 Step Advent Prayer Emphasis” combines the power of prayer and the power of invitation into this simple approach. All I ask is that you try this and see what the Lord will do!

Blessings, Owen

Prayer Concerns to Remember

- Ida Spence Mission new director Gina Cornelius
- Bishop Lindsey Davis, surgery
- Goshorns in Costa Rica
- David Sparks, surgery
- Our Bishop and Cabinet
- Our DS, Owen Dolin
- David Johnston, NKU campus minister



Highlights in this issue:

- THOUGHTS FROM THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
- IDA SPENCE
- CLERGY CHRISTMAS DINNER
- LACE

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Covington District Christmas Dinner

For Clergy and Families

Friday, December 6th

Alexandria UMC

Fellowship and Appetizers at 6pm

Dinner at 6:30pm

Childcare will be provided.

Reservations must be made by December 2nd.

Please contact the district office at 859-442-5444 or
covdistumc@fuse.net

LACE Advanced Courses

We will be offering an advanced course this spring on the same dates as our other LACE trainings (see page 7.) We are still working out the details but would like to know how many are interested in participating. Please call the district office at 859-442-5444 or email Grace at grace.rockstroh@gmail.com.

Meal Ministry for the Wesley Foundation @ NKU

Autumn 2013 & Spring 2014

Each Wednesday during the autumn and spring semester, students gather for Vine & Branches, which is a worship service with a dinner beforehand. Providing tasty meals for students is a way for you to get involved with our ministry to students! Think about it, the meals you provide will have something campus food does not: the love of God. So consider getting your UMW, UMM, Sunday School class, or whoever together to help put on a meal. Here are some details on what it'll involve:

- Food for 15-20 students (though as the semester begins, we'll have a better sense of how many will get involved).
- Dinner begins at 7pm, so the food should be dropped off any time before then. Call David at 859-462-6224 to arrange drop off time (afternoon is preferred.)
- Though not required, having a few servings of a "vegetarian option" would be nice
- We have access to Asbury's kitchen so we can keep food warm or reheat if needed. Crock-pots are also a good way to go.
- Please drop off a desert too. We'll feast on it after worship.
- We will provide plates, utensils, etc. as well as drinks
- Meals are every Wednesday from September 4th, 2013 until April 30th, 2014 with a break in December.

To sign up go to <http://ow.ly/nGMHT> This will bring you to Meal Train where you can see what dates are available and what meals we've already had (so we don't have spaghetti for a month). If you do not have internet access or have any questions contact David Johnston at david@nkuwf.org or 859-462-6224

Notes from Ida Spence

Thank you to all who participated in the Spaghetti Dinner/Cake Auction and More event for the Mission. From cakes, to quilts, and beautiful gift baskets--and most importantly to all those who showed up to bid on these wonderful items--over 11,000 was raised to support the ministries taking place at Ida Spence Mission.

A special thanks to Pastor Kelly and his amazing staff for their hospitality. A special thanks to Highlands UMC and Pastor Larry for rallying the troops (Youth) to cook all that spaghetti. A special thanks to all the UMW groups who took time to bake all those delicious desserts we were able to offer with dinner. It was an amazing night---one that was made possible by the help of many.

Adopt-A-Family

- Adopt A Family--if your church would like to support this outreach--it is not too late to get on board.
- At this point we are asking churches to consider donating Walmart Gift Cards, or making a monetary donation to help us with the last minute shopping trips that are inevitable. If we could have the gift cards and donations by Dec. 16, that would be wonderful.
- For those who have adopted families--please follow the instructions provided with each family---gift wrapped items to be dropped off at Immanuel UMC on Dec. 7th & 8th between 2-4pm, For any questions or concerns, call Gina at [859-907-6925](tel:859-907-6925).
- Join us for unloading, sorting and gift distribution on Dec. 21st --from 9-3pm. If your church group would like to help sort gifts, they can join us for the morning shift. If your church group would like to help distribute gifts, they can join us for the afternoon shift. If you will be joining us, please communicate that to Gina by email ginac.idaspence@gmail.com or via phone at [859-907-6925](tel:859-907-6925).

Ida Spence Mission

We would love to continue our Cleaning Supplies Ministry -- blessing over 100 families w/ the following four items each month -- laundry detergent 2. Dish liquid 3. Lysol or something similar 4. Bleach

Please partner w/ Ida Spence by committing to a Cleaning Supplies Drive at your church once every six months or once a year. Please consider introducing this need to your Youth Pastors , Children's Pastors, Missions Pastors, UMW Groups, Lay Leaders, or even your Pre-Schools.

Doing good has never been easier! In fact its as easy as 1-2-3.

1. Select your one or two months for the year.
2. Contact Gina at ginac.idaspence@gmail.com to be added to our schedule.
3. Begin promoting your selected month for the Cleaning Supplies Drive within your own congregation.

Thank You!

Many THANKS to the following churches for their recent contributions to Ida Spence Mission....

- Erlanger UMC for providing the Last Saturday of the Month Meal for November.
- Trinity UMC for including a few of our Mission families in their Thanksgiving Dinner outreach.
- Calvary Christian Elementary for providing cleaning supplies for our November give away.
- Eggleston UMC, Immanuel UMC, Highlands UMC, and Christ UMC for their contributions to Harvest 2013 in October, your generosity made this event possible.
- Florence UMC for including us in their recent outreach. Thanks to a dedicated group of individuals we now have a fresh coat of paint on our Mission/Clinic Hallway.
- Immanuel UMC Missions Committee for including us in their recent Missions Event, raising \$1000.00 for new flooring in the reception area of the Mission.
- Calvary Christian School--Juniors and Seniors for spending the morning helping clean and organize several spaces at the Mission.

TOGETHER WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE :)



Covington District
3-Step Advent Prayer Emphasis

A. List 5 un-churched people that you want to pray for

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

B. Pray for these people for 21 days:

Dec 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21

C. Invite these 5 persons to a worship service or special Christmas event.

Lay Academy of Congregational Excellence (LACE)

LACE is an opportunity for you to learn more about:

*Spiritual Gifts *Leading Worship *Methodist Beliefs *Lay Speaking *Growing in Your Faith *How to Effectively Witness *Church Organization *Leadership through Service *Managing Conflict with Christian Love *Methodist History

This year we are also offering a New Ministry Track that will help train and equip laity to start new ministries or plant new churches within their communities and district. This will run simultaneously to the LACE basic training and requires a recommendation letter by a pastor. The new ministry track meets once a month for 10 months. (The second half dates will be determined by the group.)

The dates for LACE in 2014 are:

- January 18th
- February 15th
- March 15th
- April 12th
- May 17th

*Each workshop will be held at **Alexandria UMC** and cover the different topics listed above. The workshops will be 9:00am to 4:00pm. The total cost for LACE is \$30. Make checks out to Covington District. Lunch will be provided for these workshops. For questions or more information call the district office at 859-442-5444 or email Grace at grace.rockstroh@gmail.com.*

Name:

Return this portion to:

Address:

Covington District UMC

Phone:

8306 W. Main Street

Email:

Alexandria, KY 41001

Church:

Basic Training, New Ministry Track, or Advanced

Or email information to
grace.rockstroh@gmail.com

Course:

THE COVINGTON DISTRICT

36 Johns Hill Road
Suite C
Highland Heights, KY 41076

Owen Dolin
District Superintendent
Phone: (859) 442-5444
Mobile: (859) 916-0331
Fax: (859) 442-5444
Email: covdistumc@fuse.net

Visit us online at
covingtondistrictumc.com

District Calendar and Birthdays

IMPORTANT DATES December, 2013

1 Advent Starts
2 NCD Meeting
5 Large Church Huddle
6 Christmas Dinner
9-10 Cabinet

Office Closed
Dec. 22, 2013-Jan.1, 2014

January
6-7 Cabinet
9 Superintendency Committee Meeting

December Clergy Birthdays

Dec 9 Daniel Simonton
Dec 19 Roger Wallace
Dec 30 Mark Shepherd

Health Ministries

- Parish Nursing:
Contact **Linda Howarth**
(859) 572-9110
howlin@fuse.net
- Flu Shots/Blood Drive Van:
Contact **Marlene Faegan**
St. Elizabeth Health Ministries (859) 292-4149
- Mobile Mammography Van:
Contact **Madonna Vinicombe** (859) 301-2031
Madonna.Vinicombe@stelizabeth.com
- **Ida Spence Mission**
Contact: Gina Cornelius
907-6925

ginac.idaspence@gmail.com

Want to Get Involved?

- Financial gifts can be sent to: Ida Spence Mission
P.O. Box 121319
Covington, KY 41012-1319
- **People Working Cooperatively**
Contact: **Jere McIntyre**
(859) 653-4609
- **Don Markesbery Home Repair Ministry**
donmarkesbery@fuse.net