

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 IV, Issue 7

July 2014 Issue

Thoughts from the Bishop, Lindsey Davis

* Be Not Anxious

Philippians 4:6 says, "Be not anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

This is a good word for us in the United Methodist Church these days. Our denomination continues to have an ongoing conversation about issues related to human sexuality. Most of the recent media hype is focused on same gender marriage. The difference of opinion in our church reflects the division in our secular culture. As we draw closer to the 2016 General Conference in Portland, the debate will only grow louder and more intense.

I talk to many of our clergy and laity who are quite concerned about where our church is going and what the future holds for us. There are many voices in our church speaking about the issue in strong and defiant ways. Some talk about schism in our denomination while others vehemently oppose such notions.

The truth is that the vast majority of our clergy, laity and bishops are staying focused on our mission of disciple making. In fact, I want to encourage all of us to not be distracted from our mission by all of the conversations surrounding human sexuality. We can waste valuable time and energy on social media sites, obsessing about what is happening in the United Methodist Connection. But using our time this way does not make one new disciple nor does it provide any transformation in our local church or community. So fear not. Stay focused on helping our people grow toward spiritual maturity and fruitfulness for the Kingdom of Christ.

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Prayer Concerns to Remember

- Ida Spence Mission director Gina Cornelius
- Goshorns missionaries in Peru
- Our Bishop and Cabinet
- Our DS, Owen Dolin
- David Johnston, NKU campus minister and the NKU students
- Ben & Mary Jo Cain in the loss of their son Terri. Brother to Janet Hogg.



Highlights in this issue:

- THOUGHTS FROM OUR BISHOP LINDSEY DAVIS
- IDA SPENCE
- CONEY ISLAND DAY
- IMPACT KY

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Covington District Newsletter

Bishop Davis' message continued from page 1

Most of you know that I am very traditional in my views on marriage and human sexuality. I keep the covenants I make including my promise to uphold The Discipline of our church. At my consecration as a Bishop I made a vow to be a "sign of unity" in our church. That is a hard job these days. However, it means that I also love those who might disagree with me on these controversial issues. I have no appetite for division of our church. I will strive with all my being to find a way to hold our diverse church together. I am actively working with two groups of United Methodist leaders to discern ways of keeping us together. I ask for your prayers for me and our church. But let us not fret away our days of grace.

As a person who has dealt with cancer now for ten years, I am keenly aware of my mortality. Living with cancer has taught me many important lessons. One of the most important lessons has been to value each day and every precious moment as God's gift to me. I do not want to waste God's gift so my prayer each day is that I will do exactly what God wants me to do. I want to spend my life doing things that will make an eternal difference in the lives of the people I am called to serve. I do not want to waste God's gift by anxious hand wringing. And I want the same thing for you. So fear not! Stay focused on God's mission. I am confident that the Lord will lead us through this time.

In Christ,

Lindsey

UMW: 2014 Mission Studies at Mission u

Dear Friends,

Spring is gorgeously wrapping her arms around us and summer will soon be here. I guess you know then that it is time to plan your trip to Mission u!

We have two great studies this year with exceptional Study Leaders. I look forward to seeing you all at Mission u, **July 17th-20th at Lindsey Wilson College**. Register now!

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at 270-965-2373 or debwic@aol.com or MaryJo Willoughby, Assistant Dean at 859-586-5867 or mjwil@fuse.net.

Blessings, Debbie Rowley (Dean Mission u.)

Covington District United Methodist Day

July 12, 2014

10am-8pm



Come and join the Covington District as we gather together for a fun filled day at Cincinnati's Coney Island for all ages.

Our Package Includes:

- Parking and entrance into the Pool and Amusement Park, a reserved shelter with a buffet meal, and unlimited soft drink for the entire day from 10am until 8pm with:

*Parker's Grove Entertainment Stage featuring three live interactive game shows:

1. Coney's Minute Olympics - A fast and frenzied children's game based on the show "Minute to Win It".
2. Island Sports Challenge - Teens and young adults will see who can outlast and outplay in this sporty game.
3. Keep It Real - The entire family can work together to win this "Let's Make a Deal" style challenge.

*Sand Volleyball Courts

*Corn Hole

*Basketball Courts

*Children's Playground

- Sign-up for our Talent Contest to discover our own, Covington District Idol.
- DS Owen Dolin will lead our devotion.

\$28.00 5yrs and up

\$8.00 2-4yrs

Free 2 and under

All Tickets will only be available at our District Office.

THANK YOU —

To the Volunteers of Kentucky Annual Conference,

It is difficult to express in a few words our appreciation for the sacrifice and service you gave as you served our brothers and sisters in Christ at Annual Conference.

It was our pleasure to serve with you.

Thank you for serving,

April Garner and Carole DeLong



Ida Spence

Backpacks & School Supplies Time!

Please join us once again in helping prepare the children of City Heights for a new school year by collecting the following items in July, listed from greatest need to the least need.

- #1 Backpacks
- #2 Mechanical Pencils
- #3 Binders
- #4 3 Subject Notebooks
- #5 Children's Scissors
- #5 Pencil Boxes/Pouches

- #6 Hand Sanitizer
- #7 Colored Pencils
- #8 Personal Pencil Sharpeners
- #9 Colored Pencils
- #10 Markers
- #11 Crayons
- #12 Folders (blue, orange, yellow, green, red)
- #13 Pens
- #14 Glue Sticks
- #15 Paper
- #16 All other school supplies welcomed :)

Together we are making a difference in the life of a child.

Thank you for participating in this important outreach.

Distribution Day AUGUST 9th

Gina Cornelius Pastor/Director
859-907-6925

ginac.idaspence@gmail.com

Tommy Purvis pastor at Warsaw will be participating in his third mission to the Sturgis South Dakota motorcycle rally August 1-9. Volunteers expect to have the opportunity to share their faith with up to 5000 people. Often as many as 500,000 pass through Sturgis during the rally, and volunteers from various denominations will be there to share their faith. Please be in prayer for Tommy and 150 other volunteers.



Ladies of the Northern Kentucky District are invited to hear a powerful message of faith and hope delivered by Sarah Meece at the Wesley United Methodist Church, 319 Oak St., Ludlow, KY on Saturday, October 4th. A delicious brunch will be served. A donation is requested. For more information, contact Wesley UMC at 859-953-0362.

Sarah Meece

has been inspiring individuals for many years. She is a survivor. Having weathered numerous life threatening events—from bullets to breast cancer—Sarah definitely credits her survival to God's grace. After retiring from education, Sarah founded Sarah Meece Inspires which has provided her an opportunity to speak and write, spreading the powerful message of faith, forgiveness, and hope.

Sarah taught business education at the secondary level for 29 years and was the recipient of several educational awards including the Milken National Educator Award. During her years in education, Sarah spoke at numerous educational events as well as church functions and victim advocate groups conferences.

In addition, Sarah has recently released her new devotional book, *A Dose of Hope*. When speaking, she shares her compelling story of survival where she motivates her audiences to persevere through life's pitfalls, hardships, and challenges with a positive attitude and a dose of hope. Sarah strives to empower women through her message of faith, forgiveness, and gratitude.

"To know Sarah Meece is to know hope. She not only has the grit and determination to persevere through life and death experiences, but also maintains the insistence of being a herald of hope for the God who holds and heals her." Dr. Dan Francis, Senior Pastor

Clergy Family District Picnic Info

The annual clergy picnic will be on Saturday, August 23, 2014

At the A. J. Jolly Park (Campbell County) in the private picnic area.

Gathering and fellowship 4:30 eat at 5:30. RSVP to the District Office 442-5444

Meat, drinks, paper products will be furnished – bring a dish to share!!!!

One Hundred and Forty-first Ruggles Camp Meeting

July 17—27 - 7 pm

Danny Frederick will be the speaker

August 23, 2014 Impact Ky Info

- **We are excited to host Impact Kentucky Day 2014 site in Harrison County. We have three projects we will be doing. Contact Michael Coppersmith at (859) 298-9972 for more information.**
 - Barlow UMC- We will be tearing down the church building
 - Prayer Walk's- Locations are Harrison County Schools, School Bus Garage, and Board of Education Building.
 - Free water giveaway- Giving out free water with a Bible verse attached at the Cynthiana Hot Rod Run.
- **In the Williamstown area they are going to be distributing food to a public housing area and doing some ministries with the kids and yard work for others. Also, possibly building a ramp for a family and doing something with a trailer park in Sherman. Contact Barry Robinson at the Williamstown UMC (859) 823-5171**
- **Also there will be projects for Impact KY in other areas of our District. More information for Mason, Kenton, Campbell Counties will be coming.**

“Vine & Branches”

- 1) The Wesley Foundation will begin operating on campus as “Vine & Branches” while officially retaining the name Northern Kentucky Foundation. We hope this new fresh name will help us reach a new generation.
- 2) NKU has a large number of students from Saudi Arabia. Many are looking for host families to live with for a semester or school year to improve their English (they will pay rent). This is a great way to minister to students directly. Contact David for more info: david@nkwf.org or 859-462-6224
- 3) Get-It-Done! Day, Saturday, July 19, 9am. The Treehouse (the students’ name for the Craft/Wesley House) has a lot of small projects to help finish it up, so come help GET IT DONE. Come when you can/leave when you must. Lunch will be provided.

David Johnston

Campus Pastor

NK Wesley Foundation @ NKU

859-462-6224 (cell)

www.nkwf.org

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THE COVINGTON DISTRICT

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District Calendar and Birthdays

IMPORTANT DATES July, 2014

July 4 Office Closed
**July 22 Superintend
ency Com.**
July 24 DLT Meeting
**July 26 DCOM
District Office**

July Clergy Birthdays

6 Mark Dickinson
14 Ray Snider
25 Michael Rice
27 David Johnston

Want to Get Involved?

Ida Spence Mission

Gina Cornelius
Director

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Vine & Branches

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We are always open to new suggestions and feedback on how to make this newsletter better serve you email your thoughts to grace.rockstroh@gmail.com.