

# 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

May, 2011

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The Kentucky Annual Conference will meet at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center on June 8-11. Our theme this year focuses on sowing the Gospel in our world. The morning Bible studies will be lead by three of our church planters. Matt Johnson, our church planter in the Hebron area (Community UMC) will lead the study on Saturday morning. On missions night (Friday) we will collect our conference missions offering. The goal this year is \$120,000 for new church initiatives in Thailand and Venezuela. In addition to electing our delegates for general conference, we will also engage in the worshipful work of our annual conference. On Wednesday night we will have our ordination service; always a very special time for all who participate. Friday afternoon we will have our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Afternoon of Service." Approximately 700 delegates have signed up to do service projects in Northern Kentucky! What a great way to sow the Good News of God's love! I encourage everyone to come to Annual Conference, even if you are not a delegate. It's a great opportunity to see our larger church at work and worship.

You can still be a part of Annual Conference even if you can't serve as one of our hundreds of volunteers. You can go to the conference website ([www.kyumc.org](http://www.kyumc.org)) and sign up to pray. People from all over Kentucky, Venezuela and Thailand will be praying for us. What a comfort to know that while we are meeting, there will be people praying for us around the clock! I hope that you will consider making the commitment to pray for our Annual Conference. Last Sunday, I got to worship with Butler and Concord UMC. During the worship service we sang one of my favorite songs: "We are the Church." To me, Annual Conference is a great reminder that, "I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together..."

*Grace & Peace   Kevin*

*District News and Events*

- Taylor Mill UMC needs someone to play piano.  
Contact pastor Michael Sweeney at (859) 431-7504 or [pastormichael@taylormillumc.com](mailto:pastormichael@taylormillumc.com)
  
- Minerva UMC Sunday, June 5th, 6:00 p.m Variety of Christian music. Special performances by Pastor April. A love offering will be taken to raise money for the music and media ministry of Minerva!  
Call (606) 267-4224 for info.

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

**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

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**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**August 2 – 5**

**from 1 – 3 pm**

**Interested in helping**

**Contact Tiffany Hollums**

**[tiffanyhollums@gmail.com](mailto:tiffanyhollums@gmail.com)**

\*\*\*\*\*

**We are also in need of donations of cleaning supplies and health items listed below.**

Bleach, Detergent, Toilet paper, Paper Towels, Pine Sol, Dish Washing Liquid

ANY toiletries – deodorant, toothpaste, feminine products, diapers, etc.

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**Snacks are needed for afterschool sessions and Sunday afternoon gatherings**



***Prayer Concerns to remember:***

- Ida Spence Mission & Director
- New Church Start -- *The Community UMC* in Hebron -- Matt Johnson, pastor
- Our Bishop Lindsey Davis
- Pastors moving to new churches
- ANNUAL CONFERENCE
- Grace Ministry Center in Covington
- Woody Woodford – surgery



## 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”).

**Maysville Methodist 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Event**  
**May 29,**  
**Seddon, Central, Trinity, Washington and**  
**Minerva UMC's will host a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday**  
**gathering.**

**Held at Trinity UMC, with Brother Charlie**  
**Shoemaker as the speaker for the evening.**  
**The Pastors (5 Hits and a Miss) will be**  
**providing special music for the evening.**  
**The service begins at 6:00 pm**

**Come join in the fellowship.**  
**For info call Pastor Eric Patterson**  
**(606) 564-4462**

## Wanted

Information about a  
 ministry in your local  
 church. Each month the  
 District would like to  
 highlight some type of  
 ministry that is going on in  
 your church. See page 7  
 (Eggleston UMC)  
 Please contact the District  
 Office about what your  
 congregation is doing.  
[covdistumc@fuse.net](mailto:covdistumc@fuse.net)

### Youth Pages Needed

Youth are needed to help at Annual Conference during the sessions.

Pages help

- \* as runners with papers
  - \* adjusting microphone stands and
  - \* other jobs as needed
- These are important jobs!

Please contact Pastor Larry Karow  
At (859) 757-5416

### United Methodist Men

Next at Cynthiana Ebenezer UMC

On Thursday, August 18, 6:30

*Come Join in the fellowship*

At the last meeting Kevin Burney, DS, was presented with a life membership plaque and pin to the UMM

### Welcome to the new District Superintendents

Bishop Davis announced the following appointments:

**Dr. Jean Hawxhurst** to serve the Frankfort District

**Dr. Kenneth Cummings**, current DS, will be taking incapacity leave.

**Rev. Gary Chapman** to serve the Bowling Green District

**Dr. Mike Powers**, current DS, will be moving to senior pastor at First UMC in Lexington

**Rev. Paul Brunstetter**, to serve the Elizabethtown District and the Director of the New Church Development.

**Dr. Michael Gibbons**, current DS, will become senior pastor at Elizabethtown Memorial UMC

### Covington District UM Women

School of Mission  
Lindsey Wilson College

July 14 – 17, 2011

Scholarships available

Deadline June 15

### PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT HISTORY WORKSHOP

.5CEU

**Tuesday June 7th 1:00 p.m.**

Grace Campus of Immanuel Church  
Corner of Greenup and 5th Street  
Covington

- What to do with church records
- Church History as Public History
- Lincoln and the Methodists
- African American Methodist
- Tour of the Historic Grace/First Methodist Church

For Further information or to confirm attendance contact: **Paul L. Whalen**  
859-466-3450 [plwellinwhalen@aol.com](mailto:plwellinwhalen@aol.com)

**VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**Four Ushers are needed for Saturday, June 10,  
If you can help call Mark Burns (859) 743-4526**

**Annual Conference Needs**

We will be making “health kits” again this year for UMCOR. Each District is asked to bring a different article. Covington District will be taking an offering for the purchase of toothpaste for each of the kits. Hopefully, your church or UMW’s group will consider making a monetary gift for this project. Bring your gifts for this project to the INFORMATION TABLE in the lobby.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Can Goods – Non-perishable Items.**

Remember to bring can goods and non-perishable items for the afternoon of service project. Food will be distributed to several different agencies.

There will be a display and drop off area in the lobby.

## 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 of 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

**Asbury UMC, Highland Heights, is excited in participating in this Summer program. If you are interested in being involved with and helping Asbury in this great program, call the District Office at (859) 442 – 5444 or email [covdistumc@fuse.net](mailto:covdistumc@fuse.net) and the office will give you contact information.**

### School Supplies for Ida Spence

You can help the children get a good start back to school by collecting some of these items.

Backpacks --- Notebook paper --  
Spiral notebooks (1, 3 and 5 subjects)  
Plastic three ring binders  
Paper 3 pronged folders with pockets  
Pencils – Markers – Pens (black and red)  
Highlighters --- Erasers  
Hand Sanitizer -- Scissors  
Glue Sticks --- Colored Pencils  
Tabbed 3 ring dividers --- Crayons

## Ministry at Eggleston UMC

Greetings Everyone,

Eggleston UMC has identified the area in which we are located as a community that is crippled by illegal drug selling and drug abuse. The location of the community is chosen as a perfect location for illegal activity as it is dark has very little street lighting and runs parallel to KY 17 for easy access in and out of the town. Over three years ago Eggleston UMC was blessed to partner with the new Grateful Life Center, run by Transitions Inc, a drug and alcohol treatment and recovery center for Men. This facility seeks to treat those whose assets do not exceed \$5,000.00. Eggleston UMC has opened the doors to allow these men to "trudge," which means to walk a mile each way to a facility in almost any kind of weather. Once at the church they receive Peer Mentor Training provided by Transitions Grateful Life Center which is a God centered learning.

Part of the program is to give back to the community with their various skills and abilities as part of their healing process. The Tribe of Eggleston UMC work alongside these men each week performing light duties to heavy work in an effort to get near them and to help with their healing process, by simply being their friend and building relationships. This also enables the church to become disciples in action. Through this ministry much of the drug selling has slowed greatly. One the main illegal drug distributors has visited the church often and has from time to time joined us for worship. He and I meet throughout the month and that allows me opportunity to share with him about the love God has for him in hopes that one day God will draw him to the point of turning his life over and become healed physically, and spiritually.

As many may be aware, Eggleston UMC suffered from a flood last month just before Easter. The Men of Grateful Life Center invited the tribe of Eggleston to come and worship at the center for Easter Services...the 2nd floor we were located on was packed and what a powerful blessing we all felt together. Many of the men that attended were impacted greatly by sharing their surprise of the unconditional love and acceptance they did not expect to receive. The Director, David Waters drove up from Scott County with his family to join in the celebration.

Through this ministry, with the men from Grateful Life working alongside myself and our trustees, and also through the generous giving and outpouring from the UM Churches and certain individuals, we are almost complete with the remodel and repair of our basement fellowship hall, our school and nursery rooms, as well as cleaning out basements of many of the neighbors affected by the flood. This is just a small glimpse of what connection and community can accomplish when the church is healed from its blindness of all of the stigmas that oppress our culture and the people in our communities. A heartfelt "Thank You" for your generous support that has helped make this remodel as well as building new relationships a success.

May God to continue to turn the lives around whose hearts are turned away from Him and heal our community.

Kieth Daniel, Pastor of Eggleston UMC

*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.*



## *The Community United Methodist Church*

### *Our new Church plant in the Hebron area*

There are some days when things don't work out the way you've planned...at all. This past Sunday was one of those days when it seemed like nothing could go right. The coffee shop that was supplying our coffee forgot to brew it, members of our Launch Team got stuck in traffic trying to get to our worship gathering, and an hour before the service we arrived at the reception hall we had rented only to discover that it was locked and we couldn't get a hold of anyone who could open it for us. So is the life of a church plant! We made the decision to move across the street to the park only to be overwhelmed by another spring rain shower!! Yet even in the midst of all of this, God was on the move. We had 7 people attend our service who were with us for the first time. We had several people returning and we watched as people began to connect and belong in the midst of the pouring down rain. I shared the Gospel as the rain came to a stop and we ended the evening sharing together in fellowship. God is good, even in the midst of circumstances that might not be the best!

The last few weeks have been exciting ones for The Community. We continue to gather people and watch as people connect with God and each other. It started with our Easter Service (doesn't everything in the church start with Easter?) and has moved from there. The owner of the bar that we hang out in and his girlfriend attended our Easter service for the first time. Zach has been out of church for almost 10 years, and I don't believe that Arica, his girlfriend has ever attended church in her life. They pulled me aside the next time we saw them at the bar and excitedly said "We want in...whatever that means. We want to be a part of this thing that you're doing...how can we help? Can we help with money? Can we help with plans? We want in!" Moments like that continue to give me great hope for the work that God is doing through The Community as more and more people encounter God's love through our work.

We continue to use Monday night Bar Trivia at the Oakbrook Cafe as our first invite...our first step into The Community. Last week we had 15 people invade Oakbrook to play trivia and hang out together. We have 10-12 people who attend our Thursday small group that meets to discuss faith using the music of the band Mumford & Sons. It's exciting to see people join in our movement in unique ways! We continue to look for people who want to get more involved in the movement, so if you have someone who is interested, please send them our way! Please continue to pray that God would send workers into the harvest field that more people might come to know God's grace for themselves. Pray that we might find a space to meet (that is actually open!) and pray that God might continue to grow our fellowship. If you have questions or would like to know more ways to get involved, don't hesitate to contact me!

**Matt Johnson, Pastor**      **(859) 957-7469**



## Campus Ministry Cookout

You are invited!

It's that time of year again for our annual **Campus Ministry Cookout!** It's a very informal cookout for anybody associate with campus ministry. It's a great time to connect, relax, eat good food, and hang out with friends.

Thursday June 9th, 6:00 PM at the Klinefelters

Bring a dish if you can or just show up!

Address: [3203 Ashwood Dr. Cincinnati, OH 45213](#) (just look for the wheat growing in our front yard!)



We'll have the grill going cooking up some amazing local, pasture-raised burgers and a kickin' espresso bar. Bring the kids, a friend, or a college student.


Looking forward to seeing you! [RSVP on Facebook](#)

**Ak**



Wesley Foundation @ NKU  
2916 Alexandria Pike  
Highland Heights, KY 41076

Tel: (859) 907-4076

[Facebook](#) 

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](http://www.covingtondistrictumc.com)

**DISTRICT CALENDAR AND BIRTHDAYS**

**JUNE Birthdays:** 1 Jim Fant; 11, Jim Bishop; 13, John Losey;  
21, Michael Sweeney

**Superintendent's Calendar for June:**

**6 – 11, ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**21, Moving Day for Pastors**

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](mailto:covdistumc@fuse.net)

Check out our updated website at

[www.covingtondistrictumc.com](http://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](mailto: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.